



## Interview with Steve Ripley: 2011 Don't DIS my ABILITY Ambassador

Kate Matairavula interviewed Steve Ripley



Photo by Jamie North from Pardalote Photography

**You are an ambassador for the Don't DIS my ABILITY Campaign – what's that?**

Don't DIS my ABILITY is a whole month of letting people know about the "can" of disability.

**How did you get chosen as an ambassador?**

I was chosen through the Deafblind Community, but I think as more deaf people know about it would be great to see the Deaf Community nominating people themselves.

**What does an ambassador do?**

You get out into the community and give presentations to organisations. You talk about your life, what you believe in, the campaign and what changes you'd like to see happen.

**So what changes would you like to see happen?**

I think the word "disability" and the concept itself should be taken out of the dictionary! If you look at the statistics, you could say that there are more people with a "disability" than without. "Disability" is more normal than not. I would like to think that people just have differences. Many people still think of themselves as "me, the able person" helping "you, the disabled person". The other thing I would like to see change is organisations involving people with a disability from the start in any planning. We are usually considered last. It's better to make a plan that includes everyone right from the start.

**You used to work as an actor – how do you express yourself creatively now?**

In my work as Communications Trainer with Deafblind Services in Vision Australia I'm working with people to improve how they communicate, and that is very creative. People think that communication is just "spoken" or "signed", but communication can use the body or objects. People who are deafblind and have an intellectual disability are seen as very simple communicators, but

actually they are very rich communicators. As an actor, I imagine they are "on the stage, performing" – I consider what they can use to communicate with and what they want to tell their audience. They are actors who are developing their skills. Many times staff only have a basic understanding about what a person is saying, but there is much more depth there that they are missing.

**What can deaf people learn about deafblind people?**

I think deafblindness can be a huge fear for deaf people. Eyes are how deaf people receive everything, how we communicate. So losing that is one of their biggest fears, which means it's not comfortable to get close to someone who is deafblind.

As a blind person who can hear, or a deaf person who can see, you are pretty independent. For a deaf person who loses their vision they are quite dependent on someone telling them everything.

I like reading and can read both large print and Braille. Often deafblind people who have Usher's are told not to worry about learning Braille or using a cane until later when they really need it. But by the time it happens they are going through a grieving process and don't want to be learning new technologies or skills. So people need to be prepared earlier when they can.

**What technologies do you use yourself for access?**

I have Zoomtext which enlarges everything on a computer screen, and also JAWS which is a speaking program that I use to access the Braille technology. Videos or diagrams on computers aren't very accessible for me. I prefer words.

**There are many famous Deaf Community jokes. Are there any deafblind ones?**

Oh yes. When we had the World Federation of the Deafblind conference a few years back in New Zealand, a deafblind actor from Sweden performed. He came onto the stage dressed as a pilot with a cane, sat down at the control panel of his aircraft, felt the panel, checked the destination, and then pulled out an enormous Braille map to work out which way to fly! It was hilarious.

### Inside this edition:

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## From the CEO

Welcome to issue seven of the *NSW Deaf Herald* and the first for 2012. I hope 2012 has started off well for you and that there are not too many sporting injuries from the Australian Deaf Games.

The start of a new year is a time of reflection on past achievements as well as a time to look forward to taking up new opportunities to help us achieve our mission and vision. It is important that the Deaf Society is involved in talking to the wider community about the Deaf Community, as well as continuing to provide our services. One opportunity to raise awareness of the Deaf Community is our representation on the NSW Police Disability Advisory Council. Jordanna Smith, from our Employment Services team, will be our representative and will make sure that the needs of deaf people are considered by the NSW Police Department. I am also a member of the National Disability Services Sensory Stakeholders Forum and the Better Start for Children Reference Group which means I can remind policy makers to include the views of deaf people and their families in government policy and legislation.

The Deaf Society held a joint Board/Managers' retreat in March where we revisited the strategic direction of the Deaf Society to help us focus on setting goals for the 2012-2013 annual plan as well as reviewed our future directions for the remainder of our current strategic plan.

I am pleased to announce that Mr Vivek Prabhu, who was formally elected to the Board at the 2011 Annual General Meeting (AGM), was appointed Treasurer at the December Board Meeting. Vivek is a Fellow of both the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia (ICAA) and the Financial Services Institute of Australasia (FINSIA). The Treasurer's position has been ably filled by George Barbouttis for many years. The Board's succession planning ensures we always have a smooth transition in filling all positions on the Board and George, who will continue as a Director, will assist Vivek and Michael Lockery, Assistant Treasurer, in their new roles.

Finally, another new initiative for us is the Sustainability Advantage program with the NSW Government's Office of Environment and Heritage. As an organisation we want to be aware of our carbon footprint and work towards an environmental performance that uses our resources more efficiently. We are currently developing an action plan and look forward to implementing it.

Our condolences are extended to the family of Ben Taylor who passed away on 1st January. Ben was a Deaf Society Director from 1980 to 1989 and was an active Deaf Community member and leader at both state and national level through his passion for sports and improving the quality of life for deaf people. Following a moving funeral service, mourners went to Burwood RSL Club. Although a sad occasion, Ben's wake provided the opportunity for his many friends, family and colleagues to think back on their time with him and share memories about Ben's humour and grace and his many wonderful achievements.

**Sharon Everson**  
Chief Executive Officer



## Editorial

Hello and welcome to the latest edition of the *NSW Deaf Herald*. This is my first edition as editor. I love words – English was my favourite subject at school. I love reading, anything from *New Idea* to political commentaries in the *Sydney Morning Herald* to the ninth longest English novel in the world: *A Suitable Boy*. I also love writing and have written a few articles for the *NSW Deaf Herald* before. Editing is new for me. Instead of reading and writing what I want, I now need to think about what you might want to read about. Over the last month I have been learning that I pick the stories, make sure there is space for them all, check the layout, check the spelling, check the facts, find the photos and follow the deadlines.

We are well into 2012 now but the last big event for 2011 was International Day of People with Disability which the Deaf Society participated in. I hope you enjoy our interview with Steve Ripley who was part of this event and the first deafblind ambassador for the Don't DIS my ABILITY campaign. I am guilty of sometimes forgetting that the Deaf Community also includes people who deafblind so having Steve in this public role is a great reminder of this valuable group in our community.

There are two exciting new programs starting soon at the Deaf Society. One is the Duke of Edinburgh Award which we will be running in 2012. Did you know that the Duke of Edinburgh's mother was born deaf? We are also excited about working with the Ephpheta Centre on a series of youth activities. It's always good when we can share resources and skills and work together with another organisation.

Last but not least, have you applied for your smoke alarm? If you haven't, please do. It could save your life. I am looking forward to getting my alarm in the mail soon. Remember if you are deaf and living with another deaf person, you can get an alarm each. Apply now!

**Kate Matairavula**

Manager, Advocacy and Community Development

## DSNSW Board Profile - Alastair McEwin, President



Alastair McEwin

Alastair (Al) McEwin was elected as President at the 2011 AGM in October 2011.

Al was born in South Australia. He spent his early years on a sheep farm outside Naracoorte before moving to Adelaide to attend school. He started school at the Oral School for Deaf and Hearing Impaired Children (now Cora Barclay Centre). One of his best memories of this school is the secret signing between children that went on at recess and lunchtime. Signing was not encouraged by the teachers there as they believed that learning to speak was far more important than signing.

Al then went to a mainstream school, Pembroke school, for his primary and secondary education. After school he went to Adelaide University and did Arts and Law degrees. Next he took off for Canada where he did further studies in law at the University of British Columbia. When he came back to Australia, he worked in Adelaide for a while and then moved to Sydney in 1999. He has been a proud resident of Sydney ever since.

