



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT TDS?

We are changing staff structure. , Rachel will now be in the office five days a week Monday to Friday, 9.00am to 5.00pm.

Joyce will be in the office five days a week, Monday to Friday, working shorter hours – 10.00 am to 3.00 pm. Working 5 days makes it easier for us to communicate with each other and with you our members.

Jane and Jeanette will continue working five days a week. David remains at two days a week, Tuesday and Wednesday. Michelle when she returns from her holiday overseas will change her work days to fit with the rest of the staff team. Sharing the same working days will help us all to remember when our team are in the building. We are developing a new organisation chart to match these changes,

with a focus on members at the centre of TasDeaf.

My learning of Auslan has stalled as too many urgent priorities keep happening – three days a week passes quickly.

Services TasDeaf provide – interpreting, advocacy, support groups, hearing link, information, equipment and communication. The NDIS will enable TasDeaf to continue these services.

I continue to think about our interpreting service. Vicdeaf staff will meet with me in Hobart early June.

CEO Pop Ins continue and its great to chat with one or two members each time. CEO pop ins are on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, 11.00 to 11.30, and again at 5.30 to 6.30 with an interpreter. Details on our website, and through Signpost.

Cheers

## BOARD MEETING DATES FOR 2015

- 24<sup>th</sup> June
- 19<sup>th</sup> August
- 21<sup>st</sup> October
- 16<sup>th</sup> December

## CEO POP-IN CHAT

There will be NO pop in chat held on the 26th of May due to our CEO will be away at a Worksafe conference.

## EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Calling for expressions of interest! Deaf members of the community are invited to participate and volunteer in reading children's books at a child care centre.

If this sounds like something you would like to do please contact Tasdeaf for more information!

## LEARN AUSLAN

Auslan  
Levels 1,2 & 3

Where: Hobart and Launceston only  
Email—[info@tasdeaf.org.au](mailto:info@tasdeaf.org.au) for more information

## JEANETTE'S COMMUNITY SERVICES

May 25<sup>th</sup> | June 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> | July 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> | Aug 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> |  
Sept 7<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> | Oct 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> | Nov 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> and the final one on  
Dec 7<sup>th</sup>

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





## UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi, just continuing with my previous thoughts in April Signpost, relating to the question on how members own Tasdeaf?

As most people know, I enjoy fishing and I also work with fish for a job. Any free time I get is usually out on the water fishing and if I'm lucky enough to catch any fish then my family and friends will enjoy a feed of fresh fish.

When I catch a fish – do I own it? Is the fish mine? I didn't pay for it – I have caught it, and its in my hands. I own the tools to fish such as boat, rod, reels and other tackle without which I would not have caught the fish, and I have learnt the skills to fish, again without these learnt skills I would not have caught the fish. As the fish is in my possession, I think I own the fish.

Buying a cake from a shop, its much easier to prove ownership as I talked about in April Signpost.

As the members own Tasdeaf through the constitution – this is an important role. With the constitution review the

committee can share their thoughts on how members own Tasdeaf, discussion on membership fees will be included.

Our first Constitution Advisory Committee meets on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May, to those members who have indicated that they will attend – a huge thank you as we need members to give feedback and shape the constitution to keep up with the ever changing climate that is the NFP (Not For Profit) arena these days.

I am looking forward to catch up with members on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> and chat more about the progress the Board has been making with its review. For those members who were unable to come along, there are will be more opportunities to be part of the constitution review before we vote on it by all TasDeaf members at another SGM prior to the AGM in October.

The NDIS is coming and we need to be ready.

I'll endeavor to keep the members updated in following Signpost editions on Tasdeaf's future.

Steve Hodgetts



Its nearly 2 years since we moved into this office which is based in the heart of Launceston CBD sharing with lovely Diabetes Tas. A growing numbers of customers/clients who either Deaf/HH, recently had cochlear implants, fitted hearing aids, parents of deaf children have come in for our support dealing with their hearing loss issues and enquiries on technology such as visual smoke alarms, clock alarms, telephones and door devices or to book for a free hearing test.

Being the only staff member in this office is keeping me busy and its very rewarding seeing them leave the office with smiling faces that they have received the support they needed from Tasdeaf.

Client support service e.g. assist with reading letters or filling in forms, advice, information and referrals such as Centrelink, employment agencies, housing, counselling, legal assistance etc. & assist new clients coping with hearing loss and information on technology.

