TEACH Bulletin

Thorough Education Achieved in a Caring Home

Number 34 January 2000

Briefing the Incoming Minister of Education

A very comprehensive Briefing Paper for the incoming Minister of Education, Hon Trevor Mallard, MP for Hutt South, can be viewed at the MoE's website, www.minedu.govt.nz. Some of the comments would indicate that home education is doing exactly what the MoE hopes to see accomplished within its own system. For example, the Paper hopes t o address underachievement by, among other things:

"-- strengthening the role families play in the learning process.

-- supporting and enabling providers to better recognise and respond to the diversity of students' needs. This would include education settings that are more supportive of a student's culture, home language and family background. It may require moving away from a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to the governance and regulation of schools."

Concerns are expressed about the state of education in the country at present. "New Zealand's levels of student turnover, bullying, and theft are above average, sometimes significantly so. Also, the number of suspensions has risen annually with an increase from 11.8 suspensions per 1000 pupils in 1994 to 17.5 suspensions per 1000 pupils in 1998. Many home educators could embellish these facts with tales of their own negative experiences, not only with unruly students, but also school staff and Boards of Trustees who would stonewall efforts to bring the problem to light.

The paper says that under the current system students can leave

school "without formal recognition of what they know and what they can do", that "nontraditional subject areas are not recognised, and alternative qualifications have yet to attain sufficient credibility". Well, that sounds very close to the situation many home educated young people find themselves in. Consequently, "work is underway on a new system of qualifications for 16-19 year olds. The National

Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) will then become the main qualification for senior secondary school students. It will replace School Certificate, 6th Form Certificate and University Bursaries awards. The new system will report what and how well students have learned in more transparent way. Specialist panels are working to design this new system. The new National Certificate will be first introduced at Year 11 in 2001 with subsequent levels introduced in 2002 and 2003."

This is where the system is headed. Tertiary institutions and

TEACH Opinion Poll #4: Summary of Results

Discussion of Results: TEACH Opinion Poll #4 has had 139 replies to date with the results tabulated below. It is good to see the ones who answered are highly committed, with 90% declaring they'd continue even without the supervisory allowance and 57% saying it is the parents'/family's responsibility. No one said it was solely the state's responsibility to educate children, although 41% reckoned the state needed to have some part in paying for it. The vast majority of respondents did not agree with the two statements made to the press by certain spokespeople, nor do they appreciate being criticised publicly. Only two respondents felt they could name an extreme and inferior support group, and one of those named the support group which made the statements!! Respondents' voluntary comments are very interesting, and a representative sampling of them follows.

- 1. If the MoE stopped paying me the supervisory allowance:
- 90.6% a(126) I would continue to home school anyway.
- 7.2 b(10) I might have to re-think whether to continue home schooling or not.
- 0.7 c(1) I would definitely have to stop home schooling.
- 2. Whose responsibility is it to see that children get an education?
- 57.6% a(80) parents and/or family
 - 2.9 b(4) the community or society as a whole via private enterprise, state schools or whatever system works
 - c(0) the civil government; the state
 - 23.7 d(33) a and b together
 - e(0) b and c together
 - 15.8 f (22) a and c together
 - 3. Who should pay for the education of children (up through secondary level)?
- 26.6% a(37) parents and/or family
 - 4.3 b(6) the community or society as a whole via private enterprise, state schools or whatever system works
 - 10.0 c(14) the civil government; the state
 - 23.7 d(33) a and b together
- 2.9 e(4) b and c together
- 28.8 f (40) a and c together
- 4. A spokesperson for a NZ home schooling organisation was quoted in a local press release this month (November 1999) as saying they "would welcome more ERO reviews beyond the initial one done at six months." Would you agree with this speaker's statement?

