



Life and Deaf

Deaf Society of New South Wales
Lismore Office

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June 2007

Port Macquarie BBQ

On Sunday 22nd April 2007 we had a community bbq at Port Macquarie for the Mid-North coast community.

After a problem with a broken bbq in the beginning, we managed to relocate and all had a great day out at Settlement Point.

Thanks to everyone for their patience during the relocation.

In the end a good time was had by all and special thanks to those people who traveled far to get there.

There's another free Port Macquarie bbq booked for Sunday 21st October.

Hope to see you there.



Free Job Skills course - Students needed

On Wednesday 18th July the Deaf Society of NSW and DEN are starting a FREE Job Skills Course for the Deaf.

This course will be on every Wednesday for the rest of the year from 2pm to 5pm.

This course will really improve your English reading & writing, plus help give you skills for,

- finding work,
- writing resumes,
- doing job interviews,
- working with interpreters,

- using technology and other things like that.



What we really need is for people to come to the course and be a part of it. If we do not get at least 10 people then the course cannot go ahead, so I encourage all

those in the deaf community to be involved.

This will be fun as well as educational, so don't miss out.

As I said it is totally FREE for Deaf people.

If you would like to get a copy of the flyer for this course and you do not yet have one then contact Craig and he will send you one. Please see Craig if you are interested.

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Important News

For Casino residents

Richmond Valley Council has recently made available a text/SMS access number for the Deaf community to contact the Council.

That number is;

0414 194 750

You can contact this number during business hours for any Council inquiries.



Deafsports workshop



A reminder to everyone that there are still spaces available at the special Deaf Sports meeting at Tweed Heads on Sunday 17th June.

This meeting is to be hosted by Brent Phillips and is about;

- Better understanding how to run meetings,

- Learning roles and responsibilities within an organization,
- Learning about sponsorship and grants.

This course is FREE but you need to fill out an application form so please see Craig if you are interested.

Brent is the president of Deaf Sports Australia and will be here for this one day only.



Special opportunity with TAFE

North Coast TAFE have asked that I pass on the following information.

tact Lindy as indicated.

This could be a great opportunity for someone in that area, or who is thinking of relocating there, particularly for an interpreter.

For any information con-

Are you interested in being involved in and/or teaching on the Certificate II in Auslan course offered every 2 years at Coffs Harbour Education Campus?



If you have fluent Auslan signing skills and live within reasonable driving distance of Coffs Harbour, this may be a great development opportunity for you.

Contact Lindy Suttor at Lismore TAFE for further information.

Office: 0266230217

Mobile: 0407061942

Tweed BBQ - 15th July 2007

On Sunday 15th July there will be a free community bbq at Kingscliffe starting at 11am.

This bbq will be held at Faulks Park in Kingscliffe and all food and soft drink is provided by the Deaf Society.

Previous bbq's in Kingscliffe have been very popular so I hope that more of you will come this time and enjoy the socializing and the food.

A flyer is available from Craig if anyone wants one.



Hungry Day is Back!!!

Tuesday 17th July

Do you remember Hungry Day?

We all used to meet at the DCA and have a bbq once a month, deaf & hearing.

It was a good social thing for our community.

Well now Hungry Day is back and this time it's free.

There will be a hungry Day bbq at Heritage Park in Lismore (near the children's playground) on Tuesday 17th July for all of the Deaf community. Starting 11.30am.

This used to be a great social time. I hope you can all come and remember old times.



Deaf Social News

Gold Coast

Gold Coast Deaf Club

2nd Saturday night of the month at Helensvale Tavern.

8 Sir John Overall Dve

Helensvale

6pm onwards...

Come along for drinks and a chat.

Reasonably priced meals available at the Tavern.

9th June 2007 & 14th July 2007.

Gold Coast Deaf Group

1st Monday of the month at Robina Town Centre.

At Café Campanile near the waterfall in the centre of the shopping complex.

10am onwards...

For further information contact

Christine White SMS 0415 952 205 or Fax 07 5578 5032

Lismore

Lismore Family Social Days

June

Sunday June 3rd at 11am.

Casino BMX track

Crawford Square Park

Summerland Way

Casino

Bike track for kids.

BBQ facilities available. BYO food and drink or a plate to share.

July

Sunday 1st July at 11am

No further information available at this time.

Coffs Harbour

June

Social Day bbq on June 24th.

Meet 10.15am at Big Banana Ice Rink then bbq at Diggers Beach at 1pm.

Ice skating is \$11 and BYO everything for the BBQ.