**ASLIA NSW & DA (NSW) AWARDS for 2011**

Deaf Australia (NSW) Inc.  
ASLIA NEW SOUTH WALES

**ASLIA NSW**  
*Interpreter of the Year Awards*

**DEAF AUSTRALIA (NSW)**  
*Deaf Community Awards*

**Saturday 21 April 2012**  
Arrive 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start

**PARKROYAL Hotel Parramatta**  
30 Phillip Street, Parramatta  
(opp Deaf Society of NSW)

Early Bird Tickets (before 6 April 2012)  
Members: **\$50** Non-members: **\$60**  
Regular Tickets  
Members: **\$55** Non-members: **\$70**

Dress code: Cocktail Attire

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BEFORE THE BIG EVENT - deafnsawards@gmail.com

Parent Council for Deaf Education celebrates



Looking back... Looking forward

**FUN  
AND  
FESTIVITIES  
FOR  
YOUNG  
AND  
OLD**

Looking back...

50th Anniversary celebrations

...Looking forward  
Launch of our new name

RSVP

02 9871 3193 or  
pcde@bigpond.com by  
Friday 2 March

Parent Council for Deaf Education  
warmly invites you to an afternoon of  
fun and celebration

**SUNDAY 11 MARCH**  
**Shopfront Theatre**

88 Carlton Parade Carlton NSW  
2.00 - 5.30pm



The ASLIA National Conference will be held Friday 24th August – Sunday 26th August 2012, at the Intercontinental Adelaide, North Terrace, Adelaide.

The theme for ANC 2012 is **'Rediscovering our roots: Shaping our future'**.

The Interpreter Trainers Network Symposium takes place immediately after the ASLIA National Conference (ANC) on Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th August.

This event is the largest gathering of Auslan/English interpreters and allied professionals that is regularly held in Australia.

For more information: [www.asliaconference.org.au](http://www.asliaconference.org.au)

### How to contact the Deaf Society:



ooVoo [deafsocietyofnsw](http://deafsocietyofnsw)



Skype [deafsocietyofnsw](http://deafsocietyofnsw)



MSN [info@deafsociety.com](mailto:info@deafsociety.com)



Email [info@deafsociety.com](mailto:info@deafsociety.com)

TTY (02) 8833 3691

Voice (02) 8833 3600

Fax (02) 8833 3699



## Updates from the Deaf Society

**Contributors:** Katrina Lancaster, Richard Aarden and Kate Matairavula.

### Deaf Youth Sydney Group – Jamberoo

On Saturday 10th December 2011, a group of 24 deaf youth and leaders went to Jamberoo, on the South Coast. We all piled into the bus at Parramatta Station early in the morning, ready for the two-hour drive down. On arrival, the deaf youth did not waste any time getting started on what Jamberoo had to offer. They went on rides including go-karts and the bobsled and got themselves wet in the wave pool. The weather was mostly good but there was a bit of rain. Everyone who went had a great time, including the leaders. On the way back, the bus was buzzing with excitement and stories while the leaders relaxed and took a breath!



Our Jamberoo trip was not without incident. One of our deaf youth, in his excitement to get on one of the rides, dislocated his knee but luckily the staff at Jamberoo and Shellharbour Hospital took very good care of him. This incident has not stopped him from looking forward to the next youth activity!

This activity is part of the Deaf Youth Sydney program, a joint undertaking between the Deaf Society and Ephpheta Centre to provide recreational activities to young deaf and hard of hearing people aged between 12 and 17. Deaf Youth Sydney is organised by Katrina Lancaster from the Deaf Society, with David Parker and Donovan Mulligan from the Ephpheta Centre. Jamberoo was the first activity with several more to come in 2012. Please contact Katrina on [klancaster@deafsociety.com](mailto:klancaster@deafsociety.com) to be updated on youth activities.



*Rhys doing work experience*

### Donation in memory of Rhys Walker

On Monday 5th September 2011, Rhys Walker, a 17 year old boy was killed in a hit-and-run accident. Rhys was well known to us. He attended our Crossing Borders youth camps, both in 2009 and 2011 and did work experience at the Deaf Society.

Nepean High School, the school that Rhys attended, had a concert in memory of Rhys. This concert raised just over \$1000. Rhys' parents, Nick and Vicky Walker asked that this money be

donated to the Deaf Society.

On Wednesday 30th November, Katrina Lancaster and Colin Allen represented the Deaf Society at the school assembly to accept the cheque. A big thank you goes out to the Walkers and Nepean High School for their kind donation. This donation will go towards the next Crossing Borders youth camp in January 2013.



*DSNSW receiving the cheque: Colin Allen, Vicky Walker (Rhys' mother), Katrina Lancaster and Tony Baldacchino (Principal)*

**The Deaf Society of NSW is now running...**

## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Ever wanted to go on a challenging journey of self discovery?  
Felt the need to make a difference but not sure how?

If you are 14-25 and interested in developing your skills and potential,  
then The Duke of Ed is for you!

If you take part in The Duke of Ed you will:

- Learn a new skill
- Do some volunteer work
- Get active with a sport/activity you enjoy
- Go on an Adventurous Journey

Starting March 2012

There will be a one-off registration fee.

Contact Katrina Lancaster to express your interest:  
Email: [klancaster@deafsociety.com](mailto:klancaster@deafsociety.com) / SMS: 0415 204 926

Connecting. Empowering. Equipping. Transforming.



## NSW Smoke Alarm Subsidy Scheme (SASS)

Have you applied for your smoke alarm yet?

The Deaf Society is receiving applications and will be shortly distributing the first round of smoke alarms.

Smoke Alarm information session for Deaf Seniors

**Date** – Wednesday 7th March 2012

**Time** – 10.30am

**Where** – Burwood RSL Club, 96 Shaftesbury Rd, Burwood (same place as the Deaf Seniors gathering).

If you have any questions please email Greg Mills at [smokealarms@deafsociety.com](mailto:smokealarms@deafsociety.com)



## A Day to Celebrate Ability

In 1992, the United Nations set up International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD). The official day is the 3rd of December each year. In Australia we celebrate with a week of events at the start of December.

Last December, the Deaf Society participated in two of the Sydney events – both of which were Auslan-interpreted.



On 1st December, the Deaf Society and NRS exhibited together at Central Station, handing out information about Auslan, tips on how to communicate better with deaf people, and about the Deaf Society's and NRS's services. This day always gives us plenty of great opportunities to correct people's wrong ideas about being deaf. There was more interest in Auslan this year, maybe because people saw signing on television during the Queensland floods.

Members of the Deaf Community who visited this event enjoyed an interpreted tour of the access features at Central Station and the trains. One of the tour highlights was being able to sit in the train driver's seat and learn about the train's controls. We also had a fascinating special "secret" tour of the tunnels that were used during the World Wars which are not open to the general public. It was really pleasing to see how CityRail staff have become much more aware of the needs of deaf people since we first exhibited.



The Deaf Society also exhibited at, and was a sponsor of, Parramatta City Council's celebration in Church Street Mall on 2nd December. The event started with a beautiful performance of Christmas songs by the signing choir from Thomas Pattison School.

As a part of the official launch of IDPwD in Parramatta, Kate Matairavula (the Deaf Society's Manager of Advocacy and Community Development department) was interviewed about her experience as a deaf person. She talked about her schooling, barriers and lack of access she experiences, deaf pride, and how her greatest wish is to have the words "disabled" and "disability" taken out of the English vocabulary.

### (Quote from Kate)

'I see myself as facing barriers in life more than having a disability. I see myself as different and contributing to the diversity in humanity. What I don't like about the word "disability" is that it invites pity or the attitude of needing help. There is nothing wrong with needing or asking for help but what I really want is access. The word "disability" also means that the focus is on me. I am with one with the "problem". If I lived in a world with only signing people then there would be no problem. If I lived in a society that valued difference or diversity then there would be less of a problem. I would rather think of society as disabled rather than me!'



