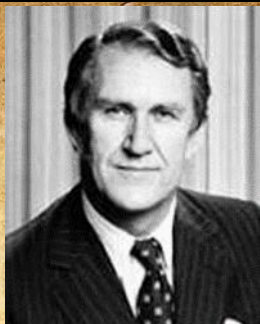


CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

This year is the 40th anniversary of the work of the Ephpheta Centre!! This is a wonderful achievement for our deaf community. So much has happened over the last 40 years since the Ephpheta Centre was established in 1979 – that we should be proud of and which we will celebrate! See our new logo for the year above! For more details please see page 8!

Australian Prime Minister



Malcom Fraser

BACK IN 1979



Average Cost

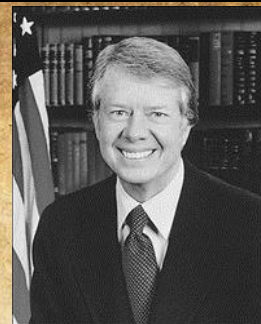
54c for a loaf of bread



World Population

4.29 BILLION

US President



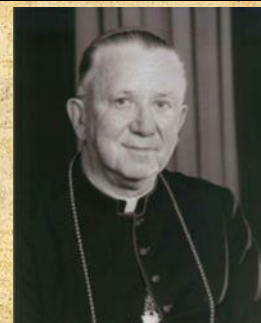
Jimmy Carter

Our Pope



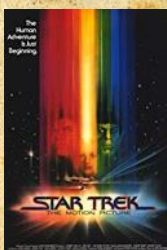
John Paul II

Archbishop of Sydney



Cardinal Freeman

What was on at the movies



Star Trek: Motion Picture

Mad Max

Alien

Kramer VS Kramer

Rocky II



What was on TV



Little House on the Prairie

The Waltons

60 Minutes

M*A*S*H

Prisoner



FASHION



Clothes for men and women
were very different!

A Message from Liz & Dave...

Liz's report

Hi everyone – hope that you had a peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year.

I have recently had some time to reflect on what it is that makes our Catholic community and the Ephpheta Centre such a special place. This has been both when I have been wearing my “Ephpheta hat” and in thinking about some things which have been happening at home. I have been struck again and again by people’s extraordinary kindness and concern.

Being the queen of Google 😊 I have been doing some reading online and found this quote which said it well:

“We Catholics are a body of people, a community, a family with a story, a history, a purpose who believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God. We share a common vision for life, seek to live in a spirit of love, not just a social club, not just a group of likeminded people, not just a welfare agency, or a spiritual fill-up station, but a life-long love relationship, alive in the Spirit of Christ, a people with a mission to proclaim Jesus to the world, share our life with others, so that the world may believe and share our joy. Jesus said... 'This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this, to give one's life for his friends.' (John 15:12-13)”.

(<http://www.catholicaustralia.com.au/church-in-australia/the-catholic-community>).

So as we launch into the year of the Ephpheta Centre’s 40th anniversary, as we celebrate the highs and maybe reflect on the lows – my prayer is that we be united as a community in love. Thank you to each of you for all that you do and what you bring to Ephpheta and the community – and here’s to a great year.

Until next time,
Liz



Dave's report

The year 2019 is here! 2018 is gone. Happy New Year to you all!

Droughts. Hot Weather. Crazy Winds. Let’s pray for support for the struggling farmers and animals in Australia. Australia is a land of extremes. Opportunities. Struggles. That is why community spirit is very important. Faith helps us get going. Hope helps us get going. Community support helps us get going.

NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) is still rolling out all over Australia. Lots of deaf people have signed up. We have different plans. We have different needs. We have different NDIS packages. Some get big packages. Some get small packages. There is an active NDIS page on Facebook for deaf people to share their issues, experiences, and tips. Deaf Society is available to support you. Other organisations are available to help you. Ephpheta Centre is not an NDIS registered provider. We are just a small Catholic organisation dedicated to making lives easier for our deaf community. We do our best! We try our best. We are grateful that many deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind people who enjoy being at events organised by Ephpheta. Thank you all.

Back to NDIS. I am self managed. It means I look after invoices for the services I request from service providers especially interpreting services and I make payments on my own. I enjoy this process. It is not perfect. There are not enough Auslan interpreters. We as deaf people need to look at alternatives. We need to work together with NDIS and make it a better service for all of us.

