

## 2008 AUSLAN RIDE



**Sunday 26 October 2008**

**11:45 Meet** Newtown Neighbourhood Centre.

**3:30 pm** return Newtown.

All entry free, bring water, sunscreen, bike lock, money for lunch, etc.

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

## AUSLAN

"Spoken and signed languages differ from one part of the world to the next... Children born into each different language community have to learn the vocabulary and grammar of the language (or languages) used by adult members of that community. This learning is referred to as cultural transmission...[p.6] ...recognition of signed languages may be traced back to the work of Plato in Ancient Greece. In his philosophical work *Cratylus* (written in 360 BC), Plato wrote that if we had no voice or tongue, 'should we not, like the deaf and dumb, make signs with hand and head and the rest of the body?' In the eighteenth century, the French philosopher Rene Descartes suggested that the signed languages of deaf people represented examples of true human languages (Rée, 1999)...[p.21] ...Auslan was first formally recognised as a community language by the Australian government in 1984 (Lo Bianco, 1987), a number of dictionaries have been available since 1989, and the language has been taught in schools, colleges and universities across the country, many misunderstandings about the language persist, even within the signing community itself... [p.13] There is no evidence that any single individual, hearing or deaf, invented natural signed languages such as Auslan, BSL, ASL and French Sign Language (Langues des signes Française or LSF). Signed languages appear to have been in use among deaf people in Australia, Britain, the United States and France (and elsewhere in the world) before schools for deaf children were established in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries... [p.19]"

Trevor Johnston and Adam Schembri  
*Australian Sign Language – An introduction to sign language linguistics*  
Cambridge © 2007

**3 April [1870]** The Governor, the Earl of Belmore, lays the foundation stone for the Deaf and Dumb Asylum on the Newtown-road at Darlington... The *Illustrated Sydney News* regards the site as "a most beautiful and salubrious position elevated above all surrounding land, advantages that cannot be too highly estimated when the deprivation of the unfortunate and afflicted creatures to whose welfare and benefit this noble institution is devoted are considered."

Mark Matheson  
*Victorian Villas of Marrickville and Newtown*  
Marrickville Council Library Services © 1996

### **12:00 Depart Newtown**

### **12:10 Shepherd Centre**

"The Shepherd Centre was a dream realised by Dr Bruce Shepherd and his late wife Annette when both of their children were born profoundly deaf... The Shepherd's believed that given the opportunity and with training, children who are born deaf or hearing-impaired should be able to take their place in the hearing world... With just five families, The Council for Integrated Deaf Education began in 1970 and later became The Shepherd Centre for Deaf Children and their Parents."

<http://www.shepherdcentre.com.au/>

### **12:20 Darlington School for the Deaf**

"The NSW Institution for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind was the first school for the deaf in Australia. For nearly a century it was the largest institution for deaf, dumb and blind children in Australia and a successful public charity. The building is a fine example of 19th century charitable institutions..."

<http://www.facilities.usyd.edu.au/afm/reports/heritagesection170-r01.cfm?pkID=4726050>

### **12:50 Object Gallery, St Margarets** (coffee/snack optional)

The **Bombay Sapphire Design Discovery Award Exhibition** at Object is just around the corner, opening to the public **6 September** and running until 2 November 2008.

Recognised locally and internationally as the most prestigious award in Australian design, the *Bombay Sapphire Design Discovery Award* aims to both reward and promote excellence in functional design and uncover the most original and inventive minds working in the field.

<http://www.object.com.au/archive/pages/documents/BSDDAEMediaRelease.pdf>

### **1:20 AGNSW.** (coffee/lunch optional)

<http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/current>

### **1:30 The French Connection AGNSW Monthly Auslan-interpreted Tour**

Since French mariner La Perouse arrived at Botany Bay hours after Governor Phillip there has been a link between French and Australian culture. Investigate the influence of French art on Australian artists from the Impressionists through Modernism and beyond.

[http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/events/cal/auslan\\_tours\\_07?clicked\\_date=2007-10-28](http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/events/cal/auslan_tours_07?clicked_date=2007-10-28)

### **2:30 Depart AGNSW.**

### **2:45 Danks St Festival.**

Food, music, art, etc.

### **3:30 Newtown.**

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