I travel fortnightly on Mondays to Northwest Coast for outreach Deaf client support. (No travels if no bookings have been made). Clients support can also be done via skype, SMS, email, Facetime for those living outside Launceston or rural areas and of course face to face with appt is required due being a sole staff member in the office and sometimes being out of office for outreach support and Auslan in the

home project. An appointment is required for any client support because I am the only staff member running the Launceston office.

Currently for more than 12 months now working on the Auslan in the home in project on a weekly basis to support families with deaf children which has now ended.

Recently, I visited to NW Christian School at Penguin to present Tasdeaf and to support teaching staff and parents of a deaf child with mainstream education with deaf/HH children.

Next, I'm working on our next Auslan classes here at Launceston office starting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> of May and a workshop from Able Australia for Tas Deafblind community and volunteers.

Donations have been received from Royal Oak Hotel using our disposable earplugs for hearing awareness project. More earplugs will be available at Royal Oak Hotel after Easter

Launceston TasDeaf office is open from Mondays to Friday 9am-5pm.

To contact Jeanette for any enquiries or to make an appt SMS 0438 008 739 or email [jeanette.s@tasdeaf.org.au](mailto:jeanette.s@tasdeaf.org.au) or skype js.tasdeaf.



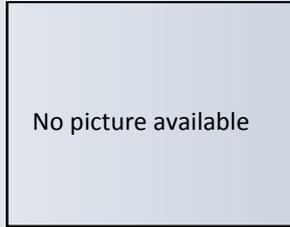


### N A B S I N T E R P R E T E R S

When you book an interpreter with NABS, they ask you to fill out a booking form, you are required to name 3 preferred interpreters. It can be hard to fill this out especially if you may/may not know which interpreters are registered with NABS so in this article we are attaching interpreter profiles so that you are aware.



Ali Dowl  
Tasmania



Priscilla Young  
Hobart, TAS



Joyce Clifford  
North & South TAS



Rosemary Wilkinson  
Southern TAS



Sueanne McGuiness  
Southern TAS



Kathy Maingay  
Tasmania

Source: <http://www.nabs.org.au/>

### D E A F F R I E N D L Y M O B I L E P H O N E P L A N

Jeenee Mobile launched a new Deaf-friendly mobile phone plan that only includes SMS and internet data – it does not include voice calls. This saves money for Deaf people who don't need a voice call service.

Jeenee Mobile is a not-for-profit disability social enterprise, using the Optus 4G network.

The plan from Jeenee Mobile offers unlimited text and MMS to any mobile phones on any carrier across Australia plus 100MB of data. There are also options to increase the monthly data limit.

Jeenee have also launched a new system for Deaf people who need to contact the company about changes or problems with their service. Most phone companies require the Deaf person to try to speak on the phone, and won't accept an interpreter or a friend speaking for the Deaf person. Jeenee Mobile can set up a password/pin number system so that Deaf people can identify themselves through a third party, such as an interpreter ringing on their behalf.

Extra information: Deaf Australia will receive a donation for any connection to Jeenee Mobile when 'DeafAus' is quoted in the application. Subscribers also receive free set up and postage of their SIM card. This means you can support Deaf Australia and get a great value mobile plan at the same time.

Source: <http://deafaustralia.org.au/aussie-first-deaf-friendly-mobile-phone-plans-available-now/>





# Las Vegas Gala Ball

## Hosted by Southern Tasmanian Social Club

**When:** 31st October

**Where:** The old Woolstore, 1 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000

**Time:** door opens 6pm for 6.30pm start

**Cost:** Early bird special - \$100 (finishes 1st August)  
\$150 at the door

**Dress code:** Formal



Ticket Includes: 3 course meal with unlimited wine, beer, soft drinks for 3 hours and entertainment (professional photographer will also be on site) Tickets will be given out when you have paid in full.

(Menu will be advertised soon, menu can be modified for people with special dietitian needs )

We are happy for people to pay in instalments, please contact us to arrange a plan. We will need a minimum of 30% (\$30.00) deposit paid by the 1st of August 2015. Deposit non-refundable

**RSVP to:**

SMS - 0438 097 324 or 0427 080 705

Email - [naomi.rogers18@gmail.com](mailto:naomi.rogers18@gmail.com)

**Accommodation:**

The old Woolstore hotel has been kind and offered us a special discount for those who will be attending the Las Vegas Gala Ball. When you call them, be sure to tell them you are attending the 'Deaf social private event' to ensure you get a special discount. We will be giving them the guest list so only guests of the event can stay at the hotel.

