



Auslan Student Newsletter

April/May 2008



Welcome to the 20th edition of the newsletter.

It is difficult to fathom that first term is almost over.

Here at DEN we had 185 students complete the new Sign Language 1 course at Community colleges around the state this term, many of whom will now continue onto Sign Language 2 in May. There are 17 students currently studying Certificate II in Auslan and another 17 studying Certificate IV in Auslan– the first time this latter course has been offered over three terms here at DEN. It is satisfying to know that so many people are interested in learning more about Auslan and are continuing with further studies.

This will be the last edition of the newsletter I write until August. Next month I'm taking off to Canada and the US for seven weeks, and in my absence the lovely Anna Nardi, Program Supervisor of the Certificate in Auslan courses, will be taking the reins. The next edition will be a short update of all the relevant happenings, rather than a full length edition, but I am sure Anna will still manage to inject some of her bubbly personality onto the pages. If you have anything you would like Anna to include in the June/July edition please email anardi@deafsociety.com.

Remember to take some time out this month to watch the leaves falling and to smell the crisp Autumn air. And don't forget to keep your hands warm!

Happy reading.

Natalie Kull

Project Supervisor,
Accredited Auslan

(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 Anna with the relevant info BEFORE 20 May (for the June/July edition).

Congratulations !

- ⇒ To Deaf Society interpreter and Interpreting Service Officer **Kerryn Harwood** and her husband Tim, on the birth of the adorable son Lachlan Myles. Little Lachie has been described by his doting Mum as the most handsome boy in the world. Kerryn and Lachie are both doing well.
- ⇒ To DSNSW staff member **Alinta Howard** and her partner Tosh on the birth of their beautiful baby girl! The newest edition joins older sister Abyssinia (5) and angel brother Christian in the family. At time of publication the baby girl had the title of 'Baby of Alinta Howard'- we look forward to hearing her name ☺
- ⇒ To all of the **DEN students**, Deaf and hearing, who graduated from an accredited course at the DEN Graduation Ceremony in March. Graduating courses included Certificate IV in Training & Assessment, Certificates II, III and IV in Auslan, Diploma of Auslan, and Certificate in General Education for Adults.

UNSPOKEN— a unique work in progress

Director **Maarten Mourik** has created a **self-devised music theatre piece with Deaf actors**. UNSPOKEN is a work in progress, which Maarten hopes can be appreciated by Deaf and hearing audiences alike, without Auslan interpretation. UNSPOKEN will be staged in the Wild Card program of the *short, sweet & song festival*.

The UNSPOKEN cast includes Rachel Ellis, Katrina Lancaster, Annabelle Beasley, Olivia Beasley and Alex Vaughan on trombone. The performance has been choreographed by Jo Puglisi.

UNSPOKEN— The performance

The full performance program consists of four short (7-10 minutes) musical pieces. UNSPOKEN is one of the pieces being performed. Although an interpreter will be present for backstage assistance during the show, interpreters are still not confirmed for the other pieces. Please email Maarten if you need further information about access and interpreters.

When: Saturday 5 April, 2008. Program starts at 4pm.

Where: The Seymour Centre, Cnr Cleveland St & City Rd, Chippendale.

Bookings: Call the Seymour Centre on (02) 9351 7940, book online at www.seymourcentre.com.au or email boxoffice@seymour.usyd.edu.au. For more info about this project email Maarten at info@maartenmourik.nl



Auslan Student Groups

Glebe – NEW DATES

The perfect Saturday morning– some signing practice and a short stroll to Glebe markets.

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

When: Every second Sat morning, 10am-12pm (next meetings 5 & 19 April, 3, 17 & 31 May)

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).



Liverpool

One of the oldest groups in Sydney – they have been meeting for over 16 years.

Where: Liverpool Library.

When: Every Friday, 10am-12pm.

Skill level: Class-style group, suitable for beginners (community level).

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



Sydney City – NEW DATES

This *Coffee & Practice* group is a fun place to hang out on the way home from work.

Where: Wagamama restaurant, First Ground Floor (next level up from the station), The Galleries Victoria, Corner Park & Pitt St, City. This group also sometimes meets for dinner.

