

Canberra Deaf Children's Association Newsletter



September 2009

Universal Hearing Screening on the way

In a rare display of Bipartisanship, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Opposition member Brendan Nelson joined forces to announce their goal of introducing universal hearing screening in Australia.

Currently the ACT is one of the few states and territories with a comprehensive hearing screening program for newborns.

The announcement was made at the Shepherd Centre in Darlinghurst, Sydney, and is aimed to be in place in 2011.

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/lifestyle/wellbeing/birthday-present-for-all-newborns-hearing-tests-20090629-d2ir.html>

Parent perspectives and newborn hearing screening.

Two CDCA committee members, Luke and Wendy, are involved in a recently formed coalition of parents, called ANZPOD. ANZPOD has created a document titled 'Parent Perspectives and Newborn Hearing screening' accessible through:
20090703-958-parent-perspectives.pdf

ANZPOD represents families of children who are deaf or hearing impaired around

Australia. Members of the group are all parents of deaf or hearing impaired children and represent most of the major parent organisations within Australia. The aim of the group is to ensure parents of deaf and hearing impaired children have a voice in the development of the National Standards and Policy for Newborn Hearing Screening. We will update you as time progresses.

In this issue...

Upcoming Events

Hearing Australia play area

Australian Hearing Waiting Area

Last issue the lack of activities to entertain children waiting for appointments at Hearing Australia in Canberra was raised.

Hearing Australia were very welcoming to input and a new activity centre has been installed with the help of Canberra Deaf Kids Association..

New Cochlear implant on the way

The new Cochlear Freedom 5 is undergoing trials in Australia. It is available in some countries internationally. Not much information is available but word on the street is that Cochlear need to listen to feedback from parents as this version needs some kid friendly tweaks.

However expect better battery life, higher quality microphones, greater processing power and a range of other incremental improvements.

The implant and processor are being submitted to the authorities for separate approval, and may become available at different times.

Kids outings

The CDCA board is planning some outings for kids and families. Possibilities on the cards include:

- Cockington Green
- Questacon
- Steam Train ride
- Ten Pin Bowling

CDCA Christmas Party

Sunday 29 November 11am - 1pm

CDCA Annual General Meeting.

All members are welcome.

Thursday night in November. 7:30PM

Watch the CDCA website for details.

Grant Cameron Community Centre, Mulley St Holder.

Wiggles

A reminder to CDCA members about the Wiggles concert on 9 December - a highlight of the year for kids and kids-at-heart.

CDCA Membership 2009

The yearly membership contribution is \$20.00. Membership is available to parents, relatives, professionals and friends. Financial members receive newsletters up to six times a year and are eligible to borrow the CDCA toys, resources, games, books etc. Your contributions enable us to buy new resources for the library and assist in the running of the Association. Please make cheque payable to *Canberra Deaf Children's Association* and mail to:

**The Treasurer
Canberra Deaf Children's Association
PO Box 2291
Tuggeranong ACT 2901**

Please complete the following form and return with your payment so we can maintain up to date details.

Parent's/Carer's Name:			
Address:			
Email:			
Home Phone:		Work Phone:	
Mobile:		Fax:	

Please include all children in the family

Child's Name	Date of Birth	Hearing Loss