



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TDS?

Catherine Goodluck has retired (again) from Hearing Link. We are considering how best to replace her, David has been successful with Industrial hearing testing quotes to local businesses. Plans are in place to conclude the Auslan in the home funding we received nearly two years ago. Schools and colleges are now back hard at work and we are experiencing an increase in demand for interpreters. Thankyou for your patience if you are experiencing problems.

An invitation has been received to attend a consultation on Teir II funding under the NDIS—this potentially will be the new way of funding and replace our current 'block' funding. Since drafting this newsletter, a request for a Special General Meeting (SGM) has been received, enclosed notice with newsletter.

Mary Gays
CEO

INTERPRETED PERFORMANCE – VAGINA MONOLOGUES

The Vagina Monologues, by Eve Ensler, is a play based on interviews with women about their experiences.

A group of local women, including politicians **Jacquie Petrusma, Lara Giddings** and **Cassy O'Connor**, are performing the show in Hobart and all funds raised will go to organisations involved in the [V-Day campaign](#) to stop violence against women and girls.

There are two performances, one on 27 and one on 28 March. Auslan interpreters will be at the performance on **28 March only**.

DATE: Saturday 28 March, 7pm (doors open at 6pm for drinks)

VENUE: Stanley Burbury Theatre, University of Tasmania, Churchill Avenue, Sandy Bay, Hobart.

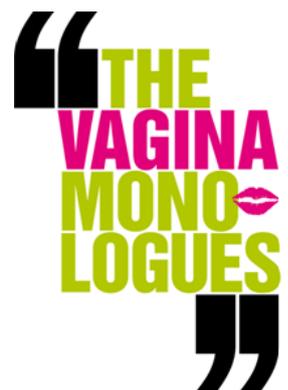
COST: \$30 full, \$20 concession, Champion and Super Champion packages available

(see www.afairerworld.org/vday for details).

BOOK: On-line at www.trybooking.com/GRXR

If you require access to Auslan sign language interpreters let the organisers know when you book at the following e-mail address so we can ensure the best seating positions. helen@afairerworld.org

Note: The performance includes explicit language.



AUSLAN

Auslan
Levels 1,2 & 3

Where: Hobart and Launceston only
Email—info@tasdeaf.org.au for more information

JEANETTE'S COMMUNITY SERVICES

March 16th and 30th | April 13th and 27th | May 11th and 25th | June 15th and 29th | July 13th and 27th | Aug 10th and 24th | Sept 7th and 21st | Oct

5th and 19th | Nov 9th and 23rd and the final one on Dec 7th

All sessions will be held at the Devonport Community Health,
Centre 22 Steele St, Devonport 10-1.30pm





National Relay Service launches world-first relay phone app

The Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) and the National Relay Service (NRS) marked the International Day of People with Disability with the launch of a new app – an exciting improvement in the way people who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment can make phone calls.

Managing Director of NRS Outreach, Deb Fullwood, said the app was an important development for the NRS. “Over the years the service has evolved with new technology. Originally callers needed a fixed line to make a call; from 2007 they could use an internet connection.

“With the introduction of the NRS app,” said Ms Fullwood, “people who have a hearing or speech impairment are now just as mobile in communicating and making phone calls as everyone else – all they need is their smart phone.

“It will be the first time that any relay service in the world has provided access to a range of relay calls and support functions via a single app for smartphones or tablets.”

The app provides users with access to a number of NRS call options, including internet relay, Speak and Listen, captioned relay, and video relay. Both internet relay and Speak and Listen include additional features that are only available through the app, such as creating customised phrases for regular use and utilising the device’s GPS in providing location information.

Melinda Smith is an NRS user with a speech impairment and has embraced the new app, “I have been using the NRS to make calls for a number of years now. It is hard to imagine life without it. “I like the way the NRS continues to improve services as technology changes. It means more options and ways to contact people in my work and my personal life and that makes me realise how connected I am,” said Ms Smith.

The app was launched at the Vicdeaf headquarter in Melbourne where Melinda demonstrated the benefits of the app and attendees were able to trial the new service. TUSMA’s Chairman, Mark Darras and CEO, Katherine Silleri, both addressed the audience and the Minister for Communications, the Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, officially launched the app via video.

The NRS (www.relayservice.gov.au) is an Australian Government initiative enabling people who are deaf or have a hearing or speech impairment to make phone calls using a wide range of devices. The NRS app is available for free on iTunes and Google Play.



Level 2, 10 Mallett Street, CAMPERDOWN NSW 2050

Ph (V) 02 8594 0517 | TTY 1800 555 630 | Fax 1800 555 690

www.relayservice.gov.au

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) | Check out [our new movie!](#)

Do you or someone you know have trouble using the phone?

Find out about the National Relay Service – an Australian Government initiative. Contact our helpdesk from 8am to 6pm (Eastern Standard time) on:

TTY 1800 555 630 | Voice 1800 555 660 | Fax 1800 555 690 | helpdesk@relayservice.com.au





ANZAC DAY TOUR

Ephpheta Centre NSW ANZAC day tour at the Australian War Memorial, Canberra.

Come & join us at the Australian War Memorial (AWM), in Canberra. Learn about ANZAC Day and the importance of recognising this day. We have a coach, driven by our very own Jimmy Ashley! All welcome to join us on the coach at extra cost or to drive yourselves to meet us there. You can buy lunch at the café there, at the AWM or you can bring your own lunch.

