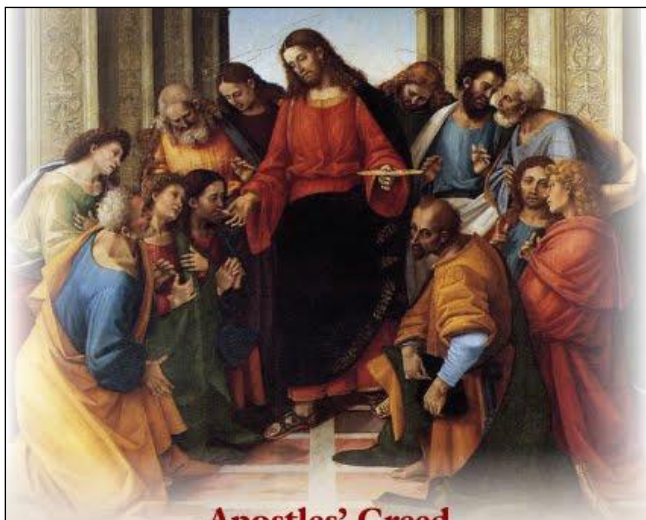


Renewing Our Faith:

A new project to support our community

We are very excited to announce a new Ephpheta Centre project called "Renewing Our Faith". Led by our chaplain Fr Michael and assisted by Brett Beath and our team, we are preparing a series of presentations on the "Apostles' Creed". This is the Creed which we say at Mass every Sunday and which sets out the basis of our Catholic Faith.

Many of you who come to our regular deaf Masses know that we say the Creed as a "Question and Answer" where a question is asked by the priest "Do you believe..." to which the reply is "yes I believe". In response to community feedback, from mid – April we will change the way which we say the Creed through Mass - it will all be explained in Mass!



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 Creator of heaven and earth,
 and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell;
 on the third day he rose again from the dead;
 he ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
 from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

©2012 www.CatholicPrayerCards.org 1-888-244-2788 email: orders@CatholicPrayerCards.org Card #360
 The English translation of The Apostles' Creed from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation.
 All rights reserved.

So that we can more fully understand this statement of our faith which we make every Sunday, we will be conducting a series of presentations in Auslan which will go through the statements in the Creed and what they mean to us. This will provide an opportunity for all of us to learn more and enrich our faith as Catholics. All are very welcome to attend the presentations and we hope that you find it a rewarding process. Easter is a time of new life and renewal and so we are confident that this will help all of us in renewing our faith and deepening our understanding.

For programs dates and times, please see page 6 of the newsletter.

A Message from Liz & Dave...

Liz's report

Hello everyone and welcome to our first newsletter of 2018!

As I am writing this we are busy preparing for our pilgrimage to Rome and we are also in the middle of Lent. In busy times it is sometimes hard to remember the things that are most important in our lives.

A priest friend recently sent me a little poem called "Do you want to Fast this Lent?" which is said to be in the words of Pope Francis. I am not really sure if the words were written by the Holy Father or not but I would like to share them with you:

- "Fast from hurting words and say kind words
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience
- Fast from pessimism (being negative) and be filled with hope
- Fast from worries and have trust in God
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen".

I ask for your prayers for the safety and success of our pilgrimage to Rome. We will all be asking St Christopher Patron Saint of Travellers to watch over us.

Wishing you all a blessed Lenten journey and Easter season.

Until next time,
Liz



Dave's report

This is my first report for 2018. I am amazed to see how quickly 2017 went! Another successful year for the Ephpheta Community. I have changed the layout of my office room and now my room feels a bit bigger now. Change is good. Changes brings us a sense of a new start. I know change is difficult for many people but have a go!

Congratulations to the NSW athletes team for winning the Australian Deaf Games in Albury/Wodonga! It was very close win with Victorians coming second.

We recently had a very successful Assembly day with around 55 people attending. Our priority is the deaf community (including Auslan users, family members, friends and deaf-blind and hard of hearing people) and we will continue to work hard listening to our members and make as many improvements as we can.

We also had a successful deaf café during February this year. The first one for 2018. Our Father Christmas was late! This Father Christmas gave people who went to deaf café a tablet or smart phone holder. A handy gadget for us to use when we plan to video chat, watch captioned movies or movies in Auslan.