The Ephpheta Centre was officially launched in August, 1979. So this year we will celebrate 40 years of the Ephpheta Centre! Stay tuned for a program of events this year.

As always, please let me or the Ephpheta team know your ideas, your feedback, and stories in Auslan. My door is open. Be Open.

Peace be with you. Over and out.
David.



Fr Michael's Reflection...

Congratulations and thank you to the Ephpheta Centre, the Catholic deaf community and all our beloved companions on this 40 year anniversary.



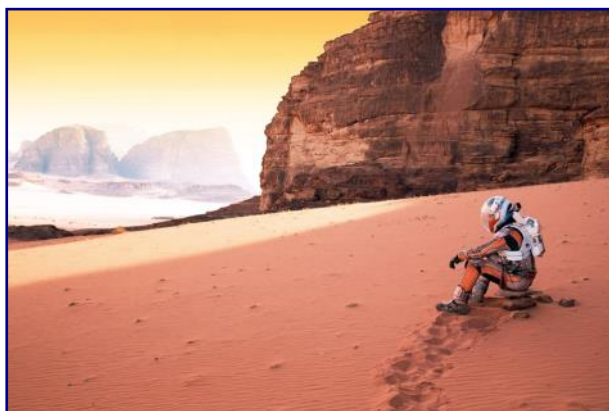
An odd thought popped into my head recently; that if anyone wanted candidates to pioneer the colonisation of Mars, they might like to ask the Deaf community. There they will find many trailblazing, resilient, compassionate, and patient individuals, who don't mind very extended periods of socialisation and are remarkably quick to pick up new technology.

When the brothers Saints Cyril and Methodius took the faith to Moravia, they invented some written language to assist in communication. I wonder if they might be good patron saints for the Deaf community who are constantly shaping their own language. Do you have difficulty communicating on Mars? Never mind, signs can be seen from far away, do not require an atmosphere, and new ones can always be created for special circumstances!

Deaf people are used to working to provide for better access and bridging the gap. Much of their work has been to considerately prepare the way for people they have never met and their compassionate support for one another makes their community particularly strong. They have the patience of saints. And, oh my, are they resilient!

This all can be said of the small Catholic Deaf community at Ephpheta these 40 years. The gratitude of the Catholic Deaf community at Ephpheta is another, somewhat unique way that they show their love for God and their neighbour. Their regular, heartfelt thank-you's could melt a stone.

These past four years as chaplain, I have seen these virtues piercing through mountains of struggle and deserts of isolation. I have seen some who have persevered so patiently, and could have readily prayed with the prophet Simeon, "At last, Lord, you can let me, your servant, go in peace". May they rise to the fullness of life in the kingdom.



I don't know if a Deaf expedition to Mars is likely anytime soon, but we probably have our hands full right now anyway. The mission of persevering in faith, love, and hope with our little community at Ephpheta is already a big one. It has seen its triumphs and tragedies, heroes and villains, joys and sufferings. May Ephpheta keep its faith, compassion, and sincere gratitude. May our prayers flare up brightly and constantly for all at Ephpheta, past and present. May we always forgive one another and so grow closer to God.

On behalf, I'm sure, of very many priests, religious, seminarians and faithful who have had the privilege of serving the Deaf community, thank-you and congratulations to Ephpheta on her 40th anniversary!

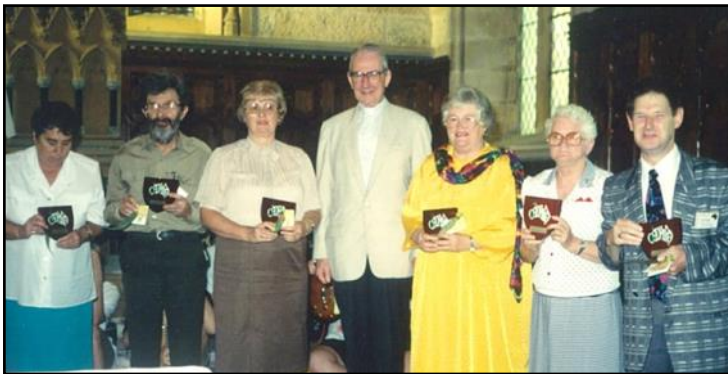
May God bless you and send His Mother Mary to guide you all your days,
Father Michael.

Murreall O'Connor has been a wonderful member of the Ephpheta team and deaf community since Ephpheta began!

