

## Tasmania update



The Spring season is here! We have had a very cold winter and I am glad its behind us for now. I prefer summer even though I know many Tasmanians like the colder weather. It is now time for flowers to flourish and lovely green leaves to grow again. It is so amazing to see how it changes from winter to spring. We have been so busy since our last newsletter in winter.

### Community BBQ

There have been many events organised in the last few weeks which are featured in this newsletter. Our major event was the annual community BBQ held in Ulverstone on 12 October. Sixty people attended and everyone enjoyed themselves very much. Please see the photos on pages 6 and 7.

### Annual General Meeting

We will have Expression Australia's AGM on

22 October. It will be held in Melbourne and will be live streamed to our Hobart office. This live stream will only be available at our Hobart office. We will provide refreshments for people who are attending this event. Let us know if you want to come. Everyone is welcome - email [infotas@expression.com.au](mailto:infotas@expression.com.au) or SMS 0418 341 373.

### Christmas events

In December there will be few Auslan interpreted Christmas events including "Light the tree" and Carols by Candlelight. There will also be Deaf community Christmas dinners around the state. See page 17 to save the dates.

### Office closure

Please note that the Hobart and Launceston offices will close for the Christmas break.

Below: Community BBQ in Ulverstone in October



Do you want to receive this newsletter via email?  
Please email [infotas@expression.com.au](mailto:infotas@expression.com.au)  
and we will add you to the email distribution list

## Tasmania Update



**Stephen Nicholson**  
Expression Australia  
Program Manager

Both offices will close at 12.30pm on Tuesday 24 December and will re-open at 9.00am on Thursday 2 January 2020.

### **Interpreting Booking Office**

Please note that the Interpreting Booking office, Auslan

Connections, will be open on 27 December, 30 December and 31 December 2019 and can be contacted on **03 9473 1117** to make a booking.

### **Interpreting for emergency situations**

If you need an interpreter out of hours anytime or on public holidays including 25 December, 26 December 2019 and 1 January 2020, please contact **03 9473 1174**.

### **Be prepared in case of an emergency**

With summer approaching and remembering our bush fires last year, please keep an eye out for emergency warnings at TASalert at <http://alert.tas.gov.au>.

See page 16 for information about videos that have been produced in Auslan by the NSW Australian Red Cross. These videos help you prepare and know what to do in case of an emergency.

Enjoy reading this newsletter and let us know if you have any feedback about our newsletter and/or our services. We are happy to meet you either face to face or via Skype/Face Time.

Have a good and safe summer and thank you for all your support of Expression Australia in Tasmania over the last 12 months. We look forward to work with you in 2020.

Best wishes, Stephen.

## Health Records Workshop

David Peters from Expression Australia Melbourne office presented a Health Records workshop in Hobart in June.

Expression Australia received funding from the Commonwealth Government to provide information to the community about the online Health Records system that is

available for all Australians.

It was evident that a lot of deaf and hard of hearing people were not aware of the online Health Record system as the information is in English but not in Auslan.

David Peters visited all states to present Health Records workshops and we were pleased to welcome him to Hobart. The workshop was very worthwhile and David enjoyed his short time in Tasmania.

If you have any questions about Health Records – we will be happy to explain more to you.



**Left: David Peters presented a workshop in June on the online Health Records system**



### Accesshub Website



New web pages have been launched to help Australians who are deaf, hard of hearing and/or have speech impairment communicate with their friends, family and important services.

Brent Phillips, the Director of Language, Partnerships & Innovation for Expression Australia recently facilitated a focus group in Hobart to discuss the Government's new Access Hub website.

Accesshub is a new central source of information on the range of communication options available to people who are deaf, hard of hearing or have

a speech impairment.

This replaces the existing National Relay Service (NRS) website.

Please visit the site at:

<https://www.communications.gov.au/departmental-news/accesshub-helping-you-communicate>

**Right: Brent Phillips facilitated a focus group for ACCAN in Hobart**



## Community News

### DeafNav Launch

Recently DeafNav was launched online and is now available for deaf/hard of hearing/deafblind people to access information.