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employers are all grappling with these changes, sometimes having to come up with their own interpretations as to what is equivalent to what when a prospective student or worker turns up with a mixture of passes in Bursary exams, points on the 6th Form Certificate, a few Unit Standards and a couple Achievement Standards tossed in for good measure. That means that at present, home educators are not as disadvantaged as some would think, since the qualifications system is in the midst of a massive transition from the old system of qualifications based on external exams to one which awards qualifications according to a mixture of both internal and external assessment criteria. Translated into plain English, that means the schools will use a combination of "Unit Standards", bite-sized bits of knowledge (one can recall or recite certain facts) or a skill that can be tested easily (one can either do it or not); and "Achievement Standards", not as easily defined, but used to measure an area of conceptual knowledge rather than an obvious skill or a definite piece of knowledge. One needs a fistfull of these "U or A Standards" in order to trade them in for a NZCEA. The original intention of the Qualifications Framework appeared to accommodate home educators who would simply need demonstrate to NZ Qualifications Authority Assessors that they had the requisite skills and/or knowledge to obtain the desired U or A This is known as Recognition of Prior Learning, or RPL. What this will cost per U or A Standard and whether there are enough qualified Assessors to do the job are questions without answers at this point in time.

This is the system NZ is depending on to make it more internationally competitive. the paper recounts, "there are indications that the education system could do better. For example: the maths, analytical and critical thinking skills of our primary age students are relatively weak; adult levels of quantitative and document literacy are below international levels; and other countries are making stronger educational gains in the percentage of their populations gaining upper secondary and

> tertiary qualifications." us all remember that educated students do not generally figure in these statements. The concerns government authorities have are for people exposed to their own educational system. What statistics exist all demonstrate that home-based education consistently produces above average results.

Finally, the Briefing Paper commented on the Correspondence School: In 1998 The Education Review Office and the Education and Science Select Committee both

reported major areas of concern including: the school's lack of strategic direction; the efficiency of the school publishing it's own materials; poor professional standards; lack of quality management; and limited accountability processes. In 1999 the proposal for merging the CS with the Open Polytechnic was scuttled by opposition from the CS, although "some argue the development of technology could make The Correspondence School a 'school of choice' for many more students than it currently services."

The Education Review Office also published its own Ministerial Briefing in December 1999. Relevant to home educators it said only: "Findings to date indicate that [home schooling] is a low risk area in terms of: Crown expenditure, which is relatively low per child; the wellbeing and safety of homeschooled children; the quality of adult supervision of children; and the regularity and comparability of the education provided for the children by their parents or guardians.

TEACH Bulletin

is a monthly publication of the Home Education Foundation, and is concerned with those things which may impact on home educators. Articles will deal with political developments, statist and professional trends, correspondence with educationalists, and other items of general interest to home educators. Information herein is not to be construed as legal advice. Opinions expressed in TEACH Bulletin are those of the writer and should not be assumed to reflect those of the Home Education Foundation Trustees or Board of Reference Members.

TEACH Bulletin is available for a subscription of \$16 per year for 11 issues (none in December) or two years for \$30.

All correspondence to:

The Editor, Craig S. Smith
4 Tawa St., Palmerston North 5301
New Zealand
Ph.: +64 6 357-4399 Fax: +64 6 357-4389
keystone.teach@xtra.co.nz

Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and reject not your

Chief Review Officer Aiken is NOT Retiring

A front page article in the November 1999 issue of *TEACH Bulletin* (No. 33) paid tribute to the Chief Review Officer of the ERO, Dr Judith Aiken and stated that Dr Aiken was due to retire in 1999. This is a factual error, regrettably copied from the original article in the *National Business Review*. Please note: at present Dr Aiken has no plans to retire.