Murreall has given so generously of her time and kind spirit in all of these years. Everyone who comes to the Ephpheta Centre knows Murreall and knows what a kind and gentle person that she is. We thank her for her time, her generosity, her love, and her wonderful baking!

How did you first join the Ephpheta Centre?

I first joined as a volunteer. It was after one of our deaf Catholic community weekends at Leura and Sister Helen Gaffey asked me if I would like to join as a volunteer to the Ephpheta Centre to help with the newsletter. This was around 1979 or 1980 when Ephpheta was at Paddington. Jenny Hannan was also a volunteer at Ephpheta at this time.



We looked after the newsletter mailout on Fridays. I remember that it always took a long time! Sometimes I would help if there were special meetings where people would come from all over Australia – I would help with preparing morning tea, lunches and afternoon tea.

After we moved to Lewisham, Mary Caruana asked me if I would like to work there 2 days a week. This was helping in the office, taking communion to deaf people and helping with pastoral visits. I remember that we sometimes had a bowling group – we would have about 15 deaf people as a special activity. I remember there was so much work when we moved to Lewisham. We had a lot of volunteers come to help us with fixing up the building and cleaning up. Shirley Carroll also started with us when we were at Lewisham. I remember when we started the craft group – it started with about 5 people and then, as more people started to learn about it, the numbers grew and grew.



We also had games days and we started a hard of hearing prayer group.

We then moved to Flemington and it was around this time that I decided to retire as a paid member of staff. Nola Lawler took over my role but I still continued to be involved with craft group and some pastoral visits.

What role has the Ephpheta Centre had in your life?



I was first involved with the Catholic Deaf Association when I moved to Sydney when I was 24. This then led to my involvement with the Ephpheta Centre and I was involved with CDA and Ephpheta for many years.



Because I never had children, I often thought about what I should do with my life. I felt that God was wanting me to do something in my life, I felt that God was calling me to volunteer with the Ephpheta Centre. Through my involvement with Ephpheta I met so many different people and I really enjoyed doing this. I enjoyed meeting so many different people and many people became my friends. I remember meeting one deaf lady, she had never been to school. I remember spending many months trying to teach her sign language – it was very difficult. But I was always happy to try to help people – I always felt that Jesus was with me when I was trying to help people.



What changes have you seen at the Ephpheta Centre over the years?

I have seen a lot of changes since I first joined the Ephpheta Centre. We used to have many people involved in our signing

choir. We now have signed mass in a lot of different places and also we sometimes join with hearing parishes in integrated mass. A lot of our community have grown older – we used to have many more young people coming to Mass and to events.

One of the benefits which I have seen is that we now have very good interpreters interpreting the Mass.

I would love to see more young people coming to Mass and to continue the good work of the Ephpheta Centre. I hope and pray that Ephpheta will continue strongly into the future.



Brother Reg Shepherd has had a long and loving relationship with the Catholic Deaf Community and the Ephpheta Centre for many years.

In the year 2000 Br Reg received a Medal of the Order of Australia for his wonderful work. Reg has been an important part of the deaf community for many many years and so in our 40th year of Ephpheta we went to see him at Concord and asked him a few questions!



Reg is now 90 years old – Reg is a friend to all in the community. We thank God for the gift of Reg in our lives and in the life of the deaf community and for his tireless love and work.



What was your first encounter with the Ephpheta centre and the deaf community?

I met my first deaf person when I was 8 years old growing up in Braidwood. I met a young deaf boy my age who was home from school at St Gabriel's in the Christmas holidays – this was Jimmy Roberts. We made up our own signs to communicate with each other.

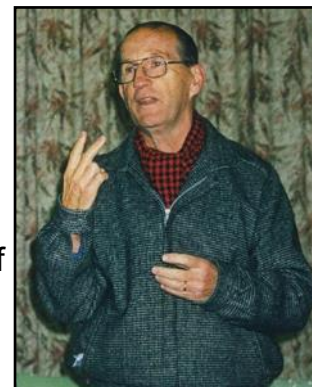
I had decided to join the Christian Brothers when I was aged 16. On the same day that I entered the Brothers there was another young man who joined called Gerry McGrath. We looked very much alike and people kept calling us by each other's name. Over 10 years we had about 400 cases of mistaken identity! People thought that we were brothers and even twins!



I first went to St Gabriel's school on 9 Sept 1953, I was 24 years old – on month later my parents came along to see how I was going. My mother was worried as she didn't think I was patient enough to be teaching the deaf. She knew I was not a very patient young man and was prone to throwing tantrums! I said to her "well mum I will have to learn to be patient, I will need to learn from the deaf." I was at St Gabriel's for 28 years. But I am still not very patient!