We hosted an information session in Devonport on Friday 11 October, before our community BBQ on Saturday 12 October.

- DeafNav is now LIVE!  
**Visit [www.deafnav.com.au](http://www.deafnav.com.au)**
- It is a work in progress – we will add more content, pages etc. in the coming months and in first half of 2020
- We encourage people to send feedback if they have positive or negative feedback, suggestions for new contents, editing etc. – all feedback is to be through the



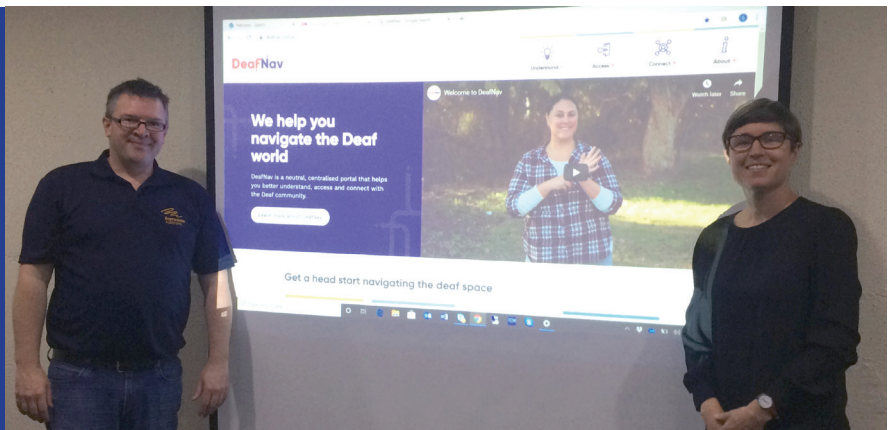
Feedback page on DeafNav - (you can submit in Auslan video or English text!)

- Future functions will include document translation, live chat, find a service, find an event and more.
- Wonderful collaboration between three Deaf Societies – Expression Australia (VIC/TAS), Deaf Services (QLD), Deaf CanDo (SA) but the portal is 100% national covering all States/Territories

We enjoyed our dinner gathering afterwards - see photos on opposite page.

Right and below:  
DeafNav information session  
in Devonport - presented by  
Stephen Nicholson

Opposite page: Community  
dinner following DeafNav  
information session









## Community News

### Community BBQ

Our Community BBQ in Ulverstone on Sat 12 Oct was a great success! We were very lucky to have amazing weather for the 60 people who attended. People travelled from Hobart, Launceston, Devonport and many other towns across Tasmania. They all enjoyed themselves and had a lot of fun.

We managed to surprise three people with cakes. One for Joyce's 60th birthday and the other for Simon and Carol Brown who celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary on the same day as the BBQ. Both cakes were delicious! We look forward to the next Community BBQ next year on Saturday 31 October in Hobart. More information will be available next year.





## Community News





## Community News

### ASLIA

In September the Australian Sign Language Interpreters Association (ASLIA) Victoria hosted their annual AGM at our Hobart office. This event was live streamed across Victoria, Tasmania and other states.

Interpreters in Tasmania are members of ASLIA Vic as we no longer have ASLIA Tas.

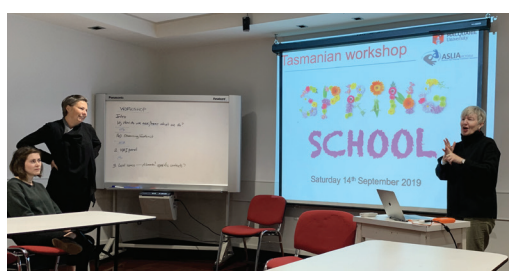
Many people attended the Spring School held at Hobart Town Hall

on the next day.



They included interstate Auslan interpreters, students who plan to become Auslan interpreters, School Educational interpreters from across Tasmania as well as Deaf interpreters.

Della Goswell from Sydney presented very interesting topics. It was a very successful workshop.



