

TEACH Bulletin

Thorough Education Achieved in a Caring Home

Number 92

May 2005

Education System “In Chaos”

The New Zealand Scholarship exams fiasco of late last year, due to the way the NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority) set up and managed the exams, caused the Government to order a review of the NZQA's performance in managing. The review was done under the eye of the State Services Commission by Doug Martin and completed this month. It is highly critical of the NZQA's performance.¹

The NZQA was aware there would be significant variations in results, but was not aware that the variation would be a surprise to anyone else.¹

Science passes were particularly hard to come by in the exams, whereas far higher numbers of art students passed in their subjects.¹

The report caused the immediate resignation of NZQA chairman Graeme Fraser. The NZQA board wrote a letter of apology to the Government “for what happened and the adverse consequences, especially for the students affected and their parents.” Clearly parents and students have misplaced their trust in the Government school system as a place competent to hold their future prospects in its bureaucratic hands. According to the review, the NZQA failed to recognise risks around the implementation of the new standards-based scholarship exams, failed to plan properly, failed to seek Education Ministry advice when necessary and failed to communicate adequately with teachers, students and the Government.²

Ten days later the NZQA's chief executive Karen Van Rooyen also

resigned. “I am conscious that I have been closely identified with the debate that has arisen out of the way Scholarship was conducted. I do not intend to engage in that debate,” she said.³

Ms Van Rooyen then packed up her desk things and laptop and went home to wait out her three-month notice period, her angst at her part in messing up hundreds of student's future plans amply soothed by the knowledge she'd be collecting \$50,000 in salary

during these three months at home. Meanwhile, students affected by the Scholarship problems had to pay to have their papers re-marked.⁴

Minister of Education Trevor Mallard said the problems were not the Government's (that is, his) fault. Prime Minister Helen Clark hinted at a review of the education sector, with the possibility of big changes, such as bringing the NZQA under the MoE's responsibility.⁵

Associate Education Minister David Benson-Pope came under fire as minister responsible for schools when problems with the National Certificate of Educational Achievement scholarship exam emerged this year. He had taken this portfolio over from Trevor Mallard but has now had to give it back since he

Far North Families Free of Schools, MoE and ERO!

A group of families in the Far North of New Zealand are looked upon by us home educators with a combination of admiration, concern, angst, wonder and disapproval...but even so, with also a bit of envy.

The *NZ Herald* announced it this way: “A group of 19 children cut off from civilisation have not been to school for more than a decade — and education authorities seem powerless to do anything about the situation.”

The Home Education Foundation does not condone nor promote the disregard for the compulsory attendance law, as the parents in this case appear to have done. Yet the question has to be asked, “Since when does the political state know what's best in the education of children?” The state's track record is below par, as virtu-

ally every issue of *TEACH Bulletin* endeavours to point out.

Anahera Van Duin, her brother Stephen and sister Stephanie and their spouses and children live at Mokau on the coast between Herekino and Ahipara. It is at least 45 minutes by rough four-wheel-drive track to the small community. There is no power or running water, and the families rely on fishing and foraging to provide much of their food. Anahera, who has four children, said she and her siblings wanted to educate their children themselves. “They were trying to find a way to put us in a box. They can't.”

Personally, I only have one thing to say to Mrs van Duin: “Go girl!”

Violet Paparoa, Northland practice manager for CYFs, said the service was aware of two of the three fami-

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came under even worse fire and was stood down after five former students claimed he had assaulted them while he was a teacher.⁶

ACT MP Deborah Coddington asked an interesting question of Trevor Mallard: “How come the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) chairman (Graeme) Fraser has gone, the chief executive Karen Van Rooyen has gone, and his Associate Minister of Education David Benson-Pope has been stood down, yet the minister — who is solely responsible for the scholarship debacle — is still here refusing to accept any responsibility for the NCEA?”⁶

Trevor “It-sure-is-hard-to-get-good-hired-hands-these-days” Mallard told Parliament, “The Government received inadequate advice on policy risks associated with the 2004 scholarship.”⁶

Notes:

1. “NZQA cops flak in critical review,” 6 May 2005, <http://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/0,2106,3271724a10,00.html>
2. “NZQA chair resigns after damning report,” 6 May 2005, <http://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/0,2106,3271724a10,00.html>

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.