What was your role at the Ephpheta Centre? What was your regular work?

I first became involved with the Ephpheta Centre when it was in Paddington – I had an interview with Fr Malone. I worked for Ephpheta also when it moved to Lewisham and then to Flemington. I met many deaf people over the years – I worked with deaf children in government schools in the deaf units, I would visit 3 or 4 schools a week. Teaching in the state schools was how I met many young deaf people – after they left school, I helped many young deaf people become more independent. I visited many deaf people in hospitals and in prisons. I also visited many deaf people in their home. There was a lot of travel! I have kept in touch with many deaf people and their families throughout their lives.





Has the Ephpheta Centre and the Deaf Catholic Community impacted on you personally and if so in what way?

From being at St Gabriel's and the Ephpheta Centre, deaf people taught me the value of community. People in the deaf community are a visual answer to Jesus' question at the Last Supper when He says "As I am one with the Father and the

Father is one with me, so you will also be one". That all may be one. When I meet a deaf person, I don't just say hello and goodbye, we stop and talk with each other. Deaf people are one with each other

You gave so much for the Ephpheta Centre and the deaf community what do you feel you have received?

Love.

In my life story, I have one statement "I found love in the deaf community". It is as simple as that. And love is everywhere. The deaf taught me everything I know. Plus of course what I have learned with the Christian Brothers.

The word "Ephpheta" means to be open – to God and to people. It is the same as God's love for everyone – we must love everyone the same as God loves us.



What is your hope for the future of the Ephpheta Centre and the Deaf Catholic Community?

My hope is the same that I had through my years at St Gabriel's and ever since then – that all people become involved in their community and that we all learn together

and have opportunities to grow. That we listen and support each other. When

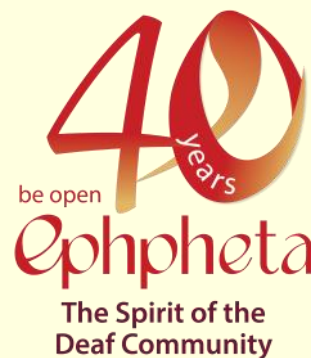
I was at Ephpheta I learned how to listen to people – often when we just take time to listen to a person we help that person find the answer in themselves.

I still have a prayer that I carry with me – I found it in my father Leo's wallet after he died. It



says "God our Father, help me when I meet any man or woman or child to remember that each of them was made in your likeness". This is our faith. My Prayer is Jesus' prayer for Peace and Unity among us "That all may be one".





Throughout this year we will have many special things happening – this will include our community retreat and special community celebrations.

To honour this special anniversary, we have a new logo which we will use throughout the year – this includes our Ephpheta logo and the number 40. We also have included the words “Spirit of the Deaf Community” because in all our work and our celebrations this is what we honour and respect – the special spirit of our deaf

community and our love for each other and for Jesus Christ!

We will also have special items included in the newsletter throughout the year which will look at different parts of our Ephpheta history and people who have been important in the life and work of the Ephpheta Centre.

We look forward to looking back on our history with you and celebrating this special year with you!



Ephpheta Centre's very first newsletter from 1979!

Lenten Reflections

In this newsletter, our Lenten reflection is Fr Peter Fitzgerald's first Lenten reflection as his Chaplain of the Ephpheta Centre – this was published in the Ephpheta newsletter back in March 1989 when the Ephpheta Centre was based in Lewisham.

When you receive this newsletter, only a few more weeks will be remaining in LENT – that time leading up to the Passion, Death and Resurrection of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

What have we done during the past few weeks of Lent? We have been asked to fast – give up something we like as a penance for our sins during Lent.. We are asked not to eat meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and to do some act of good work each Friday during Lent, such as visiting a sick person or helping someone in need.

It is so little to do – Christ died for us – cannot we do something in return?

CHRIST HAS DIED – CHRIST IS RISEN – CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN.....





We will be having special celebrations for our 40th anniversary Ephpheta Sunday on the first weekend of August.

At the moment these are our plans:

Saturday: 3 August 10am - 5pm. Mass and Lunch

Sunday: 4 August 10.30am - 12 noon. Mass and Morning Tea

We have not yet finalised these arrangements and will let you know more in the next newsletter. But make a note in your calendars NOW for these special dates!

