



SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC

THUMBS UP | Quarterly Newsletter

June 2013

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Hi All,

We are now halfway through 2013 and what a brilliant 6 months it has been.

In March we witnessed the 3rd National Deaf View 3 Conference hosted by the Wellington Deaf community. Acknowledgements should be made to the voluntary Interpreters who, from all over the country, did a sterling job of interpreting the proceedings.

During Sign Language Week, in May, NZSL Interpreters were out in droves. Our profession was represented on National Television's major channels, interviewed on the Radio, at the International Comedy Festival and attended other public events throughout the country!

Regional meetings in the main centres have been run and results from the discussions that occurred during these gatherings will be presented at the AGM next month.

One more day to get in your registration for the 2013 SLIANZ Conference! Deadline is 16th June 2013. It is not too late, do it! This year's conference will be like no other. Come and see how the NZSL Interpreting profession and you can keep "Staying Alive"!!

Looking forward to seeing many of you very soon in Windy Wellington!

Take care,
Kelly Hodgins

Newsletter Editor

Deaf View III “Our Changing Community”

By Shannon Knox

Thanks to the SLIANZ professional development fund, I was able to attend Deaf View III to get some professional development. As a hearing person, I see myself as having a “life of service” in the Deaf and interpreter community. My aim in going to Deaf View III was to update myself on where the community sees its priorities and how I can be of most benefit in my role as an interpreter and my choice of papers to attend reflects this, catching up with old friends notwithstanding!

The focus of “Our Changing Community” began with keynote speakers Dr Breda Carty and Colin Allen. Dr Carty discussed the changes to the Deaf community as there is more and more access to interpreters, hearing people learning to sign and technology offering solutions to communication barriers in new and exciting ways. She drew on the writings of Woll and Ladd (2008, 2011) discussing the move from “Oppositional Community” where the community was close knit due to its difference, and exclusion, from the hearing world, to a “Single community” with more access to and equality with the hearing world and thirdly, the “Integrated community” which is similar to the “Single community” but where the Deaf community also recognises a “collective Deaf self”. She wove together multiple strands of personal and collective identity, using research by Padden (1998 and 2005), Ladd (2003) and our very own Smiler and McKee (2007) among others.

Sue Lessing of Deaf Aotearoa, Tauranga, noted in the “Deaf Community Asset Map” presentation, that a healthy community has a collaborative, future focussed, interdependent nature that looked for win-win solutions and valued diversity and involvement. She described an unhealthy community as having the same old faces, with few people doing everything, confrontation and debates on the past, grudges, exclusion, blockers and blamers. The audience broke into smaller groups and discussed what they saw as the assets of the Deaf community and how these could be best utilised in the interests of the Deaf community.

I found the community development presentation by Deaf Aotearoa and the “Interpreting for Bloody Ages” workshops by Megan Mansfield the most helpful in allowing me to reflect on where I am in relation to the Deaf community and where my service is best placed. In talking to other very experienced interpreters there seems to be a shared malaise with interpreting post fifteen years’ experience accompanied by a sense of frustration in the lack of opportunity to share our learning in a meaningful, systematic and recognised way. Is it time for us to begin convening our colleagues in the sector to discuss putting some kind of structure around this?

Towards the end of the conference, Victoria Manning hosted a panel discussion entitled “The future of our NZ Deaf community” which showed varying perspectives on the Deaf community’s future and what would be best. These capped off themes introduced by Dr Carty and Colin Allen.

On the whole, the conference reflected the change in language that we see in our everyday work. It is an interesting proposition to provide a service and care passionately about the welfare of a community without assuming leadership roles within that community. Deaf View III made it again, abundantly clear that as well as being inappropriate it is also indisputably unnecessary.

'KNOW YOUR SMARTPHONE, BETTER THAN IT KNOWS YOU!'

By Ginette Rawlinson

Your Smartphone knows more about you than any other device, and it could share confidential information without you being aware of it or it could get into the wrong hands.

Very few sign language interpreters live without a Smartphone. In fact, it's probably hard for most of you to remember what life was like managing your work schedules without a small device in the palm of your hand. Over the past few years, Smartphone technology has advanced rapidly. More importantly, the knowhow of keeping the information on our Smartphones safe and secure has become more crucial.

If a stranger got hold of your Smartphone, it could take just a few minutes to get to know you intimately. Your apps, messages, address book, calendar, browser history and photos tell a story about what you do for a living, who your friends are, where you have been and what you like to do.



What can you do to protect yourself from someone who might gain possession of your phone? When you send that message via FaceTime or Viber, for example, how can you make sure your location isn't shared? How can you protect your confidential information from being shared with a third party?