When: The first Thursday of every month, 5-7pm (next meetings 3 April and 1 May)

Skill level: Everyone welcome. Bring your friends or make new friends.

How to get involved: Email Young-Joo Byun at Young-Joo.Byun@lands.nsw.gov.au or SMS 0425 279 938 for more info.



Outer Western Sydney

The meetings for this group are on hold for the moment. If you have any questions about this group, or would like to meet up for social events, please contact Laila Peters at lpeters8@bigpond.com or call/SMS 0432 802 099.

Shellharbour/Wollongong

Sara Willyan-Payne is interested in starting a social group or practice group in the Shellharbour/Wollongong area. If you are keen to get involved or want more info please call/SMS Sara on 0409 987 147, or email beadfreak@bigpond.com

Eastern Suburbs—BIG CHANGES & SEEKING NEW IDEAS

This practice group wants to hear from enthusiastic students who are serious about improving fingerspelling readback skills and increasing their vocab.

"...We welcome your suggestions for activities and places to meet that suit everyone. Ideas include regular practice and meet for coffee, Voice Off dinner at a restaurant, attending Auslan interpreted events and chat afterwards, etc. Open to suggestion for dates & venue. Let's discuss via email.

Our group's aim is to continue to improve our signing after completion of DEN's courses...."

Skill Level: Suits CIA IV and beyond. All native Auslan users are appreciated and VERY welcome!

How to get involved: Contact Sharon Rae at sharonrae@optusnet.com.au

Central Coast

This group is organised in conjunction with Central Coast Deaf Group, to help students from TAFE, DEN and Uni mix with more Deaf people. Everyone (from beginners to interpreters) are warmly welcome. For more info contact Timothy Edwards at auslansocialgroup@hotmail.com
CONTACT TIMOTHY FOR MORE INFO ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS.

Blue Mountains Deaf Social Group

(NB– This is not a student group, although students are welcome to come along!)

April Event

Games Night at the Deaf Club- Friday 18 April, 7.30pm

June Event

Craft Night at the Deaf Club- Friday 20 June, 7.30pm

For more info about the Blue Mountains Deaf Social Group events or to RSVP, TTY (02) 4782 1671 or fax Margaret on (02) 4751 5090.



What's On

National Gallery of Australia Interpreted Tours, ACT

Turner to Monet- Saturday 5 April, 9.30am

This is an early morning tour in anticipation of the popularity of the *Turner to Monet: Triumph of Landscape* exhibition. Meet in the Exhibition Galleries (Gallery Foyer). BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL.

Pacific Arts- Sunday 8 June, 2.30pm

This free tour will introduce the Pacific Arts collection with Curator Crispin Howarth. Meet in gallery foyer. Please book.

Where: National Gallery of Australia, Parkes Place, Parkes ACT 2600.

Bookings: Call (02) 6240 6519 to book a place on either tour.

Visit www.nga.gov.au or email Adriane.boag@nga.gov.au for further information.

Interpreted Performance of Peter Pan, Lismore

The Northern Rivers Conservatorium Arts Centre is proud to present this faithful retelling of the classic story suitable for all ages. This magical production will delight children, while adults can take a step back in time and remember what it's like to be a child again. They are delighted to offer an Auslan interpreted performance of their show.

When: Friday 4 April, 2008. Show starts at 7pm.

Where: Italo Club, Barrow Lane, Lismore.

Bookings: Tickets can be purchased by calling (02) 66212266 or emailing admin@nrcac.edu.au

Deaf Football Australia Fundraising Dinner

A fundraiser and farewell to the Australian Deaf Football team before they leave to compete in the World Championships in Greece. All money raised goes towards School Development Programs and State and National camps for men and women.

When: Saturday 21 June, 2008. Starts at 7pm.

Where: Club Marconi, Marconi Plaza, Bossley Park.

Dress: Semi-formal.

Tickets: \$100 per person, \$1500 per corporate table (12). Ticket prices include a 3 course dinner, including beer, wine and soft drink.