**WE HAVE  
MOVED!**

**Newcastle Office** - We have moved into a new office.  
**New address is: Suite 1/133 King Street, Newcastle, 2300.**  
Phone, fax, email, and mobile contact information remains the same.

## Community News

If you wish to submit your news, please contact Kate Matairavula, Editor. Word limit: 200 words, and please include a good quality photo.

*Contributors: Kate Matairavula, Paul Nordheim and Susannah Macready.*

### Ben Taylor, Ex-Director of the Deaf Society Passes On

Many of us in the Deaf Community were saddened to find out about the passing of Benjamin (Ben) Taylor OAM, on 1st January 2012.

Ben had been involved with the Deaf Society for a long time, beginning when he left school, where he went straight to the Elizabeth Street office of the Deaf Society and joined the Younger Set committee. The committee organised camps, mock concerts, dances and much more.

Ben was also involved with deaf cricket and soccer clubs and would regularly attend the Friday night club held at 5 Elizabeth Street.

Prior to the Deaf Centre at Stanmore being built, which included the lawn bowls green, bowlers played the game at the Strathfield Lonsdale House Aged Person's Home. When the Deaf Centre, including the bowling green, opened at Stanmore in 1975, Ben was the NSW President of the Deaf Lawn Bowls Association.

With all of Ben's involvement in the activities of the Deaf Society, it was a natural progression for him to join the Board of Directors, which he did from 1980 till 1989. He was made a life member in 1989. The Taylor family's connection with the Deaf Society continues through the work of his daughter Diana Ashley, who now works in the Employment Services team.

Ben did however have a bigger passion than the Deaf Society: his family. People talk about Ben being a family man. The two main role models in his life were his two older brothers, Owen and Peter. Owen was a businessman who taught Ben about procedure and protocol and the right way of doing things. Peter taught him about sports, the rules of various games and sports administration. Ben was known for being a perfectionist and strict about following rules and regulations.

Ben and his wife Beryl have two daughters, Diana and Jane. Both daughters have fond memories of spending time with their mother and father watching sport, particularly cricket and rugby league. Ben made sure his daughters knew all the rules of each sport. If the rugby league was on in the UK, Ben would set up beds for his daughters in front of the TV in the lounge room where they would sleep and then be woken up by him in the middle of the night to watch the game live.

He was a whiz at woodwork and made lots of things: wickets to play backyard cricket, picture frames, tabloid sports games and even a netball pole for his daughter, Jane.

He was someone who liked things done properly so he took great care of his gardens, vegetables and lawns.

Ben was always very neatly dressed and ready to communicate when he met hearing people, with a notebook and pen in his jacket pocket. Diana says that even when he was in the nursing home and had dementia he never forgot to get dressed without the notepad and pen. So it was right that he was laid to rest in a smart suit with his trusty notepad and pen.



**Benjamin S. Taylor OAM**

**17 July 1927 - 1 January 2012**



**accessibleARTS**  
ARTS + DISABILITY NSW

### Deaf Community focus for Accessible Arts

Accessible Arts is conducting a survey for the Deaf Community in NSW to find out what the Arts mean to people who are deaf. If you are deaf and an artist or audience member, we want to learn about your experience of the Arts. We would like you to fill in a 5 minute online survey. The survey is open until Sunday 1st April 2012. What you tell us will be used for an Arts Meeting which will be held later in 2012 as part of Accessible Arts Deaf Arts Access Project. This project is supported by the Deaf Society, Deaf Australia (NSW), the Ephpheta Centre and Parent Council for Deaf Education. For more information contact Naomi Malone, Projects Officer, at [projects@aarts.net.au](mailto:projects@aarts.net.au).

Please complete this survey now: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DeafArtsAccess>. It is in Auslan too.

### Subscribe online:

Do you want to receive *NSW Deaf Herald* and other information from the Deaf Society by email?

Subscribe at [www.deafsocietynsw.org.au/subscribe](http://www.deafsocietynsw.org.au/subscribe)



## Deaf HSC student graduates with help from RIDBC

By Zoë Myers, RIDBC Communications Officer



Andrews at RIDBC Thomas Pattison School presentation day

Prestons resident, Andrews Wirekoh, who is deaf, has just graduated with his Higher School Certificate (HSC) with support from the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children (RIDBC). Andrews, who was born in Ghana and arrived in Australia in 2008, attended RIDBC Thomas Pattison School - a specialist school in Sydney which teaches a bi-lingual educational program in English and Auslan from Kindergarten to Year 10.

"I have never forgotten my experiences as a student in Ghana. It was a hard life," said Andrews. "When I first arrived in Sydney my sister searched the internet and found RIDBC Thomas Pattison School and it just seemed like I belonged there. I enrolled in the program and soon made many new friends. My confidence in Auslan improved in just two months studying at the school!"

Next year Andrews plans on studying media and graphic design at the Academy of Information Technology, Sydney.

"When I arrived in Australia I really wanted to learn both English as well as Auslan, and the bi-lingual program at RIDBC Thomas Pattison School helped me achieve this. With both these languages I now have the confidence to pursue tertiary education options in 2012."

Andrews transferred to RIDBC Thomas Pattison School partner, The Hills Grammar School, to complete his Year 11 and 12 studies. During this time he continued to receive support from RIDBC through the assistance of an RIDBC School Support Teacher.

"My RIDBC Teacher provided in-class support as an Auslan interpreter, through a captioning program, and by assisting me to develop my written English and grammar skills," said Andrews.

To caption, an RIDBC Teacher speaks into a microphone as the classroom teacher delivers the lesson. Voice recognition software converts the speech into a written transcript that appears, in real-time, on the student's laptop. Now that Andrews has finished his studies he is very much looking forward to life after school.

"When I think back to my life in Ghana – when I didn't even know how to use a computer – I realise how far I've come. I have so much gratitude for my RIDBC school friends and teachers for the support I have received, it truly has allowed me to get to where I am today."

RIDBC provides vital support to over 1000 children and families living with significant hearing and/or vision loss all across Australia, providing diagnostic and assessment services to over 2000 more each year.

RIDBC relies heavily on fundraising and community support to be able to continue to make a difference in children's lives. In order to maintain its intensive educational and research programs, the organisation needs to raise approximately \$2.5 million every month.

## Spotlight on Orange

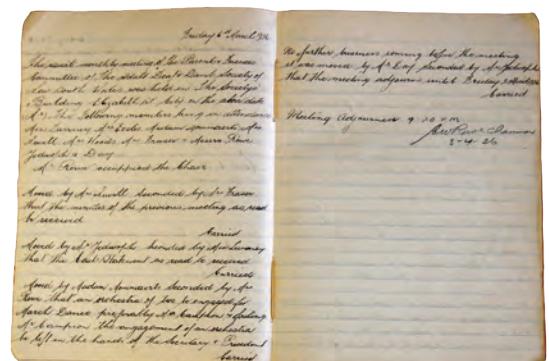
This region has one of the oldest and longest running Deaf Clubs in NSW. In 2007, the Central West Deaf Club based in Orange celebrated its 25th anniversary. Social events for the area take place once a month. Sandra Carroll worked in the Central West area till 2009, then Paul Nordheim took Sandra's place and has been the Community Worker for the area ever since. We do not have a permanent office in the Central West because we do not receive any funding for the area. We provide services at our own cost from investment earnings. Currently we provide walk-in services for deaf people where they can meet with us and receive assistance to improve their quality of life. This service is available on the third Friday of each month at Orange City Bowling Club from 3pm to 5pm.

We have a community BBQ for the Central West area coming up on Saturday 17th March in Orange. For more information please see under "Central West Region" on the events page of this newsletter. If you need more information, please contact Paul Nordheim via email [pnordheim@deafsociety.com](mailto:pnordheim@deafsociety.com)

## "On this day..."

Did you know that the Deaf Society used to have a "Parents and Friends Committee"? Perhaps this was the equivalent of a support group for parents with deaf children? We still have a book of the committee's meeting minutes from the 1930s. It seems that this committee had responsibility for some fundraising and social events. Here is one motion from a meeting on Friday 6th March 1936:

"...that an orchestra of two be engaged for March Dance preferably Mr Campion and failing Mr Campion the engagement of an orchestra be left in the hands of the Secretary and President."



