

The North Shore Deaf Children's Association Newsletter

March 2005 Edition

You are warmly invited to attend the
North Shore Deaf Children's Association

Annual General Meeting

at Chatswood Public School
Pacific Highway, Chatswood.

on

Monday 14th March, 2005 at 7.30pm.

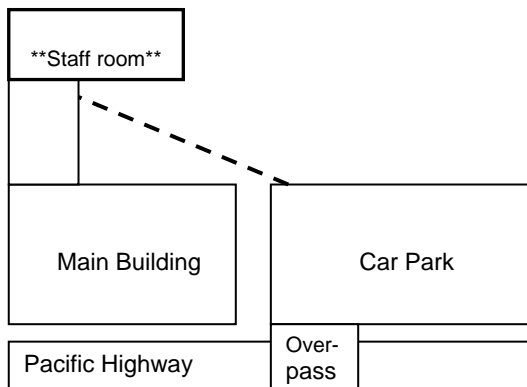
Guest Speaker: Jane Kirwan

Educational Psychologist, RIDBC School Support Services

"Developing resiliency in children who are deaf/hard of hearing"

We look forward to sharing a glass of wine and light supper with
many of our members and guests.

(Although all positions on the committee will be declared vacant on the night,
we have received some nominations for all positions.)



The meeting is in the Staff Room. Park in the car park on the Pacific Highway and walk across the playground (as indicated on the map).

The playground is not well lit, so while the walk may be a bit dark, the welcome will be warm at the end!

The North Shore Deaf Children's Association

Dates for your diary:

14th March	7.30pm	Annual General Meeting <i>Chatswood Public School</i>
9th/10th April		Veronica James Science Challenge <i>(see advert and booking form in this newsletter)</i> <i>Our kids LOVE this weekend – book now!</i>
2nd May	7.30pm	Committee Meeting (all welcome)
20th June	7.30pm	General Meeting <i>Panel of Young deaf or Hearing Impaired people</i>
8th August	7.30pm	Committee Meeting (all welcome)
12th September	7.30pm	General Meeting – Speaker TBA
7th November	7.30pm	Committee Meeting (all welcome)
3rd December	7.30pm	Christmas Party <i>A big night out for parents – good food and wine and company.</i>

Please contact Kate Kennedy on 9417 6990 to determine venues closer to each date.

2005 Veronica James Science Challenge for Hearing Impaired Children

20 YEARS 20 YEARS 20 YEARS 20 YEARS 20 YEARS 20 YEARS 20 YEARS 20 YEARS 20 YEARS 20 YEARS

to be held at the

University of Sydney, Faculty of Medicine

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th April, 2005

8.30 am to 3.30 pm

Lots of new lessons planned for the 2005 Challenge

Numbers are limited to 100 participants.

Priority is given to hearing impaired students and quick responses.

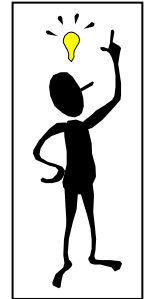
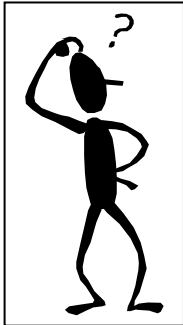
Morning tea and Lunch are provided

(bring your own if you have special dietary needs.)

Each hearing impaired student must be accompanied by an adult.
One sibling or friend may register with each hearing impaired student.
Ages 7+ (or you could be a volunteer tutor if 15 and over).

Please contact us if you have any problems or questions.

N.B. This Challenge is **not only** for gifted science students.
It is an opportunity for hearing impaired students, of all abilities,
to explore and get excited about
The World of Science.



Contact: Email vjsciencechallenge@yahoo.com.au
Phone Helen Hammersley (02) 9449 5919
Website <http://www.med.usyd.edu.au/medicine/cfhi/>

Booking Form for 2005 Veronica James Science Challenge for Hearing Impaired Children

To enrol please complete, detach and forward the form below together with payment of

\$35 per student by **Friday, 11th March, 2005**

**** Payment must be by cheque or money order made out to: V J Hearing Impaired Camp. ****

✂

Attention: Helen Hammersley
Veronica James Science Challenge
49 Kedumba Crescent,
North Turramurra NSW 2074

Parent Details: Full Name/s:

Address:

.....Post Code:

Phone: ()..... Fax ().....Email:

Would you be prepared to help at the Challenge? Yes / No

Where did you hear about the Science Challenge?.....

Student Details Hearing Impaired Signing

Name:..... Age.....

School:.....Year.....

Sibling or Friend: Name:.....Age:

Further information, instructions and location map will be forwarded with your receipt.

Cheque/money order in the sum of..... made out to VJ Hearing Impaired Camp is enclosed.

Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing

In 2004, the NSW Minister for Health, Mr Morris Iemma, established a Ministerial Advisory Committee to oversee hearing services in NSW. The following information can be found on the NSW Health website:

“The Ministerial Standing Committee on Hearing has a broad role and strategic focus, working with other government departments, non-government organisations, consumers and others involved in hearing services.

