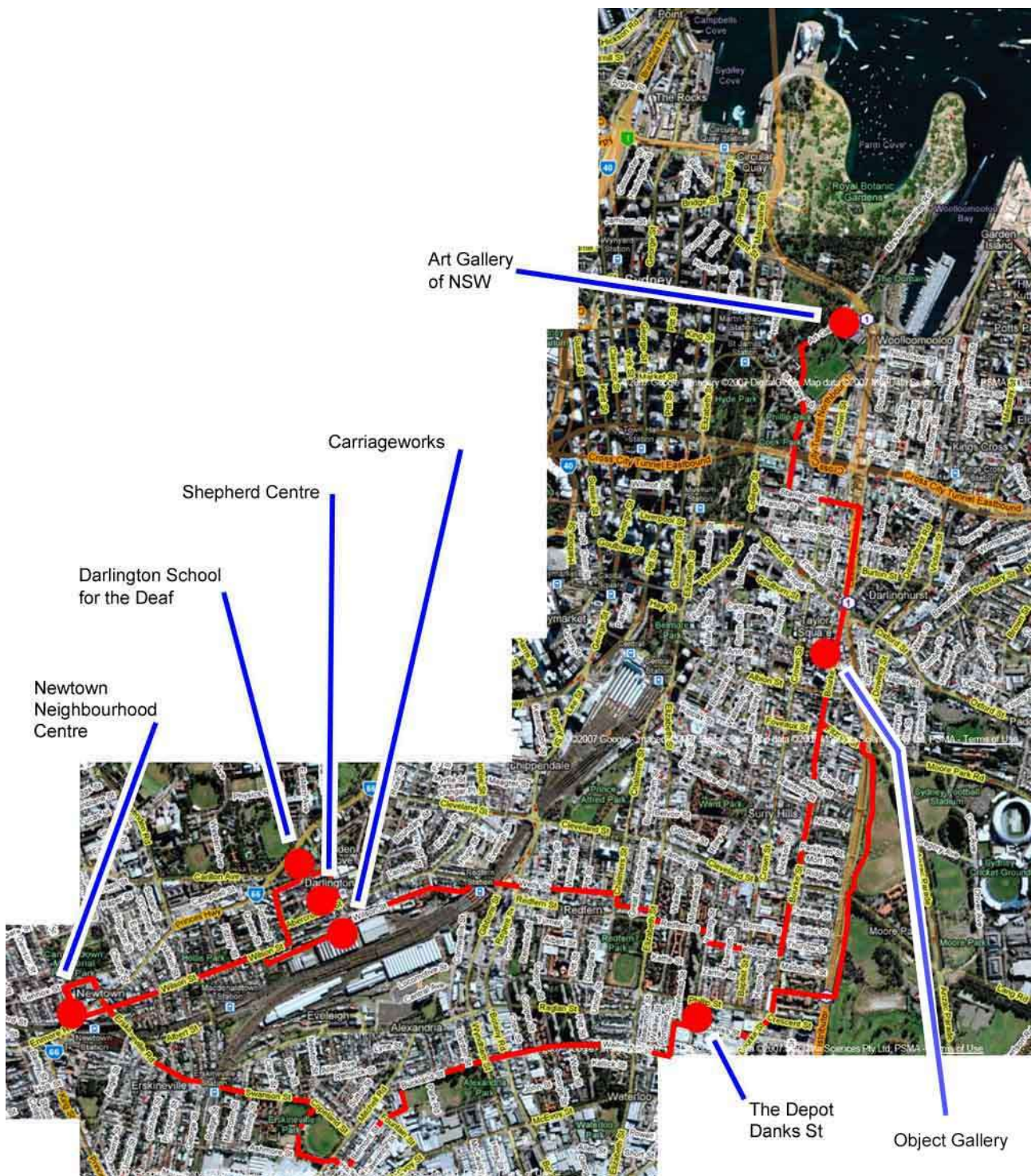


## MASSBUG OCTOBER 2007 RIDE SIGNERS AND SYMBOLISTS



**Sunday 28 October 2007**

**11:15 am** for 11:30am departure Newtown Neighbourhood Centre.

**3:00-3:30 pm** return Newtown.

Highlights: Carriageworks, cycle path Wells St, Bourke St, Guided Tours of *Dobell Prize* and *French Connection* return via Bourke St, Moore Park, South Redfern, Newtown. All entry free, bring money for lunch, etc.

Grab a brunch meal before setting off for some visual culture... *deafies* and *auslan students* especially welcome.

## 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

[p.20]

### 11:30 Depart Newtown

### 11:40 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/>

### 11:50 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>

### 12:10 Wilson St, Wells Street upgrade to Bourke Street

### 12:20 Object Gallery, St Margarets (coffee/snack optional)

Bombay Sapphire Design Discovery Award Exhibition 2007 11 September – 4 November 2007

"Object is Australia's leading centre for design, a not-for-profit organisation presenting more than 300 designers annually to audiences across Australia. Object is at the heart of supporting Australian designers, and is excited about the current global interest in design..."

<http://www.object.com.au/pages/current.html>

### 12:40 Bourke St, Stanley Street, Domain to AGNSW.

### 1:00 Dobell Prize for Drawing 2007 AGNSW Guided Tour

Drawing is often considered a private activity, a form of research for painting, sculpture or printmaking, an art hidden from public view. This annual award brings the remarkable drawing talents of Australian artists into the public domain. The Dobell Prize is Australia's most prestigious drawing prize and since its establishment in 1993 has attracted the very best in contemporary drawing. Sponsored by the Sir William Dobell Foundation. (coffee/lunch optional)

[http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/current/dobell\\_2007](http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/exhibitions/current/dobell_2007)

### 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 Return to Newtown via Bourke Street, Fitzroy St, Moore Park,

### 2:45 The Depot, Danks St. Coffee Stop. Wellington St, Erskville St,

### 3:30 Newtown.