Review of Education Act Canned

Martin Connelly, Senior Policy Analyst with the MoE advises the the new Government has decided to cancel the review of education regulations that are discussed in the document "Legislation for Learning". Accordingly, public responses are no longer being

Trading Post



For Sale:

Learning Language Arts Through
Literature, Tan Student Activ-
ity Workbook\$10.00 p/p
Writing Strands Level 1\$5 p/p
Cambridge Latin Course
Unit 1\$10.00 p/p
Bible Nurture and Reader Series
Grade 2 (Rod and Staff Read-
ers)\$5.00 p/p
A Beka Old World History and
Geography (4 bks) \$25 p/p
A Beka New World History and
Geography (4 bks)\$25 p/p
A Year of Bible Puzzles\$5
The Sense of Wonder Series (set
of 6 phonics readers)\$5 p/p

Wanted to Buy:

A Beka God's Gift of Language Books A & B Janice Van Cleave Physics for Every Kid

Contact:

Rosalind Cressy Phone: (06) 3787013 Email: derek.cressy@xtra.co.nz

For Sale:

Learning Language Arts Through
Literature (Red and Yellow
Books)\$15 each
English for the Thoughtful Child
by Greenleaf Press (Brand
new)\$30
How to Use child-Size Master-
pieces for Art Appreciation
(manual on art appreciation
for all grades) (Brand
New)\$18

Wanted:

A Baka Cursive Writing Skillbook (Brade 3) Famous Men of the Middle Ages by Greenleaf Press

Contact:

Susie ph (06) 344-3349 Wanganui

For Sale:

Reading Strands: Understanding
Fiction by National Writing
Institute\$5
The Great Editing Adventure
Series by Common Sense
Press

Vol. 1	 \$10
Vol. 2	 \$10

Contact:

Marielle Posthuma ph. (09) 479-6804 Auckland

For Sale:

Learning Language Arts Thro	ough
Literature	
Yellow Bk, Gr. 3	\$5
Red Bk, Gr. 2	\$5
The Phonics Handbook	
by Sue Lloyd	.\$20

Contact:

Lyn Strong ph. (09) 444-4998 Auckland

Auckland Home Educators Celebrate

About 60 to 100 home educators attended Auckland Home Educators' "Back to Homeschooling Celebration Picnic" at Cornwall Park in Auckland on Wednesday, January 26, 2000. There was face painting for the little ones, and butter making and flax-weaving for the older ones, and plenty of friendly conversation for all. The venue was excellent, the large trees nearby proving irresistable to most of the children, and the weather was kind, being calm and sunny, unlike the days before and after the Picnic.

Some of those who came were not affiliated with any support group, so this was a good opportunity for them to make contact with others in their local area. We hope to make this "first day of the new term" Picnic an annual affair, and encourage other regional groups to do the same. There was a photo in the *Herald* on Thursday the 27th, showing the children playing under and around a large parachute. The organisers, Susan Nixon and Yara Okan, have also coordinated a camp at Raglan to be held the first weekend in March. For more information on the camp contact Susan on (09) 813-4580 or Yara on (09) 629-2496.

National Gatherings

National Council of Home Educators, New Zealand

Inaugural AGM
Friday 24 March 2000
Christchurch
Start at 12pm with pot luck
lunch until the 5pm start of
the South Island Home
Educators Conference.

Contact:

Peter: (07) 825-9914, ixoye@ihug.co.nz

5th Annual TEACH Forum

Monday 27 March 2000 Christchurch Starting 8:00am with breakfast, finish 1:30pm. For all those involved in leading, co-ordinating or wanting to start support groups, newsletters, etc.

Contact:

Craig (06) 357-4399 keystone.teach@xtra.co.nz

Local Conferences

Manawatu Home Educators

Friday-Sunday 11-13 February 2000 Celebrating 15 years since MHE founded. Forest Lakes Christian Camp, Otaki

Contact:

Megan (06)355-2368 gmmcleay@xtra.co.nz

Wellington Home Schoolers

Saturday 19 February 2000

Contact:

Jocelyn (04)237-7590 pyoung@clear.net.nz

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16.5% a(23) Yes

68.3 b(95) No 11.5 c(16) Don't Know/Not Sure

5. A spokesperson for a NZ home schooling organisation was quoted in a national publication which appeared this month as saying: "There are over 130 support groups out there, with a myriad of views and services, some very extreme and inferior, none monitored by the state. This seriously undermines the possibility of good home schooling opportunities." Are you happy for spokespersons of home schooling organisations to criticise other home schoolers to the national press in this manner?