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Hear, my son, your father's instruction,
and reject not your mother's teaching.
— Proverbs 1:8

3. “NZQA chief hands in resignation,” 16 May 2005, www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/0,2106,3282401a10,00.html
4. *Dominion Post*, “NZQA chief caves in to pressure”, 17 May 2005, <http://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/0,2106,3282743a10,00.html>
5. *Dominion Post*, “Van Rooyen's resignation in ‘everyone's best interests’”, 17 May 2005, <http://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/0,2106,3282730a7694,00.html>
6. “Government accused of leaving education system in ‘chaos’”, 18 May 2005, www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/0,2106,3283697a7694,00.html

What Is Happening?

Michael Drake, principal of Carey College in Auckland, asks “What is happening to state education and NCEA?” His answers are a worry:

“Exactly what was expected. Qualifications based on knowledge and skill are being discredited and replaced by a void of taught ignorance and ineptitude. Schools are training children to choose the path of least resistance to a certificate in isolated bits of experience.” He points to the recent Cambridge High

School grades scandal where virtually every student was passing with high marks. Apparently the school was not implementing NCEA wrongly. It was doing precisely what all schools were instructed to do: give whatever guidance is necessary to have students finish activities so they can be awarded “achieved” in the NCEA scheme of things. According to Drake, “That’s what NCEA schools are still doing. What Cambridge High failed to do was give a politically correct spin to its deceptions.”

Read his entire article at: <http://careycollege.com/education/currentissues/?id=436>.

(Continued from page 1: **Freedom**)

lies: “We have no concern for the safety of these children and young people and continue to work with other agencies to achieve the best possible resolution.”

Education expert Dr Sarah Farquhar said the New Zealand system gave little room for parents to have a voice in their child’s education, and some parents would probably find appeal in the Mokau families stand. Too right, Dr Farquhar!

Mr Benson Pope, who until recently was an Associate Minister of Education, said he wanted to explore options to get the children into structured education. One option was taking the children from the parents, although Mr Benson Pope said he did not favour that. He actually questioned whether the ministry should keep trying in the face of such adamant resistance. “If people go to such extraordinary lengths to cut themselves off from what we would regard as more normal society, what can we do or would we want to, to actually try to include them?”

Well said, Mr Benson-Pope! Well said!

(From *NZ Herald*, “The children who have never been to school”, 1 May 2005, <http://www.nzherald.co.nz/index.cfm?objectID=10123179&msg=emailink>)

Guilty Until Proven Innocent

Heretaunga College Principal Bruce Hart says marijuana is readily available in Upper Hutt, and its use by students at the college accounts for half of the suspensions. What is really shocking is the accusation he makes that “the most common source of marijuana is from a family member. There are some kids who see it as just what you do.” Mr Hart had suspended a 12-year-old earlier this month for cannabis use, and another caught with the drug had told teachers he had picked it up from his kitchen floor. Wainuiomata High School principal Rob Mill agreed that drug use in the home made dealing with pupils using cannabis much harder.¹

Trading Post



For Sale:

Bob Jones Maths Text G5.....\$10
Bob Jones Bible Truths Level B
(suit Yr 9-10).....\$5
The Heart of Homeschooling by
Christopher Klicka.....\$5
Christian Parenting in the Infor-
mation Age by D&D Wilson...\$5

Contact:

Chrissy
Ph. (09) 428-0668
chrissy@designmill.co.nz

So what are schools to do? Some bring in police with sniffer dogs. Others are thinking of random drug tests.

All this makes state schools even less palatable to many of us home educators than they already are. Sadly, there are some derelict parents out there who are allowing all kinds of rotten stuff into their children's lives. That is bad enough. But then these unfortunate children go to school where they infect and influence even more children with what to them is just a normal part of life. Too many children simply do not have the maturity and self-discipline to resist these harmful influences, especially as they are all constantly encouraged to be tolerant and respectful of the values of others, even the illegal and immoral. I see no reason to expose my children to such bad influences until I am convinced they have the internal strength to deal with it properly.

