# Octoberfest, Mad October, Freaktober?

What were we thinking?

Having all the ‘goods’ in one week? Have we no respect for Trish?

It’s an exciting week and we keep flipping between names for this big week of English PD. Here is what is in store:

A repeat of **Garry's Grammar Day** starts the week on **Saturday, October 11**, at UQ. This full day workshop centres around grammar - all the sorts of grammar English teachers need to teach the Australian Curriculum well. You'll need to race to get a spot with Garry Collins (shown above right).

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**Thursday, October 16**, sees our **English Communication After-school Forum: Breaking the Mould** which gives teachers the chance to refine their craft in this important subject at Macgregor SHS.

Our party week finishes on **Sunday, October 19** with our **literary breakfast**.

Professor Roley Sussex (shown right) will share his insights into the English language with us all.

Just who is Roley Sussex, I hear some of you ask? You can read Roley's weekly columns about the intricacies of language in ***The Courier-Mail*** as well as hear his radio segment on 612ABC radio.

The program for all three events is included in this mailing.

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# State conference delivers good sense

#### Membership renewal coming up Jan 2015

### We are strengthening!

Thanks to you, our members, membership has just risen to above 2012 levels. Strong membership numbers enable ETAQ to deliver quality PD to members and to continue to film workshops and keynotes addresses for viewing on the website.

If you want to renew or help a colleague to join, go to the website or contact Trish for help at **trish.purcell@bigpond.com.**

#### Fiona Laing ETAQ President

Our OP system seems likely to disappear, based on just released recommendations of the Matters/Masters Report. As we await a government decision, it is critical that ETAQ gathers its thoughts so we can advocate for English teachers and students of the future. Our website blog is your way of updating yourself and making your views known.

The key elements of the report suggest, for English, 4 assessments -1 centrally set/marked (worth 50% of total); 3 internal assessments with a new style of moderation (worth 50% in total).

Get on the website blog to share your view!

### Anita Jetnikoff set us off on a journey through ‘English education’ with her conference keynote

Anita delivered ***The Teacher as Chameleon***, her reflection on how we might provide a balance between the renewed emphasis on explicit and direct instruction and the creative and critical literacy work English teachers do.

Delegates reported positively on the quality of workshops offered at this event. Three of the workshops, as well as the keynote, were filmed and are now available in the members only section of the website.

The recorded workshops are *Persuasion texts for global citizenship: exploring multimodal literacy*by Kami Hazlewood from World Vision,*The ‘Brave New World’ of Senior English: functional grammar as a tool for intervening in literary texts* by Mel Wild and *Re-imagining the Classics: accessible and practical approaches for using classic literature in the multimodal 21st Century Classroom* by Cheryl Moore and Fiona Rousch.

It was a pleasure to share with delegates the achievements of two practitioners whose contribution was recognised: Katie Lipka (shown above right) from St Laurence's College, who received the Botsman Award, and Paul Sherman, who was given Life Membership of ETAQ.

'The conference had a wonderful feel, full of generous human beings giving their time.' Heather

*‘*One of the best annual conferences I've been to for ETAQ.’ Katie

### Have you been accessing the Asia Education Foundation?

A review of the AEF is being undertaken by the federal government through KPMG. . Garry Collins, our AATE national president, is meeting with the reviewers very soon.

Have you used their resources for English? Have you valued their services?

Get onto the blog section of our website to comment.

# Branch News

 Next PD

ENC After-school Forum

Come and share excellent practice around the teaching of English Communication with speakers including Julie Arnold, Lynda Wall, Jools Brown and Donna Kraschnefski.

**When: 4-6pm**

**Afternoon tea: 3.30**

**16 October 2014**

**Where: Macgregor SHS**

#### Saturday 11 October

#### Grammar Refresher Course

The last one sold out quick smart! This one is on its way. Garry Collins has developed this one-day course to upskill teachers on all aspects of grammar.  **When: 11 October 2014**

**Where: Room 303, Building 24, Uni of Qld, St Lucia**

### Two thought-provoking events in Townsville

An excellent meeting was held at St Margaret Mary’s College Townsville, on July 29. Tamara Dawson spoke on ***Engineering a culture of creativity within the classroom***. She discussed recent changes to educational policies and how these changes were important and not limiting for our classroom pedagogy; and shared several teaching strategies and learning experiences that foster creativity and learning.

On September 16, Annabel Evans, an intern from Queensland University at St Margaret Mary’s College, spoke about ***The Middle Years of Schooling***. She commented on what differentiates the middle school teacher from other teachers and encouraged people to rethink curriculum pedagogy and assessment according to the middle years. Caitlin Jerome and Lauren Helmore, both from James Cook University, reflected on their latest practicums and discussed elements of their experiences. The food was fantastic, the company was sensational and the stimulation a delight. Thanks to all who presented.