Above and right:  
ASLIA Spring School  
held at Hobart Town





### Do you or someone you know use a CapTel handset?



Australian Government

Department of Communications and the Arts



From 1 February 2020, the National Relay Service (NRS) will no longer support captions on the CapTel handset.

We are offering assistance to help CapTel handset users transition to a number of alternative solutions. This includes step-by-step resources available online for alternative options to one-on-one demonstrations and support.

If you use the CapTel handset, or you know someone who does, and would still like to use captioned services through the NRS, it's important you respond to our short online questionnaire so we can help you transition to an alternative.

- You can also download and complete the questionnaire and scan and email it back to the NRS Helpdesk or
- contact the NRS Helpdesk on 1800 555 660. Helpdesk staff will record your responses to the questionnaire and provide your responses to us so we can get in touch.

The survey will close on 21 October 2019. If your responses to the questionnaire indicate interest in receiving some support, we will get in touch with you to make arrangements. Don't forget to provide your preferred contact details.

Find out more:

- Read the frequently asked questions about the change

- Contact the NRS Helpdesk for advice about other NRS options
- Visit Accesshub to view the range of options and support
- Subscribe to Accesshub News and Alerts to stay up to date

The Accesshub team

Visit: <https://www.communications.gov.au/departamental-news/do-you-or-someone-you-know-use-captel-handset?>



## Community News

### Deaf Club and Senior Citizens Club

Please note the SCC will be out for lunch on 5 Nov for Melbourne Cup lunch at Mornington Inn and 17 Dec for Christmas lunch at Riverfront Motel, Rosetta. SCC will break up from 10 December and re-start on 21 January 2010. All are welcome to attend!



There has been a lot of cake at Expression Australia Hobart office lately! Happy Birthday to - Left: Di Hodgetts in July, Centre: Beryl Tabor in August Right: Stephen Nicholson and Faye Harrison in September

### Auslan Classes in Tasmania

We offer weekly and weekend Auslan community courses in Hobart and Launceston. There are many students who are keen to learn our language, Auslan, which is fantastic.

Recently, we provided Auslan Level 1 tailored training to students in Penguin (see

photo below).

If you are interested in having Auslan training at your workplace or local community centre please contact us to discuss further. Fees will apply as well as travel costs to regional areas.



Right: Auslan Level 1 Penguin, Northwest Tasmania



### DeafNav launch in Hobart

Olivia Beasley from Expression Australia in Melbourne, came to Hobart in August to provide information to the community on DeafNav.

DeafNav is a website where people can explore information about deaf, hard

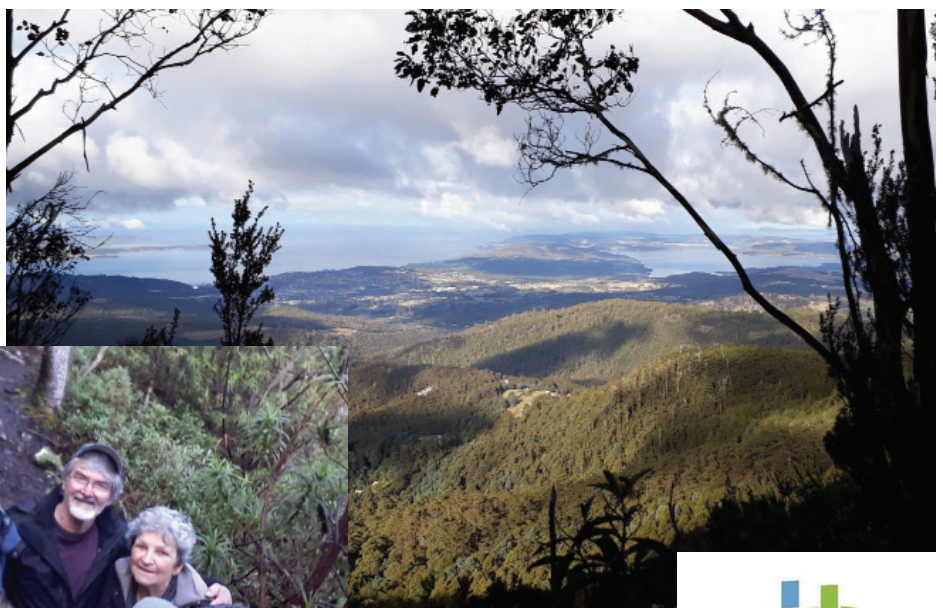


of hearing and deafblind across all of Australia. It is a new way to keep all important information together in one place.