We just had our Ash Wednesday Service. Lent lasts for forty days, not including Sundays. It starts on Ash Wednesday and finishes on Holy Saturday. Jesus spent forty days in the wilderness, resisting the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry. It is also a time of fasting, self-discipline and moderation.

We are very sorry to see Jarrod Brown, a young deaf man go. He has left Ephpheta as a part time community worker for a private plumbing business as an apprentice plumber. We will miss his youth and his enthusiasm. He was wonderful with the Ephpheta Community. Thank you Jarrod!

We are very excited to have Brett Beath join our team and he will work 3 days a week. He will work in the Faith Formation area and he will work closely with the Ephpheta team. Welcome Brett!

Peace be with you all,
David



Ephpheta Centre Arrangements for 14 – 26 March inclusive

As you know, many of the Ephpheta team will be away leading a pilgrimage to Rome from **14 – 26 March**. During this time the following arrangements are in place:

On Wednesday - Friday of these weeks, you can contact **Pat** on 0414 412 852 (SMS only) (Wed – Fri office hours please) or email to pat@ephpheta.org.au in relation to any pastoral or community requests.

On Tuesday and Wednesday of these weeks, you can contact **Chrisso** on 0405 749 488 (SMS only) (Tues - Wed office hours please) or email to christiane@ephpheta.org.au in relation to any community enquiries.

If you have any office or business enquiries you can call **Andrea Socratous** in the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney on 9390 5190 or andrea.socratous@sydneycatholic.org.

If you require the assistance of a priest, please contact **Fr Joseph Gedeon** at St Jerome's Catholic Church Punchbowl (next to the Ephpheta Centre) on 9709 3223 or pp@stjerome.org.au.

Fr Michael's Reflection...

A year for renewal

Thanks to everyone for some wonderful events in the past year. This year promises to be even more hectic, with a pilgrimage to Rome one week before Easter! What have we gotten ourselves into?!

I'm overjoyed to have Brett assisting with faith formation. With Brett's help I'm sure this year will offer many opportunities to renew our faith. I've been excited to see the good ideas and hard work that Brett has already put in.

This year, I am also keen to provide a way for deaf children to engage in their faith from the youngest years. The move from dedicated Catholic schools for the deaf to mainstreaming seems to have provided much less, accessible, faith formation for deaf children. It seems that Catholic deaf children and youth are dispersed (though they do have new opportunities to connect socially thanks to new technology). Deaf children should also have opportunities to connect with their faith and Church.

St Francis de Sales is a very appropriate patron for us in this work, so let us ask him for help. Teaching the faith was his job as a bishop, and when he met a deaf man who did not know his faith, St Francis de Sales found new ways to share the faith with him. Deaf parents and hearing parents with Deaf children can face big obstacles to teaching their children about God. May we find new ways to help them strengthen their children's relationship with God. The

At the same time, the burdens of age are beginning to be felt by many in our Catholic deaf community. Jesus gives us hope in times of sadness and suffering, because He died and rose again, and because he taught us that we can offer even our sufferings as gifts of love to God and prepare ourselves for life with Him. He also teaches us that the opportunity to help one of our brothers or sisters in need is a most precious treasure. Let's get rich!

Thank you to all who continue to work very hard looking after those most in need in our community.

Mother Mary, and all you saints and angels in heaven,

Pray for us.

God bless,
Father Michael.



Meet Our New Staff! Brett Beath

1. Where were you born and how long have you lived in Sydney?

I was born in Camperdown and lived in various suburbs all around Sydney throughout my life. I am now living at Lidcombe.



2. Tell us about your family...

Both my parents are Deaf and they are very involved with the Deaf Community. Currently, they are enjoying retirement life. I am the eldest of three children. I have two sisters, Kate and Justine.

3. How do you feel about coming to work at the Ephpheta Centre?

The Ephpheta Centre has been my second home since I was a baby and the Deaf community has always been my family. It is a privilege to be working here and I feel that the Lord has called me in a special way to serve the Deaf Community and to bring and share the Good

News.

