



WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TDS?

As we are moving to sending out Signpost monthly there's more work for me and my colleagues to do which is great, thanks to all the team for pitching in.

A new thing I've started is CEO pop-ins, every second and fourth Tuesday each month from 10:30am then again from 5:30pm—6:30pm with Joyce interpreting. Please pop in for a chat and

a cup of tea. I look forward to meeting all members here plus I've been invited to go bowling with the team which I am organizing with Craig. So may see you there one day and show me how to bowl.

Mary Gays
CEO

UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi Members

Our fantastic new CEO, Mary Gays has been getting her head around the operation of Tasdeaf and absorbing the Tasdeaf community over the last few months, getting an idea of what needs to be done going forward. Well the time has come for Mary to start implementing some great ideas she has, one of which is a regular article from me and the Board of Tasdeaf letting everyone know what we have been up to, we will also have a bio about each director on the website and through the newsletter so everyone knows who we are and our background.

As this will be going to print after our SGM which is on Thursday 12th March, I thought it would be good to let the other members who may be unaware of why this is happening know a bit more about it. The Board received a letter from 13 signatories who had some issues with Tasdeaf's constitution and its governance. While there were some discrepancies in the letter, we decided it was better to go ahead with the request for having a SGM and get it out in the open for discussion as we have absolutely nothing to hide.

Yes - we acknowledge there have been a few issues - reviewing our membership processes, staffing, finances, and the NDIS about to impact on us.

We knew we had a lot of work to do here - receipt of the SGM request has confirmed that the Board is on the right track of organisation review and have already started the process in fixing this.

There were 5 vacancies and 5 nominations for the Board of Tasdeaf in the last AGM, since no further nominations was received at the time - all were automatically re-elected for a term of 2 years.

The current constitution needs updating and this is something that is on the list of things to do, the last community consultation about updating the constitution was back in 2010 and was poorly represented by the members at the time so I urge everyone to make an effort after all it is your constitution, more information about this will come soon - watch this space!

I usually try to get up to the North/North West coast to say hello and give feedback about what has been happening - Mary, Ray Hilsdon (interpreter) and myself will be coming up in early April, please check out the dates and times in the newsletter.

Feel free to drop in and say G'day - I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone and introducing Mary.

Cheers

Steve Hodgetts,

President of the Board

LEARN AUSLAN

Auslan
Levels 1,2 & 3

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

JEANETTE'S COMMUNITY SERVICES

March 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





INTERPRETER PROFILE – ELIZA ALLAN



I started studying Auslan in Perth in 1998, moved back to Melbourne in 1999 to complete my Certificate 4 at Kangan Batman Tafe, and then my Diploma of Interpreting at RMIT. Later I completed my Advanced Diploma of Interpreting at RMIT and passed the Professional Level NAATI accreditation in 2010. I worked in mostly tertiary educational settings for my first 5 years and have been mostly interpreting in community and medical settings for the last 10 years which I particularly enjoy.

I studied French and German at MLC Private Girls School in Kew, Melbourne (which had a deaf facility), then studied Italian, and Psychology Major at University, and later an Aboriginal Language in a community setting in WA. I worked as a note taker for a Deaf student at Darwin University and first met and witnessed the amazing competence and brilliance of Professional Auslan Interpreters, which sparked my interest to study Auslan.

My wonderful Auslan teacher, Meredith Bartlett inspired me to get involved in volunteering with the Able Australia to support the Deaf and Blind community for DeafBlind Camps and various recreational and celebratory events, which I did for over ten years. I became very close with several Deaf Blind people and organised my own outings to Caulfield Races with my family and friends members passes, and twice managed to organise private tours of the Water Police's headquarters and actually went out on the boat with them! I did make them lovely cakes and cookies for their tearoom as a sign of our appreciation.

I am currently studying an Arts Degree with Psychology major and Criminology minor via Distance Education from Monash University, and hoping to continue to Masters and eventually PhD level. I am particularly interested in Deaf People's Mental Health issues in Prisons, and Clinical Strategies geared toward working with Deaf people with mental health issues.

I moved to the wonderful, Launceston late November last year and am currently looking into opening a Hip Vegetarian Café/Wine bar to supplement my income (interpreting work is sparse here), whilst still running up and down massive mountains forever training for Ultra Trail running events and taste testing Tasmanian wines, for research purposes. I love dogs, other peoples small children, cooking and gardening.

I also have set up an Air BnB accommodation (Deaf Friendly, of course). Please have a look via the link <https://airbnb.com/rooms/4960534?s=1>

STAFF MEMBER – SHARYN HILL

Thank you to the members and team here at Tas deaf Society for making me so welcome. I am really looking forward to working alongside you all to increase awareness and services to the Tasmanian community. I am a mother of 7 children and have two grandchildren, I have worked across many industries including the private sector of the Hearing Industry. My passion and experience is in setting up systems and programs that serve the needs of the industry client. I enjoy being part of a team and believe that two heads (lucky I am Tasmanian) are better than one. I am very excited about the opportunities that we have here at the Tas Deaf Society to reach out into the community to raise awareness, serve and support and build a sustainable business model that sees the society become an ever growing and sustainable service for future generations.





BOARD MEETING DATES
FOR 2015

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

MEET THE CEO AND PRESIDENT OF
TDS BOARD

Launceston

When: Friday 10th of April at 11am

Where: Launceston TasDeaf office

Ulverstone

When: Saturday 11th of April at 11am

What: BBQ lunch at Ulverstone Shropshire Park Dial St, Ulverstone

J E H O V A H ' S W I T N E S S E S '

The local sign-language congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses will meet at the time and place shown below.

When: Friday the 3rd of April at 7:15pm

Where: Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
670 Cambridge Road, Cambridge, Tasmania

You are also invited to a special Bible talk entitled "A promise of perfect family happiness"

When: Sunday the 12th of April at 10am

Where: Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses

T A S M A N I A N U S H E R S A N D D E A F B L I N D S U P P O R T G R O U P

When: On Saturday 28th March at for lunch at Christmas Hill Raspberry Farm and meet there at 12 pm. Need a lift please contact me.

Where: 9 Christmas Hills Rd,
Elizabeth Town TAS 7304

RSVP: on Wednesday 25th March 2015.

When: On Saturday 9th May 2015 and meet at 10 am if need a lift please contact me.

Where: Afgest at 415 Oaks Rd,
Carrick TAS 7291.

When: On Saturday 4th July 2015 and meet at The Metz Café for lunch – 12 pm. "Christmas in July"

Where: The Metz Café,
119 St John Street,

S C C E A S T E R R A F F L E



Drawn on: Tuesday 31st march at the SCC meeting.

Ticket price: One ticket = \$2.00

Three tickets = \$5.00

Prize: Six Assorted Chocolate Easter Egg baskets





The Vagina Monologues play is in Hobart SOON!

with Auslan interpreters from *Auslan Stage Left*.

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, on the 27th and 28th of 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, champagne and Super champagne 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.

THANKS TO FRIENDS SCHOOL

The Tasmanian Deaf Society would like to express our sincere thanks for the fundraising efforts of The Friends' School. Michelle Czyzowicz, employee of Tasmanian Deaf Society was invited to speak at Friends school about raising the awareness of Deaf culture and community. Friends school selected Tasdeaf to be the recipients of the Loud Shirt Day 2014 and they had raised \$486.85.



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 the 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.