For ticket sales and enquiries contact Brian Seymour on 0419 542 430 (SMS/voice), email brianseymour@refundhomeloans.com.au, or SMS Daryl Jordan on 0433 582 455.

SignPost presents Thank God You're Deaf II!

Back by popular demand with all new shows, this comedy night will raise funds for SignPost.

When: Friday 11 April, 2008. From 7pm onwards (show starts at 8pm).

Where: The Dome, Burwood RSL, 96 Shaftesbury Rd, Burwood.

Cost: \$15 at the door.

Art Gallery of NSW Interpreted Tours



Signing Art February & March 2008– Auslan Interpreted Art Gallery Tours

Sunday 27 April– Painted Revelations

Oscar Wilde said that 'every portrait that is painted with feeling is a portrait of the artist, not of the sitter'. Discover what a portrait can show us of the artist who created it. To complement the annual Archibald Prize exhibition.

Following at 2.30pm is *A mime for all reasons*—interactive theatrical storytelling, illusion and mime for the whole family with Jean-Paul Bell.

Sunday 25 May- Ghosts in the machine

The most prolific and the most eclectic artists of the 20th century are unknown photographers. Explore this remarkable exhibition which draws from a number of collections of discarded amateur photographs. Following at 2.30pm is *Cartoon your head off*. Let Dave Hackett show the kids how to create some exaggerated crazy cartoon characters.

(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 27 April and Sunday 25 May.

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

Time: Meet in main foyer at 1:25pm for tour. Family event follows at 2:30pm – ask at Info desk for location.

Cost: FREE

Visit www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/events/accessible or www.gallerykids.com.au for further information.



Community News

FREE Financial Management Service– Tamworth

Disability Advocacy NSW, Deaf Society of NSW and the Anglican Financial Counselling Service are providing FREE private financial management meetings with an interpreter to Deaf Clients. Anyone interested should book early as there are very limited places and each appointment takes about one hour.

When: First Monday of every month. 3-5pm

Where: Anglican Financial Counselling Service, 88 Bridge Street. Across from West Tamworth Primary School, near the pink sewing machine shop and Vespa's Restaurant.

Bookings: SMS Helen at DA NSW 0423 290 393

POD Macarthur– A Support Group for parents of children who are deaf/hearing impaired

POD is run by Parent Council for Deaf Education (PCDE) and provides peer support to parents/families without any bias of communication method (i.e. signing or oral) they have chosen for their child. This support group is for all parents, carers and families who have children that are deaf or hearing impaired.

When: 16 April, 14 May, 11 June, 9 July, 20 August

Where: Liverpool Community Centre, 148 Mill Road, Liverpool.

Time: 7pm—8.30pm

For more info about PCDE or POD please contact Nickie Flambouras at pcde@bigpond.com, call (02) 9871 3049 or visit www.pcde.org

Deaf Australia– A new name for AAD

Recently Australian Association of the Deaf (AAD) changed their name to Deaf Australia. The new name was approved and registered by the South Australian Corporate Affairs Commission on 11 January.

As a result of the name change, Deaf Australia can now be emailed at info@deafau.org.au and SignPost can be contacted by emailing signpost@deafau.org.au.

DEN Courses for Deaf & Hearing Learners

Auslan Only Weekend 1 & 2– Semester 1, 2008

Get your enrolment in early and take advantage of our Early Bird rates! Email Anna Nardi at programs@deaf.nsw.edu.au for more info about these fantastic voice-off retreats or download an enrolment form at www.deaf.nsw.edu.au/course.htm

When: 7pm Friday 30 May – 4.30pm Sunday 1 June 2008

Where: Stanwell Tops Conference Centre, Helensburgh NSW

Auslan Only Weekend 3– Expression of Interest list open

Later this year DEN will be running AOW 3 for the first time.

When: 7pm Friday 29 August – 4.30pm Sunday 31 August 2008

Where: The Collaroy Centre, Collaroy Beach NSW

Although no other information is available at this stage, we are accepting expressions of interest. If you have completed CIA III, IV, Diploma of Auslan/Interpreting or if you are an accredited interpreter and would like more information about AOW 3, please email Natalie Kull at nkull@deaf.nsw.edu.au or call (02) 8833 3605 to register your interest.