The Standing Committee has a particular role in overseeing hearing services receiving funding from NSW Health, including:

- *Statewide Infant Screening – Hearing (SWISH) program*
- *Diagnostic audiology services in Area Health Services*
- *Cochlear Implant program*

In developing its role the Standing Committee will:

- *Set strategic directions for hearing services in NSW, in consultation with key interest groups including people with hearing disabilities, members of the wider community, and health professionals*
- *Identify gaps in the provision of hearing services whether in particular sectors of the community or by geographical area*
- *Identify, consider and advise the NSW Minister for Health on issues relating to:*
 - *Funding priorities for hearing services*
 - *Quality and appropriateness of hearing services, including the use of standard, agreed clinical pathways and treatment protocols*
 - *Timely and equitable consumer access to required services, including for rural residents*
 - *Outcomes of investments in hearing services*
 - *Research, education and training programs”*

The Steering Committee is forming a **Family Support Working Group** to review current provision of family support, identify issues for families in accessing support services and consider possible models for future service delivery. If you have any relevant information or comments in relation to support (both professional or informal) you have found helpful or conversely unhelpful, please email Sue Rayner at sue_rayner14@hotmail.com

Tsunami Appeal - We Need Your Help.

I have been assisting a charity, Meta Australia (www.meta.org.au), to provide analogue hearing aids for deaf children in Sri Lanka affected by the tsunamis. Meta Australia, was set up in 2003 to help disabled children and their families in Sri Lanka via their local partner Navajeevana. Unfortunately, the children they help live in some of the areas that were worst hit by the recent tsunamis. Their families were already living in poverty and struggling with their disabilities, and without assistance their futures are now even bleaker.

I have had some success with accessing analogue hearing aids for the children from Siemens and Phonak **but we do need more (lots more)**. We hope to access 75 hearing aids urgently and 500 in the long term. If you have an old hearing aid tucked away in a drawer, we would love to send it to the children in Sri Lanka. The people at Navajeevana can program and repair analogue aids but not digital aids.

Ann Porter
Phone: 02 9960 2401
Email: portabl@bigpond.net.au

Calling All Young Writers.....

Dorothy Shaw Young Writer's Competition

Dorothy Shaw was an inspiring Deaf Lady who advocated for the development of Deaf and Hearing impaired children's literacy and literary skills. When Dorothy died in 1990, donations in lieu of flowers for her funeral were passed on to Deafness Resources Australia (DRA). The Board of DRA decided to establish a short story writing competition for young Deaf people, in memory of Dorothy Evelyn Shaw...

The Children's Book Council of Australia announces a new theme for the Australian Children's Book Week each year. The Dorothy Shaw Young Writers Competition is proud to be affiliated with the Australian Children's Book Week. All story submissions to the Dorothy Shaw Young Writer's Competition should follow the Children's Book Week theme.

This year, the Australian Children's Book Week is held during 20 – 26th August 2005 and the theme is “**Reading Rocks**”. This theme is open to interpretation for children who wish to submit entries into the Dorothy Shaw Young Writer's competition.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to express themselves creatively.

For further information, contact the DSYWC Coordinator on:
1800 555 630 (TTY) • 1800 555 660 (Voice) • 1800 555 690 (Fax)
Email: dsywc@aceinfo.net.au
Web site: www.aceinfo.net.au

Did you Know About?...

1. The Australian Caption Centre

For further information contact the Australian Caption Centre on (02) 9212 5277 or email emily.swanson@auscap.com.au

DVD's

The majority of new release entertainment DVDs available in Australia, now come with either English subtitles or subtitles for the deaf and hearing impaired as a special option. These can be accessed from any DVD player. Check the back of a DVD for the subtitling options available for a particular movie. You can check our DVD guide for movies with captions for the hearing impaired at <http://www.auscap.com.au/captionview/equipment.htm>

Captions can be recorded from your TV onto a video or a DVD.

Video

To record captions from your TV onto a video, you need any TV (teletext or standard) connected to a digital set-top box and a standard VCR. Once you have recorded the captions onto the video, they will appear as open captions; you will not be able to turn them off.

DVD

Australia has the highest rate of DVD take-up in the world, and with DVD-Recorders now available, you can do everything with DVDs that you used to do with videos, including recording captions. Like videos, once you have recorded the program onto DVD the captions will be open and always displayed on the screen – you won't be able to turn them off. DVD-Recorders will only record a digital TV caption signal. This means that you can't record TV shows with captions onto DVD if you are using a teletext TV on its own – only if you're watching captions through a digital set-top box.

To record captions, your DVD-Recorder needs to be connected to your TV through the AV output from your set-top box. Your set-up manual should have instructions on how to do this. Captions will only record onto the DVD if they are activated on the channel that you want to record.

2. Deaf Children Australia Helpline

1800 645 916 Telephone &TTY (freecall)

Available Australia-wide Monday-Friday 10am-4pm (EST)

Deaf Children Australia have introduced a Helpline for families of Deaf and Hearing Impaired children. The aim of the helpline is to provide balanced information and support about any topic in relation to childhood deafness. www.deafchildreinaustralia.org.au for further information.

3. Deafness Resources Australia (www.deafnessresources.net.au)

Distributes books, videos, cd-roms, technology and novelty items to anyone with an interest in deafness in Australia.

*Subscriptions Now Due for 2005
Please send in this form to re-join N.S.D.C.A*

Complete the following form and send to
The North Shore Deaf Children's Association Incorporated
PO Box 533, Chatswood 2057

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Name

Address

Post Code

Telephone

Email

Email Newsletter? **Y/N**

Child's Name

Date of Birth

Child's hearing loss

Child's Preschool program/ school/ tertiary education

Hearing aid user Cochlear Implant user Signing

Please find enclosed my payment of \$20 being the annual subscription fee to-
The North Shore Deaf Association Incorporated