Olivia showed us the website and the community provided feedback. Olivia will relay that feedback back to the Melbourne team.

### Auslan Interpreted Bush Walk

A fun time was had on the recent hike on Mt Wellington. This was an Auslan interpreted bush walk. Thanks to Naomi Rogers for organising the event and the Hobart City Council.



# James Beams Scholarship



Proudly a part of  
Expression Australia



The James Beams Scholarship was established by the kind bequest of James Beams (of Launceston) in 1994.

The James Beams Scholarship aims to further the education, learning and leadership opportunities for young deaf Tasmanians.

To submit an application for a James Beams Scholarship, you can:

- Fill out this application form
- James Beams Scholarship Fund Referee Form (this is to be completed by at least 1 referee)
- Make an Auslan video of your application and email either a link to your video to view or download (e.g. YouTube, dropbox)
- Use the subject line "James Beams Application" in your email

Application dates for the James Beams Scholarship:

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
Jan <b>31</b> 2019	Apr <b>30</b> 2019	Jul <b>31</b> 2019	Oct <b>31</b> 2019

Email your application form, or email a link to your Auslan application to [grants@expression.com.au](mailto:grants@expression.com.au) before the close of the round.



# Expression Deaf Grants



Proudly a part of  
Expression Australia



The Expression Deaf Grants aim to give people who are Deaf and hard of hearing the opportunity to create access, inclusion and equal opportunity in all areas of life.

If you have an idea on how to do this, we'd love to see your Expression Deaf Grant application.

To submit an application for an Expression Deaf Grant, you can:

- Fill out this application form
- Make an Auslan video of your application and email either a link to your video to view or download (e.g. YouTube, dropbox)
- Use the subject line "Expression Deaf Grant Application" in your email

Application dates for the 2019 Expression Deaf Grants are:

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4
Jan <b>31</b> 2019	Apr <b>30</b> 2019	Jul <b>31</b> 2019	Oct <b>31</b> 2019

Email your Expression Deaf Grant application form, or email a link to your Auslan application to [grants@expression.com.au](mailto:grants@expression.com.au) before the close of the round.

## Community News

### Deaf SES volunteer



This week, the NSW SES is celebrating the International Week of the Deaf, which recognises the language and culture of Deaf individuals and the Deaf Australian community. Coincid-

ing with the International and National Week of the Deaf is the International Day of Sign Languages (23 September).

Haley Martin is a volunteer with the NSW SES Wyong Unit who is deaf. She joined the Unit after becoming a Deaf Liaison Officer at the Deaf Society of NSW. Hungry for more information and wanting to gain a better knowledge of flood and storm awareness, Haley signed up as a NSW SES volunteer to help to pass information on to the deaf community.

“With more than 300 people that are deaf and hard of hearing living on the Central Coast, I’m passionate about providing information to others where they do not have the ability to rely on radio messaging, or newsletters where English isn’t their first language,” says Haley.

“Communication with others was the biggest challenge initially. As a deaf person, it took a while to build on communication with other volunteers in the Unit. However, everybody was lovely and willing to help me with my training. They even knew how to meet my needs, as I rely on visual aids to understand certain processes, so they ‘showed’ me instead and let me feel, to help explain things to me.”

Haley is a perfect fit for NSW SES as she helps to provide storm and flood awareness information to members of the deaf community.

“There is nothing wrong with me physically,” Haley says, “I can still undertake the same jobs that other volunteers do. I can use mime and gesture to communicate with others. The only things that make me different is my ear, I can’t hear as I am profound deaf, so my eyes are my ears (see not hear). In terms of knowledge, I am employed as a support worker, teaching auslan.”