Accredited Auslan Courses at DEN in Semester 2, 2008

For information about Certificate III in Auslan, which starts late July 2008, or to place your name on the waiting list for a possible Certificate II in Auslan class, please contact Anna Nardi at programs@deaf.nsw.edu.au, call (02) 8833 3604, or visit www.deaf.nsw.edu.au

ORIGAMI for DEAF STUDENTS

Learn the ancient Japanese art of paper folding with presenter Young-Joo Byun.

When: Saturday 3 May, 2008

Time: 9.30am—11.30am

Cost: \$15 (includes all materials)

Location: Andrew Rogers Training Room, Ground Floor, 169 Macquarie St, Parramatta.

For more information or to enrol in this course email Tony Clews at tclews@deaf.nsw.edu.au or visit www.deaf.nsw.edu.au



In Your Hands

This section has been included in response to the many emails I receive from readers about their student activities, Auslan adventures, passions and politics. If you have something to say, say it here. Email me at nkull@deaf.nsw.edu.au or fax (02) 9893 8333 (Attention: Natalie Kull) with your submissions.

(N.B. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of Deaf Education Network, Deaf Society of New South Wales or the staff of either of these organisations. No responsibility will be taken for any loss or damage as a result of communication in this newsletter. Submission of material does not guarantee publication. Submissions may be edited although all care will be taken to retain the true intent of the author).

Over the past months I have again been inundated by people emailing me links to Deaf or Auslan related websites, YouTube clips, articles, etc. Thank you— keep them coming! Here is a selection of them:

Bob's House- Pepsi USA does it the Deaf way for their ad. Check out www.pepsi.com/bobshouse/ (Thanks Young Joo)

Article about **Jodee Mundy**, an Australian CODA now living in England.

www.grumpyoldeafies.com/2007/12/rebecca_atkinson_everyone_in_i.html (Thanks Tony)

Dialogue in Silence— A fascinating exhibition about non-verbal communication. Go to www.dialogue-in-silence.com (Thanks to the Mitchell family)

An article about new **technical BSL signs**. www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/education/article3213283.ece (Thanks Louise)

Coming Out— I think I've listed this YouTube clip before, but it's worth another mention. www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3ai5IVfFdE (Thanks Sandra)

God Save the Queen— When captioning goes horribly wrong. Visit www.smh.com.au/news/national/we-are-terribly-amused-but-we-shouldnt-be/2008/02/25/1203788248523.html (Thanks Neil— miss you)

The Forest— An incredible animated ASL story www.vcom3d.com/vault_files/forest_asl/index.html (Thanks Stephen)

Hello All,

The website www.deafiesaustralia.com is undergoing constructions again, but will be back online shortly. I apologise for the delay. Also, I would like to see if you have any new events that you wish to add to the events page for the coming months of 2008? If so, please email details of the event to info@deafiesaustralia.com

Regards,

Jacob Clarke

Head Manager, Deafies Australia

Mob: 0404 298 050 (SMS ONLY)

Email: scruffyjake87@hktop.com.au

I'm sure many of you know about the Auslan for Employment (AFE) program but I found a fact sheet on their website which might help you in explaining this to clients, employers, family or friends.

You can find it on:

www.jobaccess.gov.au/NR/rdonlyres/73E38B74-3AF0-4CD2-9895-C539B12277DE/0/AuslanforEmploymentFactsheet_JA5222.pdf

Sheena Walters

Manager, Interpreting & Advocacy

DSNSW News

DSNSW Job Vacancy— Employment Officer

The Deaf Society of NSW is looking for a full time Employment Officer to work from Parramatta. The aim of this role is to assist Deaf and hearing impaired clients to access suitable employment opportunities, and to remain employed.

Essential Criteria includes proven experience as an employment officer, case worker or in a disability service role; excellent communication skills including Auslan, written English and the ability to use an interpreter; experience in providing services to disadvantaged groups; time management and capacity to meet deadlines; a current NSW driver's license.