When: Sunday 22nd March 2015

Where: Meet at 6.45am, at Strathfield Station, Everton Rd side NSW (big roundabout) to catch the coach – leaves 7am SHARP!

OR Meet us there, at the Australian War Memorial at 10.40am.

Cost: Return bus trip \$30 per person. Entry to Australian War Memorial is free. Bring extra money for your lunch and drinks.

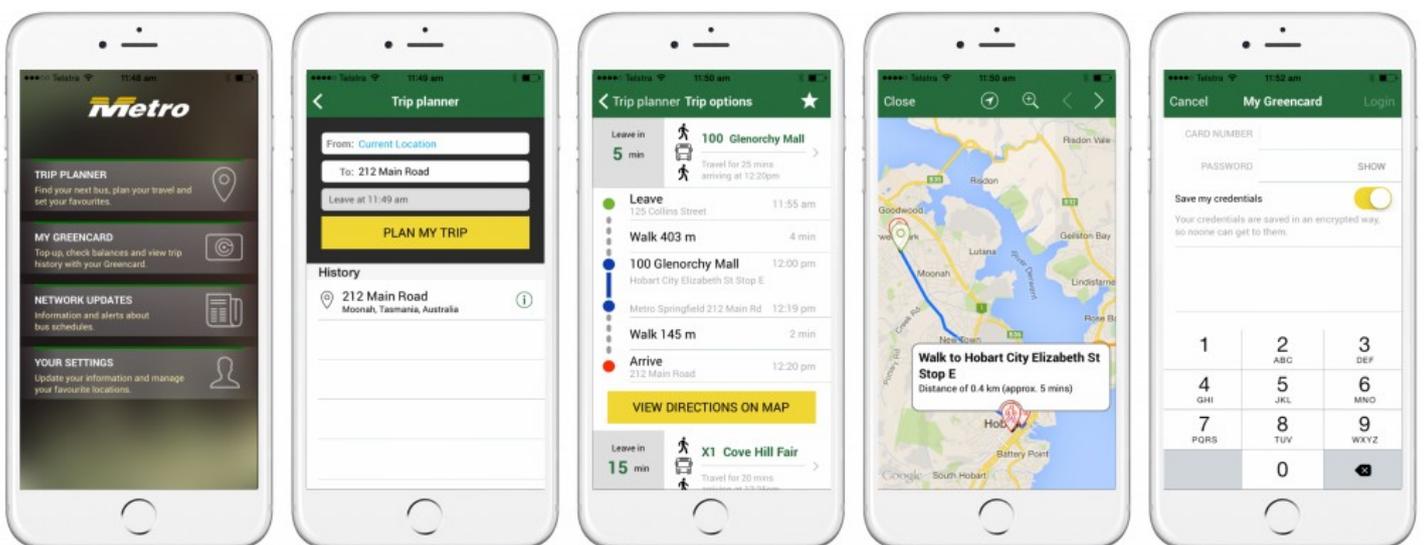
RSVP & pay: To Danni 0410 567 621 (sms only) or email danni@ephpheta.org.au

BY FRIDAY 13th MARCH!

METRO TAS APP

Planning a bus trip is now so much easier, thanks to Metro Tasmania. Simply go to App store on your iPhone and download Metro Tas App, on your app you can now—

- Plan your next trip
- Save your favourite destinations (including work, school and home) and your favourite trips
- Manage your Green card account (including check your balance, view trip history, and top up your card)
- View the latest news and updates about bus schedules





INVITATION TO SUBMIT ARTICLES

TasDeaf would like to invite members to submit articles that they may wish to share with the community.

What: Articles are not to be longer than 250 words

Deadline: 14th of every month

Submission: Preferred by email to info@tasdeaf.org.au or fax to TDS on 03 6228 1966

Important Information:

- TasDeaf may refuse articles subject to space
- TasDeaf may edit your article with intent of clarifying content to reader not to change the intent to communicate of to writer

All best efforts will be made by TasDeaf to send out SignPost monthly between the 17th and 20th subject to staff availability, timing, receipt of articles, and other circumstances that may occur.

BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2015

- 20th April
- 22nd June
- 17th August
- 19th October
- 14th December

SAVE THE DATE

When: Friday 10th of April
What: Visit of Chair Steve Hodgetts and CEO Mary Gays being planned to meet members in the north.
more details to follow

DRISANA LEVITZKE-GRAY NAMED AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR 2015



The fifth generation in her family to be born deaf, Drisana Levitzke-Gray, is dedicated to helping other deaf people and advocating their human rights. Born into a family with deaf parents, a deaf brother and a deaf extended family, Drisana cherishes her first language, Auslan. She promotes the deaf community as one without borders and one of rich language, culture, history and traditions. As the only Australian selected to attend the Frontrunners international deaf youth leadership course in 2012 and 2013, Drisana worked with communities in Europe and Samoa to expand leadership capacity and human rights understanding of deaf youth. In 2014, Drisana became the first deaf Auslan user to fulfil her civic duty as a juror. Drisana is the embodiment of the concept of ‘deaf gain’, not ‘hearing loss’, inspiring the deaf community, encouraging others to accept diversity and promoting a positive image of deafness which says loudly and proudly: “it is OK to be deaf”.

Source: <http://www.australianoftheyear.org.au/honour-roll/?view=fullView&recipientID=1253>

