

Big Steve's Big News!

At our community Christmas lunch in December, Stephen surprised the community with his announcement that he is going to retire in June this year! Huge news for our Centre and the community!

Stephen has worked at Ephpheta since February 2002, starting as a pastoral worker. "On my first day at work, Fr Peter (Peter Woodward) said to me "Here is a list of deaf people who need a visit, go and see them!" so I jumped in my car and made my first pastoral visit. I can still remember how excited I felt to be working in deaf pastoral care and I have always loved doing that work from that day ", says Stephen.

Over the following 12 years, Stephen's role at the Ephpheta Centre has continued to develop and grow. He was appointed the director of the Centre in November 2005 by Cardinal Pell, this was a very significant appointment as it was the first time that a deaf person was in a person of leadership at the Ephpheta Centre.

Stephen has overseen many changes at the Ephpheta Centre over the years, ensuring that the Centre is always responsive to the changing needs of the deaf community. Stephen has always made sure that Ephpheta provides services "the deaf way", this means that in all of its work Ephpheta is open and accessible to deaf people. Stephen's hard work and dedication to working in the deaf Catholic community was evidenced by him received a Papal Knighthood from Pope Benedict XVI in February 2012 when he was made a Knight of the Order of St Sylvester. Stephen was the first deaf person in the world to receive such an award. In accepting his award, Stephen dedicated it to the deaf community who had always supported and encouraged him in his work.

So what are Stephen's plans after July? "More travelling with Nola, I would also like to spend more time with the children and grandchildren. We will spend some more time in Melbourne with our daughter Melissa and her family. We would love to travel around Australia but that won't be a while especially with the grandchildren being at a young age. At this stage it would probably be a month or two to far north Queensland and a couple other places. And of course, I will continue to be an active member of our deaf community! And with that I'm happy to sweep the floor at Ephpheta, make a cuppa for staff and have a bit of a snooze on the lounge in David's new room (my old office). Memories die hard I suppose. ☺ (this is a joke but....)."

So what are the plans for the Ephpheta Centre? There are some exciting changes ahead. From the 1st February this year, David Parker and Liz McDowell will form the management team of the Centre. David will be the Manager of Community and Liz will be the Manager of Business. You will all know David and Liz who have worked for a number of years at the Centre. Stephen says "Every change in an organisation brings a period of rebuilding and restructuring. There could be some uncertainty and no two people have the same ideas and gifts nor do they do things exactly the same way. During the time of change we hope the team and the Deaf Community will support the new management as they use their vision and gifts to continue our ministry in the future. We have structured the transition so that these changes will be as smooth as possible for the Centre and the community". David and Liz are both excited to be working in their new roles.

For details of Stephen's farewell see page 5.





FROM THE KNIGHT'S DEN

Dear Friends,

Welcome to our first edition for the year 2015.

I hope that you all are back and refreshed for the challenges of 2015. After the celebrations of Christmas and the New Year, many of us will most likely come away with a New Year's resolution! Do we want to lose weight by eating less, exercise more, drink less alcohol, find a better job, and maybe renew friendships among families and friends and many more reasons? What remains to be seen is "Can we commit ourselves to it?" Sometimes we fail to follow through with our promise and just continue on with life as usual. This happens quite often and I think it's because as we enter into the New Year and many of us would want to move on from the past and start afresh.

I would like to reflect as we approach the 40 days of Lent, I feel it is pretty much the same as the New Year's resolution as we refresh our relationship with God. Lent happens to be around the start of each year where we are reminded to prepare ourselves to renew our faith in Jesus Christ towards Easter by through fasting, repentance, selflessness

through self-denial and prayer, by creating our desire to do God's will and to make His kingdom come by making it come first of all in their hearts. We are all called to serve God through our own desires and deeds. God is with us, in us and around us as we serve other people

On January 24th 2015, the feast day of St Frances De La Sales, Pope Francis announced that the main focus for World Communications Day on May 17th would be "Communicating the Family: a Privileged Place of Encounter with the Gift of Love". This will happen a week before Pentecost Sunday. What a timely reminder this is because I believe families are the most important gift in our lives through love, belonging and communication? The announcement of the theme for 2015 points many of the difficulties facing families today. Sometimes cultural changes do not help us to appreciate how much the family is good for society.

It is a challenge for the Church and its work in communications figuring out how to share with the world, especially those who are hurting, the beauty of love, life and marriage between a man and a woman? The church acknowledges that family is a great gift of something good and something beautiful and we should richly embrace this gift of love.

On December 18th 2014 Nola and I recently welcomed a new addition, our granddaughter, who is grandchild number 9. I reflect on the years that our kids grew up and I missed many a

time when they were young because as a father I felt it was my duty by working long hours to bring up my family to make sure that they are well cared for. Yes I cared for them but maybe at the expense of my missing out on spending valuable time with them when they were young. Life was a blur as I tried to support the family by making sure that they are cared for and then all of a sudden they grew up to be respectable adults with beautiful children of their own. I look at the grandchildren and yearn for the time I wished I spent more time with my own. I thank God that they show so much love amongst the family and that I couldn't ask for more. Nola is the cornerstone of the family and has been a wonderful mother in making sure that they are all cared for. God bless her too.