But more than that, these few bad eggs cause the school authorities to take drastic measures, such as random drug tests. That means perfectly innocent children will be subjected to the humiliation of providing a urine sample. Now, let's wise up here: the teachers know who most of the bad eggs are....they've been complaining about and dealing with their drug-induced behaviour for long enough. They also suspect a few others. So why pick on the innocent? Because it would not be politically correct to single out the obvious bad guys. No, everyone must be considered equally potentially guilty. That is, more and more

it is becoming standard procedure to consider everyone guilty until they can prove their own innocence. Again, I see no reason to expose my children to such iniquitous treatment. As it is, we home educators are prime candidates for being considered guilty of all kinds of brainwashing, abuse, indoctrination, slavery and who knows what else, not because of any evidence whatsoever, but merely because of the "risk" factor of the state's agents – teachers – not being able to observe them regularly. Make no mistake: this is precisely why the MoE is hanging on so tightly to the "Privacy Statement" on the exemption application giving them the freedom to pass on our details to the Public Health Nurse.

Note:

1. *Dominion Post*, "Families give drugs to children", 18 May 2005, <http://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/0,2106,3283837a10,00.html>

Ritalin Abuse

Ritalin, the drug some say is virtually "pushed" onto hyperactive children (ADHD) by parents and doctors being pressured by harried classroom teachers, is now routinely abused and is called "poor man's speed". The Christchurch police drug squad head, Detective Senior Sergeant Dave Long, said Ritalin abuse was a big problem in the region.

Pharmac figures show the number of Ritalin prescriptions in Canterbury increased 55 per cent between June 2000 and June last year, and the number of Canterbury users rose from nearly 2000 to nearly 3000. Their figures also showed a 70% increase in prescriptions nationwide over the past four years.

Now just listen to this down-hill progression: Detective Long said one source of black-market Ritalin was unscrupulous parents getting drug prescriptions for their children and then selling the tablets. In other instances, children's tablets were taken by other relatives. A 10-milligram Ritalin tablet

could sell for \$10 to \$15, a 20mg tablet for \$30 or a card of 10 tablets for \$80. Ritalin was popular because it was cheaper than methamphetamine or morphine sulphate tablets and was an alternative to heroin. Users converted the tablets to a liquid formula that could be injected for a euphoric high. Detective Long said addicts often turned to prostitution or crime to support their Ritalin habit. The prostitute recently gunned down in Christchurch was nicknamed Ritalin Sue because of her addiction to the drug.

What is this, a scene from some wild B-grade Western? No, it's the sophisticated and lovely city of Christchurch, New Zealand, in 2005. I see too many connections between the growing distribution and use of this drug and all the crime it brings with it on the one hand and pressure from state classroom teachers on the other. If fact, apart from harried classroom teachers, who else was ever clamoring for stuff like Ritalin?

(From *The Press*, "Ritalin abuse on the rise", 28 April 2005, <http://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/0,2106,3262290a11,00.html>)

Relax, Eat Well, Socialise with Other-Aged Children

The education watchdog, Ofsted (UK), looked at the education of six-year-olds in England, Finland and Denmark and found some very interesting comparisons, things that home educators could have told them without the study.

The legal minimum school age is five in England but seven in Denmark and Finland, and pre-school teachers in both Scandinavian nations saw nurturing personal and social skills as more important than formal instruction. Six-year-olds in Finland were able to concentrate for "considerably longer" periods than pupils in English primary schools. Finnish children did much less writing than their English peers at that age.

Although Ofsted did not make the

specific link, inspectors noted that in Finland and Denmark, six-year-olds got “nutritious” cooked meals or brought in high fibre, low carbohydrate packed lunches. Lunch times in Finnish schools were seen as important periods for young children to interact with adults and older pupils, instead of ordeals to be got through as quickly as possible. In Denmark, pre-school pupils were not allowed high-energy snacks such as crisps and fizzy drinks, foods which in England have been linked to conditions such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

Ofsted said the “most striking” feature of classes in the two Scandinavian countries was the fact that teachers did not have to “manage” the behaviour of their pupils. “It seems fair to suggest that English teachers of six-year-olds expect to have to work to secure children’s engagement in learning,” (talk about understatement! See the next article “Classroom Chaos”) “while their colleagues in Finland and Denmark can more readily take it for granted” that the children are willing to learn.