Salary: Community Employment Training and Support Services Award 1999

Interested applicants must address the selection criteria, attach updated CV, and forward it by email to vdeferrari@deafsociety.com OR posted to the attention of Manager of Employment and Workplace Support, PO Box 1060, Parramatta NSW 2124. Applications close Wednesday 16 April 2008.

DSNSW Open Day— Come and say hello!

Come along to the next Deaf Society of NSW Open Day to find out more about our services, meet the staff and get a tour of the building. Demonstrations on the day include nail art, Lebanese cooking, National Relay Service and use of video phones.

When: Thursday 8 May 2008, from 10am until 3pm.

Where: Level 4, Macquarie house, 169 Macquarie street, Parramatta.

For more info email info@deafsociety.com, fax (02) 9893 3333 or call (02) 9893 8555.

For group & school tours email Margaret Craig at mcraig@deafsociety.com by Thursday 24 April.



Volunteers Needed

Kids Activities at Heritage School

The Deaf Society is looking for volunteers to help entertain children while Heritage School is running at Thomas Pattison School. A basic conversational level of Auslan is needed - this would be the perfect opportunity for students. Experience with kids is good, but not necessary to do this work.

When: Saturday mornings, 10, 17, 24 & 31 May, from 9.00am – 12.30pm

For more info contact John O'Neill, Manager, Education and Training on 02 8833 3630 (voice) or email joneill@deaf.nsw.edu.au

Mullauna Nursing Home

Mullauna is in the Blacktown area, and is home to many Deaf and Deafblind people 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 Elsy Brammesan at dt@wrv.org.au or call (02) 9680 1500 on Monday or Wednesday, and ask for Mullauna Nursing Home Volunteer Program.

Hand Over Hand Club

The Hand Over Hand Club is a group of self-determined 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 amazing 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. 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.

Notice Board

- **Accessible Arts** is the peak arts and disability organisation across NSW. For more info about what Accessible Arts does or to receive their monthly newsletter, visit www.aarts.net.au
- **Media Access Australia** have moved to a new suite. Their address is now Suite 408, 22 – 36 Mountain Street, Ultimo NSW 2007. All other contact details are the same.
- Community course student Lauren Chandler is a **Wellbeing Solutions coach**. She says about her company Shine, "We can coach you on improving your health and wellbeing! We cater for all styles and levels of fitness in Personal Training, Group Personal Training and Consulting. Sessions are designed for the hearing impaired, if you are overweight or in need of a physical overhaul. You can expect lots of fun on the way to your goals and ease of communication through Auslan" Contact Lauren to receive a complimentary health chat (you'll need to mention this newsletter) on shine@usana.com or call/SMS 0409 058 384.
- Newsletter reader Janelle has started her own cake decorating business. **Cakes from the Heart** makes **beautiful cakes for beautiful occasions**, such as weddings, christenings, kids birthdays, engagements, etc. Readers of this newsletter get a discount if they mention this ad when they order! To order a cake email janelle@cakesfromtheheart.com.au, call (02) 8814 9456 or 0438 227 527, or visit www.cakesfromtheheart.com.au
- Westlink's (Anglicare) Host Family Program provides a playgroup for families with Deaf children in the outer west. **Deaf Playgroup** will run at the group's Westminster Street premises (Rooty Hill) on Friday mornings between 10am-12pm. For more info contact Coordinators on (02) 8805 0974 or (02) 8805 0915, or TTY (02) 9625 0145.
- Jeree Milroy is looking for a **nanny to care for her 5 month old baby** (hearing & sighted). Applicants must be able to converse with her partner using the **Deafblind Tactile alphabet** and be confident reading back Auslan fingerspelling. They will need to hold a Senior first aid certificate and have experience in childcare. If the applicant has no formal childcare experience but is a parent themselves, this is also OK. The position is currently only for 3 months but it's likely this will be extended until the end of 2008. Pay is \$23-25 p/h, dependent on level of experience.