**Heather Fraser**

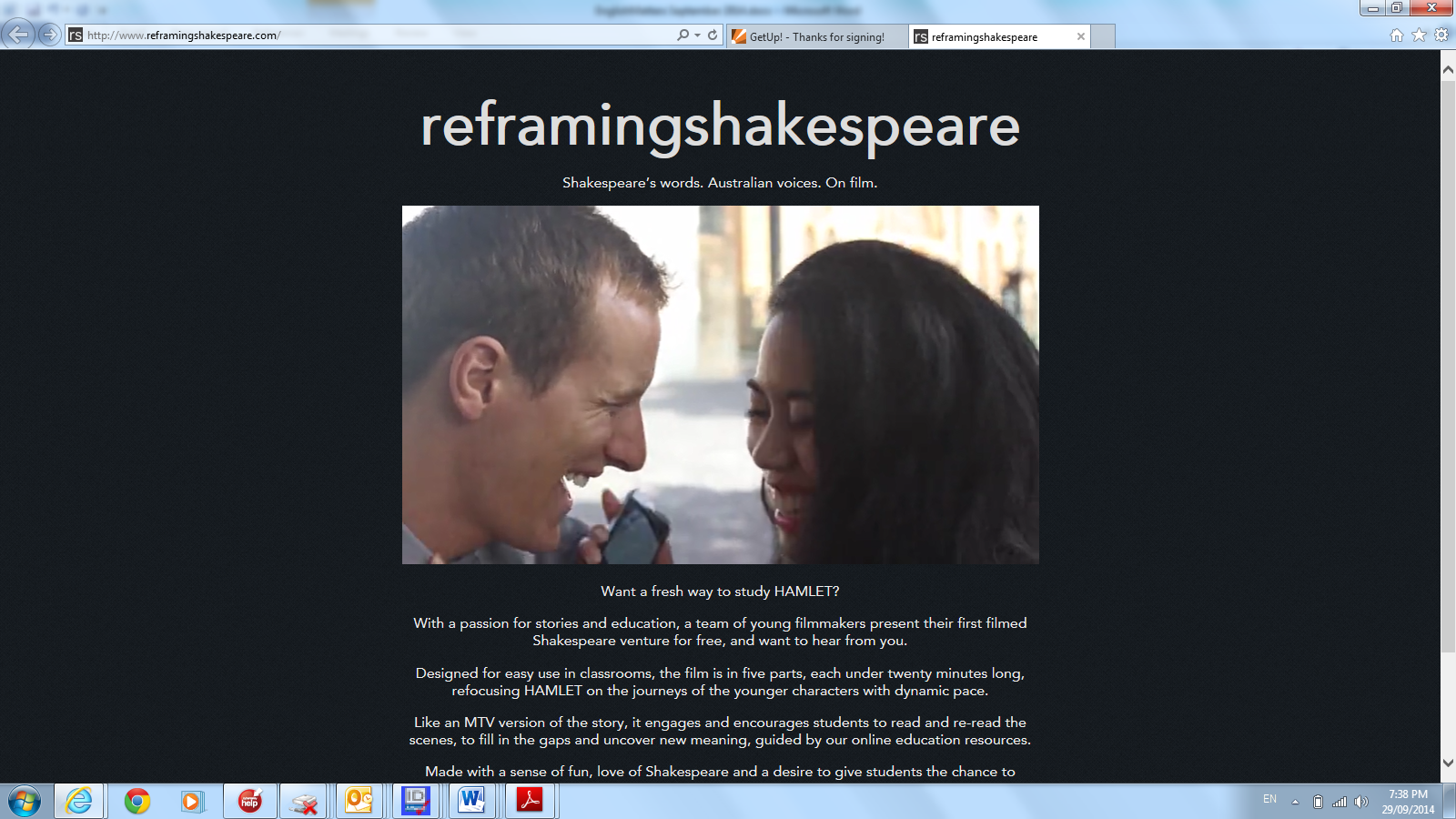
Congratulations to the new committee at ETAQ Townsville Branch, Heather Fraser (shown left) (president), Michelle Jane (vice president), Tamara Dawson (treasurer) and Ligia Learmonth (secretary).

### Centenary Heights teachers share with Darling Downs branch

Toowoomba members gathered on September 4th for a presentation by English staff at Centenary Heights SHS, led by Kathleen Hannant.

They worked through the unit, *Crossing Bridges – into other places, other times, other cultures.* With the introduction of the Australian Curriculum, every school is working to develop and refine their own approach and the opportunity to reflect on this work is much appreciated.

Hamlet film for schools

Want a fresh way to study HAMLET? A team of young filmmakers is presenting their first filmed Shakespeare venture for free. Designed for easy use in classrooms, the film is a modern retelling in five parts, refocusing HAMLET on the journeys of the younger characters. Check out the film and educational resources online at [www.reframingshakespeare.com](http://www.reframingshakespeare.com)

 Upcoming PD dates

Please keep the following in your diary:

Saturday 11 October – Grammar Refresher Day

(new event – see pg 3)

Wednesday 15 October

Presentations for Literary Awards (QIEU/ETAQ)

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Thursday 16 October – English Communication After-school Forum

Sunday 19 October – Literary Breakfast: Roly Sussex

# Digital Story competition

ETAQ’s final competition for 2014 is the Digital Story competition with entries due to be received by October 24. There are 3 categories:Junior Storytellers (Years 7, 8 and 9); Senior Storytellers (Years 10, 11 and 12); Master Storytellers (pre-service and professional teachers)

Head to the website for all the details and to view the winning entries from last year's competition. Be sure to have your own or your students' stories in the running. **All entries need to be burnt onto a DVD and mailed to the postal address below.**

Resources for Members

There are a bundle of resources available in the members only section of the website. By logging on through Members Login, the tab Members Resources contains keynotes and workshops from PD events throughout this year. Enjoy the feast of professional development opportunities at your leisure.

#### Contact

### Please direct payments and enquiries to:

Trish Purcell   
ETAQ – Administration Officer & Treasurer

**Email**: [**trish.purcell@bigpond.com**](mailto:trish.purcell@bigpond.com)  
**Telephone**: (07) 3284 3718

### www.etaq.org.au

**Postal address**: PO Box 3375   
STAFFORD DC QLD 4053

**Physical address**:   
46 Tainton Street, CLONTARF QLD 4019