The report added: “In the English classrooms children appeared to have shorter concentration spans and lower boredom thresholds than in Denmark and Finland and that in England behaviour and discipline could be problematic in the education of six-year-olds while in the other two countries they were not.” Inspectors stressed it was difficult to make direct comparisons, but the emphasis on enabling children to learn how to learn, plus smaller class sizes in larger, better designed rooms with nicer furniture, may all help to explain why the Scandinavian schools were calmer.

(From Press Association, “Finnish outperform English children”, 22 July 2003, <http://education.guardian.co.uk/ofsted/story/0,7348,1003837,00.html>)

Classroom Chaos

After a 30-year gap from teaching, a supply teacher in the UK, using the pseudonym Sylvia Thomas, returned to 14 secondary schools in London and the North over an eight-month period. She secretly

filmed her experiences using a camera hidden in her briefcase and a microphone disguised as a jacket button.

Her experiences were screened at the end of April this year on a Channel 5 TV programme with the title “Classroom Chaos”. *The Telegraph* said the show “will disturb parents who already suspect that their children are receiving a far from perfect education.” At the end of her first day, the teacher describes how she went home and “sobbed my heart out, thinking: ‘Is this what education has come to?’ ”

During an English lesson with year 9 pupils, which begins with several boys punching each other and swearing, a pupil responds to her attempts to discipline him by saying: “I’ll come to your house and blow you up.” In another lesson, after several attempts to make pupils be quiet, a boy’s voice can be heard calling out: “Suck me off, Miss.” A pupil aged 11 or 12 swears after being asked to be quiet and the teacher says: “Do not talk to me like that, please.” He replies: “Don’t talk to me like that – I’ve got my rights, you know.” When a boy is searching for pornography on the internet, he says to the teacher: “I just typed in anal, didn’t I?”

Pupils drift into lessons, sometimes 15 minutes late. They use mobiles and hide under desks. They arrive with crisps and other food despite notices on the doors prohibiting eating or drinking during the lesson. They get up and leave lessons despite being told to sit down.

The Telegraph said that more than all the swearing and the disruption, it is the constant level of noise that may take viewers aback. Miss Thomas said that in the past she “kept control of the class without ever needing to resort even to shouting”. After her recent experiences, she was often hoarse at the end of a day’s work. When one class is silent and working hard, the teacher says she finds it “eerie” because it is such a change.

Of the six lessons that Miss Tho-

mas teaches at one school, she estimates that pupils learn something in only two of them. The rest are lost to “low-level disruption” or worse. She says that when she was teaching in large state secondary schools in the 1970s, “being cheeky” meant nothing more serious than whispering in the back row. During her recent experience she was shocked to discover that one school (like many others) had a police officer based on the premises.

Miss Thomas admits that maybe she’s just incompetent after a 30-year break. But current teachers replied, “I am not surprised. I am not shocked. That is my life.”

(From *UK Telegraph*, 27 April 2005, “Secret film of classrooms reveals world of swearing and porn”, <http://news.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2005/04/27/nclass27.xml>)

Correspondence School

The MoE really does seem to have lost the plot. The NZ Correspondence School is \$5.5M in the red. Rather than divert some of the millions going into pre-compulsory schooling, they’ve axed 35 jobs which will cut services to those of compulsory school age for whom the CS was established in the first place back in 1922: isolated rural families. Nineteen jobs have been added, however, to work mainly with the large numbers of Maori on the roll.

In fact, much of the CS’s efforts these days go into prisoners, adults and students who have dropped out or been kicked out of normal schools. It is the largest school in the country with 20,000 on the role. To be honest, though, only 1,000 of them are distance learners. Even so, it is these conscientious students on the back-country farms who will get less service.

Actually, many of them may find it a blessing in disguise: without having to stick to a rigid timetable and wade through the obligatory PC “poetry” and modern “literature” that our teens found defiling, they could start home educating!

(Continued from page 6: **Events**)

Home Education"

8:05-9:15 Two Electives

1. Home Educating thru Secondary and onto Tertiary and Workforce - Craig
2. Avoiding Burn-out - Keeping Going When the Going Gets Tough - Barbara

Sat, 18 June 2005

Christchurch Workshop

Contact: Monique (03) 366-3525, monique@drbugs.co.nz

Venue: Reformed Church of Bishopdale, 90 Highsted Road, Bishopdale, Christchurch.