# Macquarie University Sign Language Research



*Jemina Napier*



*Trevor Johnston*

Do you get emails asking to you participate in research at Macquarie University? Have you wondered what it is all about? You may know that there are a group of sign language experts researching away at Macquarie University. Maybe you have wondered who they are and what they are doing? Jemina Napier explains.

SLING (Sign Language Linguistics Group) is a research group within the Department of Linguistics at Macquarie University.

Our main work is making the Auslan Archive and Corpus. This is like a database of film clips showing native signers signing as they would in real life. The corpus-based approach is used to document and describe sign languages. This means we don't look at a single sign but we look at signs when they are signed with a group of other signs for example when someone tells a story. Our main area of interest is Auslan and related sign languages (British Sign Language and New Zealand Sign Language).

The members of SLING are myself, Trevor Johnston and Della Goswell who are all staff at Macquarie University. We are all hearing but have grown up in the Deaf Community, using sign language at home. Other members include Donovan Cresdee, who has finished his PhD and works as a researcher. He is deaf. There are also various deaf and hearing research assistants and casual teachers who are members.

Trevor and I are supervising a number of students who are conducting PhD research.

Two students live in Melbourne and one in Perth. The rest all live in Sydney. I would like to introduce them to you.



## Lindsay Ferrara

Lindsay is from the USA. She learned ASL from a young age and she has explored gesture and language in Auslan. Her recently completed PhD research is on depicting signs (classifier

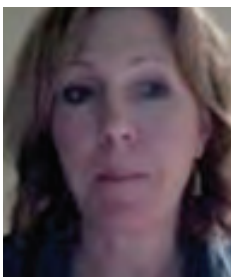
signs) used in stories and conversations. She found that depicting signs occur more often in stories and function mostly as verbs that describe actions. Also, signers are skilled at using depicting signs with other signs and gestures to show meaning. Her work could change current linguistic theory.



## Marcel Leneham

A former PhD student, Marcel is a qualified Auslan interpreter and interpreter educator. His research, which has never been done before, explored sign language translation from Auslan into written English.

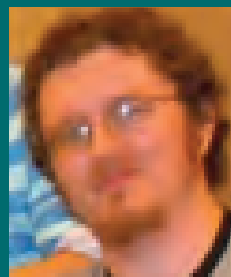
He compared the translations of deaf people and hearing interpreters doing a written translation from a short Auslan report. He also compared the different ways used by interpreters when producing a voice-over interpretation as compared to a written translation.



## Lori Whynot

Lori is also from the USA. She is an experienced ASL interpreter and interpreter educator. Her research looks at International Sign (IS) comprehension. She has collected films of different deaf people using IS, then plans to test

deaf people from around the world to see if and how well they understand IS compared to their own sign language. The goal is to find more evidence about IS comprehension and ways for using it well.

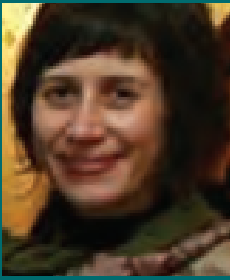


## Michael Gray

Michael is a qualified Auslan interpreter. His research looks at aspect marking in Auslan. Aspect marking describes how time happens using verbs that have been modified. Michael's

research will help our understanding of the relationship between spoken and signed languages and gesture.

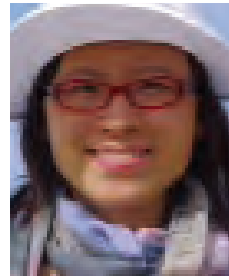




## Gabrielle Hodge

Based in Melbourne, Gabrielle is a deaf late learner of Auslan, and she is focusing on simple and complex combinations of signs in Auslan. She is using the Auslan Corpus established by Trevor Johnston to

describe a range of Auslan signing combinations and how they combine in natural communication. The data is based on people telling the story of *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* and relaxed conversation. She has explored different studies to describe the different ways signers create meaning in sign language communication.



## Lily Wang

Lily trained in China as a spoken language interpreter between Mandarin and English. She is now looking at the relationship between professional Auslan/English interpreters' working

memory capacity and their interpreting performance. She has found that native signer interpreters and non-native signer interpreters are similar in their working memory capacity. She is analysing her data to see if native signer interpreters and non-native signer interpreters are different in their interpreting performance.



## Karen Bontempo

Based in Perth, Karen is a qualified Auslan interpreter and interpreter educator with lots of experience. She has almost finished her PhD. Her research explores factors that may predict how well an

interpreter works. Her research identifies the skills, knowledge and abilities that are necessary for good performance as a sign language interpreter. She is also collecting data on the skills gaps and personality traits of interpreters, and recommends how this data can be used. Knowing what qualities may be predictive of successful performance in the profession may lead to more effective interpreter education programs and practices.



## George Major

George is a qualified sign language interpreter from New Zealand. She has lots of experience in linguistics research on healthcare communication. She is almost ready to submit her PhD. Her

research is about medical interpreting. She analysed appointments with deaf patients, hearing Auslan/English interpreters, and hearing doctors. She found that medical interpreters do much more than just interpret health vocabulary. They also take a lot of responsibility in helping doctors and patients have good relationships. This is new information about medical interpreting. It will help us to improve interpreter training in the future.



## Della Goswell

Della has been interpreting and teaching Auslan interpreters for over 20 years, but her PhD research has only just started. She is looking at the decisions and limitations that Auslan/English interpreters deal with when they try to interpret between Auslan and English so that there is equal meaning. When interpreting between one language that uses hands (Auslan) and one language that uses speech and words (English) interpreters have to try to match signs and words and formal and informal language. Della has focused on the area of legal

interpreting where there is high risk if interpreting is not successful and where it is hard to interrupt and ask for repetition. Her research also compares Auslan/English interpreting with other languages.



Some members of the SLING group, from left to right: Trevor Johnston, Gabrielle Hodge, Joe Sabolcec (research assistant), Jemina Napier, Adam Schembri (associate SLING member from La Trobe University), Lily Wang, Michael Gray, Donovan Cresdee.

# SM | Silent Messenger



## Message from a board member – Joshua Sealy

### ASLIA/DA (NSW) Awards Night

It's nearly that time of the year. That's right, it's the ever-popular ASLIA NSW/DA (NSW) Awards Night! Make sure you keep 21st April free for this special event. ASLIA NSW and DA (NSW) are looking for nominations. If you would like to nominate someone, do not hesitate to put your entry in! The more we have, the more exciting the competition. The deadline for nominations is 23rd March, 5pm. You can get the nomination forms from our website [www.deafau-nsw.org.au](http://www.deafau-nsw.org.au) and send them to [deafnswawards@gmail.com](mailto:deafnswawards@gmail.com). The categories for the awards are as follows:

#### ASLIA NSW Awards:

- Individual Paraprofessional Interpreter
- Individual Professional Interpreter
- Individual Deaf Relay Interpreter
- Individual Interpreter Advocate
- Organisation Award

#### DA (NSW) Awards:

- Deaf Person of the Year
- Deaf Youth of the Year
- Deaf Employee of the Year
- Fair Go Award

Happy nominating and we hope to see you all at the Awards Night!

## Important Notice regarding vacancies on board

The board of DA (NSW) has undergone a few changes in numbers of members: Katrina Lancaster is no longer on the board, and this means there are now two vacant spots on board. We are looking for two more people who would be interested in being a board member. If you are interested, please do not hesitate to nominate yourself. If you would like to know more about what is involved you can email Kate Matairavula at [deafaust.nsw@gmail.com](mailto:deafaust.nsw@gmail.com)

## Interview with the new President of DA (NSW), Donovan Mulligan

DA (NSW) has a new president, Donovan Mulligan, so I took the opportunity to conduct a brief grill:



#### Where are you from originally?

I am originally from Cape Town, South Africa.

