



Auslan Student Newsletter

March 2006



Welcome to the 7th edition of the newsletter.

Firstly, I wish to welcome all of the people who have subscribed to the newsletter this past month. We have had a lot of new names added to the mailing list recently, and there are now more than 270 of you that receive the newsletter. Students as far away as Adelaide and Cairns are regular readers, and as far as I know, the newsletter is now sent to 5 different states. Are you a reader from Tasmania, WA, or NT? If so, drop me a line and say howdy.

March has kicked off in fine form. 40 students have started CIA III & IV with DEN, and Language, Deaf Studies, and Linguistics classes are already under way. Congrats to Bronwyne and Anna who won the sexy DEN t-shirts on Orientation night– I am sure they will make gorgeous nighties at AOW. This term we also have 190 students enrolled in Community Courses all over Sydney. I wish those new to Auslan the best of luck, as they begin to explore the incredible language and culture of the Australian Deaf Community.

And lastly, a huge CONGRATULATIONS to the newly NAATI-accredited Level 2 interpreters, who completed their studies at Petersham TAFE at the end of 2005. Well done dudes!

Have a crazy fun month.

(If you have any ideas for this newsletter, or would like to be included on the mailing list, email me at nkull@deaf.nsw.edu.au or call (02) 8845 9405. Snail mail newsletters are also available)

Diploma of Auslan

Currently, there are no training organisations in NSW that offer the Diploma of Auslan (not to be confused with the Diploma of Auslan Interpreting), but there is growing demand for this course.

DEN is now accepting expressions of interest from students who wish to obtain this qualification.

If you would be interested in enrolling in the Diploma of Auslan, email me at nkull@deaf.nsw.edu.au or call (02) 8845 9405. Please include your full name, contact details, highest Auslan qualification, and briefly explain why you would like to further your studies.

This information will be used to assess whether this course should be offered by DEN in the near future. Fingers crossed!!!

Deaf Society of NSW– Newcastle Office

They have moved!

Although in the same building, they have moved onto a different level. Come check out the new office during Drop-in on Thursdays 10am- 2pm.

The new office is on Level 3, 108– 110 Hunter St, Newcastle. Email deafncle@idl.com.au for more info.

Information about DEN Courses

For further information about Auslan courses, to receive the DEN brochure every semester, or to enrol in a course, please contact DEN.

PO Box 5004, North Rocks NSW 2151

Ph: (02) 8845 9444 Fax: (02) 8845 9455 TTY: (02) 8845 9411 Email: den@deaf.nsw.edu.au

Auslan Student Groups

Strathfield

This group has been meeting for some time now, every third or fourth Tuesday night. However, due to the availabilities of this group's regulars, there may have been some changes as to when and where they meet. For the latest update or more information, email Andrew Charleston at ACharleston@odpp.nsw.gov.au

Glebe

This group, started by Christine Murtagh, expanded rapidly.

Where- Near the fountain in Broadway Shopping Centre Food Court

When- Every second Saturday morning, 10am- 12pm (next meetings 11 & 25 March)

Skill level- Would suit CIA II or III students, and some community course students.

How to get involved- Email Christine at christinemurtagh@yahoo.com.au.
(please include the word 'AUSLAN' in the subject line).

Liverpool

This could be one of the oldest Auslan student groups in Sydney - they have been meeting for over 15 years. Coordinator Carmel Martin warmly encourages everyone to come and join in.

Where- Liverpool Library

When- Every Friday, 10am- 12pm

Skill level- This group is for everyone, from community course level and up.

How to get involved- Contact Carmel at c.martin@liverpool.nsw.gov.au, or call (02) 9821 9450.

Newcastle

Kate Southwell is currently recruiting other Auslan students and teachers in the Newcastle area, for regular social events & Auslan practise.

How to get involved- Contact Kate on 0421 746 835 (SMS or voice).

Wollongong

Come along to the next meeting of this group, started by Robyn Gray.

Where- Cino's Cafe, Wollongong Mall, Crown St, Wollongong

When- Friday 10 March, 10:30am

Skill level- Suitable for Cert II or III students

How to get involved- Contact Robyn on 0431 472 828 or email dperusco@bigpond.net.au.

Sydney City

Young-Joo Byun organises a 'Coffee & Practice' group in the city. The perfect place to hang out on the way home from work.

Where- Michel's Cafe, Lower ground Floor, The Gallery Victoria, Corner Park & Pitt St, City

When- The first Thursday of every month, 4- 6pm (Next meeting 6 April)

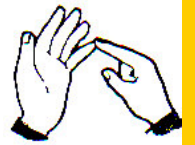
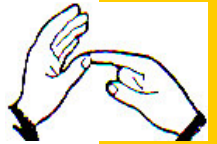
Skill level- Everyone welcome.