I would like to remind all the young parents to cherish the time with their young children until adulthood. I pray that the church with Pope Frances' message will be the focus of all that it is at World Communications Day.

Many of you would know of my announcement to retire in June 2015. I feel the time is right for me to make this decision. It would be good to spend quality time with the family and grandchildren. I will prepare my last director's report in the next issue of Catholic Deaf News.

"Jesus, I trust in you"

Ephpheta to you,

Big Steve KSS

EASTER MASS TIMES & INFORMATION



Ash Wednesday - 18th February

There will be two Ash Wednesday Masses this year.



Punchbowl - Ash Wednesday morning

When: Wednesday 18th February, 12 noon.

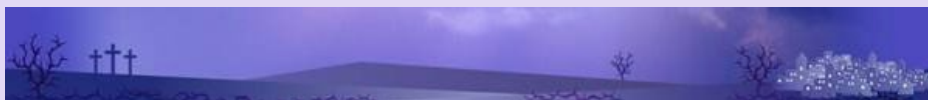
Where: Chapel of St. Francis de Sales,
4 Turner St, Punchbowl

Penrith - Ash Wednesday night

When: Wednesday 18th February, 7.00pm

Where: St Nicholas' Catholic Church,
326 High St, Penrith

Lenten Groups



The Lenten groups will use the Lenten Group Auslan DVD program (like for Lenten groups last year, in 2014) again for 2015. Lenten Group meetings will begin after Ash Wednesday.

There will be 3 Lenten groups, at Marsfield, Hazelbrook/Wentworth Falls (Blue Mountains) and the Ephpheta Centre (Punchbowl). It's not too late to join a group, if you would like to join a group please contact Nicole ASAP.

Marsfield

Saturdays 28th Feb,
7th, 14th & 21st March
Starts 10am. BYO lunch.

Hazelbrook/Wentworth Falls

Saturdays 28th February
& 14th March (Double session)
Starts 10.30am.
Lunch provided.

Ephpheta Centre

Thursdays 26th Feb,
5th, 12th & 19th March
10.30am for cuppa then
starts 11am. BYO lunch or \$3 for lunch.



If you are interested in joining a group, please talk to Nicole or email her on nicole@ephpheta.org.au or sms on 0438 201 707. You can talk to Nicole about any questions or information about Lenten groups.

HOLY WEEK PROGRAM

– 29TH MARCH TO 4TH APRIL

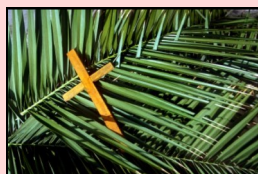
This year, we have our usual Easter timetable and everyone is welcome, even if you only like to come to church at Easter time!



Sunday 29th March (Palm Sunday)

Time: 10.00am

Where: St Martha's
Catholic Church,
70-72 Homebush Rd,
Strathfield (Integrated Mass)



There will be no morning tea afterwards so you can go to a local café for a cuppa after Mass.

Thursday 2nd April (Holy Thursday)

Time: 7.00pm

Where: St Nicholas' Catholic Church,
326 High St, Penrith. (Integrated Mass)



Friday 3rd April (Good Friday)

Time: 3.00pm

Where: Good Friday Service at Ephpheta
Centre, Chapel of St. Francis de Sales,
4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

Please join us for hot cross buns & tea/coffee after our Service.

Saturday 4th April (Easter Saturday Vigil)

Time: 6.00pm

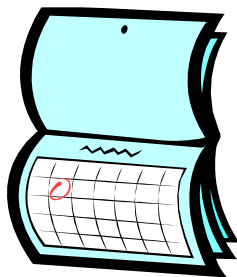
Where: Ephpheta Centre,
Chapel of St. Francis de Sales,
4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

Please bring a plate to share for supper after Mass & spare change for the wonderful Easter Raffle.



Save the Dates

Some very important things to book in to your diary now so you don't miss out! See below for more information...



1st March - Commissioning & Blessing Mass

1st March - Community Presentation

22nd March - War Memorial Bus Trip

23rd May - Big Steve's Farewell Party

Easter Mass Times & Information (see page 3):

18th February - Ash Wednesday Masses

22nd February to 21st March - Lenten Groups

29th March to 4th April - Holy Week (see page 3 for more information)

Commissioning and Blessing - 1st March

(for those who help at Mass)

We will be having a special blessing and commissioning of all the people who help during Mass at Punchbowl on the **1st March**. This is for our Eucharistic Ministers, readers, collectors and interpreters. For our Eucharistic ministers we ask you to arrive 20 mins early to have a brief training on the correct way to give out Holy Communion. This will only take 10 mins but we will do it 20 mins before Mass starts.



Royal Commission Community Presentation - 1st March

Last year, the Deaf Society organised a Information Night for the Deaf Community, at Parramatta, about the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.



Royal Commission
into Institutional Responses
to Child Sexual Abuse

For those who missed out & want to know more about this Royal Commission, we will have a Community Presentation using the video from this Information Night. It will start after Mass, at 1pm.

If you are not coming to Mass but want to come to the Community Presentation, you are very welcome, also welcome to join the community for lunch as well.