5.0% a(7) Yes 92.1 b(128) No

0.7 c(1) Don't Know/Not Sure

6. Are you able to specifically name and locate any "very extreme and inferior support groups" in New Zealand?

1.4% a(2) Yes 95.0 b(132) No

2.2 c(3) Don't Know/Not Sure

7. Do you agree that the lack of state monitoring of home schooling support groups "seriously undermines the possibility of good home schooling opportunities"?

2.2% a(3) Yes 92.8 b(129) No

3.6 c(5) Don't Know/Not Sure

8. Do you agree that this spokesperson's statement itself may "seriously undermine the possibility of good home schooling opportunities" by perhaps giving the Ministry of Education enough cause for concern that it would tighten up on the granting of exemption certificates?

88.5% a(123) Yes, especially if they repeat statements like this again

4.3 b(6) No

5.0 c(7) Don't Know/Not Sure

- (1) I homeschool without exemption or allowance.
- (2)Make the HS allowance the same level as what a state funded school would receive for each child. (2)As a bottom line it does need to be the state. (2) I believe my husband & I should have the final say in how our children get educated. However I think we should be open to other people's input because we can't be right about everything.
- (3)We view the allowance as a tax rebate. (3)Parents/family are responsible either directly or through taxes for the state system. (3) Those in our society who accept this responsibility should get tax rebates. (3) The state should pay through to tertiary level. (3) But we live in a tax paying community interested in ensuring all children receive an education, as some would not without the state expressing its interest. The critical point is how much interest. (3) Should be a lowering of taxes to give parents a choice.
- (4) I would agree with their right to free speech. (4)No No No No No No. I would not welcome more ERO Reviews...definitely not. (4) Yes, only because mine was a great experience and I need that reassurance that all is OK. (4) I would like an exemption to mean exempt from reviews as well. (4) There does need to be some monitoring/accountability as we have met some disasters that give home schooling a bad name. Lazy parents of truants from the state schools must not be using the home school umbrella as an excuse for their slackness.
- (5) Absolutely not! (5) I am shocked by such comments. (5)Yes if it is true, but support groups must not ever be monitored by the state. (5)There was an article in the local *Papakura Courier* today quoting a Mr from the "....(home school organisation).." (I would love to know who they are when they're at home) as saying it is appalling that children are slipping through the net. At the end Mr says about 95% of ERO reports prove home schooling is satisfactory. (5)I am happy for them to express their opinion. (5) Isn't this what you are doing now? (5) Some home schoolers reinforce the worst fears of the general population. The positive of criticising these people is that it may give some reassurance to non home schoolers. The negative is, who decides what is right? (5) No, not without specifics or facts.
- (6)Yep. A lot of the Christian ones are very extreme in my opinion. (6) I have been involved, over the years, with people who have been given very poor advice. I have also been involved with people who accept everything anyone in an official position says. On the other hand, I have been involved with people who have tried very hard to make life difficult for bureaucrats trying to do their job. Sometimes we get all of this within one organisation. (6) We don't use any support Group.

- (7) Homeschooling families can pick and choose from what is available at will. It is the families who take the responsibility for maximising opportunities not support groups. If it's not a good support group, people won't use it. (7) Absolutely Not! (7) Individual families can manage quite well without support groups. We've done it for nine years.
- (8) It was extremely tactless and proves the person not a good ambassador for home schoolers. (8) One "spokesperson" may well be disregarded. (8)It also does nothing for the perception of the general public, friends, and family. I sometimes find it difficult to justify my decision and abilities to home school, and this sort of publicity certainly doesn't help. (8) Probably not. In any case just as you have a right to free speech so they do. (8) No, and don't destroy the good you are doing by bitching about others, not a very Christian philosophy. (8)Who on earth made these statements and why? We would love to know. (8) I would hope that the Ministry would not be so ignorant. (8) Home School support groups are non-essential for quality home schooling. (8) The MoE judges each family on its own merit, not the support group that they choose to belong to.