MORE INFORMATION IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER

PARKING NEAR EPHPHETA

Please note that the parking outside St Jerome's Church on Turner St has now changed.

It is now a 2 hour limit from 8am - 6pm Monday to Friday.

Please be aware of this if you are parking in this area during the week.



St Dominic's Mass - 31 March

On Sunday 31 March we will be celebrating Mass with the congregation at St Dominic's at Flemington at 9am Mass.

Address: Cnr The Crescent and Hornsey Rd Homebush West (next to the old Ephpheta Centre).

Please note that there will not be any deaf Ephpheta staff working that day but we will have an Auslan interpreter at Mass.



Some exciting news!

We have been consulting with some members of the community and with Fr John Paul – starting 19 May we will be joining the parish of St Patrick's at Blacktown for their 10am Mass.

The parish are very keen for our deaf community to be involved in their Masses and their parish community.

We will have more information in our next newsletter but we wanted to share this news with you now.



Oh, the places we've been!

Paddington 1979 - 1988

It all began at 49 Gordon St Paddington... The Ephpheta Centre was set up in early 1979 after Sister Helen Gaffey was appointed by her Congregation to work with the Catholic Junior Deaf in Sydney.



The Centre was located in a former Commercial college run by the Sisters of Charity. It became the Centre for Catholic Deaf people in Sydney.



Lewisham 1988 - 1996

It was with some tears but also some excitement that Ephpheta moved to its new home at West St Lewisham.

This was in the grounds of the old Lewisham hospital in premises owned by the St Vincent de Paul Society and the team working from Lewisham included Fr Peter Fitzgerald as chaplain.



The Lewisham premises had their own chapel, were close to the train and the Deaf Centre at Stanmore.

Cardinal Clancy opened and blessed the new Centre in Lewisham on 8 April 1988.



Flemington 1996 - 2009

In early 1996 the Ephpheta Centre was again on the move!

After a community working bee at the new premises, Ephpheta packed up its bags and moved to its new home in the old presbytery next to St Dominic's Flemington at 108 The Crescent.



Again, this was close to the railway station at Flemington and we had the use of the Church at St Dominic's which was next to the Centre.

During our time at Flemington Fr Peter Woodward became Chaplain and Stephen Lawlor was appointed as Director.



Punchbowl 2009 - present

In April 2009 we made our move to our current home at Punchbowl in an old convent which used to be used by the Sisters of St Joseph.



We were lucky that the building had been renovated for WYD in 2008 so it had a lovely new kitchen and carpets. We also have a beautiful little chapel, community space downstairs and staff offices upstairs. We should all be very thin the number of times we run up and down the stairs all day! In our time at Punchbowl, Fr Michael Lanzon has



become our Chaplain and David and Liz became agency heads after Stephen's retirement as Director in 2015.



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...



Ash Wednesday - 6th March

There will be two Ash Wednesday Masses this year.

Punchbowl - Ash Wednesday morning

When: Wednesday 6th March, 11.00am

Where: Ephpheta Centre,
4 Turner Street, Punchbowl

Penrith - Ash Wednesday night

When: Wednesday 6th March, 7.00pm

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



Deaf Men's Day Out - 21st March

Join us for our first Men's Day Out for 2019! We will be heading to Rouse Hill House and Farm, which is filled with the interesting history of six generations of families. Each generation has left its mark, never erasing the evidence of those who lived there before but instead adding to it. We will have a guided tour of this fascinating landmark and learn about the deep and rich history dating back to the early 1800s.

After the tour we will have lunch at The Australian Brewery (only a short walk from the House and Farm) together at your own cost.

When and Where: Thursday 21 March - meet at 10am for a 10:30am start
Rouse Hill House and Farm - 356 Annangrove Road, Rouse Hill

Cost: \$11. Please try and pay before the event.

RSVP: Donovan 0408 697 773 (SMS) or email donovan@ephpheta.org.au before Friday 15 March.



Deaf Women's Day Out - 16th May

You know we belong together... you and I forever and ever...
Everyone knows this iconic song!

Join us for our first Women's Day Out for 2019! We have organised an official tour to Palm Beach - the stunning location of Home and Away! We will be able to re-live some of our favourite scenes from the series, whilst soaking up the Summer Bay lifestyle and enjoying the scenery along the stunning coastal roads of Sydney's breathtaking Northern Beaches.

We will be picked up from the city (exact address to be confirmed), driven to Palm Beach in a private bus, then dropped off at Manly beach, and get the ferry home.