4. What is the most adventurous thing you have ever done?

The most adventurous thing I have ever done is when I travelled overseas for the first time. I went on pilgrimage to Poland, Assisi and Rome as part of WYD in 2016.

5. Do you have a favourite Saint and why?

My favourite Saint is St John Paul II. For the first 22 years of my life he was the Pope and every time I watch him as a kid he was a very humble and loving man. He endured a lot of suffering throughout his life, but he gave it all to God and had a great devotion to Mary. What I love about him is that he encourages us to "be not afraid" to give our lives to Christ and to become the saints that we are called to be.

6. Tell us one interesting or unusual thing about yourself...

When I buy a packet of Tim Tams, I eat the whole packet, because they taste so good.

Season of Lent: A Special Time of Personal Transformation!

What are you giving up for Lent? This is the usual question that we will be asked during the Season of Lent. But the season of Lent is more than just giving up something. Lent is a special time of nurturing our deeper relationship with God and with another. Lent is special time for us to have a total transformation of our life. In order to do this, Jesus gives three essential spiritual disciplines we ought to do in this Season of Lent: **Almsgiving**, **Prayer**, and **Fasting**.

Almsgiving means opening our eyes to the needs of others, especially the needy people in our world.

Prayer offers us all a very special opportunity to grow deeper in our relationship with God. It provides us with an opportunity to reflect upon our patterns and sins. We should pray more deeply, experience repentance for what we have done and failed to do.

Fasting is tied closely to almsgiving. Pope Francis says "Fasting makes sense if it really chips away at our security and, as a consequence, benefits someone else, if it helps us cultivate the style of the Good Samaritan, who bent down to his brother in need and took care of him." In other words, fasting is a way of concretely expressing our love for God over and above our love for self. Important note: when we do **Almsgiving**, **Prayer**, and **Fasting**, Jesus gives us a very important advice - that is, to do them with great humility by not seeking the praise and affirmation of other people (Mt 6:1-6. 16-18).

May this holy season of Lent draw us closer to the heart of Christ through our humble prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. May we come to the joy of Easter with renewed hearts, and lively devotion to God who loves us so much although we are sinners. Amen.

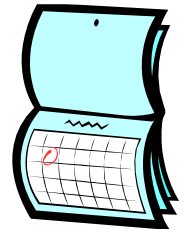
May God bless us always!

Fr John Paul Escarlan



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...



Combined Deaf Women's & Men's Day Out - 12th April



The Australian Museum welcomes us to their 2nd annual Seniors Day! Join us as we have a private interactive tour of some exciting exhibitions being held including 'Mammoths - Giants of the Ice Age'. There will be a program for the day of workshops and performances organised for our group. This Seniors Day is presented by the Australian Museum in association with NSW Seniors Festival. The Australian Museum welcomes our Ephpheta Centre community to join us on this day. It is open to **all** deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind community members - you don't have to be over 60!

After the tour we will have lunch at a nearby café together at your own cost.

When and Where: Thursday 12 April - meet at 9.30am for an 10am start
The Australian Museum - 1 William Street, Sydney 2000.

Cost: Free. Please bring money for your lunch after the tour.

RSVP: Chrisso 0405 749 488 (SMS) or email christiane@ephpheta.org.au before Friday 6 April.

Holy Week Program - 25th - 31st March



This year, we have our Easter timetable and everyone is welcome, even if you only like to come to church at Easter time! Please note changes to our normal Mass locations.

Sunday 25th March (Palm Sunday) - Mass

Time: 10.00am

Where: St Jerome's

2 Turner St, Punchbowl
(Integrated Mass)

(Next to the Ephpheta
Centre)



Friday 30th March (Good Friday) - Passion Service

Time: 3.00pm

Where: Good Friday Service at Ephpheta
Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl

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

Thursday 29th March (Holy Thursday) - Mass

Two Mass location options for Holy Thursday:

Time: 7.00pm

Where: St Nicholas' Catholic Church

326 High St, Penrith (Integrated Mass)

Time: 7.00pm

Where: St Jerome's

2 Turner St, Punchbowl

(Integrated Mass)
(Next to the Ephpheta Centre)

Saturday 31st March (Easter Saturday Vigil)

Time: 7.00pm

Where: St Jerome's

2 Turner St, Punchbowl
(Integrated Mass - next to Ephpheta Centre)

We will come to the Ephpheta Centre after Mass
at St. Jerome's Please bring a plate of food to
share for supper after Mass and spare change
for the wonderful Easter Raffle.