#### What do you like about being deaf and living in Australia?

Access to interpreters is good compared with South Africa. Also, captioning on television and at the cinema is good. In South Africa when I left, there was not much access to interpreters and no captioning on television or at the cinema. There are also not enough qualified interpreters. Since starting work in Australia, I am able to communicate with my colleagues in Auslan as well as book interpreters for meetings. Australia is also appealing because of the number of deaf organisations

here in Sydney including Ephpheta Centre, The Sydney Deaf Club, Parent Council for Deaf Education, Deaf Australia (NSW) and the Deaf Society who have done a lot for the Deaf Community in NSW.

#### What interests you to be involved in the Deaf Community?

AUSLAN! Why? Because it is the best way to get involved in the Deaf Community. In South Africa, we use ASL (American Sign Language) for finger spelling and South African signs.

#### How does it feel to be the new President of DA (NSW)?

I am looking forward to a challenging and rewarding year!

#### Are there any particular issues you are passionate about?

Access, access and even more access!!!

#### What do you think about the use of technology in our lives?

With many technological improvements, there is both good and bad. For example, the Captiview equipment that is used in cinemas now gives deaf people more access but I find it uncomfortable to use and I don't enjoy going to the movies as much. More consultation is needed with the people who use this equipment before major decisions are made about implementing them.



## Can you tell us a deaf joke?

Sure, I have seen this joke told many times. You can also find it online ([www.deafonline2.com](http://www.deafonline2.com)): A young deaf American was taking a holiday overseas. He got a train pass and travelled to Holland, France, Belgium, and lots of other places before ending up in Germany. At the first village he came to, he went into a pub and saw three older German gentlemen who were signing. It looked like they were deaf. The young man watched and thought he could understand the signs enough to have a conversation with them. He got a beer and asked if he could join them. They said yes. They chatted about this and that, and soon conversation gave way to how each of them became deaf. The first older German said, "Well, I was a soldier in WWII, and my platoon was hit by a big American mortar, and it exploded near my head, and I lost all my hearing." The American boy was saddened by this. The second German went on: "I was in a U-Boat and my job was to listen for enemy ships. An American destroyer dropped a depth bomb on my ship, and it went off very close to it, and I lost my hearing." Oh no, thinks the young American. How awful. The third German said: "I was in a plane, and we were struck by an American bomb and it went off right next to me, it blew out my ears and that's how I lost my hearing."

Well, that's just awful, the young American thinks. My country is indirectly responsible for these poor chaps going deaf. He was sad about this until they asked him how he became deaf. Smiling, he signed, "Well, before I was born, my mom got German measles."

### Disclaimer

The Silent Messenger pages are the sole responsibility of Deaf Australia (NSW). The Deaf Society cannot guarantee the accuracy of anything on these pages.

## Deaf Sports News

Contributors: James Ashley and Tony Clews.

If you want to send a story, email Tony Clews at [tclews@deaf.nsw.edu.au](mailto:tclews@deaf.nsw.edu.au)

### The 16th Australian Deaf Games A Success

NSW was represented by 130 athletes from various deaf sporting teams at the 16th Australian Deaf Games in Geelong from 14th -21st January 2012 with excellent performances and results overall. NSW came second at the Games losing to the mighty Victorians with their 270 athletes. The John M Lovett Cup (formerly ADSF CUP) results are as follows:

1. Victoria	2. New South Wales	3. Queensland
4. South Australia	5. Western Australia	6. Australian Capital Territory

For the full list of results, see the Deaf Sports Australia website: [www.deafsports.org.au](http://www.deafsports.org.au).

Deaf Sports Australia is working with the Deaf Society to find a way to set up a NSW deaf sports association. We hope that if NSW has its own deaf sports association then we will be able to double our team to 260 athletes ready for the 2016 Australian Deaf Games in Adelaide.

Many thanks to Tony Clews and the support of the Deaf Society for working to ensure that NSW was eligible for the John M Lovett Cup points.

### Athlete Profile – Renee McPherson



**Sport/s:** Netball and Mixed Touch Football

**ADG attended:** Two – Gold Coast 2008 and Geelong 2012

**Favourite sportsperson:** I don't have a 'favourite' but I admire anyone who has enough will power to overcome challenges and succeed in the sport they love the most.

**Highlight of the ADG - Geelong:** It has to be playing netball with the amazing girls (and boys) that made up the NSW teams. I received so much respect from all my teammates, and even though we came 4th, we were all so proud of ourselves for coming that far.

**Your deaf role model:** My mum, Cathy McPherson. I love her constant positive attitude, and how she is always active and willing to participate in something new. She is proof to me that I can continue being very active and outgoing even after I'm 50. She is always ready to help me when I need her, and without her I wouldn't have been able to go to the ADG in Geelong.

**Being a flag bearer for your state:** I was honored to know that I was chosen to represent my state, and felt so proud of myself. It shows that if you work hard at what you're good at, show great sportsmanship and have pride in your team and yourself, good things will come your way.

## Athlete Profile – Kevin Smith



**Sport:** Cricket

**ADG attended:** Perth 1985/86, Brisbane 1988/89, Hobart 1991/92, Adelaide 1994/95, Perth 1998, Sydney 2003, Gold Coast 2008 and Geelong 2012

**Favourite sportsperson:** Bob Fulton. He was an extraordinary and talented player for Manly Rugby League team. He was tough and competitive at all times.

**Highlight of the ADG - Geelong:** My team (NSW deaf cricket team) winning the Webby's Cup inaugural T20 competition.

**Your deaf role model:** Jack Christie and John Webb. They shared their experiences of the deaf cricket community and showed a lot of commitment and faith to the sport that I love to play.

**Being a flag bearer of your state:** I felt honoured to carry the flag at the Opening Ceremony for NSW and I would like to say thanks to the people that nominated me for this honour.



Photos: Chris Neubeck

## Sydney Deaf Club Donation

On behalf of the NSW Deaf Sports Community, the Deaf Society wants to say many thanks to members of the Deaf Community who attended the Sydney Deaf Club's last gathering of 2011.

The Sydney Deaf Club generously donated \$1000 towards the development of deaf sports in NSW.

Tony Clews, on behalf of the Deaf Society received a cheque of \$1000 from the Sydney Deaf Club.



Tony Clews receiving the cheque from Lorraine D'Arcy, President of the Sydney Deaf Club

## Sports editor for NSW Deaf Herald wanted!

If you think that you are capable of writing stories and collecting sports news for the future editions of the NSW Deaf Herald, please contact Tony Clews at [tclews@deafsociety.com](mailto:tclews@deafsociety.com) to express your interest in becoming the sports editor on a volunteer basis.

## Deaf Sports in NSW

Please contact the individual groups for their event program.

Sports/Recreation Groups	Contact Person	Contact Details
Deaf Basketball Club	Sokong Kim	<a href="mailto:sokong@tpg.com.au">sokong@tpg.com.au</a>
Deaf Cricket Club	Andrew Park	<a href="mailto:dcnsw@live.com">dcnsw@live.com</a>
Deaf Darts Club	Wendy Lancaster	<a href="mailto:wez.lancaster@gmail.com">wez.lancaster@gmail.com</a>
Deaf Football Australia	Brian Seymour	<a href="mailto:secretary@deaffootballaustralia.com.au">secretary@deaffootballaustralia.com.au</a>
Deaf Lawn Bowls	Peter Hannan	<a href="mailto:pjenny1@optusnet.com.au">pjenny1@optusnet.com.au</a>
Deaf Poker Group	Sokong Kim	<a href="mailto:dpa@deafpoker.com.au">dpa@deafpoker.com.au</a>
Deaf Rugby	Simon Mahony	<a href="mailto:southerncrossdeafrugby@hotmail.com">southerncrossdeafrugby@hotmail.com</a>
Deaf Table Tennis	Trevor Boyle	<a href="mailto:tboyle.mgirke@bigpond.com">tboyle.mgirke@bigpond.com</a>
Deaf Tennis	John Lui	<a href="mailto:jlui@deaftennisaustralia.org">jlui@deaftennisaustralia.org</a>
Deaf Ten Pin Bowling Club	Bruce Shaw	<a href="mailto:shadan@netspace.net.au">shadan@netspace.net.au</a>
Deaf Volleyball	David Larkin	<a href="mailto:David.Larkin@aecom.com">David.Larkin@aecom.com</a>



The Deaf Society has a facebook page: [www.facebook.com/deafsocietynsw](http://www.facebook.com/deafsocietynsw)  
Remember to like us and you will get updated on our latest news and events.