How to get involved- Email Young-Joo at Young-Joo.Byun@lands.nsw.gov.au for more info.

North Shore/ Northern Beaches

Do you live on Sydney's North Shore or Northern Beaches, and find it difficult to travel into the city for Auslan practise? Olena La Macchia would like to hear from anyone that wants to meet closer to home, possibly somewhere between Manly and Dee Why.

How to get involved- Contact Olena on 0423 981 328, or email olamacchia@hotmail.com.



Camp for Siblings of Deaf Children

The Deaf Society of NSW is running a camp for the siblings of Deaf children in September, and will be collecting expressions of interest **until 12 April 2006**. This is a fantastic opportunity for kids with Deaf brothers or sisters to have some fun, and meet other kids with similar backgrounds. The camp will involve activities, games, and the chance to share their feelings and experiences.

For more information, or to register your interest, contact Anna Mannix at amannix@DeafSociety.com, call DSNSW on (02) 9893 8555, or fax (02) 9893 8333.

What's On

Did You Know?...

- Bilby Publishing estimates up to 23% of the population uses sign daily?
- Melbourne Deaf boy Dylan Beasley has won his discrimination case against the Victorian Education Department? It was found Dylan was not able to fully participate in the classroom because he was taught in Signed English and fingerspelling, and not Auslan (his first language).
- Dancing with Deaf Stars (NSWAD fundraiser) raised almost \$2500 for National Deaf TV & SignPost in December?

Deaf Community Events- Auslan Students Welcome!

AAD Family Picnic Day

Australian Association of the Deaf and the state branches are holding an Australia-wide picnic to celebrate 20 years of representing the Deaf Community – each state will have a picnic at the same time, on the same day. There will be a sausage sizzle, games for kids and grown-ups, and birthday cake.

When: Saturday 2 April

Time: 10am– 5pm

Where: NSW- Wisteria Gardens, Parramatta Park, Parramatta (for details of other states, see the website below)

For more info email peter.davies@aad.org.au, check out www.aad.org.au or call (07) 3357 8277

Deaf Social Gathering, Blacktown

A group of Deaf people have started a regular social group in Blacktown, and are happy for CIA students to come along and join them for drinks and a chat.

When: Every second Friday of the month.

Next gathering is 10 March, then 12 May (no April meeting due to Good Friday)

Time: 8pm onwards

Where: Blacktown Worker's Sports Club, Reservoir Rd, Blacktown

For more information email Karen Jahn at kjahn@deaf.nsw.edu.au

Signing Art March 2006

This month the Auslan interpreted art gallery tour is Further than the Moon. This guided tour will explore European artists earliest attempts to depict the new and strange landscape of Australia– its wildlife, flora, and the indigenous culture. Following the tour is a family performance by Open Stage Productions, who use imagination and improvisation in their interactive storytelling.

(NB- Sometimes in their excitement to watch the interpreter, students have been known to stand in front of Deaf people during the tour. Please be aware of the communication needs of the people around you)

When: Sunday 26 March

Where: Art Gallery of NSW, Art Gallery Rd, The Domain, Sydney.

Time: Meet in main foyer at 1:25pm for the guided tour. Family event follows at 2:30pm- ask at the help desk for performance location.

Cost: FREE

Visit www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/events/accessibile for more details.



Toddler Information Sessions for Deaf Parents

The Deaf Society of NSW present 2 toddler information sessions for Deaf parents. The sessions- which include topics such as Eating Without Tantrums, Toilet Training, Change, and Parents Looking After Themselves- will be conducted in Auslan. Childcare is available, but must be registered prior to the sessions.

When: Tuesdays 14 & 21 March

Time: 10am– 12 noon

Where: Parramatta Town Hall

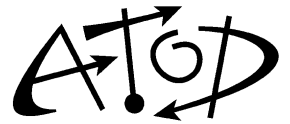
For more information contact Sandra Carroll, Senior Development Officer, at scarroll@deafsociety.com, fax (02) 9893 8333, or TTY (02) 9893 8858

Australian Theatre of the Deaf

Position Available– Actor

ATOD is still searching for a new actor to join their Schools Touring Ensemble. Starting in March, this paid full-time position includes a 5 week rehearsal period plus 6 months of touring schools throughout Eastern and Central Australia. EXPERIENCE NOT ESSENTIAL, but a passion for storytelling and energetic performance is a must.

For more info contact ATOD's Artistic Director Caroline Conlon at director@atod.org.au or visit www.atod.org.au



ATOD Membership for 2006 Now Due!!!

To renew your membership, or to become a member of ATOD (and receive lots of really cool theatre discounts), contact ATOD on the details below. Only 2006 members will receive the next edition of ATOD's newsletter.