**NO SUNDAY MASS AT PUNCHBOWL ON
1 APRIL**



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 and 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:

**9th March, 13th April,
11th May**

(always on the 2nd Friday of the month)

Time: **10am to 2pm**

At: The Ephpheta Centre,
4 Turner St, Punchbowl.



See you there! 😊

Thursday Data Group



We have a Thursday data group where we talk about data plans, NRS/VRS updates, computer

protection and internet suite packages. **No repairs or computer upgrades please!**

Our focus will be on general information which will help you use your technology better.

When: March Data Group **CANCELLED**,
26th April (4th Thursday of the month)

Where: Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St
Punchbowl

Time: 1pm - 3pm

Questions: please contact David Parker on
david@ephpheta.org.au or SMS to
0408 669 672.

Renewing Our Faith



See below for program dates and times.

Date	Where	Program
15th April	Seven Hills	Introduction to the Apostles Creed
6th May	Punchbowl	God
20th May	Seven Hills	Jesus - Part 1
3rd June	Punchbowl	Jesus - Part 2
17th June	Seven Hills	Holy Spirit
1st July	Punchbowl	The Church

Where: Our Lady of Lourdes
7 Grantham Road, *Seven Hills*

When: After 11am Mass

Where: The Ephpheta Centre
4 Turner Street, *Punchbowl*

When: After 10am Mass

If you have any queries, please contact David
0408 669 672 (SMS) or email
david@ephpheta.org.au

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 morning tea. CC Deaf Cuppa is a great place to meet and 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 April

Meet at middle of food court of Erina Fair shopping mall.

Time: starts **10am to 2pm**

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

Email: donovan@ephpheta.org.au



See you there! 😊

Out and About in the Deaf Community

Mass with Bishop Peter

On 19 November Liz and David, with some members of the community, attended a special Mass for People with Special Needs at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Cathedral at Waitara in the Broken Bay Diocese.



Mass was said by Bishop Peter Comensoli who reminded us all that we are all part of God's church and we all have an important role in the life of the Church.



Rosary Presentation

On Sunday 5 November we enjoyed a very special presentation by our two seminarians from the



Parramatta Diocese who had been with us through 2017.

Adam Carslow and Matt Dimian led a presentation after Mass about why it is so important that we say the Rosary every day. They taught us some practical things about signing the Rosary and then we all said the Rosary together as a group.

Thank you Matt and Adam for giving us this powerful presentation and for teaching us all so well. We wish you well in your future studies and hope you will come and spend time with the deaf community again.

Thank you also to Rosemary who did an amazing job interpreting on the day! We hope to organise opportunities when we can say the Rosary again soon.

Our Lady of Fatima

2017 was a very special year in connection with our Lady of Fatima - you will remember that on 13 May 2017 was 100 years since Our Lady appeared to 3 shepherd children in Fatima, Portugal.

In October we were blessed to be visited by Fr Gerard Ryan from Wagga, who travelled Australia during 2017 with a special statue of Our Lady of Fatima. Fr Ryan concelebrated Mass with the community and then gave us a moving presentation about the healing of Our Lady of Fatima and how we can all be reconciled with God.



It was a very special day and our thanks to Fr Gerard to offering this to our community.

The Ephpheta Centre has some DVDs of the movie 'The Miracle of Our Lady of Fatima'. If you would like to purchase a copy of this incredible film, please contact Liz or David.

Combined Women's and Men's Day Out

In November 2017, our combined men's and women's group enjoyed a guided tour through the iconic building of Sydney Opera House. We learned of the detailed history of the Opera House. It was designed by Jorn Utzon, an Architect from Copenhagen. Construction began on 2nd March 1959, and the building was completed on 20th Oct 1973. We were surprised to learn how long it took to complete!