When: Sunday 1st March, 1pm (after Mass). **Where:** Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

War Memorial Bus Trip - 22nd March

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 (big roundabout) to catch the coach - leaves 7am SHARP!

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

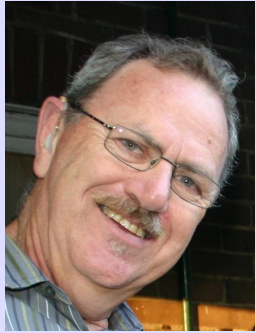
Cost: Return bus trip \$30 per person. Entry to Australian War Memorial is free. Bring extra money for lunch, cuppa etc.

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

BY FRIDAY 13th MARCH!



FAREWELL PARTY



Big Steve's last day at work will be at Punchbowl Mass, on 7th June! We will have a Community Farewell Party to celebrate Stephen's Retirement. It will be a lovely afternoon tea with finger food.

When: Saturday, 23rd May 2015, 2pm til 5pm.

Where: Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

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

The Road to Easter....

For us as Christians, Ash Wednesday marks the start of our journey to the celebration of Easter - the time for celebration and the promise of new life!

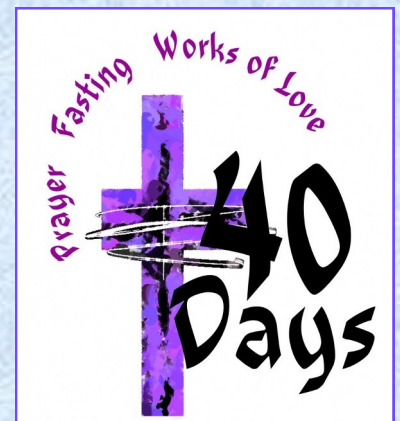
At the mass on Ash Wednesday, we receive the cross of ash on our forehead from the priest. The ashes are a physical sign of our connection with God and mark us as people who are at the beginning of a journey, our journey through Lent.

Lent is a wonderful time for us to think about our lives, our place in the world and our relationship with God. It is an opportunity for us to reflect on how we live our lives and how we can improve ourselves and our relationships.

The Church gives us some guidance as to how we can best make our Lenten journey - we are encouraged to make more time for prayer, to give up some foods (fasting) or other things through Lent and to give to the poor (either giving money or giving our time in service to others).

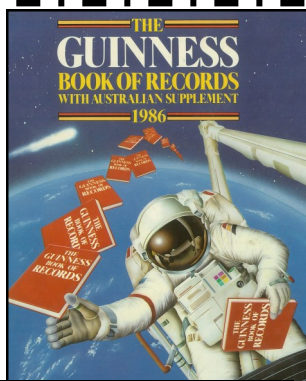
Through prayer, fasting and helping others we can improve our relationship with God and others and become more like the person that God wants us to be. Through our preparation we can then all become Easter people of new life and hope!

Blessings to you on your Lenten journey.



George Krams in the Guinness Book of Records!!

In 1986, George was recorded in this famous book for eternity for "The marathon record for maintaining sign language at or above 45 words/min is 35 hr, 5 min by George Krams of Randwick on 1-2 Oct 1982." on page 326!! George must have been very tired after he won the Sign Language Marathon event!



Sign Language
The marathon record for maintaining sign language at or above 45 words/min is 35 hr 5 min by George Krams of Randwick on 1-2 Oct 1982.

Hehehe...

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds.



After explaining the commandment to 'honour' thy Father and thy Mother, she asked, 'Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?'

From the back, one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, 'Thou shall not kill.'

Out and About in the Deaf Community

Anthony Hastings, Deaf Australian of the Year's 60th Birthday!

A few of the deaf community and the Hastings family celebrated Anthony Hastings 60th Birthday at the Grand View Hotel in Wentworth Falls last December 2014. 2014 was "The year of Anthony Hastings" as he received an award for NSW Deaf Person of the Year in June at the Deaf Australia (NSW)/ASLIA NSW Awards Night and also 2014 Deaf Australian of the Year Award (in memory of Dorothy E. Shaw, OAM) for his Community service to the Deaf and topped it off with a celebration of his 60th birthday with a "Footy theme". Unfortunately Parramatta didn't make it, which would have



knocked him out if they did! A reporter from the Blue Mountains Gazette

interviewed him during the celebration and wrote a very good article about his awards. What I liked about the article was that he was recognised for helping others, he does wonderful volunteering work among the Deaf Community. Congratulations Anthony you've done us proud, you are a true example of Jesus' work and we look forward to your continued passion.

By Stephen Lawlor

Ian & Lidia go to Singapore

Ian and Lidia went to mass for the deaf in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and the deaf catholic community welcomed them at both masses. They went to St Francis Xavier church which is integrated mass at one of the largest churches in Kuala Lumpur and spent the day with their friend Melina whom they met at WYD Sydney 2008.

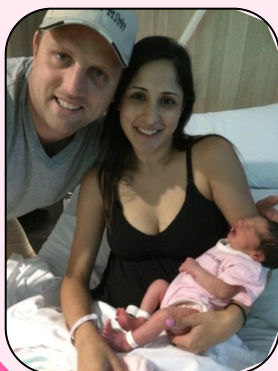
The mass is different from what occurs at Ephpheta and has many young members with people studying after mass and lunch.