The applicant will need to attend an interview with Sydney In Home Child Care in Parramatta. The person to contact there is Amanda on (02) 9683 3400. Jeree is happy for the position to be shared amongst 2 or more people. The nanny is needed on Monday 3.30-5.30pm, Wednesday 1-10pm, Thursday 9am-5pm, Saturday 1-5pm and all day Sunday (starting 9am at Kogarah swimming pool if possible).

For more information contact Jeree on 0400 400 966 or (02) 9399 7699 or email jeree@dodo.com.au



Personal Profile

Eleanor Maxwell – Interpreting Intern



I had a friend in high school who was a CODA. Whenever I visited her house I couldn't understand what anyone was saying so she was always interpreting for me. After I finished school the idea of working full time didn't appeal, and she suggested I go to TAFE to learn Auslan so she wouldn't always have to interpret for me. I took up her suggestion and found I actually enjoyed learning the language. This led to my decision to keep going through the courses until I became an interpreter.

I started with CIA II back in 2003, then CIA III in 2004. In 2006 I enrolled in a shortened version of CIA IV through TAFE's Outreach program and the Bridging course at Blacktown TAFE. To learn and continue to develop my Auslan, I watched a lot of Auslan DVD's, made sure I watched SignPost whenever it was on, I went to Deaf events at Burwood every chance I got and had a monthly student practice group I went to in the city.

I decided to become an interpreter sometime during CIA II. I can't remember when it was, there was no defining moment that made me say, "Yes, this is what I want to do for the rest of my life," it just kind of happened. When I was in school I wanted to be an Astronomer, so it's pretty far from my original aspirations.

I have friends that sign, but most of them are hearing and it's too easy to slip into English whenever I am struggling with signing the concept in Auslan. Even with classmates who were of a similar skill level, it was hard to practice because it's easy to cheat and just say the words- we were all guilty of it at some stage.

I got the shock of my life when I got into the Diploma of Interpreting at Petersham TAFE in 2007, and I got an even bigger shock when I passed the course. I was so sure that I had failed my NAATI test that I told everyone at work I had failed before I had even got the results. The NAATI test was very scary, but it's manageable. The world isn't going to end if you fail, it just means that you'll have to go for testing again.

Now I work for the Deaf Society of NSW two days a week as an interpreting intern, within the John Ferris Interpreter Internship. This means I work as an interpreter but I have a mentor who accompanies me to my jobs to assist if anything goes wrong. She provides feedback on what aspects of my interpreting worked and what didn't, and how I can continue to improve. I also get the opportunity to film some of my assignments, and although scary and confronting, it's beneficial to see my signing as my clients see it.

My first interpreting job was the scariest so far! But I got through it and now when I walk into a job I know that I may not be the best interpreter, but I can interpret and I can get by. I also know I have my mentor there to support me.

I aspire to be the kind of interpreter people ask for specifically; I want to be one of the people that clients request above other interpreters. I would like to progress to Interpreter level eventually, rather than stay as a Paraprofessional interpreter, and I'd like to go through the post grad course at Macquarie Uni. I'm also thinking of doing an arts degree to get some university experience under my belt to give me the experience to interpret in uni situations.

One of the strangest things anyone has said to me about interpreting was when I was watching a video of myself signing, and my sister's boyfriend commented that you could tell I was a hearing person because I moved my lips to form the words. I hadn't heard that one before. Usually people just make the comment, "There should be one universal sign language". Should there be one universal spoken language too?

I love Auslan because it is poetic, without being over the top. The fact that so much can be conveyed with so few signs is amazing. I love watching *really* good interpreters, like my mentor Chevo Sweeney, because her signing is so beautiful. It makes more spatial sense and she uses about half as many signs as I do.

I still have my Interpreting Diploma teacher Della Goswell's voice in my head when I go to interpreting jobs. "That's too English, Eleanor." In the Interpreting course the most valuable thing I learnt was that not only do I not know everything, but interpreters that have been working for years don't know everything – it is very reassuring.