Sydney Opera House Tour

Our first day outing for 2018 was on the 15 February at the Sydney Tramway Museum. We rode the historic tram at Loftus, taking us all on a trip back down memory



Sydney Tramway Museum Tour

lane! We remembered the good old days of tram rides! There was lots of interesting things to see inside the Tram Museum with old trams & double decker buses. The use of trams as public transport in Sydney ended in 1958. Afterwards, we had lovely lunch at the picnic area under the shade of an old bus stop shed! It was a very hot but great day for all!

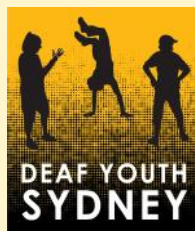
We are excited to organise more Deaf Men's, Women's, and Combined Days Out this year. Our groups love these days and experiencing different things New South Wales has to offer. Details of our next Combined Day Outing can be found

Wet n Wild

On Saturday the 2nd of December, we gathered at Wet'n'Wild for our last youth event of 2017 for Deaf Youth Sydney. It's our most popular activity for our youth group.

Instead of sunshine and blue skies all day, it was pouring rain, but that didn't stop them! They loved swimming in the rain. The water was warm and lovely to swim in. They all enjoyed getting wild on the rides!

It was a wonderful day spent together and no one wanted to go home. We are looking forward to organising more exciting events for our youth in 2018.



Deaf Youth Sydney

Deaf Youth Sydney is a project run jointly by the Ephpheta Centre and the Deaf Society.

It is open for any young deaf or hard of hearing person aged between 12-17 years.

It is a great opportunity for young deaf and hard of hearing people to develop new friendships and networks, to see deaf adults in leadership and to have the opportunity to build new skills and develop confidence.

Program for 2018:

3 March, 20 April, 4 May, 1 June, 9 July, 18 August, 21 September, 8 October, 2 November, 8 December

For more information please contact:

Donovan Mulligan

0408 697 773 (SMS)

Email: donovan@ephpheta.org.au

Thank you to Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club for your support

Deaf International Conference in Sydney

The unique Deaf History International (DHI) Conference 17–21 July 2018 will be held here in Sydney! Many Deaf people from overseas will be coming here.

Please note that the closing date for both early bird registration \$470 for standard registration or one day registration \$180 has now been extended to 31 March 2018. After this date, the regular standard registration is \$520 and the day only registration is \$190 (till 31 May 2018). From 1 June 2018 the late registration is \$570.

Standard (full) registration includes:

- Welcome Reception
- Attendance at all conference sessions
- Morning tea and lunch each day of the conference
- Conference bag and program book
- Full registration does NOT include accommodation




The DHI Conference is being held every 3 years. The last Conference was held in Edinburgh, Scotland in 2015.

More information can be found at <http://www.dhi2018.com/>

For further information you can contact any one of the Organising Committee members, Brian Johnston, Breda Carty, Darlene Thornton and Todd Wright.

This is not an Ephpheta Centre event.

@deafhistory2018


Christmas Celebrations!

Our Community Christmas party at the start of December 2017 was a huge success. We enjoyed seeing our wonderful community come together and celebrate. The community spirit



was alive and well. It was an enjoyable day and a great way to start our month of Christmas celebrations!

We had fantastic Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. So many people came. Around 100 people came to the evening of Christmas Eve Mass and 15 people came to the Christmas Day Mass service at St Jerome's Church next door to the Ephpheta Centre.

We saw some new faces. There were many familiar faces too. It was so good to see many people get together to celebrate

Christmas but more importantly the birth of Jesus and the community getting together.



Congratulations Chrisso and Max!

We are very excited to announce that our lovely Chrisso is getting married! Chrisso and her lovely fiancé Max announced their engagement in January and are planning their wedding celebrations for 2019.

Congratulations Chrisso and Max - you are a wonderful young couple and we wish you every happiness!



Farewell Jarrod

It is with sadness that we share with you all that Jarrod

Brown, our part time community worker has left our organisation at the end of December 2017. He has been successful in gaining an apprenticeship with a plumbing business.

Jarrod has been a wonderful addition to our team throughout 2017. We know you will all miss him, as our team will, his youth, and his enthusiasm. From the Ephpheta Centre team, we wish him all the best as he begins a new adventure. Thank you and good luck Jarrod!