The Malaysian and Singapore deaf catholic communities are happy to welcome other Australian deaf Catholics should they wish to visit mass during their trips there or travel to the Philippines for the International Eucharistic Congress for the deaf Catholics in 2016.



LAWLOR GRANDCHILD NUMBER NINE!!!

Stephen and Nola's son Jeremy and wife Victoria are proud to announce their third child, a beautiful tiny little girl named Tia born on the Tuesday 18th November 2014. Stephen and Nola are



over the moon with their 9th grandchild. They are blessed that both Mum and baby are well. They also thank God for all the wonderful and beautiful grandchildren.

Thanks Boys!



A special thank you to 2 generous Year 10 boys from St Charbel's College at Punchbowl who helped us with our gardening work in December. With their teacher, they came and worked hard in the back garden area at the Centre, volunteering is part of their school's Social Justice contribution. The boys enjoyed coming to the Centre and learning a little about our work and deaf culture. Despite it being a cold rainy day, they cheerfully did a great job. Thanks boys!

Kayla and Erin Mulligan's Christmas Adventure

Kayla & Erin went to South Africa with their parents for Christmas and here's what they had to say...

Erin (age 4) says: We stayed at Yia yia (Grandma) and Papou's (Grandpa) house on the side of a mountain. We had views of the sea and could see the beach. When we were all sleeping there, Santa came to visit us and left us a lot of presents. At the big shopping centre, I went on the big ice slides. I sat on a big tube and zoomed down the ice slide. It was scary but lots of fun! I sat in a train inside the shopping centre with my sister and looked at the shops going past. I went to South Africa and I saw the animals. I saw rhinos with no nose (horns) because they will kill rhinos with



Kayla (age 6) says: My holidays were beautiful. I went to South Africa with Mummy, Daddy, Erin and Lauren. It was a very long time on the aeroplane to get there. There are a lot of poor people in South Africa. They live in tin house with no bath and toilet. They have to go to toilet outside and in winter, when it is raining and cold. Some live on the street because they have no home. One day, we went on a safari. It was a very long drive to get there. We went on a big green truck and saw the animals. We saw lions,

rhinoceros, elephants, ostriches and some other animals. One rhino came and attack the truck twice. But we were all fine because the truck is bigger than the rhino. Daddy took me and Erin to the beach near Papou's home and there are big waves and the sea was very cold. In Sydney the sea is not that cold. I swam for little bit. I met lots of Daddy's family. He has a big family. Every Sunday, I went to church with Yia yia, Papou, Omie (Auntie Sharon) and Daddy. The church is where I was baptised. I like Cape Town. It is very fun.



nose, so they cut off the nose to stop people killing rhinos. And we saw kudus with long horns, zebras and they have black and white stripes, buffalos and a tortoise. Mummy and Yia yia took me and Kayla to an ice skating rink. It was inside and it was beautiful with a painted roof that looked like we were still outside. It was a lot of fun to go ice skating because I could ice skate just like Anna (from the movie "Frozen"). When I was on the aeroplane, I watched a lot of movies on the way there. But coming back, I slept a lot.



Joyce Tully goes to DeafBlind Camp in Perth!

My support person, Margaret and I flew to Perth for the Wild Western DeafBlind Camp in November. We went a day earlier so we could sightsee in Perth - that afternoon we enjoyed a 3-hour scenic cruise to Fremantle along the Swan River. We managed to do some shopping before a camp volunteer picked us up to take us to the DeafBlind Camp. There were 49 DeafBlind Campers from around Australia and New Zealand and 110 volunteers - I knew a few people from the Melbourne DeafBlind Camp and it was good to see them again. There were different activities like crafts, archery, indoor rock-climbing, caving and zip flying. Unfortunately, I became ill and missed out on the bus trip to Kings Park and a winery. Then we had a fun night at the Wild Western dance - everyone dressed up! I would like to thank Margaret Johnston for her wonderful support on my trip. I will miss the next DeafBlind Camp at Phillip Island since I will be on a cruise again!



By Joyce Tully



ANZAC

CENTENARY

April 25, 2015

This year will be 100 years since the battle at Gallipoli during World War 1. On the 25th of April 2015 our whole country will stop and remember what our Armed Forces have done for us.

ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. When world war one began in 1914 Australia had only been a commonwealth

for 13 years, our government was keen to be seen as a strong independent country, so in 1915 Australian and New Zealand soldiers joined the allied forces. Their job was to capture and take control on the Gallipoli peninsula so that the navy ships could enter, they were supposed to capture Constantinople (now called Istanbul) which was an ally of Germany.

What they did not know was that the land was very harsh with steep cliffs that made the ANZAC's easy targets and that the Turkish soldiers would be there waiting for them, from before they even arrived on land they were at the mercy of a very strong enemy which outnumbered them by more than double. For 8 months the soldiers fought, more and more Turkish soldiers joined the battle and the ANZAC's stayed and fought, until, at the end of 1915 our soldiers were told that their battle was over – and they would be withdrawing from Gallipoli. Over 8000 Australian soldiers died at Gallipoli. It is well known that the Australians did not win the Battle of Gallipoli, but they became famous around the world for their bravery, their clever battle strategies and their larrikin spirit.