Haley says that fear shouldn’t stop anyone being deaf or hard of hearing from joining the NSW SES.

“Try to build on one thing at a time. Once you get to know the Unit volunteers, you will be amazed how similar we all are as people. I always come to SES smiling, feeling happy and willing to learn. Even other volunteers from my Unit were interested to learn about the Auslan interpreters and how they support me. The volunteers have been able to ask the interpreters to assist with showing them different signs so they can communicate better and get to know me which was nice.”

Sign languages are structurally distinct but equal in status to spoken languages. According to the World Federation of the Deaf, there are 72 million deaf people worldwide. Collectively, they use more than 300 different sign languages.

Haley is also involved in running 2 Get Ready Workshops for the Deaf Community. Nov 9th at the NSW SES Wyong Unit and Nov 16th at NSW SES Gosford Unit.

More information about National Auslan Communication for Emergencies can be found here: <https://bit.ly/2m0FW5t>

**Article from NSW SES website - 09/2019**



# 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Please join us at the  
**Expression Australia  
Annual General Meeting  
and Community Update**

**Tuesday 22 October 2019**

**Come and watch the livestream at the Hobart office**

5.30pm-6pm Annual General Meeting

6.15pm-7.45pm Annual Community Update  
including a presentation and panel discussion on language and identity

This event will be Auslan interpreted and live captioned

Light refreshments will be served

**Venue:**

139 New Town Road, New Town, TAS

**RSVP by Wednesday 9 October to:**

[infotas@expression.com.au](mailto:infotas@expression.com.au)

**For further information contact:**

Email. [infotas@expression.com.au](mailto:infotas@expression.com.au)

SMS. 0418 341 373

Phone. (03) 6228 1955

## “Keep on Signing”- Launceston

Attention all our past Auslan students as well as anyone who would like to keep up their Auslan skills!

We would like to know if you are interested



in joining us for a catch up in February 2020 in Launceston to have a coffee and practice your signing skills.

This will be a casual, friendly, safe and informal catch-up open to anyone out there who LOVES Auslan! It will be facilitated by one of our Deaf staff.

Everyone is welcome!

Auslan students (past & present), Deaf people, hearing people, families, friends, housemates the possibilities are endless!

If you are interested please email us at Expression Australia on:

[infotas@expression.com.au](mailto:infotas@expression.com.au) or 6228 1955 or 0418 341 373.

## Community News

### Australian Red Cross Emergency Preparedness



Do you know what to do in an emergency?

The NSW Australia Red Cross has produced videos in Auslan to help

you be prepared.

These have been uploaded to our facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/ExpressionAustralia.Tas/>



Please watch these videos so you know what to do in case of an emergency.

### Open captions at cinemas

Did you know that some movies at Village Cinemas in Tasmania have "open captions" on the screen?

This means you can enjoy your movie with text and sound descriptions displayed on the screen.

Currently, certain movies at Eastlands and Launceston Village Cinemas have open captions on the big screen.

Visit: <https://tickets.villagecinemas.com.au/movies/open-caption-films> and choose the cinema from the drop down menu to find out which movies have the OC icon next to it.

Open Captions Australia is a volunteer-run organisation formed in 2013 aimed at improving accessibility in cinemas across the country, by working with the industry to arrange open caption screenings to be enjoyed by those that benefit from them.



Other cinemas have CaptiView - a closed-caption device which can be used.





See the following Auslan interpreted events below

### Hobart City Council Christmas Carols in 2 locations

#### Carols on the Hill

**Where:** Guilford Young College  
94 Barrack Street  
Hobart

**When:** Saturday 21 December

**Time:** 5.00pm - 9.00pm  
Gates open at 4.00pm

More details to come once they are finalised.

Funded by Hobart City Council

**Where:** John Turnball Park  
Corner of Creek and  
Lenah Valley Roads  
Lenah Valley

**When:** Saturday 14 December

**Time:** 4.00pm - Music, food,  
children's activities  
6.00pm - 9.00pm - Carols

More details to come once they are finalised.

