



Auslan Student Newsletter

December update edition



Welcome to the 18th edition of the newsletter.

I am a big fan of the festive season. I love the food, the presents, the family gatherings, the social life chaos and the holiday spirit. This short update edition of the newsletter is designed to keep your hands busy through the holidays.

In December, DEN has two accredited Auslan courses finishing– *Certificate III in Auslan* and *Diploma of Auslan*. I would like to take this opportunity to wish our students the best of luck with their final assessments, and thank them for their hard work and commitment this semester. Hopefully we will see lots of the CIA III students back in class for CIA IV next year. An extra thank you to our Diploma students, who have been the first EVER group of students in NSW to do this course. Your patience, enthusiasm, positive attitude and sense of humour is deeply appreciated. Go you guys!

This will be the last newsletter I write as the Program Supervisor of accredited Auslan courses here at DEN. I will continue to write the newsletters, but will be stepping out of the Program Supervisor role after three years, to focus on other Education Department projects. I would like to thank Anna Humphery for her *amazing* work as my Support Officer over the past eighteen months, and would like to warmly welcome her to the position of Program Supervisor. Anna is a highly organised and creative woman, and I know she will do a fantastic job of coordinating the accredited Auslan courses.

Stay safe over the holidays and see you in 2008!

Happy reading!

Natalie Kull

Program Supervisor, Accredited Auslan Courses

(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) 8833 3605. Snail mail newsletters are also available.)

➔ **Message for Student Group organisers-** If you would like to advertise the details or meeting dates of a group, please contact me with the relevant info BEFORE the following dates: 26 January 08 (for Feb/March edition), 26 March 08 (for April/May edition).

Congratulations!

⇒ To **Leonie Jackson** and **Alex Jones**, who welcomed their son Tobian Jackson-Jones into the world on 22 November! Much love and a big congrats to the Jackson-Jones family, from everyone here at DEN.

Deaf Community News

⇒ **Mardi Gras** will be holding its 30th anniversary parade on Saturday 1 March 2008. A limited number of seats are available in the BGF Glamstand– full views of the floats and a four hour Auslan interpreted show. Book quickly to secure your seat! Tickets are \$135.80. For more info contact Kasey Moloney on 0409 157 196 (SMS only) by Friday 21 December 2007.

⇒ **Westpac**, in conjunction with DSNSW, are offering the NSW Deaf community the opportunity to have an interpreter present in your conversations with them, at no cost. Visit your local Westpac branch or contact Westpac through the National Relay Service (TTY or computer with modem users, phone 133 677, then ask for 132 032) to ask about this service. N.B. Locating an interpreter will take a minimum of 5 working days from when the service is booked, and is subject to interpreter availability.

⇒ Trisha Balharrie, coordinator of the Auslan Coffee Shop Program run by Deaf Children Australia (Melbourne) is currently looking for families of Deaf or hard of hearing kids around Australia who might want to set up a program in their area. Auslan Coffee Shop programs are opportunities for families to meet and practise their Auslan skills by communicating in a relaxed environment and also to meet a Deaf role model who will facilitate the meeting. There is also the possibility a group could be set up just for fathers or one for parents working in the CBD. To receive an expression of interest brochure email Trisha at TBalharrie@deafchildren.org.au, fax (03) 9525 2595 or call the National Helpline on 1800 645 916.



What's On

DGLA Christmas Party– Students Welcome!

Roberto Brecht, President of the Deaf Gay and Lesbian Association of NSW, would like to welcome students to the DGLA Christmas party.

When: Saturday 8 December 2007, 6-11pm, possibly followed by events upstairs in the club until 3am or 4am.

Where: Parramatta Club, 37 Hunter St, Parramatta (downstairs in the club)

Cost: \$30 per person, includes finger foods (drinks at bar prices).