The story of the ANZAC quickly became legend and the very next year in 1916 the first memorial service was held and the 25th of April was named ANZAC Day. Over the years the official ANZAC Day Dawn service was developed. Now ANZAC day is a day we remember all soldiers from all wars and battles. Those who have served their country and returned, and those who have given their lives so we can have the safe and free lifestyle we have.

The Dawn Service

Why does it happen at Dawn? During battle the best time to attack is as dawn breaks, soldiers would be woken while it was still dark and told to 'stand-to' or get ready to fight when dawn broke. This was a time when fear, adrenaline and inner strength formed a bond of mateship that cannot be broken. After WW1 returned soldiers would often meet at dawn because it was a time they could find their mateship again. There is a story that says in the 1930's a group of ANZAC soldiers were returning from a ANZAC function just before dawn when they saw an elderly lady laying a wreath of flowers at the cenotaph all by herself. They stood and paid their respects with her and promised to organise a service at dawn in the same place the following year.



12th Battalion Roll Call, 28th March 1915, after landing at Gallipoli

The Last Post and Reveille

The trumpet plays these two important pieces of music that have a strong military history.

Before there were walkie talkies and radios, during battles **The Last Post** was played to signal that the Commanding Officer had returned to Camp from battle and that a name call would soon happen. It was signal to any soldiers still out in the field who were wounded, lost or separated from their troop to find safety and shelter for the night because the battle had ended for the day. It is used at soldier's funerals and memorial services as a mark of respect as the soldiers final battle has ended.

Reveille (French for 'wake up') is the way a soldier was woken up in the morning on base. It is usually played while the flag is raised and it supposed to arouse the soldiers to feel patriotic and loyal to their country. Most Armies around the world have a version of this tradition.

During the ANZAC Day dawn service the Last Post is played first and the Reveille is played last to symbolise death and resurrection.

Other things that are connected with ANZAC Day are 2 – up, which is a gambling game that was played in the trenches of Gallipoli when the soldiers were waiting for battle to start. 2 – up is allowed to be played on ANZAC Day, every other day of the year it is illegal!

Coffee and rum at Dawn! Soldiers will drink black coffee and rum on ANZAC Day after the Dawn service. When the soldiers were about to go to battle at dawn, they were often given this to drink just before they left, it was called the Gunfire Breakfast.

This year all over the country and in many places around the world ANZAC Day will be a special day of remembrance. We hope that the Deaf Community will take part in the day too. To get us ready we will be taking a trip to the War Memorial in Canberra in March and we will be making inquiries about access to ANZAC Day services for the Deaf. Please see more information on page 4 about our trip to the War Memorial in Canberra.

This is a poem that is at the war graves in Gallipoli:

*Those heroes that shed their blood
And lost their lives.
You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country.
Therefore rest in peace.
There is no difference between the Johnnies
And the Mehments to us where they lie side by side
Here in this country of ours.
You, the mothers,
Who sent their sons from far away countries
Wipe away your tears,
Your sons are now lying in our bosom
And are in peace
After having lost their lives on this land they have
Become our sons as well.*





Noticeboard



Deaf Cafe

for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people!

Deaf Café is for anybody, no need to book just turn up, we will have the coffee hot and the cake and biscuits waiting!

You can meet & chat with new people or catch up with old friends over a cuppa.

Tea & coffee available all day! Gold coin donation. Bring your own lunch or you can buy your lunch for \$3.

The next dates are:

13th March & 8th May 2015
(10th April CANCELLED)

(always on the 2nd Friday of the month)

Time: **10am to 2pm**



At: the Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St,
Punchbowl. See you there! ☺



Central Coast Deaf Cuppa

for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people! For everybody, just turn

up! There are a few coffee shops around the food court at Erina Fair shopping mall. Bring your money if you want to buy a drink or morning tea.

CC Deaf Cuppa is a great place to meet & chat with new people or catch up with old friends over a cuppa. Meet at middle of food court.

Always on the LAST Friday of every SECOND month. The next date is:

27th March & 22nd May 2015

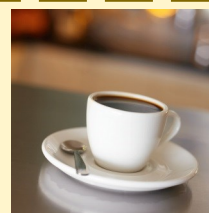
Where: **ERINA FAIR**, 620-658 Terrigal Drive

Time: starts **10.30am** til **2.00pm**

Contact: **Donovan** SMS: **0408 697 773**

Email: donovan@ephpheta.org.au

See you there! ☺



Pastoral visit

We are happy to visit any deaf person for chats and company for 1 hour, at your home or at a café with coffee.

Pastoral Visits are not only for sick

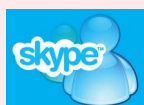
people or people in Nursing homes. We are happy to meet with anyone who is deaf.

You might have a problem you want to talk about or maybe you just need some support.

You don't have to be Catholic - It is for anyone who is deaf.