If it's raining the bbq will move to the Deaf centre.

July

We have no information about the July social day at this time.

Tweed Heads

Tweed Deaf Social night

Friday 22nd June & Friday 27th July 2007.

Horizons Lounge Bar, level 3
Twin Towns Services Club

7pm onwards...

Tweed Free Community BBQ

Sunday 15th July at 11am.

Faulks Park
Kingscliffe.

All food and soft drink provided by Deaf Society of NSW.

Tweed Drop-In and Coffee morning

Banora Point Community Centre on third Thursday of every month.

21st June and 19th July.

Mid-North Coast

Community BBQ
Sunday 24th June 2007 at 10am.

Billabong Park
Dennison St
Gloucester.

BYO everything for BBQ.

Open Day - June 13th 2pm

The Lismore office is holding an open day on Wednesday 13th June 2007 at 2pm.

First, at 12.00 pm we are holding a special lunch for a limited amount of people. This lunch is **by invitation only** (must have invitation paper from Craig to come) and will involve various local service providers, Deaf Society staff and members of the Deaf community.

At 2pm, when the lunch is finished, there will be an **open day** for everyone to come and look at

the new office. Everybody is welcome to come at 2pm and see the new office and ask questions or give feedback.

We value your feedback about our service.

It would be good to see people there at 2pm.



Deaf Society Coffee Morning

In June and July the Deaf Society will be hosting two coffee mornings.

These will be on Tuesday 26th June and Tuesday 31st July from 10am to 12pm.

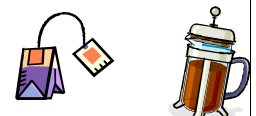
Morning tea will be provided. This is just an opportunity to come and socialize with friends at the Deaf Society office.

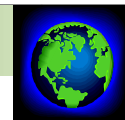
Everyone is welcome and

it would be good to see as many faces as possible. If these are successful then they might become a regular thing, so it's up to you.

It is also a good opportunity for Auslan students to come and practice their signing in a relaxed environment.

Hope to see you there.





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Working with and for the Deaf
community of NSW



We're on the Web!

www.deafsocietynsw.org.au



Regional Services Coordinator
Craig Bishop

Israeli Sign Language

Israeli Sign Language or **Shassi** is the most commonly used sign language in the deaf community of Israel. Some other sign languages are also used in Israel, among them **Al-Sayyid Bedouin Sign Language**. The number of Israeli deaf people is around 10,000, though it is unclear how many of them use Shassi as their main language.

The history of Shassi goes back to 1873 in Germany, where Marcus Reich, a German Jew, opened a special school for Jewish deaf children. At the time, it was considered one of the best of its kind, which made it a lodestone to Jewish deaf children from all over the world, as well as non-Jews. In 1932 several teachers

from this school opened the first school for Jewish deaf children in Jerusalem. The sign language used in the Jerusalemite school was based on the German Sign Language (**DGS**), but a local dialect gradually emerged, a dialect which eventually became Shassi. Shassi still shares many features and vocabulary items with DGS, although it is too far apart today to be considered a dialect of the latter. During the 1940s Shassi became the language of a well established community of Jewish deaf people in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv. Today Shassi is the most used and taught sign language in Israel, and serves as the main mean of communication for the Israeli deaf community, which includes Jews, Muslim and Christian Arabs, and immigrants. Some Arab

communities in Israel, particularly Bedouin communities, have sign languages of their own.

In addition to Shassi, there is also Hebrew manually coded language used as a tool to teaching deaf children the Hebrew language, and for communication between deaf and hearing people.



Official Campaign for the Recognition of Irish Sign Language

A Campaign to have sign language officially recognised stepped up as deaf people took to the streets to highlight their cause.

A mass demonstration through Dublin City Centre by the IDS (Irish Deaf Society) was the latest public call for support to have sign language recognised as Ireland's 3rd language. Under Article 8 of the Constitution, Irish is the country's first official language with English the second tongue. Deaf people now want sign language as the third. Deaf groups have been campaigning for several years to have Irish Sign Language officially recognised by the State.

To date the Government has made no commitment but the idea has been considered. In 2003 Minister for Justice Michael McDOWELL said the matter had been discussed from a number of departments. TD Sean CROWE pledged his support for the IDS saying sign language should gain official recognition. He said "Deaf people are a minority who has done particularly badly under the Celtic Tiger"

There needs to be more resources for deaf people and the language should be officially recognised".

Irish sign language is unique to Ireland. A spokesman for the IDS said "Irish Sign Language is the first or preferred language of deaf people in this country".

