



NCHENZ AGM Notice & Quarterly Newsletter

April 2018

Dear NCHENZ Member,

Welcome to our quarterly update.

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Our Annual General Meeting is coming up in June and some of our long-time Committee will be vacating their roles. We really need our NCHENZ membership to step up and take over, so that our current programmes can be maintained and we as an organisation can keep supporting our Home Education community throughout New Zealand. Please take a moment to read this newsletter and the job vacancies below. If you agree with our [Objectives](#) and [Constitution](#), which are posted on our website and can help other like-minded people please [email](#) us so we can discuss further.

AGM Notice

Pursuant to our [Constitution](#), Section 9, preliminary notice is given that the NCHENZ AGM will be held on Thursday 14th June 2018 starting 7.30pm via video call. Any resolutions, elections for officers and other business to be raised must be received to email info@nchenz.org.nz before 20th April 2018. More details to follow.

Constitution Review

At our AGM in June, the NCHENZ Committee would like to adopt a revised Constitution which is more robust and is also in line with changes to the Incorporated Societies Act. You can find the [proposed Constitution here](#), please have a read and email info@nchenz.org.nz with any questions. Discussions will also be held online and on the NCHENZ Forum over the coming months.

Member Offers for Term 2

by Nadia Sole, Member Services Co-ordinator

Reading Eggs: A popular literacy programme which many home educators use, for ages 3-13yrs; \$21.50/child, [enrol here](#).

Mathseeds: Maths and problem-solving skills for ages 3-9yrs; \$30/student, [enrol here](#).

Mathletics: Follows the NZ curriculum, for ages 5-18yrs; \$30.50 per child, [enrol here](#).

Spellodrome: A popular program for improving spelling skills for ages 5-18yrs; \$17.95/student, [enrol here](#).

Education Perfect: Maths, English and science (all aligned to the NZ curriculum) as well as an extensive list of languages; [details here](#).

Music Ecademy: Music theory and aural training, grades 1-8; [details here](#).

[Click here for other offers](#) including Studyladder, LEARNZ Virtual Field Trips, Wai Ako, Phonics Hero, ESA Publications discount, gratitude journals discount, etc.

Important Notice - Committee Vacancies

Member Services, by Nadia Sole

After six years on the NCHENZ Executive Committee I have decided to step down as the Member Services Co-ordinator at our AGM in June. The role has become too big over the last couple of years for one person to manage on their own and it's time to split the role so someone new can develop it further. I also feel that I've done my dash on the NCHENZ Exec and I'd like to focus a bit more on local events and activities. I will be staying around in an off-Committee role continuing to manage Reading Eggs, Mathseeds, Mathletics, Spellodrome, Maths-Whizz, Garden to Table, and Mystery Science. There will be a vacancy for a fabulous new Member Services Co-ordinator to take over the easiest programs - Education Perfect, Music Ecademy, Jarratt Create & Educate, Fairy Tale Summer, LEARNZ, Wai Ako, and Phonics Hero - and to develop new offers for members. The new person will have my guidance along with the support of the wonderful, funny and committed women who make up the NCHENZ Executive Committee.

This is a great opportunity for someone who is organised, good at record keeping, has a lovely manner of communicating, a PC at home with a good internet connection, and who enjoys connecting with people online. To acknowledge the workload, for the last two years an honorarium has been paid to the incumbent to reimburse expenses and time.

It would be awesome if a new person could come on board soon so I can show them the ropes and work closely with them over the next couple of months. It does not matter where you live in New Zealand or how long you have been homeschooling. If you are interested, please get in touch with me in the first instance so I can talk you through the role and answer your questions. Email me at services@nchenz.org.nz with a little bit about yourself and with your cellphone number so I can give you a call.

Treasurer, by Astrid Hendra

An exciting opportunity to support our brilliant organisation awaits you as I will be ready to step down later this year. Full training will be provided and handover of the role will occur after the AGM in June so you can ease your way into the role. We're looking for someone with staying power who can keep the wheels of the organisation oiled by keeping our accounting system up to date, providing monthly reports, and participating at our video meetings and in our Facebook group between times. This is a great chance to stretch your skill-set while giving back to the organisation and community, with the bonus of working with a lovely group of people. Please enquire by emailing me at treasurer@nchenz.org.nz.

collating agenda items beforehand and taking minutes at our monthly online meeting. It's an easy, enjoyable role and will enable you to work with a great bunch of women while having fun and contributing to a worthwhile organisation. You will need to have a good internet connection as our meetings are video links through Google Hangouts. If you would like to know more please email me at info@nchenz.org.nz.