# Events

## Deaf Community Groups:

### Deaf Seniors Group

7 March – Newcastle Indoor Bowls  
 14 March – Newcastle Card Games  
 21 March – Sydney Seniors Week – Healthy Living  
 21 March – Newcastle Indoor Bowls  
 28 March – Newcastle Keno Games  
 4 April – Sydney Easter Raffle and Cards  
 4 April – Newcastle Indoor Bowls  
 11 April – Newcastle Card Games  
 18 April – Sydney Carpet Bowls and Cards  
 18 April – Newcastle Indoor Bowls  
 25 April – Newcastle Card Games  
 2 May – Sydney Mothers Day Raffle  
 2 May – Newcastle Indoor Bowls  
 9 May – Newcastle HOY Game  
 16 May – Sydney Bingo  
 16 May – Newcastle Indoor Bowls  
 23 May – Newcastle Card Games  
 30 May – Newcastle Indoor Bowls  
 6 June – Sydney Hoy Cents  
 6 June – Newcastle Card Games  
 13 June – Newcastle Indoor Bowls  
 20 June – Sydney Carpet Bowls and Cards  
 20 June – Newcastle Keno Games  
 27 June – Newcastle

Indoor Bowls  
 4 July – Sydney All Kind of Cards

### Sydney Deaf Seniors Group

meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at Burwood RSL, Shaftesbury Rd, Burwood. Hours: 9am to 2.30pm. Contact: Alison Trott  
 Fax (02) 9642 1931  
 SMS: 0431 938 404

**Gosford** meets at Leagues Club, Dane Ave, Gosford.

**Newcastle** meets every Wednesday at Hamilton North Bowling Club, Boreas Rd, Hamilton. Hours: 10am to 2pm.

**South Coast** for more info Contact: Lyndall Keppie  
 SMS: 0402 206 977  
 Annette Lapins  
 SMS: 0418 474 010  
 Robyn Nock  
 SMS: 0416 244 279

### Deaf Women's Guild of Sydney

The Guild meets on the first Saturday of each month at The Barn, 45 Belmore Street, Burwood at noon. Each month they have a different activity program.

### Usher Group

#### Usher's Group Meeting

Friday 20 April 2011 – Guest Speaker  
 Friday 22 June 2011 – normal meeting  
 Friday 10 August 2011 – Guest Speaker  
 10am to 12pm  
 Deaf Society, Level 4, 69 Phillip St, Parramatta  
Contact:  
 Margaret Craig  
[mcraig@deafsociety.com](mailto:mcraig@deafsociety.com)  
 TTY: 02 8833 3691

### Sydney Region

#### The Deaf Club, Sydney

**Parramatta RSL Club**  
 O'Connell Street,

Parramatta  
 Meets 1st Friday of each month

### Club Burwood

2nd Floor Function Room, 97 Burwood Road, Burwood  
 Meets 3rd Friday of each month

More information on the Deaf Club, Sydney  
[www.thedeafclub.org.au](http://www.thedeafclub.org.au)

### School Holiday Activity

(young people aged 12-17)

Contact:

Katrina Lancaster  
[klancaster@deafsociety.com](mailto:klancaster@deafsociety.com)  
 for more information.

### Liverpool City Library

Liverpool City Library is offering FREE Internet lessons for Deaf Seniors at 170 George Street, Liverpool. For more information about the course: Contact:  
 Carmel Martin,  
 Access Services Librarian  
[c.martin@liverpool.nsw.gov.au](mailto:c.martin@liverpool.nsw.gov.au)  
 Library can be contacted by phone: 02 9821 9450 and by fax: 02 9821 9456

### Penrith Deaf Community

Penrith Deaf Club meets every 4th Friday every month from 6pm to 12am  
 Kingswood Sports Club  
 Santley Crescent, Kingswood  
Contact:  
 Catherine Pirotta  
[catherinepirot1@hotmail.com](mailto:catherinepirot1@hotmail.com)  
 SMS: 0403 552 917  
 Fax: 02 4736 6631

### Northern NSW Region

#### Lismore Games Day

Every second Wednesday beginning 14 March 2012  
 Weekly in NSW school holidays

10am to 12pm.

Deaf Society office Lismore, 22 Conway St, Lismore

#### Lismore Office Morning Tea

Mondays: 26 March, 30

April, 28 May, 25 June 2012  
 10am to 12pm  
 Deaf Society office Lismore, 22 Conway St, Lismore  
Contact:  
 Melissa Mahony  
[mmahony@deafsociety.com](mailto:mmahony@deafsociety.com)  
 SMS: 0422 013 451

### Deaf Chat

Friday 16 April 10am – 2pm at Tenterfield - look for café on the day

Friday 25 May 10am – 2pm at Casino Beef Week at Royal Hotel, Walker Street Casino

Friday 22 June 10am – 2pm at Goonellabah Tavern, Ballina Street Goonellabah

Friday 20 July 10am – 2pm at Drake Hotel, Bruxner Highway, Drake

Contact:  
 Kathryn Rathborne  
 SMS: 0427 535 856

### DSNSW Road Show

(Northern NSW Area)  
 Monday 19th March  
 4pm – 5:30pm  
 Smoke Alarm Subsidy Scheme (SASS) Information  
 6:30pm-8:30pm  
 Advocacy Information Session  
 Lismore Workers Club, Keen St  
 For more information Contact:  
 Melissa Mahony  
[northernnsw@deafsociety.com](mailto:northernnsw@deafsociety.com)  
 SMS: 0422 013 451

### Coffs Coast Region

#### Coffs Harbour Morning Tea

Every Wednesday  
 10am to 2pm  
 Boambee Community Centre, Bruce King Drive, Boambee  
Contact:  
 Terri Richardson  
[trichardson@deafsociety.com](mailto:trichardson@deafsociety.com)  
 SMS: 0401 230 911

## Port Macquarie Social Nights with People Builders

Saturday nights once a month – 17 March, 28 April, 19 May, 16 June at People Builders under the Panthers Club Port Macquarie Bay Street, Port Macquarie  
Contact: for more information Ally Costanzo  
Ph: 02 6583 2566  
[mail@peoplebuilders.org.au](mailto:mail@peoplebuilders.org.au)

## Auslan Classes

Classes are community classes run by the Deaf community. Classes run throughout the school terms, they are held at Boambee East community centre, Bruce King Drive Boambee East. You can leave a message with reception on 02 6658 4655  
Contact:

Bernadette Keane  
SMS: 0439 604 637  
Margaret Nell  
SMS: 0423 957 269

Advance class Tuesday starts Jan 31st – March 27th 2012  
Beginners class Wednesday starts Feb 1st – March 28th 2012

## Social Days

Third Sunday of the month between 11am and 3pm  
Various locations

Contact: for more information Bernadette Keane  
SMS: 0439 604 637  
Terri Richardson  
Mobile: 0401 230 911