If you would like a Pastoral visit, please contact the office
office@ephpheta.org.au or Donovan
donovan@ephpheta.org.au
or sms 0408 697 773 or
Skype [donovan.mulligan](https://www.skype.com/en/contacts/ephpheta)



MASS *for you at home*

There's been some confusion of when Mass for You at Home is on so we did some research to confirm the information - according to the Channel 10 TV program website, the following information is:

Channel 10 - Mass for You at Home

6.00 – 6.30am

Channel 11 - Mass for You at Home

5.30 – 6.05am

Or if you miss these times on TV, you can watch that week's show online on your computer or Apple device (iPad or iPhone)

<http://www.mfyah.com.au/index.html>



Ephpheta Centre - Closed after Easter

As we usually do in past years, the Ephpheta Centre will be closed for 1 week, from **Monday 6th April and will re open on Saturday 11th April**. Mass will be as normal at North Gosford on Sunday 12th April 2015.

International Eucharistic Congress Philippines (Cebu)

24th-31st January 2016

If you are interested in going to the 51st International Eucharistic Congress in Cebu, Philippines 2016 on 24th-31st January 2016, please talk to Nicole at the Ephpheta Centre. There will be a Deaf Track again like at IEC Dublin, Ireland. If there are enough people interested, the Ephpheta Centre may organise a group trip.

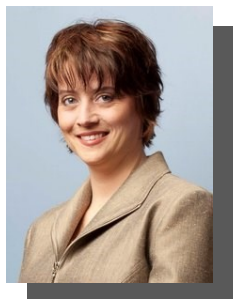


For more information on the Congress, please check <http://www.iec2016.ph/> & contact the Ephpheta Centre if you would like to join our Deaf group.

Contact Nicole: nicole@ephpheta.org.au or mobile 0483 201 707 or make an appointment to come and talk with Nicole.



An information session about Wills, Estate Management and Power of Attorney.



Kathryn O'Brien, a deaf lawyer will
deliver an information session.

Participants will be able
to ask questions!

When: Tuesday 24 February 2015

Time: 1 30pm — 3pm

Where: The Ephpheta Centre
4 Turner Ave, Puncbowl

Cost: Gold Coin donation for afternoon tea

RSVP: tclews@deafsociety.com

or

donovan@ephpheta.org.au



www.deafsocietynsw.org.au

Program for 2015

The Ephpheta Centre works with the Deaf Society of NSW to deliver exciting new events for the deaf youth in Sydney this year.



New 2015 dates for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Events in Sydney are:

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 20 th February | 19 th June |
| 20 th March | 17 th July |
| 17 th April | 21 st August |
| 15 th May | |

More information can be found at the Deaf Youth Sydney website:

<http://www.deafyouthsydney.org.au/>

Contact:

David Parker:

SMS only: 0408 669 672

Email: david@ephpheta.org.au

Office: 02 9708 1396



Thank you for your Newsletter Donations!!

Thank you to everyone who has made donations every year for the "Deaf Catholic News" Newsletter to be posted & emailed to you. These donations are a big help in covering costs for paper, printing ink, stamps etc! ☺

If you haven't made a donation yet, please see staff at the Ephpheta Centre and ask for a form to make a subscription donation.



Deaf Mother's Club of the West

Due to Deaf Mother's Club of the West having no permanent meeting place, we started 2014 with our first luncheon gathering at The Mean Fiddler at Rouse Hill. We continued to meet at various cafes for our luncheon gathering every two months and had so much fun trying the different cafes.

On 29th March 2014 after five days of continuous rain, Sydney put on the best weather for ten

ladies to enjoy playing barefoot lawn bowls at North Sydney. After meeting at North Sydney and having morning tea, we visited Mary Mackillop Place to see Mary Mackillop's tomb and walk around the beautiful gardens. What a fun afternoon everyone had playing barefoot lawn bowls.



For our annual Mother's Day outing on Sunday, 25th May 2014 fifteen ladies caught a ferry to

Manly where we enjoyed morning tea, walking along the Mall visiting the many markets near Manly Beach before sitting down at The Ivanhoe Hotel to enjoy a delicious lunch.

Friday, 25th July 2014 saw fourteen ladies gather together to enjoy a White Christmas Weekend whilst staying at a beautiful house, Sheridans on the Mall, at Leura (Blue Mountains). Saturday morning, 26th July 2014 was spent bushwalking while in the afternoon some ladies visited Scenic World while others went shopping at both Leura and Katoomba. Upon arriving back at the house



we were surprised to see a long table decorated for Christmas and all foods prepared ready for our dinner. Everyone

dressed up to the 1920-1940's and many great games were played during the night. We were all sad to see the weekend end on Sunday, 27th July.

Beautiful sunny weather greeted Deaf Mother's Club members and guests gathering at Bondi Beach for the Festival of the Winds Kite Flying Festival on Sunday, 14th September 2014. What a sight it was to watch the many different colourful kites in various shapes and sizes flying in the clear blue sky. A delicious luncheon was enjoyed by all at Hotel Bondi before joining the very long queue to catch the bus back to Bondi Junction to catch our train home.



For our last outing for 2014

another beautiful sunny day greeted fourteen ladies when they all arrived at Palm Beach (the site of Channel Seven's Home and Away TV series) to enjoy a beach day of surf, sand, picnic and wine. Firstly, we enjoyed a lovely morning tea at the BoatHouse before inspecting the sites where Home and Away is filmed i.e. the wharf, Alf's boat shed, the surf club, etc. We were

lucky to enjoy the cool breeze and swim in the cool clear refreshing surf while the heat hit over 40 degrees in the Western



Suburbs. A few Home and Away fans bought Summer Bay singlet tops. It was such an enjoyable and fun filled day with lots of laughter and tears.