After the tour but before the drop off at Manly, we will have lunch at the famous Summer Bay Surf Club together at your own cost. BYO lunch welcome.

When and Where: Thursday 16 May - meet at 9:30am for a 10am start

Exact address will be confirmed closer to the date. This day outing is likely to finish around 3:30pm

Cost: \$85. We have talked with the community, explained the cost, and they would still like to go ahead with the day. If you need financial support or payment plans please talk with David and Liz.

RSVP: David 0406 669 672 (SMS) or email david@ephpheta.org.au before Friday 10 May.

There are limited numbers available for this event. You must RSVP to secure your place.



Mulgoa Mass - 17th March

Seven Hills Mass is cancelled on 17 March due to our community retreat falling on the same weekend. We are having Mass at Mount Schoenstatt Spirituality Centre at **11am**. Even if you are not coming to the retreat, you are welcome to join us for Mass.

Address: 230 Fairlight Road, Mulgoa 2745



Holy Week Program - 14th - 21st April

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 14th April (Palm Sunday) - Integrated Mass**

Time: 10.30am

Where: St Mary's - 6 Raglan Street, Manly



- **Thursday 18th April (Holy Thursday) - Integrated Mass**

Two Mass location options for Holy Thursday:

Time: 7.00pm

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

Time: 7.00pm

Where: St Jerome's - 2 Turner Street, Punchbowl
(Next to the Ephpheta Centre)



- **Friday 19th April (Good Friday) - Passion Service**

Time: 3.00pm

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

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

- **Saturday 20th April (Easter Saturday Vigil) - Integrated Mass**

Time: 5.30pm

Where: St Jerome's - 2 Turner Street, Punchbowl (Next to the 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.

- **Sunday 21st April (Easter Sunday) - Integrated Mass**

Time: 10.00am

Where: St Patrick's Church - 51-59 Allawah Street, Blacktown



Lenten Groups 2019

This year we will be having Lenten groups which will be held in the weeks from Ash Wednesday to Easter. A Lent group is a great opportunity to read and reflect on the Gospels through Lent.

If you would like to join a Lent Group please contact Brett Beath 0407 064 872 or email brettb@ephpheta.org.au.





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:

**8th March, 12th April,
10th May, 14th June**

(always on the 2nd Friday of the month)

Time: **10am to 2pm**



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

See you there! 😊

Deaf Youth Sydney



- Our Deaf Youth Sydney project 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 2019:

5 April, 19 July, 18 October, 7 December

Keep a look out on the 'Deaf Youth Sydney' Facebook group for the next event flyer - coming soon!

For more information please contact:

Donovan Mulligan

0408 697 773 (SMS)

Email:

donovan@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 **4th Friday** (not last) of every SECOND month. The next date is:

26th April, 28 June

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! 😊



Penrith Deaf Cuppa

for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people! For everybody, just turn up! This is great for people who live in the Penrith area and can't make it to our regular Deaf Café. Penrith Deaf Cuppa is a great place to meet and chat with new people or catch up with old friends over a cuppa. Bring your money if you want to buy morning tea. Meet at middle of food court. Penrith Plaza is next to Penrith train station - only 100m walk across. Always on the **3rd Friday** of every SECOND month. The next dates are:

15th March, 17 May

Meet at middle of food court, upstairs in Penrith Plaza 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

Community Christmas Party

On 2 December we had our Community Christmas Mass and lunch. It was a beautiful Mass led by Fr Michael and afterwards we all enjoyed a delicious lunch in the hall at St Jerome's next to the Ephpheta Centre.



December Deaf Cafe - LOOK WHO CAME TO VISIT!

On 7 December we had our Deaf Café Christmas party.

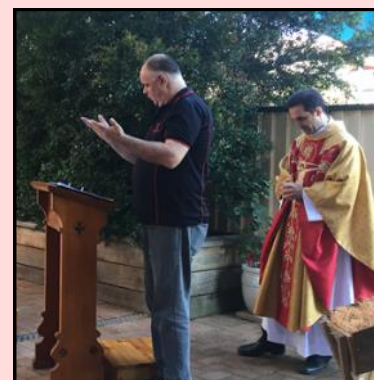
Even the morning rain could not dampen happy spirits on this day! We also had a special visit from Santa and his naughty elf who had an Ephpheta shopping bag for everyone!



Christmas at the Ephpheta Centre

On 24 and 25 December we had wonderful Mass and celebrations with the community.