Australian Theatre of the Deaf– 4/245 Chalmers St, Redfern NSW 2016

Tel (02) 9310 1255, Fax (02) 9318 2835, TTY (02) 9310 1205, Email info@atod.org.au.

DOUBT- Interpreted Theatre

Starring Alison Bell, Jennifer Flowers, Christopher Gabardi, Pamela Jikiemi
Directed by Julian Meyrick, Written by John Patrick Shanley

When: Saturday 25 March (**Please note new date**)

Where: Sydney Opera House Drama Theatre

Time: 2pm

Cost: \$42 (To receive this discounted price, and be placed in seating close to the interpreter, you must mention you are an ATOD patron when you book)

Please note: Starting this year all ticket sales for Sydney Theatre Company's (STC) Auslan Interpreted Performances will be taken directly through STC.

The STC has taken over ticket sales, as a further step in ensuring their theatre is accessible to the signing community. It is one thing to make the actual performance accessible, but is something different to ensure their booking procedures cater for everyone as well. This is another step in creating accessibility in the arts.

HOW TO BOOK: Call STC on (02) 9250 1777 or email boxoffice@sydneytheatre.com.au.

It is possible to book via the STC website but it does not allow you to receive the ATOD discount or book specific seats. It is best if you use one of the methods above.

DEN Courses for Hearing Learners

Auslan Only BBQ 1 & 2

Set on the grounds of the Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children, the Auslan Only BBQ programs are an opportunity to immerse yourself in Deaf Culture, practise your Auslan in a relaxed environment, and to take your signing skills out of the classroom and apply them in a social setting.

BBQ 1– For community students enrolled in Auslan 2 or above & CIA II students. BBQ 1 focuses on building your signing confidence, teaching you new vocab, and providing you with an opportunity to meet members of the Deaf Community.

BBQ 2– For CIA II students who have attended BBQ 1, and CIA III students. BBQ 2 will focus on the importance of classifiers, and will encourage you to develop your use of descriptive signs. This course is a must for anyone wanting to extend their Auslan skills.

When: Saturday 29 April, 11– 3pm

Where: RIDBC, 361– 365 North Rocks Rd, North Rocks

Cost: \$55.00 per person (this includes full BBQ lunch and drinks)



Semester 2 Certificate in Auslan Courses



If you plan on studying a CIA course with DEN next semester, you need to get your enrolment form & payment in quickly! CIA IV in is already more than half full, and both CIA II & III are starting to fill also.

Course Dates for Semester 2

CIA II:	25 July– 12 December 2006, Tuesday & Thursday nights
CIA III:	3 August– 12 December 2006, Tuesday & Thursday nights
CIA IV:	2 August– 13 December 2006, Monday & Wednesday nights

For information about the above courses, or to be sent an enrolment form, contact me at nkull@deaf.nsw.edu.au, call (02) 8845 9405, or fax (02) 8845 9455.

Positions Vacant

Teacher's Aid– Sydney Secondary College (Leichhardt Campus)

Sydney Secondary College has a position vacant for a Teacher's Aid. They need a reliable person with great Auslan skills, to support a Deaf/ hearing impaired student in Year 9. The role includes going to class with the student, interpreting any information that is missed, and assisting the student to keep up with school work. The successful applicant will be available to work Thursdays and Fridays, and will be paid approximately \$20 per hour.

For more information contact Laura Highfield on 0412 091 420, or call School Counsellor Caroline Edwards on Tel: (02) 9560 2565.

Day Options Support Worker– Disability Services Australia

Disability Services Australia (DSA) is seeking people to join their Day Options Team– a support group that assists people with intellectual and multiple disabilities. The team works Monday to Friday, and focuses on increasing their clients skills, encouraging them to discover new abilities and to achieve their goals, and generally supports their clients as they access and participate in the community. There are Casual and Part-time positions available in the Bankstown and St George LGA's area.

Essential criteria includes excellent interpersonal and communication skills, including AUSLAN interpreting skills, a First Aid Certificate (or willingness to obtain one), and ability to be a team player. Desirable criteria include previous related experience, a car, and current Drivers Licence. Working with Children and Criminal History checks apply.

To apply, please send your resume ASAP to Des Milligan, 76 Harley Crescent, Condell Park NSW 2200. For further information please email dobankstown@dsa.org.au, call (02) 8709 0934, or fax (02) 9796 3101.

Interpreting Corner

How Do I Become an Interpreter?...

... is one of the most common questions I get asked by students.

Check out the following webpage for information on NAATI, the accreditation pathway, and the skills required to become an Auslan interpreter - www.deafsocietynsw.org.au/asliansw/career/career2.htm.