#I think you need to be a little careful of not over reacting to a single report. We are all guilty of being extreme in our opinions on certain issues. You've certainly presented very loaded questions. There's a flipside to the ERO & MoE. They can offer good guidance and advice. There has to be some accountability and guidelines. God's word teaches us that. I feel disappointed that they're usually portrayed as "The Enemy" and a lot of other home schoolers get a bit sick of this attitude

#I happen to know of the person who is said to have made the statement you speak of. I feel if it was not for this person you would not be homeschooling with the freedom you have today. This is not the first time you have shown your "Christian values" in a totally unfavourable light.

(As usual, home educator's have quite a range of views!! The editor appreciates the criticisim; and, as the old saying goes, where the shoe fits, I will endeavour to wear it.)

Diana Waring Tour, II

Part I has come and gone. The Warings spoke to hundreds of home schoolers in Northland, Auckland, Waikato and the Bay of Plenty and many more via a Radio Rhema talkback programme last September. See them when they are near you!

Tentative Timetable: this will change slightly

- 7 Feb Rotorua contact Ros (07) 349-1450 or Heidi (07) 349-3355 Lunch and casual time together for a couple of hours
- 7 Feb Raetihi
 contact Jenny (06)385-4859
 email waldron@xtra.co.nz
 Casual evening meeting or casual
 meeting next day while men climb
 the mountains
- 8 Feb Choice of climbing Mt Ruapehu, 6a.m. start, OR do the Tongariro Crossing, both for those who like tramping.
- 9 Feb South Taranaki contact Julie (06)764-6113 email mavery@stratford.govt.nz or Trish (06)751-5047 email yishrael@netsource.co.nz 3:30-5:00pm "The Things We Wish We Had Known Before" Panel with Bill and Diana and a couple of locals. 5:00-6:00pm Potluck 6:30-7:30pm "Beyond Survival" 7:30 to 8:00 Questions to a Panel 8:00pm Supper
- 10 Feb Wanganui
 contact Sharyn (06)345-8393
 email cabri@xtra.co.nz
 1:00pm Meet for a pot luck lunch
 at Central Baptist at 285 Wicksteed St.
 2:00pm Informal home schooling
 discussion with parents at Central
 Baptist.
- 10 Feb Palmerston North contact Megan (06) 355-2368 email gmmcleay@xtra.co.nz 7:30pm Public Meeting, "Beyond Survival", Roslyn Gospel Chapel, Vogel St., Palmerston North

11-13 Feb Otaki camp

contact Megan (06)355-2368

- 11 Feb 6:30pm Registration 7:30pm "The Hilarious Homeschool"
- 12 Feb 9:00am "Box Free Living"
 11:00am "Different Strokes
 For Different Folks"
 1:30pm "History via the
 Scenic Route"
 5:00pm Celebration DinnerManawatu Home Educators is
 15years old
 7:00pm Family Variety Show—
 each family to perform a skit or

13 Feb 9:00am "Heroes of the Faith"

item.

- 14-15 Feb Napier/Hastings contact Tracey (06)835-7531 colinmacdonald@clear.net.nz Lunch on 15th on Marine Parade then a walk around the Art Deco City. Finger food tea for our regular home educating families followed by a slightly more formal meeting 7:30pm.
- 16 Feb Masterton/Carterton contact Rosalind (06)378-7013 email derek.cressy@xtra.co.nz Christine(06)379-7229 email tony@access-info.co.nz. On the way to Masterton, Pioneer Museum near Mount Bruce. Bush walk in afternoon finishing with a BarBQ where people can talk informally with the Warings.
- 17-18 Feb Wellington
 contact Jocelyn (04)237-7590
 email pyoung@clear.net.nz
 On the way from Masterton to
 Wellington there is the Cobblestones Museum in Greytown. In
 Wellington to visit Te Papa, shopping etc.
- 18 Feb Mountain Bike riding and horse riding for teenagers7:30pm Cuppa and Chat -Diana "Beyond Survival"