Thanks to everyone who helped make these celebrations so special including thanks to Fr Terry Bell who led our Mass on Christmas Day.



Combined Men and Women's Day Out

On February 21st we got together for a day out at Taronga Zoo! We were lucky that the weather was not too hot as we were walking around all day.

We had the opportunity to have an Auslan interpreted Australian Walkabout tour where we learnt about the different animals in Australia and worldwide. Never before did we know so many facts about animals.

We also had the opportunity to get up close with emus and kangaroos that were bouncing around!

It was amazing to have the animal shows Auslan interpreted as well. We saw the bird show, gorilla talk, and elephant talk. We had the opportunity to ride in a cable car that gave us a birds eye view of the entire zoo. Many deaf people mentioned the last time they went to the zoo was when they were 5 years old. It was good to be back! We ended the day with lunch, a lovely ferry ride home, and many hours of chatting - it was a perfect day out.

Thank you to those who joined us!

Details for our first men and women's day outings for 2019 can be found on page 12. We look forward to organising more outings for our community in 2019. We welcome your ideas for what you'd like us to organise!



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!*

Our lovely craft ladies gathered and hosted a wonderful Christmas celebration on Wednesday the 12th of December. Despite the crazy wet weather earlier that day, we all had a wonderful day and enjoyed the afternoon. We feasted on a delicious roast chicken lunch, followed by yummy pavlova, trifle, and pudding for dessert!

The craft ladies have begun meeting again for 2019. We look forward to seeing what amazing craft they create and what adventures they get up to this year.



Deaf Youth Sydney

On Saturday the 8th of December, we gathered at Wet'n'Wild for our last (and very popular!) youth event of 2018 for Deaf Youth Sydney.

We had a day filled with sunshine and great friendships. All our youth spent the day swimming, relaxing in the sun, and enjoying the WILD thrilling rides. The water was perfect and a great way to start summer holidays for our deaf youth!

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 2019.



Deaf Mother's Club of the West (DMCW)



2018 was the year Deaf Mother's Club of the West (DMCW) delved deeper in to Australia's history.

February saw eight ladies start the year at its first Tuesday gathering at The House of Herbs and Roses, Dural.

Our first Sunday gathering in March was a scorcher which enabled eleven ladies to enjoy swimming in the beautiful refreshing waters at Shelly Beach, Manly and a delicious luncheon at The Boathouse.

During the year visits were made to historic Vaucluse House where interpreters accompanied fifteen ladies on a guided tour, the hidden beautiful Wendy's Secret Garden at Lavender Bay, Woolwich Wharf, North Fort at North Head Sanctuary (Manly) (another interpreted guided tour where the eleven ladies heard how Sydney was involved in protecting our shores during World War II), La Perouse Museum which showed documents of the 1787-1788 expedition of French explorer the Comte de La Perouse and Bare Island Fort (an interesting interpreted guided tour).



October 2018 saw six ladies visit Sydney Business Park at Marsden Park where they visited the Lindt Chocolate Outlet and IKEA while Deaf Mother's Club of the West last outing for 2018 in November was in to Sydney City to inspect all the stores decorated with Christmas decorations – of particular interest was the beautiful 24 metres high Swarovski Christmas tree containing 100,000+ Swarovski crystals on display inside Queen Victoria Building and the use of Australian eucalyptus trees decorated with flashing lights

and the beautiful cockatoos hung above them. The sixteen ladies then walked down to Darling Harbour to enjoy a delicious luncheon at the Blackbird Café.

By Margaret Johnston

Below is Deaf Mother's Club of the West 2019 luncheon and outing dates:

Sunday, 24th March 2019 – Outing to May Gibbs' Nutcote, 5 Wallaringa Avenue, Neutral Bay

April 2019 – No gathering due to school holidays

Sunday, 26th May 2019 – Sydney Deaf History Walk around Sydney (southern side)

Sunday, 23rd June 2019 – Outing to Birkenhead Point/Balmain

Sunday, 28th July 2019 – To be confirmed

Sunday, 25th August 2019 – Day trip to Berrima

September 2019 – Visiting Better Homes and Gardens Expo – Date to be confirmed

Sunday, 13th October 2019 – Outing to Leura Gardens Festival

Sunday, 24th November 2019 – Outing to Freshwater with luncheon at Harbord Diggers Club, 88 Evans Street, Freshwater

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. Deaf Mother's Club of the West will post their monthly event one month before and if you wish attend please comment under the post so we know you are coming.