## New England Region

### Social Days Tamworth

First Saturday of every month  
Meet for dinner at 6.30pm in the Banjo's Family Restaurant or for drinks at 7.00pm  
West Leagues Club, Phillip Street Tamworth  
Contact:  
Julia Griffiths  
[jgriffiths@deafsociety.com](mailto:jgriffiths@deafsociety.com)

SMS: 0406 672 500  
[tamworthdeafsocialnights@hotmail.com](mailto:tamworthdeafsocialnights@hotmail.com)  
Facebook group: "Tamworth Deaf SocialNights"

## Blue Mountains Region

### Blue Mountains Social Nights

Every 2nd Fridays of each month except in January, 6.30pm start at the Bistro, or 7.30pm at the lounge.  
Springwood Sports Club, Macquarie Street, Springwood

### Contact:

Anthony Hastings  
[hastingsag@hotmail.com](mailto:hastingsag@hotmail.com)  
SMS: 0410 936 758

## Central West Region

### Central West Deaf Club - Orange

TBA – For more information, contact: Paul Nordheim  
[pnordheim@deafsociety.com](mailto:pnordheim@deafsociety.com)  
SMS: 0409745288

Central West BBQ – Get together gathering for Central West Deaf Community for BBQ fun and relaxation at a beautiful park with lake views, free sausage sizzle and soft drinks provided

Saturday 17 March 10:30am  
Lake Canobolas Reserve Park, Orange  
RSVP: 9 March 2012

### Contact:

Paul Nordheim  
SMS: 0409 745 288  
[pnordheim@deafsociety.com](mailto:pnordheim@deafsociety.com)

## Hunter and Central Coast Region

### Newcastle Deaf Social Night

Fourth Saturday of the month  
6pm at the Bistro for dinner or 7.30pm at the bar  
West's Leagues Club, Hobart Rd, Lambton

## Tweed Head/ Gold Coast Region

### Tweed Deaf Social Night

Fourth Friday of the month from 6pm  
23 March, 27 April, 25 May,

22 June, 27 July  
Twin Towns Services Club, 1st floor, family and friends lounge, Wharf St, Tweed Heads.

### Contact:

David London  
[deafclub@goldcoastinc.net](mailto:deafclub@goldcoastinc.net)  
SMS: 0408 762 414

## Tweed Coast Deaf Group

### Contact:

David London  
[deafclub@goldcoastinc.net](mailto:deafclub@goldcoastinc.net)  
SMS: 0408 762 414

## South Coast Region

### Tuesday Coffee Mornings

Every Tuesday from 9am  
Michel's Patisserie, Warilla Grove Shopping Centre, Shellharbour Rd, Warilla

### Contact:

Sara Willyan-Payne  
[southcoast@deafsociety.com](mailto:southcoast@deafsociety.com)  
SMS: 0406 940 899

### Wing & Pears Coffee Shop

First Friday of the month 10am to 12pm  
Wing & Pears Coffee Shop, Corner of Junction & Berry Streets, Nowra  
Contact:  
Lyndall Keppie  
SMS: 0402 206 977  
Fax: 02 4443 3140

## Deaf Club (Illawarra/ Wollongong)

Saturday May 26th 2012  
Albion Park RSL Memorial Club, Tongarra Road, Albion Park. From 6pm

## DSNSW Road Show (South Coast Area)

Tuesday 20th March  
4pm – 5:30pm  
Smoke Alarm Subsidy Scheme (SASS) Information  
6:30pm – 8:30pm  
Advocacy Information Session  
Kiama Leagues Club, Terralong Street, Kiama  
Contact:  
Sara Willyan-Payne  
[southcoast@deafsociety.com](mailto:southcoast@deafsociety.com)  
SMS: 0406 940 899

## Sign Language 1 and 2 Classes run each term in the Illawarra area

For more information on these classes, go to:  
[http://deafsocietynsw.org.au/courses/community\\_auslan.html](http://deafsocietynsw.org.au/courses/community_auslan.html) or  
Contact:

Sara Willyan-Payne  
[southcoast@deafsociety.com](mailto:southcoast@deafsociety.com)  
SMS: 0406 940 899

## Auslan Practice Groups

### Glebe

Every second Saturday morning 10am to 12pm  
Broadway Shopping Centre Food Court  
Contact:  
via Facebook "Sydney Auslan Practice Groups"

### Parramatta

11am to 2pm  
Every second Saturday morning  
Mars Hill Cafe on Church Street  
Contact: Gemma Jones  
SMS: 0424 261 987

### Liverpool

*One of the oldest groups in Sydney - they have been meeting for over 16 years.*  
Every Friday, 10am-12pm.  
Liverpool Library  
Contact:  
Coordinator: Carmel Martin  
Ph: 9821 9450  
[c.martin@liverpool.nsw.gov.au](mailto:c.martin@liverpool.nsw.gov.au)

### Penrith

Second and Fourth Thursday of each month from 6.30pm  
Peachtree Hotel, Peachtree Rd, Penrith.  
Contact:  
Meagan, SMS: 0410 691 381  
[mrdudd@parra.catholic.edu.au](mailto:mrdudd@parra.catholic.edu.au)  
or Erin, SMS: 0421 216 122  
[etaylor86@hotmail.com](mailto:etaylor86@hotmail.com)

### Newcastle

First Saturday of the month from 11am  
McDonald's at Green Hills  
Contact:  
Anne Ward  
SMS: 0427 123 013



Third Saturday of the month  
from 10.30am  
Aroma's Cafe at Glendale  
Shopping Centre  
**Contact:**  
Pam Wells  
SMS: 0411 855 950

#### Coffs Harbour

Every Wednesday  
10am to 12pm  
Boambee Community  
Centre, Bruce King Drive,  
Boambee

**Contact:**  
Coffs Coast Deaf Community  
SMS: 0439 604 637

#### Lismore

Expression of Interest

#### Contact:

Lance Axman-Friend

[lance.axman@gmail.com](mailto:lance.axman@gmail.com)

Ph or SMS: 0401 225 801

#### Orange

First Sunday of the month  
from 2pm

Beekeeper Inn, 2319  
Mitchell Highway, Vittoria

#### Contact:

Paul Nordheim

[pnordheim@deafsociety.com](mailto:pnordheim@deafsociety.com)

SMS: 0409 745 288

#### South Coast

Every Tuesday - From 9am  
Michel's Patisserie, Warilla  
Grove Shopping Centre,  
Shellharbour Rd, Warilla

#### Contact:

Sara Willyan-Payne

[southcoast@deafsociety.com](mailto:southcoast@deafsociety.com)  
SMS: 0406 940 899

#### Tamworth

Third Saturday of the month  
2.00pm to 4.00pm  
West Leagues Club, Phillip  
Street Tamworth

#### Contact:

via Facebook "Tamworth  
Auslan Coffee Club"

[tamworthauslancoffeeclub@hotmail.com](mailto:tamworthauslancoffeeclub@hotmail.com)

## Deaf Access at Churches in NSW

### C3 Ryde Deaf Pentecostal Church

201 Cox's Road, North Ryde 2113

Contact: Alex Nyam, 0405 266 761 (sms only) [www.c3churchryde.com.au/what-we-do/c3-deaf.html](http://www.c3churchryde.com.au/what-we-do/c3-deaf.html)

1st Sunday – Deaf service at 10.30am	2nd Sunday – Interpreted service at 10.30am	3rd Sunday – Bible study at 10.30am	4th Sunday – Interpreted service at 10.30am
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### Deaf Christian Fellowship

St Marys Presbyterian Community Church, 14 Marsden Street, St Marys

Contact: Matthew Thornlet, 0439 368 483 (sms only) & Hans Smit, 0419 255 890 (voice)

Auslan service every Sunday at 11.30am.	Fellowship lunch after the service in the hall (bring a plate of food to share).
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### Ephpheta Centre (Catholic)

Contact: Stephen Lawlor, ph: 9708 1396 fax: 9709 5638 tty: 9708 6904

[www.ephpheta.org.au/index.shtml](http://www.ephpheta.org.au/index.shtml)