Deaf Mother's Club of the West has its own Facebook page. You will need to like the page to be kept up to date with any new information/changes. If you do not have Facebook, please contact Carolyn Hanley on 0411 775 360 (sms only) for any information.



By Margaret Johnston



Deaf Mother's Club of the West

Below is Deaf Mother's Club of the West 2015 luncheon and outing dates:

Tuesday, 24th February 2015 – Luncheon at Royal Cricketers Arm, 385 Reservoir Road, Prospect (near Atura Blacktown and Greater Union Blacktown Drive-in) at 11.00 am

Sunday, 22nd March 2015 – Coastal Walk along Coogee Beach

Tuesday, 28th April 2015 – Luncheon at Geranium Cottage Nursery and Cafe, 828 Old Northern Road, Middle Dural at 11.00 am

Sunday, 24th May 2015 – Mother's Day Outing to Blackheath

Tuesday, 23rd June 2015 – Lunch at Rouse Hill Town Centre, White Hart Drive, Rouse Hill (TBA)

Sunday, 26th July 2015 – Trees Adventure Theme Park, 200 Springwood Road, Yarramundi. Trees Adventure Theme Park features exciting and challenging courses high in the tree canopy, that will have all the you swinging, leaping, climbing and flying through the forest. Sessions are for two hours and includes training. If you are interested in this exciting adventure, please let Carolyn Hanley know as bookings and payment is required well before that date.

Tuesday, 25th August 2015 – Lunch at a Café (to be confirmed)

Sunday, 27th September 2015 – Tulip Time Festival, Merrigang Street, Bowral

Tuesday, 27th October 2015 – Luncheon at Nepean Rowing Club, Bruce Neale Drive, Penrith at 11.00 am

Sunday, 22nd November 2015 – Collaroy Beach Outing

Please check Deaf Mother's Club of the West Facebook page for any events and updates.



MEET THE SAINTS - St. Francis de Sales

Born in the castle of Château de Thorens (see picture) to a French wealthy family, the eldest of twelve children whose parents, wanted Francis to become a lawyer, enter politics, and carry on the family line and power.

He was taught by Jesuits, and attended a college in Paris at age 12. In his early teens, Francis began to believe in “pre-destination”, and was so afraid that he would automatically go to Hell that he became ill and eventually was unable to leave bed. However, he overcame the crisis, deciding to trust that God's plan for him was for the best.



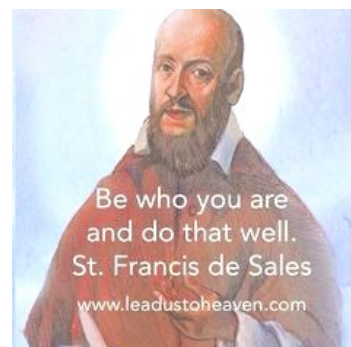
He graduated in law and theology in Italy. He returned home, found a position in politics and this is when he received a message telling him to “*Leave all and follow Me.*” He then decided to join the priesthood, but his family were very upset about this, especially because he also refused a pre-arranged marriage. However, he continued with a devoted prayer life, and his gentle ways won over the family.

In 1593, as a priest, he was appointed head of the diocese of Geneva, Switzerland. He was a preacher, writer and spiritual director. His simple, clear explanations of Catholic beliefs, and his gentle way with everyone, brought many people back to the Catholic Church. He even used sign language to bring the message to the deaf, making him a patron of deaf people.

He became Bishop of Geneva in 1602. He travelled and evangelized, working with children whenever he could. He was also a friend of St. Vincent de Paul. He was a well-known correspondent (writer of letters), many of his letters have survived.

His valuable writings led to his being declared a Doctor of the Church by the Pope in 1877, and then a patron of writers and journalists in 1923.

Source: <http://saints.sqpn.com/saint-francis-de-sales/>



CRAFT CORNER

The Deaf Craft Group is always open to any interested ladies, meets **every Wednesday** (except when there's something on) from **10am until 2pm** at the Ephpheta Centre. Bring your crafts to work on. Lunch is provided for \$3. More information? Contact the Ephpheta Centre!



History Corner

By Brian Johnston

Marianne Hanney was best known in the Catholic Deaf Community for her love, faith, and care for 50 years as a Deaf Teacher of the Catholic School for Deaf Children in Newcastle (Waratah) NSW. She was born in Paddington, Sydney on 1 August 1869, her Irish parents being John Hanney and Ellen Kelly. She had one brother, James and one sister, Julie (who died young).

When Marianne was three years old, her father died in 1872. In 1875 she was admitted to the Catholic Orphanage at Parramatta. When she was about seven years old, she became ill with scarlet fever, and on her recovery, it was discovered that the illness had left her completely deaf.

In 1879 Marianne was sent to the Catholic Institution for Deaf and Dumb (later known as School for Deaf Girls at Rosary Convent, Waratah) in Newcastle, NSW. She had the good fortune to be educated by Sister Mary Gabriel (Ellen Hogan) who was Deaf herself and studied History, Geography, Mathematics, English, Needlework, Handwriting and Catechism.