Courses, Workshops & PD

The Renwick Centre For Professional Education and Research – Hearing Impairment Events

For the full Continuing Professional Education Calendar of confirmed events for 2008 visit www.ridbc.org.au/renwick/courses/continuingcalendar.asp#hi To enrol in a course visit the website, email cpe@ridbc.org.au, call the Continuing Professional Education Team on (02) 9872 0207, fax your registration to (02) 9873 1614 or in person to RIDBC Renwick Centre, 361 - 365 North Rocks Road, North Rocks NSW 2151 (8am-4pm weekdays).

Improving the Outcomes of Hearing Impaired Students in Mainstream schools.

When: 9 April, 2008

Presented by: Staff of RIDBC Renwick Centre and RIDBC Garfield Barwick School

Overview: Mainstream teachers will benefit from this workshop by gaining a deeper understanding of the characteristics, expectations, and needs of students with hearing impairments.

Course Code: RC08C103H **Fee:** \$150

Important Factors in Auditory-Verbal Therapy Decision Making.

When: April 22 & 23, 2008

Presented by: Dr Jane R. Madell, Director, Hearing and Learning Center and Co-Director, Cochlear Implant Center New York Eye and Ear Infirmary/Beth Israel Medical Center.

Overview: This presentation and workshop will enhance participants' knowledge of the evaluation of hearing in infants and children including the identification of appropriate audiological protocols and the evaluation of audiological reports.

Course Code: RC08C107H **Fee:** \$400

The Auditory System and Hearing Impairment

When: 14 May, 2008

Presented by: Genelle Cook, Manager RIDBC Jim Patrick Audiology Centre.

Overview: Aimed at anyone looking to obtain an introduction to hearing impairment, this presentation looks at the anatomy of the ear, causes of hearing loss, types and degree of hearing loss, the audiogram and problems experienced by the people with hearing impairment.

Course Code: RC08C106H **Fee:** \$80

DSNSW Early Signs– Auslan for Hearing Babies & Toddlers

The Deaf Society of NSW are providing sign language classes for parents of hearing babies and toddlers. Based on the WA Deaf Society's *First Signs* program, this series of three workshops will be presented by two experienced trainers (who are also mothers and Auslan users themselves), in Parramatta. Babies 0- 5 are welcome, although as there are no crèche facilities on site, parents should bring along their own toys and play mat.



Where: Level 4, Macquarie House, 169 Macquarie St, Parramatta NSW

Cost: \$100 per adult or \$170 per couple

To register your interest in upcoming Early Signs workshops :

Email Sheena Walters at swalters@deafcommunity.com, call (02) 9893 8555 or fax (02) 9893 8333.

DSNSW Ethics Refresher Workshop for Auslan Interpreters, Tweed Heads

This FREE workshop, presented by Maree Madden, is a professional development opportunity and contributes 10 points towards your NAATI revalidation.

When: Saturday 19 April, 2008. 10am-1pm.

Where: Terraces room, Outrigger Twin Towns Resort, Cnr Griffith St, Coolangatta & Wharf St, Tweed Heads.

RSVP: By Tuesday 1 April to Deaf Society of NSW - Lismore Office on (02) 6622 5572, Fax/TTY (02) 6622 4087 or email Craig Bishop at cbishop@deafcommunity.com. Please mention if you require an Auslan interpreter.



Auslan Heritage School

For parents, guardians and siblings of children who are deaf

of hard of hearing. Heritage School provides the opportunity to meet other parents of deaf children, find out more about Auslan, improve your Auslan skills, meet other deaf people and learn about the Deaf community.



Royal Institute for Deaf and Blind Children



When: Saturdays, 10, 17, 24 and 31 May 2008, 9:30am – 12:30pm

Where: Thomas Pattison School, North Rocks

For more information, contact either Sharon Lachmund at the Renwick Centre. Phone: 9872 0207 or email:

Sharon.Lachmund@ridbc.org.au or John O'Neill at DEN: joneill@deaf.nsw.edu.au

Blacktown TAFE CIA IV Bridging Course– Semester 2

If you would like to place your name on the Expression of Interest list for Blacktown TAFE's CIA IV Bridging course, starting in Semester 2, call Sharon Hislop on (02) 9208 9330 or Paula (02) 9208 9336.

Register your name and contact details, and an application kit will be sent to you later in the term.