New Sign Language Interpreting Book

Sign Language Interpreting: Theory & Practice in Australia and New Zealand
Jemina Napier, Rachel Locker McKee, and Della Goswell

An important resource for anyone involved in the interpreting field, or aspiring to become an interpreter, this text portrays the profession of sign language interpreting within an Australian/New Zealand context (although Dr Napier has highlighted that despite this focus, much of the information is relevant to spoken and sign language interpreters worldwide). The reviews of this book are extremely favourable, and organisations everywhere are sign singing its praises. RRP \$49.00

For more information go to <http://www.federationpress.com.au/bookstore/book.asp?isbn=1862875839>

Interpreting Enrichment Classes

The Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association (ASLIA) and the Centre for Translation and Interpreting research at Macquarie University are presenting a series of lecture-style workshops throughout 2006. The first of these workshops is 'Perspectives on Power in Sign Language Interpreting and Translation', and will be presented by Marcel Leneham.

The Enrichment classes are open to all Translation & Interpreting (T & I) students, practitioners, and service providers, and include workshop participation, morning tea, and attendance certificate. The basic details appear below, but please email me at nkull@deaf.nsw.edu.au if you would like me to forward you the complete flyer, with a description of the presentation content.

When: Saturday 18 March 2006

Where: Rm W5C 221 at Macquarie University, North Ryde.

Time: 9am– 11am

Cost: ASLIA members and Mac Uni students \$10, Non-members \$20

RSVP: to aslia_nsw@yahoo.com.au BY MONDAY 13 MARCH 2006

Volunteers Needed

Mullauna Nursing Home

Mullauna is in the Blacktown area, and is home to many Deaf and Deafblind folk with a wide range of communication needs. At the moment the nursing home needs volunteers with signing skills to join their new Volunteers Program. Due to the costs involved with preparing each volunteer, Mullauna is looking for a few wonderful people, who are prepared to commit to regular visits. The residents of the home will appreciate some new visitors, and you will be enriched by the exposure to some truly fascinating and inspiring people.

If you would like to get involved, email the Volunteers Program Coordinator Elfy Brammesan at dt@wrv.org.au, or call (02) 9680 1500 on Monday or Wednesday.

Hand Over Hand Club

The Hand Over Hand Club is a group of self-determining people with both vision and hearing loss, and is an important part of the DeafBlind Association of NSW. The club provides outings, services, information, and social interaction for its members, and are looking to recruit new volunteers.

If you would like to meet some truly amazing and inspiring individuals, and are ready to challenge your Auslan skills, contact Paula McMahon at dbansw@bigpond.com or call (02) 9744 0160 (Mon, Wed, Fri) to get involved. A Volunteer Training Workshop will be conducted in early 2006. You can also contact DBA at this email address, if you wish to be put on the mailing list for 'Rainbow News', the Hand Over Hand Club newsletter.

Shhh Australia

Self Help for Hard of Hearing People is a non-profit, non-funded volunteer organisation committed to providing info and resources for hearing impaired people who communicate orally. They also provide info and support for carers and family members in the management of hearing loss. Although your Auslan skills would not be the focus of volunteer work with Shhh Australia, there would still be some opportunities for signing. To get involved, or for more info about their services, call (02) 9144 7586 (voice & TTY), email shhh@netspace.net.au or check out www.shhhaust.org

Product of the Month

Wiggles— Hoop Dee Doo it's a Wiggle Party (DVD)

I had to pick this product to review this month, because it is my two and a half year-old daughter's favourite. Chances are, your kids will love it too, and this Auslan interpreted DVD is a fantastic way to expose your hearing kids to the world of signing. If you have a Deaf kids, they will enjoy following the visual version of the songs, and having their chance to sign sing along!

All the usual Wiggles characters party on— Wags the Dog, Captain Feathersword, Dorothy the Dinosaur, and Henry the Octopus— and the rich men in coloured skivvies do a fantastic job of leaping around the screen, and encouraging kids to get up and dance. The signed version in Auslan, with English sub-titles for people who are hearing-impaired, is signed by a range of Deaf Community members.

DEN CIA STUDENTS— Watch out for guest appearances by some of your teachers!!!!

Length: Approx 50 minutes

Cost: \$33.00

DID YOU KNOW...

If you can't drop in to DRA to pick up your products, you can phone, email, or fax DRA with your order details and credit card information, and they will post your goods to you.

If you do not have a credit card, you can post a cheque or money order, along with order details, to DRA.



DEAFNESS RESOURCES AUSTRALIA

Locked Bag 5380, Parramatta NSW 2124

SHOWROOM: 33 Argyle St, Parramatta
open Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

To receive a copy of the catalogue "Deafness Resource Guide - Sign Language 2005- 2006" contact DRA on (02) 9895 2970 (v), (02) 9895 2971 (TTY), or email dra@deafnessresources.net.au.

Check out the regularly updated product range at www.deafnessresources.net.au.