Farewell to Joyce Western

It is with much sadness that we announce the passing of a very dear friend in our community Joyce Western. Joyce has been a much loved member of our Ephpheta community especially our craft group for many years.



Joyce passed away on 29 January 2018 aged 98 years. We will all miss her wonderful smile and positive approach to life - even though in recent years Joyce suffered with ill-health, she always had a deep love for others and faith in God.

Rest in peace lovely Joyce - we will miss you.

Happy 70th Dennis!

On Sunday 4 February 2018 Dennis Johnston was happy to cut his 70th birthday surprise cake (kindly made by Margaret Johnston) at the Ephpheta Centre.

Dennis also celebrated his birthday at a surprise party (organised by his brother Brian Johnston), where many of his friends joined him in Albury NSW whilst at the Australian Deaf Games.

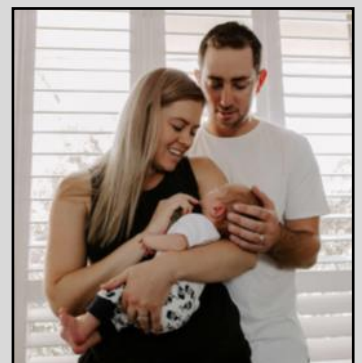
Happy 70th Birthday Dennis!



Welcome to the world Lucas!

Rosanna and Ross Delvecchio are pleased to announce the birth of Lucas James Delvecchio.

Born on 24th January at 10.03am, weighing 3.5kg and measuring 50.5cm long.



Lucas is the 4th grandchild for proud grandparents Brian and Margaret Johnston.

Deaf Mother's Club of the West

2017 saw Deaf Mother's Club of the West (DMCW) celebrate 25 years since its foundation in 1992. Since then, many wonderful lasting friendships have been made and different venues visited. Deaf Mother's Club of the West still continues to meet once a month except for the months of January and December.



Our first Tuesday luncheon gathering for 2017 was at Windsor RSL Club with fourteen ladies enjoying a delicious and healthy luncheon.

Wet weather and flooding in mid March resulted in the cancellation of our first Sunday outing for 2017 to Audley Boatshed but eleven members turned up at our alternative outing at Blacktown Westpoint to enjoy morning tea at Max Brenner Chocolate Bar and having fun playing two games of ten pin bowling.



For our annual Mother's Day outing a glorious autumn sunny day blessed twelve ladies as they

walked along the Coastal Route from Clovelly to Maroubra taking in the wonderful scenic views. Throughout the year we visited the Australian Hotel and Brewery at Rouse Hill, the Chinese Garden of Friendship at Darling Harbour, Tramsheds Harold Park and walked along the Glebe Foreshore to lunch at Glebe's favourite pub, The Toxteth Hotel. Our final 2017 outing on Sunday, 26th November 2017 saw ladies from Western Sydney and Central Coast enjoyed a great day of friendship touring the small town of Woy Woy taking in the sights and enjoying lunch



at The Bayview Hotel.

To mark the celebration of Deaf Mother's Club of the West's silver anniversary, twelve ladies spent the weekend of 21st - 23rd July 2017 at a lovely country house outside Berry (South Coast). Local beaches and towns were visited where various local fresh products were sampled. Saturday night, 22nd July 2017 saw everyone dress up as cowgirls, games were played and a cake to mark that anniversary was cut by the



Deaf Mother's Club of the West

Below is Deaf Mother's Club of the West 2018 luncheon and outing dates:-

Tuesday, 27th February 2018 – Luncheon outing at The House of Herbs & Roses, 745 Old Northern Road, Dural at 11.00 am

Sunday, 25th March 2018 – TBC

Tuesday, 24th April 2018 – No gathering due to school holidays

Sunday, 27th May 2018 – Mother's Day outing to Vaucluse House, 69A Wentworth Road, Vaucluse

Tuesday, 26th June 2018 – City trip (to be confirmed)

Sunday, 22nd July 2018 – Outing to Woolwich by ferry

Sunday, 26th August 2018 – Outing to North Head Sanctuary for Tour of North Fort Tunnel, North Head Scenic Drive, Manly

Sunday, 23rd September 2018 – Outing to La Perouse to visit Bare Island

Tuesday, 23rd October 2018 – Luncheon outing to Sydney Business Park, Marsden Park

Sunday, 25th November 2018 – Wollongong Beach Outing



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.