History Corner

Maud Bruyn

By Brian Johnston

A number of Deaf ex-students stayed on at Waratah Deaf School in Newcastle NSW and either became teachers or worked as domestic servants and house mothers. During the Depression of the 1920s many girls of school leaving age would be likely to return home to almost certain unemployment and possible poverty. So the school decided to offer them employment in their sewing room and accommodation at the school. Some of the Deaf never left school. Maud Bruyn was one of those who stayed on at Waratah for many years and worked in the sewing room.

Maud Beatrice Bruyn was born at Dumaresq Creek, Armidale NSW on 10 June 1900, one of six children of Joseph Bruyn, farmer and Theresa, nee Hirschberg. At about five years old Maud went to become a boarder at Waratah Deaf School.

Deaf sewing room workers made all kinds of beautiful Church vestments, tabernacle veils, ciborium covers, altar linen, priest's stocks and stoles, women's dresses and lingerie and baskets. In 1937 Maud Bruyn was the co-ordinator for the sewing room.

By 1941 there were 15 sewing room workers. They received their board and lodging and were given pocket money when they went out, for example, enough for bus fare and entry to the pictures. When the school became an oral school about 1952, all the women in the



1937, Maud Bruyn,
Co-ordinator for the Sewing Room



Sewing Room, Waratah 1941.

Millie Boyle, Flo Walsh, Monica Ryan, Mary Cloonan, Lurline Short, Maria Ryan, Irene Ferguson, Pat Crowder, Pearl Gilbert, Maud Bruyn, Nellie Burke, Betty Carbery, Nellie Elligate, Mary Elligate, May McGee.

sewing room had to leave. Those who did stay on were not allowed to sign to the children. Maud Bruyn stayed on at the school before her death in 1975.

Maud Beatrice Bruyn died on 2 December 1975 at the age of 75, late of Waratah. She was buried with her beloved sister, Dorothy Bruyn at Botany cemetery in Sydney.

Sources: Book 'Open Minds Open Hearts' – Stories of the Australian Catholic Deaf Community, Annual Waratah Reports, Ancestry.com – Bruyn Family Tree and Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park cemetery.com.

Mass Times

MARCH

3rd	Sunday PUNCHBOWL	11.00am
6th	Wednesday PUNCHBOWL <i>Ash Wednesday</i> see page 12 for more information	11.00am
6th	Wednesday PENRITH <i>Ash Wednesday</i> see page 12 for more information	7.00pm
9th	Saturday NORTH GOSFORD	6.00pm
17th	Sunday MULGOA <i>Replaces Seven Hills</i> see page 13 for more information	9.00am
24th	Sunday PUNCHBOWL	11.00am
31st	Sunday FLEMINGTON see page 9 for more information	9.00am

APRIL

7th	Sunday PUNCHBOWL	11.00am
14th	Sunday MANLY <i>Palm Sunday</i> see page 13 for more information	10.30am
18th	Thursday PENRITH and PUNCHBOWL <i>Holy Thursday</i> - see page 13 for more information	7.00pm
19th	Friday PUNCHBOWL <i>Good Friday</i> see page 13 for more information	3.00pm
20th	Saturday St Jerome's PUNCHBOWL <i>Easter Vigil</i> see page 13 for more information	5.30pm
21st	Sunday BLACKTOWN <i>Easter Sunday</i> see page 13 for more information	10.00am
28th	Sunday PUNCHBOWL	11.00am

MAY

5th	Sunday PUNCHBOWL	11.00am
11th	Saturday NORTH GOSFORD	6.00pm
19th	Sunday BLACKTOWN see page 9 for more information	10.00am
26th	Sunday PUNCHBOWL	11.00am

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 Patrick's
51-59 Allawah St Blacktown
Integrated Mass



St Mary's
6 Raglan St Manly
Integrated Mass

Gosford Mass Announcement

Please note that our Mass times for Gosford will continue on Saturday nights through 2019. They will be held at 6pm, not Sunday morning.

Friday morning Mass

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

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

November 2018 - Robia Sowaid
22 November 2018 - Keith Hinton
26 November 2018 - Kevin Moore
23 December 2018 - Kenneth Tanner
10 January 2019 - Wendy Britton

For those who are sick

Dennis Johnston
Margaret Crehan
Thelma Harris
Christopher Cooper
John Windsor
Clara Williams
Don Williams



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!