Cost: \$18.00 per person/couple/family per day or \$6.00 per person/couple/family per session. Nursing infants only please. Teenagers who wish to attend sessions are welcome. Tea, coffee, morning and afternoon teas are provided. Bring your own lunch. Registrations open at 8.15 a.m. Pre registrations are not available - register when you arrive.

Programme

8.55 a.m. Welcome

9.00 - 10.30 Three Electives

1. Getting Things into Perspective - Craig
2. Training our Youth to be Pure, What does it mean to train up a child? - Barbara
3. CHE: Mini Books. This is a hands on workshop during which you will learn how to construct mini books that have a variety of uses from greeting cards to mini projects. (A surcharge of \$5.00 is payable where more than one member of a family participates in this workshop)

10.30 - 11.00 a.m. Morning Tea

11.00 - 12.30 p.m. Three Electives

1. Dad's Essential Role - Craig
2. Training our Daughters to be Godly Wives and Mothers - Barbara
3. CHE: Lap Packs, Unit Studies This hands on workshop will provide you with a brief overview of the basics of unit studies and you will construct a lap pack. (A surcharge of \$5.00 is payable where more than one member of a family participates in this workshop.)

Lunch 12.30 - 1.30

1.30 - 3.00 p.m. Three Electives

1. Reforming the Future via HE - Craig
2. Books, Great Books and More Books - Barbara
3. CHE: Maths with Alex Firestone.

Alex has been a maths teacher for many years and believes that children should be taught not only HOW but WHY concerning maths concepts. They should learn how to think and question and use logic, which will help them not only in maths, but everyday life.

3.00-3.30pm Afternoon Tea

3.30-4.30p.m. Three Electives

1. Choosing A Curriculum - Craig
2. Training our Children to Worship - Barbara
3. CHE: Teen Forum, Life after Home Education

Venue closes at 5.15 p.m.

Mon, 20 June 2005

Marlborough Home Educators Evening

Contact: Reena (03) 570-5143 tatts@paradise.net.nz

Venue: Riversdale Community House, 131 Budge St, Blenheim

Cost: \$5 per person

7:30-9:00pm Two Electives

1. Home Education — Getting things into Perspective - Craig.
2. "Training Our Children's Minds", "The Tools of Learning", "Motivation" - Barbara

9:00-9:30 Come together for a question and answer time

Sat, 2 July 2005

Wanganui Home Educators Workshop

Contact: Marice (06) 345-3660 jmmhill@xtra.co.nz

Venue: Wanganui East Baptist Church, Cnr Nixon and Moana Streets, Wanganui

Cost: \$15 per person/couple or \$5 per session.

Programme

9:00-9:15am Arrival

9:15am - Welcome

9:30am Three electives

1. Home Education - Getting things into perspective - Craig
2. Avoiding Burnout - Barbara
3. Choosing a curriculum - Megan

10:30am Morning tea

11:00am Three electives

1. The Vital Nature of Reading Aloud - Craig

2. Training our children & youth to be pure - Barbara

3. Getting started - Marice

12:15 pm Lunch - Bring your own. Hot drinks provided. View resources.

1:00 pm ERO (Education Review Officer) - Rob Williamson will be speaking about his job as an Education Review Officer and what he looks for in a review.

2:00 pm Three electives

1. Educating through secondary; preparing for tertiary and the workforce - Craig
2. Training our children to worship - Barbara
3. Using the ACE Curriculum (Accelerated Christian Education) - Annie

3:00 pm Afternoon tea

3:30 pm Two electives

1. Dad's essential role in home education - Craig
2. Raising our daughters to be Godly wives and mothers - Barbara

4:30 pm Q & A session with home educated graduates.

5:00 ish Finish

Wed, 6 July 2005

4th Annual Home Educators History Fair

Venue: Morrinsville Presbyterian Church Hall, corner Anderson Street and Canada Street, Morrinsville,

Contact: Robyn, (07) 889-1189 robyn_smith@maxnet.co.nz (Refer to www.hef.org.nz for more information.)