Craft Corner

What have the craft ladies been up to?

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

The craft ladies gathered and hosted a wonderful Christmas celebration on Wednesday the 13th of

December. We all enjoyed the afternoon

feasting on a delicious roast lunch, followed by fruit pudding made by Mary Profilio, while thoroughly enjoying each other's company. It was a wonderful day.

They have begun meeting again for 2018. We look forward to seeing what amazing craft they create this year. See page 13 to see what's coming up very shortly!



Christmas Celebration 2017!



Thank you Mary!



*What a welcome!
First Deaf Craft Group for 2018*



An invitation from the Deaf Craft Group

High Tea

Everybody welcome!

Bring out your hats and dresses! Dress up 1950s style, join us, and enjoy high tea with us.
Catch up with old friends and make new ones!

\$13 per person. Pay on the day. Bring extra money for raffle tickets.
Hope to see you all there!

When: Wednesday, 9 May 2018

Time: 11am - 2pm

Where: Ephpheta Centre,
4 Turner Street, Punchbowl

RSVP: 23 April 2018

Sue Lansley - 0414 289 392 (SMS only) Nola Lawlor - 0414 767 035 (SMS only)

Please RSVP as soon as possible so we know how many to cater for.

YES - I/We are coming!

Please return to Sue, Nola, or any Ephpheta Centre staff.

Name/s

Email/mobile number

Number attending

Dietary requirements



History Corner

Patrick Corr

By Brian Johnston

Patrick Corr, an Irish Deaf man, began teaching Deaf boys the trade of tailoring right from the establishment of St Gabriel's Deaf School at Castle Hill, Sydney in 1922. He was a great companion and mentor for the older boys at the school and also coached in football.

Patrick Joseph Corr was born in the town of Armagh in Northern Ireland on 2 March 1881, son of Patrick Corr, a tobacconist and Ellen Flanagan. Patrick was the eldest child in a Catholic family of nine. His mother Ellen died in the late 1890s after having five children. His father Patrick (who died in 1917) was remarried to Ellen Connelly, by whom he had further four children.



Patrick Corr in 1922

Patrick was referred to as a “deaf and dumb tailor”, who can read and write, living at Armagh, at the age of 20, in the 1901 Census of Ireland. As an educated Deaf man he surely attended St Joseph's School for Deaf Boys in Cabra, Dublin.

Patrick came from Ireland to Australia on the ship 'OPHIR' in 1912 with his two brothers, Joseph and Malachy where they landed in Brisbane, Queensland – and where Patrick worked as a tailor.

Patrick married Helen May (Deaf) in 1916 and they had one son, Oscar. Patrick certainly knew that two Irish Christian Brothers (O'Farrell and Allen) were coming from Cabra to open St Gabriel's School. Patrick and Helen and son moved south from Brisbane to Sydney and were there at the celebration to welcome the new Brothers to Sydney in July 1922.

Albert Jackson (1923 class) remembered a couple of years ago about an Irish Deaf tailor at St Gabriel's, his deaf wife and their small boy – he was a coach of a football team at the school. He can communicate easily with Irish Sign Language – he told boys some great stories of his home country and his travel to Australia.



St Gabriel's First Sport Team Photo 1923
Patrick Corr (coach)
standing at the left side.
Albert Jackson seating at the right side

After over 10 years at St Gabriel's, Patrick and Helen and son moved back to Brisbane about 1936. Patrick and Helen surely became involved with the Queensland Catholic Deaf Association for many years.

Patrick Joseph Corr died on 24 December 1953, late of Wynnum, Brisbane, at the age of 72 and was buried in Memmant Cemetery. His wife, Helen died in 1959. A son, Oscar died in 1980 and his wife Doris died in 2015.

Sources: Ancestry.com - family trees, Brian Johnston's book 'Memories of St Gabriel's' (2000), Bernadette Wallis' book 'The Silent Book' (2016) and Brisbane cemeteries records online.