(please contact Ephpheta Centre for details in case of changes) [www.ephpheta.org.au/calendar/201112.shtml](http://www.ephpheta.org.au/calendar/201112.shtml)

1st Sunday – Punchbowl	2nd Sunday alternates Gosford/Manly	3rd Sunday – Seven Hills	4th Saturday Vigil – Revesby
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### Inspire Church, ACC, Assemblies of God

Cnr Spire Crt and Hoxton Park Rd, Hoxton Park

Contact: Pastor Stan Grimmett, 0439 640 656 (sms only) [stanley.grimmett@inspirechurch.com.au](mailto:stanley.grimmett@inspirechurch.com.au)

<http://inspirechurch.org/liverpool/purpose/our-association/>

Sunday 10.30am – Deaf Service	Sunday 6pm – Interpreted Service	Tuesday 7.30pm – Bible study
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### North Rocks Anglican Church

North Rocks Public School hall, cnr of North Rocks Rd & Barclay Rd, North Rocks

Contact: Darren Kirkegard, 0432 900 904 [Darren.Kirkegard@gmail.com](mailto:Darren.Kirkegard@gmail.com)

[www.northrocksanglican.org.au/deaf\\_auslan](http://www.northrocksanglican.org.au/deaf_auslan)

2nd & 4th Sunday, 6pm – Auslan preaching service	Every other Sunday, 6pm – Interpreted service	Tuesday 7.30pm – Deaf Bible study	Hearing church members are learning Auslan
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### Riverlands Christian Church, ACC, Assemblies of God

Level 1/535 High St, Penrith 2750

Contact: Sean Sewell, 0415 205 877 (sms only) [sewell\\_sean@hotmail.com](mailto:sewell_sean@hotmail.com)

[www.rcc.org.au](http://www.rcc.org.au)

9.30am Sunday – Interpreted service	Other services interpreted by special appointment
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### Submission deadline:

If you wish to submit any articles or information for publication, you are encouraged to email us at [herald@deafsociety.com](mailto:herald@deafsociety.com). The deadline for contributions to the June edition of the Herald is 30th April 2012.

Please remember that the editors of the Herald may need to change your article because of space or to make the style consistent with the rest of the Herald. No promotional, commercial or personal advertisements are accepted unless the editor believes they are of direct value to the Deaf Community.



“Like” us on  
**Facebook**

[facebook.com/deafsocietynsw](https://facebook.com/deafsocietynsw)

## Deaf Society Walk In Services

### Parramatta

Mondays & Wednesdays – 9am to 12pm  
Fridays – 1pm to 4pm  
Level 4, 69 Phillip St, Parramatta  
Contact: Jenny Rozsa / [jrozsa@deafsociety.com](mailto:jrozsa@deafsociety.com)

### Central Coast

Thursdays – 10am to 2pm  
Niagara Park Community Centre,  
Washington Ave, Niagara Park  
Contact: Justine Lorenz /  
[centralcoast@deafsociety.com](mailto:centralcoast@deafsociety.com) / 0410 909 286

### Newcastle

Mondays & Tuesdays – 9am to 1pm  
1/133 King Street, Newcastle  
Contact: Justine Lorenz /  
[hunter@deafsociety.com](mailto:hunter@deafsociety.com) / 0410 909 286

### Coffs Harbour

Wednesdays & Thursdays – 9am to 2pm  
Boambee Community Centre,  
Bruce King Drive, Boambee  
Contact: Terri Richardson /  
[coffscoast@deafsociety.com](mailto:coffscoast@deafsociety.com) / 0401 230 911

### Port Macquarie

First Tuesday – 11am to 2pm (Feb, May, Aug & Nov)  
Port City Bowling Club, 4 Owen St,  
Port Macquarie  
Contact: Terri Richardson /  
[coffscoast@deafsociety.com](mailto:coffscoast@deafsociety.com) / 0401 230 911

### Lismore

Wednesdays & Thursdays – 9.30am to 1pm  
22 Conway St, Lismore  
Contact: Melissa Mahony /  
[northernns@deafsociety.com](mailto:northernns@deafsociety.com) / 0422 013 451

### Tweed Heads

Third Thursday of each month – 10am to 12.30pm  
Food Mall, Tweed City Shopping Centre,  
Minjungbal Drive, South Tweed Heads  
Contact: Craig Bishop /  
[northernns@deafsociety.com](mailto:northernns@deafsociety.com) / SMS: 0423 488 619

### Tamworth

Mondays – 9am to 1pm  
(Mondays – 1.30pm to 4pm Appointment Only)  
Tamworth Community Centre, Darling St, Tamworth  
Contact: Julia Griffiths /  
[newengland@deafsociety.com](mailto:newengland@deafsociety.com) / 0406 672 500

### Albion Park Rail

Mondays – 9am to 11am  
(after 11am, appointment only)  
Cnr Ash Ave & Tongarra Rd, Albion Park Rail  
Contact: Sara Willyan-Payne /  
[southcoast@deafsociety.com](mailto:southcoast@deafsociety.com) / 0406 940 899

### Nowra

First Tuesday – 10am to 2pm (March, June, Sept & Dec)  
Nowra Community Centre, 134 Kinghorn Rd,  
Nowra  
Contact: Sara Willyan-Payne /  
[southcoast@deafsociety.com](mailto:southcoast@deafsociety.com) / 0406 940 899

### Orange

Third Friday of the month – 3pm to 5pm  
Orange City Bowling Club, 61 Warrendine St,  
Orange  
Contact: Paul Nordheim /  
[pnordheim@deafsociety.com](mailto:pnordheim@deafsociety.com) / 0409 745 288

### Keep up to date with events - visit:

- [www.deafsocietynsw.org.au/events/deaf\\_society\\_events.html](http://www.deafsocietynsw.org.au/events/deaf_society_events.html)
- [www.deafsocietynsw.org.au/events/deaf\\_community\\_newsboard.html](http://www.deafsocietynsw.org.au/events/deaf_community_newsboard.html)
- [www.facebook.com/deafsocietynsw](https://www.facebook.com/deafsocietynsw)

## Emergency Contact Details:



### Emergency Call 106

The 106 emergency relay service enables people who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment to contact emergency services through their TTY (also known as a teletypewriter or textphone) or modem. It is a dedicated text-based emergency relay-service with direct access to fire, police and ambulance services. It is available 24 hours a day, everyday.

#### How it works:

- Dial 106. This is a toll-free number. You will be asked if you want police (type **PPP**), fire (type **FFF**) or ambulance (type **AAA**).
- The relay officer will stay on line to relay your conversation with the emergency service. Confirm your location.
- Do not hang up. Wait for a reply from the emergency service.
- This service is not available via speak and listen (speech to speech relay). These callers can dial 1800 555 727 and then ask for Triple Zero (000) or dial '000' directly.
- This service cannot be accessed by text message (SMS) on a mobile phone or internet relay.

### NRMA Roadside Assistance

24 hours a day, country and metro areas - deaf / hard of hearing text to 0437 13 11 11.



#### How it works: Call NRMA TEXT SMS 0437 13 11 11

1. Just say your name (e.g. Mr John Smith)
2. Your car rego number (e.g. nsw abc123)
3. Where you are? (e.g. 260 Victoria Rd, Ryde)

NRMA will text you back more info.

### Contact the Deaf Society:

Phone: (02) 8833 3600 TTY: (02) 8833 3691 Fax: (02) 8833 3699 Email: [info@deafsociety.com](mailto:info@deafsociety.com) Web: [www.deafsocietynsw.org.au](http://www.deafsocietynsw.org.au)

Email stories to [herald@deafsociety.com](mailto:herald@deafsociety.com) Subscribe online at [www.deafsocietynsw.org.au/subscribe](http://www.deafsocietynsw.org.au/subscribe)