19 Feb Wellington Workshop 9:30am Registrations 10:00am Diana "History via the Scenic Route" 11:00am morning tea 11:30am Panel discussion "The Things We Wish We Had Known Before" 12:30 Lunch and registrations for newcomers. 1:45 Diana "Unlocking the

Mysteries of the Middle Ages" 3.00pm Afternoon tea 3:30-5:00pm Teen Panel, moderated by a Wellington home schooling Dad.

20 Feb Ferry to Picton, Sth Island

- 20 Feb Blenheim contact Mike & Karen (03)578-1435 Casual evening meeting
- 21 Feb Cruise in Queen Charlotte Sound.
- 22 Feb Port Ligar in Marlborough Sounds
- 3 March Top of the South Christian Home Educators' Seminar, Bridge Valley Christian Ranch, Wakefield

contact Raewyn (03)576-5238 email shand@ts.co.nz 10am - Teen Panel - what happens when your children get beyond primary school? 12:30pm Lunch - Bring your own please 1:30pm "Different Strokes for Different Folks" - Bill & Diana. Please make arrangements for the care of your children during these sessions so we can all take advantage of hearing these messages without interruption.

- 3-5 March 2000 Nelson Camp contact Raewyn (03)576-5238 email shand@ts.co.nz
 Bridge Valley Christian Ranch,
 Wakefield. Those folk who are attending both seminar and camp are welcome to bring their own Friday night BBQ tea and cook it at camp.
- 3 March (Friday) 7pm Registration and Introductions Supper and bedtime for younger children. Parents - "History via the Scenic Route" - Diana. Older children - Youth cafe & sing song with the younger Warings.
- 4 March am Dads & children come prepared to make yourselves
 simple costumes of a person in
 history of your choice. Mums fireside chat time with Diana
 pm Family Top Town Events:
 enjoy fun, fellowship and exercise
 together
 Saturday night Fashion Parade
 through History by Dads & children while Mums watch.
 After Supper: bedtime for younger
 children. Parents around the fireside with Bill & Diana. Older
 children "night activities".
- 5 March Bill & Diana "Box Free Living" and "Things We Wish We Had Known Before" Children's Programme Lunch, cleanup and farewells.

Contact for rest of South Island:

Dot (03)312-8790

i.brown@ext.canterbury.ac.nz

- 5 March Westport contact Cathy (03)789-6592 kotare.dunes@xtra.co.nz Casual evening meeting
- 6 March Hokitika contact Lloyd & Sonja (03)755-5300 Casual evening meeting
- 7 March Wanaka Contact Dave & Fay ph/fax (03) 443-7170. Early morning meeting on the 8th.
- 8 March Te Anau contact Nancy (03)249-8166 email nbarnes@teanau.co.nz
- 9 March Te Anau-Day trip to Milford sound and boat cruise out to ocean.

Casual evening meeting

10-11 Mar Invercargill Conference Contact Paula (03)213-0563

email vant_wout_d@clear.net.nz 12-14 Mar Stewart Is. and/or Gore 15-16 March Dunedin

contact Erna (03)489-4026

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(Continued from page 5) email vans@xtra.co.nz

17-18 March Dunedin Conference

9:00am (Friday) Registration 9:15-10:30 "Beyond Survival" 10:30-11:00 Questions 11:00-11:30 Morning Tea

11:30-12:30 "The Hilarious Home School"

12:30-1:00 Questions

1:00-2:00 Lunch 2:00-3:00 Panel of parents (Diana, Barbara, Maureen, Dot) to answer questions from new home schoolers or families considering home schooling, eg, filling in forms, MoE requirements, ERO Reviews curriculum etc.

MoE requirements, ERO Reviews, curriculum, etc.