Mass Times

MARCH

4th	Sunday	10.00am
	PUNCHBOWL	
10th	Saturday	6.00pm
	NORTH GOSFORD	<i>Saturday Vigil Mass</i>
18th	Sunday	11.00am
	SEVEN HILLS	
25th	Sunday	10.00am
	St. Jerome's PUNCHBOWL	<i>Palm Sunday</i> see page 5 for more information
29th	Thursday	7.00pm
	PENRITH and PUNCHBOWL	<i>Holy Thursday</i> see page 5 for more information
30th	Friday	3.00pm
	PUNCHBOWL	<i>Good Friday</i> see page 5 for more information
31st	Saturday	7.00pm
	St Jerome's PUNCHBOWL	<i>Easter Vigil - Replaces Sunday 1 April Mass</i> see page 5 for more information

APRIL

8th	Sunday	10.30am
	MANLY	
15th	Sunday	11.00am
	SEVEN HILLS	<i>Renewing Our Faith</i> see page 1 and 6 for more information
22nd	Sunday	10.00am
	PUNCHBOWL	

MAY

6th	Sunday	10.00am
	PUNCHBOWL	<i>Renewing Our Faith</i> see page 1 and 6 for more information
12th	Saturday	6.00pm
	NORTH GOSFORD	
20th	Sunday	11.00am
	SEVEN HILLS	<i>Renewing Our Faith</i> see page 1 and 6 for more information
27th	Sunday	10.00am
	PUNCHBOWL	

Gosford Mass Annoucement

Please note that our Mass times for Gosford have changed. It is now on Saturday night at 6pm, not Sunday morning. Next Gosford Masses dates:

10 March, 12 May

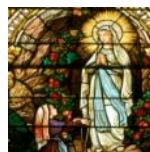
Church Addresses



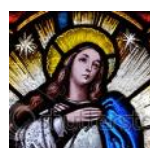
Chapel of St Francis de Sales
4 Turner St Punchbowl



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



Our Lady of Lourdes
7 Grantham Rd Seven Hills



St Mary's
6 Raglan St Manly
Integrated Mass

Friday morning Mass

Where: Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl
When: Every Friday
Time: 10.30am

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT NO FRIDAY MORNING MASS

Due to our Rome Pilgrimage, our Friday morning Masses are **cancelled** for the following dates:

9 March, 16 March, 23 March

Diocese of Wollongong

If you would like an Auslan Interpreter for Mass, anointing of the sick or a Parish event - please contact Rebecca Miller, Chaplain to the Deaf Community.

Mobile: 0448 930 287

Email: Rebecca.Miller@catholiccare.dow.org.au

We pray...

For those who have died

23 December 2017 - Gerald Gleeson
(Father of Fr Gerald Gleeson)

28 December 2017 - Barbara Field (Ex Waratah)

29 January 2018 - Joyce Western

1 February 2018 - Christine Williams nee Robson
(Ex Waratah)

For those who are sick

Anthony Gorrington

(Please pray for those who are sick)



4 Turner St, PUNCHBOWL NSW 2196

Phone: (02) 9708 1396

TTY: (02) 9708 6904

Fax: (02) 9709 5638

Email: office@ephpheta.org.au

www: www.ephpheta.org.au



Join us on Facebook!

<http://www.facebook.com/thecentrefordeaf>

*The Ephpheta Centre is supported
by the Charitable Works Fund.*



Staff Email Addresses:

Brett	brettb@ephpheta.org.au
Chrisso	christiane@ephpheta.org.au
David	david@ephpheta.org.au
Donovan	donovan@ephpheta.org.au
Liz	liz@ephpheta.org.au
Nicole	nicole@ephpheta.org.au
Pat	pat@ephpheta.org.au
Fr Michael	frmichael@ephpheta.org.au

EPHPHETA WEBSITE NEWS

Have you seen our website recently?

Our website is now being updated regularly
so it is always full of current information.

Please keep checking it!

If you have any ideas or feedback for our
website please contact David at

david@ephpheta.org.au

www.ephpheta.org.au

Please send your news, stories,
information and requests to Liz or David to
be considered for the next newsletter!



What does "Ephpheta" mean?

The name Ephpheta of our Centre came from the
bible - a story about Jesus meeting a deaf man,
he says "*Ephpheta*" which means "Be open".

We are always open to you all!