Hotel Room @ \$165.00 per room, per night room only

Studio Apartments @ \$190.00 per room, per night room only

One Bedroom Apartments @ \$215.00 per room, per night room only

Up coming events

- Mid year Xmas dinner
- Fathers day Poker afternoon
- Las Vegas Gala ball

Fundraising

We will be selling some Cadbury chocolates to help fundraise to cover cost of Gala bal. If you can help by selling or buying some chocolates, please contact us. We will also be holding a BBQ at Woolworths (date and location to be confirmed), if you like to contribute some of your time to help with the fundraise, let us know.





Welcome To Deaf Church

Simon (D) and Pastor Carol Brown (D) invite you to join them.

Sunday 31st May 2015

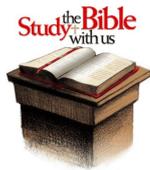
Sunday 28th June 2015

Please don't miss out—Good sermons!! Come and hear the Sermons!

After Deaf Church we will have an afternoon tea or coffee and have good fellowship at MacDonald Cafe.

Where: Cityview Christian Church,

8 Neptune Drive,  
Blackstone Heights  
(Launceston)  
TAS 7250



Contact us on SMS 0417474208 or email address is tassiedeaf-church@gmail.com

**Will have Deaf Bible Group one per month on first month.**

At Simon and Carol's house, please contact me.

Everyone welcome.

The Waratah Reunion organising committee

Come to help fundraise for the Waratah Reunion weekend, while you have fun dressing up in your Disco 70's clothes!

When: Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 12pm till 4pm

Where: Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St  
Punchbowl, NSW

Cost: BBQ with salads \$15

RSVP by 18<sup>th</sup> June

Mary Profilio 0400 985 519

Margaret Imrie 0457 410 074

Please contact Mary or Margaret if you want to come!

*No dressing up? You will be fined \$2!*

This photo was taken at Invermay McDonalds yesterday (Sunday 3rd of May) Shannon Fox & Michelle Czyzowicz travelled up from Hobart & met up with other parents of deaf children & deaf adults at Launceston. It was a lovely morning meeting the parents of Deaf children from South and North of Tasmania & it was a great opportunity for the Deaf children to meet the Deaf adults as role models also a lot of discussions from the parents about what its like growing up being Deaf in the hearing world.



TASMANIAN USHERS AND DEAFBLIND SUPPORT GROUP

**When:** On Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and meet at The Metz Café for lunch – 12 pm. "Christmas in July"

**Where:** The Metz Café,  
119 St John Street,  
Launceston TAS 7250

**RVSP:** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

Please support for a guide/volunteers/Auslan/tactile interpreters to help Deafblind adults will be very appreciated thank you. Please contact Carol Brown mobile no 0417474208 TEXT only or email address: scb@bigpond.net.au





## DEAFHOOD

The Deaf community in Victoria is a diverse, vibrant and welcoming community united by a collective experience and a shared language. English is commonly considered a second language within the community, whilst Auslan (Australian sign language) is thought of as the first language, often developed before English for those who are born deaf. What is less apparent to the hearing mainstream is that within the Deaf world there exists a strong culture and deep sense of pride within the community. *Deafhood* explores language, culture and community through the experiences of three deaf individuals. The term Deafhood was first articulated by British academic Dr Paddy Ladd in 1993 in a move to separate the medical paradigm of deafness from the lived experience of it. Although the term is used widely across the Deaf community, for some members of the community the underlying philosophy is contentious. For further detail on the concept and principles of Deafhood, see [Understanding Deafhood: In Search of its Meanings](#).

View Deafhood video with the link below:

Source: <http://cv.vic.gov.au/stories/a-diverse-state/a-sensory-experience/deafhood/>

## HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER



### Website

[www.tasdeaf.org.au](http://www.tasdeaf.org.au)

On the homepage there is an icon 'Become a member' click and apply



### Email

[info@tasdeaf.org.au](mailto:info@tasdeaf.org.au)

Send an email to info and request a membership form and apply



### Visit us

139 New Town Road, New Town or 64 Cameron Street, Launceston

Come in and get a membership form from reception

New members will be approved at our next board meeting. Please see dates on the first page of SignPost

## 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](mailto: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.