After leaving school, Marianne was trained as a teacher. She became a teacher of the Deaf in 1886 and worked until 1936. Due to the fact that the gift of her deafness gave her sensitivity to the minds of her students, she was considered the best staff member to be responsible for deaf children's religious instructions. She celebrated her golden jubilee as a teacher of the Deaf. During those 50 years, she left the mark of her influence on many of her pupils with whom she helped mould their lives. She was loved, appreciated, respected and revered.

For over 60 years Marianne knew no other home than Waratah. During her holiday time, she visited many of her former students all over Australia. She would sit down and listen to them while they poured out their hearts to her. She was their lifeline, their role model, and their big sister. Whilst she had many opportunities to see many places in Australia, she still called the Rosary Convent her 'Home'.

On 14 September 1939, while on a visit to Sydney, Marianne Hanney died at the residence of her deaf friends, Michael and Mary Carmody, at the age of 70 years. She was buried in Sandgate cemetery in Newcastle. She was buried in the Dominican Habit, being a member of the Dominican Third Order (did not become a Dominican Sister herself). Her 50 years of work with the School for Deaf Girls at Rosary Convent, Waratah was recognised and well respected.



Photo: Waratah

Marianne Hanney

Sources: Australian Adult Catholic Deaf and Dumb magazine 'Past and Present', 'History of Catholic Deaf Education in Australia 1875-1975' book and 'Open Minds Open Hearts' book.

Mass Times



FEBRUARY

| | | |
|------|---|---------|
| 18th | Ash Wednesday PUNCHBOWL | 12.00pm |
| 18th | Ash Wednesday PENRITH <i>(for more information, see page 3)</i> | 7.00pm |
| 21st | Saturday REVESBY | 6.00pm |

MARCH

| | | |
|------|---|---------|
| 1st | Sunday PUNCHBOWL Commissioning & Blessing Mass & Community Presentation <i>(for more information, see page 4 & 5)</i> | 10.00am |
| 8th | Sunday MANLY | 10.30am |
| 15th | Sunday SEVEN HILLS | 11.00am |
| 21st | Saturday REVESBY | 6.00pm |

HOLY WEEK *(for more information, see page 3)*

| | | |
|------|----------------------------|---------|
| 29th | Palm Sunday STRATHFIELD | 10.00am |
|------|----------------------------|---------|

APRIL

(for more information, see page 3)

| | | |
|------|------------------------------------|---------|
| 2nd | Holy Thursday PENRITH | 7.00pm |
| 3rd | Good Friday Service PUNCHBOWL | 3.00pm |
| 4th | Easter Saturday Vigil PUNCHBOWL | 6.00pm |
| 12th | Sunday NORTH GOSFORD | 9.30am |
| 19th | Sunday SEVEN HILLS | 11.00am |
| 25th | Saturday REVESBY | 6.00pm |

MAY

| | | |
|------|--------------------------|---------|
| 3rd | Sunday PUNCHBOWL Mass | 10.00am |
| 10th | Sunday MANLY | 10.30am |

(More Mass information in the next Newsletter)

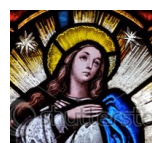
Church Addresses



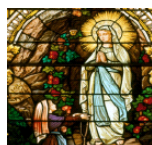
Chapel of
St Francis de Sales
4 Turner St
Punchbowl



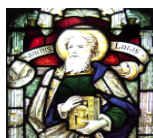
Our Lady of
the Rosary
92 Glennie St
North Gosford
Integrated Mass



St Mary's
6 Raglan St
Manly
Integrated Mass



Our Lady of
Lourdes
7 Grantham Rd
Seven Hills



St Luke's
1 Beaconsfield St
Revesby
6pm
Integrated Vigil Mass

Campbelltown Mass Dates:

At: St John the Evangelist, 35 Cordeaux St, Campbelltown

When: 8th March, 12th April, 10th May

Time: 9am

We pray...

For those who have died

7 May 2014 - Keith Dorshner (Deaf Deacon in Canada)

2 November 2014 - Samuel Cavallaro (Edith & Ernie's granddaughter's fiancé)

30 January 2015 - Anthony (Tony) Roumanos (Margaret Roumanos' father)

For those who are sick

Helen Farmer

Jim O'Connor

George Krams

Brian Johnston

(Please pray for those who are sick)






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We're on the Web!
www.ephpheta.org.au

 Join us on Facebook!
<http://www.facebook.com/deafcentre>

The Ephpheta Centre is supported
by the Charitable Works Fund. 

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*Please send your news, stories,
information and requests to
Danni to be considered for the
next newsletter!*



WEBSITE NEWS

Have you seen our website recently?

Our website is now being updated weekly so it is always full of current information - we hope everyone will get used to checking it!

If you have any ideas for our website please contact David.

What does "Ephpheta" mean?

The name Ephpheta of our Centre came from the bible - a story about Jesus curing a deaf man, he says "Ephpheta" which means "Be open". So we keep that in our service to the Deaf Community! We are always open to you all!