Funded by Hobart City Council



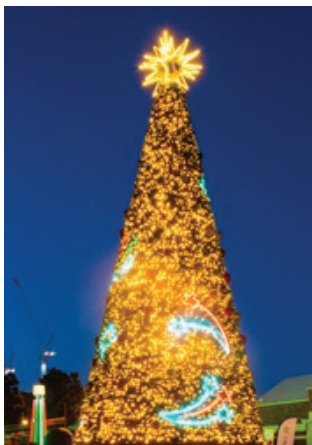
City of **HOBART**

### Light the Christmas Tree

**Where:** Mawson Place  
2 Argyle St  
Hobart

**When:** Friday 29 November 2019

**Time:** 6.00 - 9.00pm



Santa will arrive at 6.30pm.

The Mayor will light the tree at 8.30pm.

All welcome to attend!

### You CAN ask that!

**Please save the date:** Tuesday 3 Dec 2019.

Come along and see a panel discussion including Stephen Nicholson and Michelle Czyzowicz.

The format will be based on the ABC show "You can't ask that" where audience members ask the panel questions which are answered by the relevant panel member.

We will update our Facebook page and keep you informed about this event once further details have been finalised.

# Upcoming Events

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## Community Christmas dinners

### Northwest

**When:** Saturday 30 November 2019

**Where:** Beachway Motel  
1-5 Heathcote Street  
Ulverstone 7315

**Time:** Meet at 6pm ready for dinner  
at 6.30pm

**RSVP:** By 8 November  
To Lee Butler on 0409 351 931  
**SMS only**

The meal will consist of a 2 course  
Christmas dinner of roast turkey with leg  
ham and dessert for \$37.50 each.

Pay for own meal.

### North

**When:** Saturday 7 December 2019

**Where:** Hog's Breath Cafe  
14 Willis Street  
Launceston

**Time:** Dinner at 6pm

**RSVP:** By 25 November - to  
infotas@expression.com.au or  
0418 341 373

Pay for own meal.

### South

**Please save the date:**

Saturday 14 December 2019

We will contact you with further details  
once they are finalised.





### Hobart Devils Deaf Tenpin Bowling Club News

The Hobart Devils Deaf Tenpin Bowling Club (HDDTBC) would like to let you know about the National Deaf Championship (NDC) which will be held at Orange NSW on 9th April 2020 to 13 April 2020.

If you are interested in going, or would like more information, please contact the HDDTBC Secretary Kayleen Mallinson by email at: [hddtbctas@gmail.com](mailto:hddtbctas@gmail.com).

### HDDTBC Christmas get together

The HDDTBC would like to invite you to join them for a Christmas get together. Just turn up if you want to come along.

**When:** Friday, 20 December

**Where:** Doctor Syntax Hotel,  
Sandy Bay Road,  
Sandy Bay

**Time:** 6pm

Pay for your own meal if you want to have dinner.



### Spare wool?



Do you have any spare wool scraps? Di Hodgetts would appreciate any wool scraps people might have. Di will put this to good use in knitting Christmas decorations.

Please contact Expression Australia at [infotas@expression.com.au](mailto:infotas@expression.com.au) or drop in what you have to our office.

## Invitation to Submit Articles

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

**What:** Articles are to be no longer than 250 words

**Deadline:** 15th of - February, May, August, November

**Submission:** To Expression Australia by email:  
infotas@expression.com.au

All editing shall strive to remain true to the spirit of the original article.

Opinions expressed (except in articles that are signed in an official capacity) are those of the author/s and not necessarily endorsed by the editor or by Expression Australia.

All best efforts will be made by Expression Australia to send out Signpost quarterly subject to staff availability, timing, receipt of articles, and other circumstances that may occur.

### Important Information

All contributions, once submitted, become the property of Expression Australia. The editor reserves the right to publish or to edit any article submitted for publication.



Expression Australia acknowledges the support of the  
Tasmanian Government

### Contact Expression Australia

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139 New Town Road | New Town | 7008  
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Email: infotas@expression.com.au

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64 Cameron Street | Launceston | 7250  
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