Fri-Sun, 29-31 July 2005

Fifth Annual H.E.A.R.T. Retreat

Where: Totara Springs Christian Centre, Matamata, Taihoa North Road

Contact: Sue, (07) 886-0402 Email: absclan@xtra.co.nz

Sat, 6 August 2005

Whangarei Home Educators Workshop

Contact: Sharyne (09) 437-2725 sjfamily@maxnet.co.nz

(For more information on Coming Events throughout the month, see www.hef.org.nz and click on Coming Events)

Coming Events

Sat, 4 June 2005

Nelson Workshop

Contact: Philippa (03) 522-4213

zarephath@paradise.net.nz

Venue: Stoke Methodist Church Hall

Cost: \$15 for an individual, couple or family for the day or \$5 per person per session. Breastfeeding babies welcome but there will not be a children's programme.

Programme

10:00 Registration, View Resources and Morning Tea

11:00 Keynote Message - Getting things in Perspective - Craig

12:30 - Lunch (BYO)

1:30-3:00 3 Electives

1. Getting Started - Craig

2. Training Our Children to Be Pure - Barbara

3. How can we work at making our parents successful? - Panel of Home Educated Youth

3:00 - Afternoon Tea

3:15 - 3 Electives

1. A Vision for The Future - Craig

2. Avoiding Burnout - Barbara

3. Youth panel talking about life after Home Education

5:00 - Finish

Mon, 6 June 2005

Westport Evening Meeting

Contact: Christine (03) 789-6156 spencez@xtra.co.nz

Venue: the Union Church, Corner of Wakefield and Queen St. Westport.

Cost: \$10/person or \$15/family Programme

3:00 Afternoon Tea & Introduction

3:30-4:30 3 Electives

1. Training Our Children's Minds - Barbara

2. Home Educating Through Secondary - Craig

3. Youth Panel Discussion

4:45 Keynote - Getting Things into Perspective - Craig

6:00 Dinner - Shared Meal

7:00 2 Electives

1. Avoiding Burnout - Barbara

2. Dad's Essential role in Home Education - Craig

8:00 Supper

Tues, 7 June 2005

Hokitika Evening Meeting

Contact: Sonya (03) 755-5300 mcgarveys@xtra.co.nz

Venue: Hokitika Christian Fellowship, Kaniere Road, Hokitika

Cost: \$15 for an individual, couple or family for the day or \$5 per person per session

Breastfeeding Babies welcome but there will not be a children's Programme.

Programme

2:00-3:00 Creative Writing Course - Dot Brown

3:00-3.30 Afternoon Tea

3:30-5:00 2 Electives:

1. Training our Children and Youth to Be Pure -Craig Smith

2. Training Our Children's Minds- Barbara Smith

5:00-6:00 Tea (contact Sonya)

6:00-7:00 Keynote: Homeschooling, Getting Things into Perspective - Craig

7:00-7.30 Break/supper

7.30-8.30 2 Electives:

1. Dad's Essential Role in Home Ed - Craig

2. Books, Great Books and More Books - Barbara

some ideas on how to follow the Unschooling approach.

Sat, 11 June 2005

10th Annual TEACH Leadership Forum Dunedin

Contact: Yolanda (03) 477-3039 barbara@hef.org.nz

Venue: Musselburgh Baptist Church, Musselburgh Rise, Dunedin.

Cost: no cost, lunch provided, must RSVP to Barbara or Yolanda

Time: 10 - 1:00 including lunch

Details: TEACH (Thorough Education Achieved in a Caring Home) Forums have been held annually since 1996 in various parts of New Zealand, by Craig and Barbara Smith of the Home Education Foundation. They are designed to be gatherings of equals to discuss, share and explore any topic the home educators attending wish to raise. The Forums are open to any home educators but are specifically intended for those carrying some responsibility within the local support group, such as coordinator, leaders, newsletter editors and other volunteers. It is also for those wanting to start up a support group or are involved in helping others in their home education endeavours.

Mon, 13 June 2005

Oamaru

Evening Meeting

Contact: Sandra (03) 434-5547 or Maddy (03) 434-5925, bmmx@atrix.co.nz

Time: 7:30pm

Topic: Home Education: Getting Things into Perspective - Craig

Wed, 15 June 2005

Timaru

Evening Meeting

Contact: Michelle (03) 614-3350 michelle.thompson@clear.net.nz

Venue: Wilson Street Baptist Church, 17 Wilson Street, Timaru

Cost: \$5 per family

7:00-8:00pm Keynote message combining "Getting things into Perspective" and "Reforming the Future with

(Continued on page 5: **Events**)