Blog Writer, by Gin Taylor

Join us and indulge in your love of writing by creating short blog posts for the NCHENZ website. We only need one every 2-3 weeks. The NCHENZ Committee will work with you to edit and develop the article, and there are a variety of topics to choose from. Email me at info@nchenz.org.nz to discuss further.

With regard to the above positions, we are particularly keen to hear from possible candidates who live in the South Island as the majority of the current committee are in the North. Don't be shy! We are awesome, even if we do say so ourselves ;)

ID Cards - Renewal Time

by Cathy Norris

Now is the time to check on those expiry dates on student ID Cards. NCHENZ cards will now expire 31 March 2019, the same as AT Hop and CANDO. To order your card please click [here](#). Any questions email Cathy on idcards@nchenz.org.nz.

Government Liaison Update

by Cynthia Hancox

The Ministry of Education has recently released a new Home Education Policies & Procedures Manual to regional staff, intended to bring greater consistency to processes across the country. I have obtained a copy under the Official Information Act and I am in the process of reviewing it. The Ministry is also working on updating the application forms, and this is due to be completed soon.

Some of the notable changes in policy: • If more information is asked for in regards to an application form, parents now have up to 28 days to reply (up from 14) • If an application is declined, and parents reapply, the new application should be processed by a different regional office • Non-return of a six monthly declaration does NOT mean the automatic revoking of an exemption certificate, but it will trigger follow up by staff to ensure the child is still being home educated, and of course, the allowance won't be paid without the return of the signed declaration

However, just because this manual exists, does not mean all staff will always correctly follow it, though they should. If you experience a situation where you think MoE staff are not following appropriate process, or you are not sure, feel free to get in touch with me to discuss this. Email: govtliaison@nchenz.org.nz

Other Government Departments sometimes have interactions with home educators, which occasionally include them making statements or demands in respect to home education which are misinformed or inappropriate. If you would like support or information in these situations, please also get in touch [here](#).

Information sharing and advocacy make a big difference! The more we home educators keep informed, and share correct information, and the more we support one another, the better off we will all be. Experienced home educators who volunteer to act as liaisons either regionally or nationally are a vital part of ensuring that the rights and freedoms of home educators are protected. I'm working on putting together a team of people to share information, support local home educators and continue to develop relationships with regional staff. Please get in touch if you'd like to know more about how you can be a part of this.

Membership

by Tanya Vivier

Wanting to know your membership number, update your contact details or cancel your membership? [Click here](#) to find out how.

Special Education Flyer

by Tatiana Holmes

We have produced a new flyer to help home educating children with special education needs. Please [click here](#) to view the flyer or [click here](#) to visit our website for more information.

Warehouse Stationery and Book Depository

NCHENZ is part of the Support Your School™ Programme with Warehouse Stationery. You can support us by in-store at one of the 67 stores nationwide or while shopping online. You will need our 'school' name which is our acronym "NCHENZ". Your support allows us to continue to support our membership and community.

You can also click on the link below or from our website for NCHENZ to automatically gain points



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Pinterest and Other Useful Links

- We are on Pinterest! [Find great resources and useful ideas](#)
- Check your group is on our [NZ map of support groups](#) and that your information is correct
- New to homeschooling? [See our frequently asked questions](#)
- What does a typical day look like? [Read about what home educators get up to](#) - we have stories from a wide range of home educators in our Typical Day section on the website.
- Want to chat with a committee member or other fellow home educators, but not keen on social media, then join the **NCHENZ Forum** [here](#)

About NCHENZ

Set up in 1998 for the purpose of promoting home education in NZ at a national level, NCHENZ is the only national homeschooling body in New Zealand. NCHENZ is a neutral organisation with no affiliation to any political or religious groups. NCHENZ is run by an elected [Executive Committee](#) who volunteer their time for the benefit of NZ home educators. If you are not yet a member of NCHENZ please join, it's free - [just go to our website](#).

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