To buy tickets or for more info about DGLA and/or the Christmas party, please email Roberto Brecht at

roberto.brecht@bigpond.com

Accessible Film Screening– Who Loves the Sun

A fully accessible Australian debut of the film *Who Loves the Sun* is being screened to celebrate International Day of People with a Disability. The film will be captioned, audio described for people with vision impairment and seats will be removed for wheelchair access. Guest speakers include cast members from *Who Loves the Sun*; Deaf actor and director Alex Jones, and Minister for Disability Services Kristina Keneally. According to the media release, the film “features perfectly pitched performances and gorgeous Canadian locations. It’s a delightfully witty adult drama, a smart and funny new take on the love triangle”. Sarah Tracton’s film *White Sound* will be shown prior to the screening.

When: Monday 3 December 2007, doors open at 6pm for a 6.30pm screening.

Where: Chauvel Cinema, Cnr Oxford St & Oatley Rd, Paddington.

Tickets: Adults \$15.50, full-time students/conc: \$12.50, pensioners & seniors \$9.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.chauvelcinema.net.au or at the Chauvel box-office on the day (no phone bookings). For more info on the film visit www.possibleworlds.net.au or call (02) 9281 5608. More info about the Don't DIS my ABILITY campaign can be found at www.internationaldayofpeoplewithadisability.net.au

Australian Theatre of the Deaf Youth Drama Camp

ATOD is running a SCHOOL HOLIDAY DRAMA CAMP for 15 -18 year old Deaf and hearing impaired young people. Explore the world of acting and performance, dance and movement. Get into the rhythm with bongos, drumming, juggling and circus skills. Run by professional tutors, the camp is tailored to stimulate the imagination and engage all levels of experience. **Participants can come from all over Australia and ATOD will assist with finding accommodation!**

When: Monday 21 January - Friday 25 January 2008, 9.30am – 4pm.

Where: Alexandria Town Hall, 73 Garden St, Alexandria (10 min walk from Redfern station).

Cost: \$30.00 per person. Morning & afternoon tea provided (please bring own lunch).

Bookings are essential! Contact ATOD for a booking form at info@atod.org.au, fax (02) 9318 2835, call (02) 9310 1255 or TTY (02) 9310 1205.

Central Coast Deaf Group Christmas Party

Supported by DSNSW, this event will include a free sausage sizzle, activities for kids of all ages and a visit from Santa Claus! Afternoon tea and Xmas cake will also be provided.

When: Sunday 2 December 2007, 11am-4pm.

Where: Gosford Sea Scout Hall, Masons Parade, Point Federick.

For more info please email

auslansocialgroup@hotmail.com

NB: This is an alcohol-free and smoke-free event.

Ten Pin Bowling Family Day– Lismore

This is a family day for Deaf or hearing people– everyone welcome! Food can be purchased at the venue.

When: Sunday 6 January 2008, 11am

Where: Lismore Ten Pin Bowling, 19 Krauss Ave, Lismore

Cost: \$4.50 per person, per game (TBC).

Please RSVP so lanes can be booked. Call Hilary on 6682 2228 or 0429 171 256. For more info about the event contact Hilary, or contact Craig Bishop at the Deaf Society (Lismore office) on 6622 5572, mobile 0423 488 619, or fax /TTY 6622 4087.

Australia Day Beach Day Out

Celebrate Australia Day with the Central Coast Auslan Social Group! Swimming, beach soccer, cricket and plenty of shade under the pine trees on the beach. Bring your folding chairs, your lunch/drinks, sunscreen and your friends– the more the merrier!

When: Saturday 26 January 2008. 9.30am until whenever you go home.

Where: Pearl Beach (50 mins from Hornsby). Meet on Pearl Parade.

For more info or a flyer email

auslansocialgrup@hotmail.com

Broadway Student Practice Group– December/January Dates

Where: Near the fountain in Broadway Shopping Centre Food Court, Glebe.

When: Every second Sat morning, 10am-12pm (next meetings 1, 15, 29 December, 12, 26 January).

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

How to get involved: Email Christine Murtagh at christinemurtagh@yahoo.com.au (Please include the word 'Auslan' in the subject line).

And if you've got a spare ten minutes....

Cute YouTube clip– The Four Deaf Yorkshiremen <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=2upAsFzO9AU>