A break to give families time to collect children, go home, have tea and return for evening session. 7:30-8:30pm Panels: Mum's SOS; Dads to the Rescue; Teenagers 8:30pm Feast for Fathers, a delicious supper combined with some music & skits.

18 March

9:00am Registration 9:15-10:30 "History via the Scenic Route."

10:30-11:00 Questions

11:00-11:30 Morning Tea

11:30-12:30 "Different Strokes for Different Folks"

12:30-1:00pm Questions

1:00-2:00 Lunch 2:00-3:30 Panel: Home schooling

through high school 3:30-4:00 Afternoon Tea

4:00-5:30 Panel: "The Things We

Wish We Had Known Before" 19 March A day for the Warings on their own in Palmerston

20 March Oamaru contact Wendy (03)434-9107 Fireside chat

21 March MacKenzie Country contact

craig.barbara.smith@xtra.co.nz

22 March Timaru contact Ross and Hilary (03)688-3604 ross@waughconsult.co.nz or Annette (03)688-5494 Casual evening meeting

23 March Ashburton Contact Cheryl (03)308-2606 Casual evening meeting

24 March Christchurch pot luck lunch and afternoon mark the inaugural AGM of the **National Council of Home Educators, NZ**; contact Peter: (07) 825-9914; ixoye@ihug.co.nz

24-27 March Christchurch -South Island Home Educators Conference

contact Dot (03)312-8790 i.brown@ext.canterbury.ac.nz Fri

24 March

5:00pm Pizza & Chips

6:30pm late registration 7.00pm "Beyond Survival" Sat 25 March

9.00am late registration 9:15am "Different Strokes"

11:00am Morning Tea

11:30am "History via S.R."

1:00pm Lunch break

2:00pm Panels: Dads to the Rescue and Mums Share Our Secrets

3:30pm Afternoon tea

4:00pm "Ancient Civilizations and the Bible"

5:30pm BBO

7:00pm Young People's Panel: Home Ed. through High School

26 March Sunday

27 March

5th Annual **TEACH Forum**, start ing with breakfast and ending at lunch, contact (06) 357-4399 craig.barbara.smith@xtra.co.nz

South Island Home Educators Conference Continues

2:00pm History

3:30pm Afternoon Tea

4:00pm Panel "The Things We Wish We Had Known Before" 5:30pm Break

7:00pm "Box Free Living" or "Hilarious Home School"

28-29 March Leave Christchurch for fun overnight trip to Hamner Springs

30 March Palmerston North stopover

31 March Auckland contact: Dorinda (09)480-6878 email jduthie@ihug.co.nz

1 April North Shore Workshop

Windsor Park Baptist Church, Mairangi Bay, Auckland. Last chance to hear the Waring Family before they leave NZ.

10am-4:30pm Two sessions slots, wide range of resources for sale.

3 April Warings depart Auckland airport for U.S.A.

NEW NEW NEW

Diana Waring History Alive email discussion group

For those who are using the Waring resources. Moderated by Barbara Smith. Your questions can be directed to Diana Waring herself when necessary. To Subscribe, email:

dwha@xtra.co.nz

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Local Conferences

Top of the South Christian Home Educators' Seminar

Friday-Sunday 3-5 March 2000 Bridge Valley Christian Ranch, Wakefield

Contact:

Raewyn (03)576-5238 shand@ts.co.nz

Invercargill Conference

Friday-Saturday 10-11 March 2000

Contact:

Paula (03)213-0563 vant_wout_d@clear.net.nz

Dunedin Conference

Friday-Saturday 17-18 March 2000

Contact:

Erna (03)489-4026 vans@xtra.co.nz

Christchurch South Island Home Educators Conference

Friday-Monday 24-27 March 2000

Contact:

Dot (03)312-8790 i.brown@ext.canterbury.ac.nz

North Shore Workshop

Saturday 1 April 2000 Windsor Park Baptist Church Mairangi Bay Auckland

Contact:

Dorinda (09)480-6878 jduthie@ihug.co.nz