PROTECT THE LOCK SCREEN

One of the easiest ways to add a layer of security to your Smartphone is requiring a password to get past the initial lock screen. For iPhones, you can turn on a setting to require entering a four digit password to use the device. For Android phones, you can set up a password or a secret gesture that you draw with your finger to unlock the screen. There is also a setting to make the phone erase all your data if a person enters the password incorrectly after a certain number of times.

It can be annoying to have to enter a password every time you turn on the phone, but one way to make this less cumbersome is to set an amount of time the phone has to wait until it requires entering a password again. For example, you can set it to require a password 15 minutes after the last time you entered it.

MINIMIZE LOCATION SHARING

A lot of apps on a Smartphone track your location. In the settings for both iPhones and Android phones, you can choose which apps gain access to location data, or turn off location services altogether. It is generally wise to allow only apps that make good use of location data, like GPS software, to track where you are. But you probably don't want to allow the app Viber, for example, to know your location, if all you do is make calls, send texts, and pictures.

On some Smartphones, your location is pulled whenever you snap a photo. This feature, called geotagging, is aimed at helping organise photo albums. But if you are sensitive about people knowing where you have been, make sure to turn location tracking off inside the camera settings.

CHECK APP'S DATA ACCESS

Some apps may have access to your data or personal information. Be wary of the access that is outside of the scope or purpose of the apps. A game app doesn't need access to calling, texting, contacts and system files. If a game app wants all the access, get a little suspicious. If you have any doubt about an app, do not install it.

BE WARY OF UNSECURED WIFI HOTSPOTS

Use caution when checking your email on public Wi-Fi (for example, at a local cafe). These wireless hotspots transmit your data over-the-air, so when you enter your password or credit card details while using one of these wireless networks, you run the risk of someone else seeing your confidential information.

If you would like more information about how to keep your mobile safe and secure, check out the Netsafe website - <http://www.netsafe.org.nz/how-to-keep-your-mobile-devices-safe-and-secure/>

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

NZSTI Conference

28-30 June 2013, Tauranga Yacht and Power Boat Club, Tauranga, New Zealand

Theme - 'Words, Meaning, Inference and Intention'

Visit www.nzsti.org for more information and registration details. Early Bird has now closed.

2nd International Conference of the World Federation of the Deaf

16-18 October 2013, Wesley Conference Centre, Sydney, Australia

Theme – 'Equality for Deaf People'

Visit www.wfdsydney2013.com for more information and registration details.

ANC Conference

The ASLIA National Conference (ANC)
Saturday 19th October 2013, Aerial UTS Function Centre, Sydney, Australia

Theme - 'All in a Day's Work'

SLIANZ members are able to register at the ASLIA member price. Early Bird rate deadline - 31 July. Places are strictly limited to 100 delegates.

Visit www.asliaconference.org.au for more information and registration details or see attached flyer.

The Conundrum of Interpreter Pay Rates

By Rachel Tate

Every time I provide a quote, send out my terms and conditions or create an invoice, I am reminded of that responsibility we were all made aware of back in AUT days - to ensure that our pay rates are in line with market rates. I'm sure we are all aware of the necessity for this, yet discussions around individual interpreter pay rates are few and far between - maybe because it's not a social norm but also because it can be a bit embarrassing to discover you are charging equal to or (cringe) more than a linguistically superior colleague, or that you are charging less than somebody who graduated years after you. If this is the case, it turns out to be a bit of a conundrum as to what to do about it.

So we have this obligation to ensure that we are not charging embarrassingly more or embarrassingly less than our fellow interpreters. But who decides what is fair and reasonable? And what does 'market rates' mean anyway? Do we get a rough idea from the agencies? Hang on - what they charge us out at or what we get in our valuable little hand? Or the educational institutions? Do we align our rates with those who we graduated with? Is there regional variation? Should we charge different rates for different settings (eg the higher the consequence = higher the rates)? Should qualifications be taken into account, the number of years worked or perhaps individual skill level?

I was on an assignment recently where the "exorbitant cost of interpreters" was raised as an issue, and luckily I had my ethics to fall back on which kept me from putting in my two cents worth. I have, however, made a brief list of all the associated costs and responsibilities I can think of which contribute towards our "minimum two hour charge" or our "call out fee + one hour + travel/parking" terms and conditions, or however it is that you structure your rates...

Travel Costs

Vehicle
WOF
Registration
Repairs
Petrol
Driving Time
Car Parking
Vehicle Insurance
Public Transport
Waiting Time
Travel Time

PD

SLIANZ Fees
Conferences
Networking
PD Meetings
Admin/forms
Committee
Deaf events
Mentor/Mentee
Study/Up-Skilling
Peer Review
Supervision

Job Bookings

Phone
Monthly bill
Computer + maintenance
Internet
Hardware
Software
Diary
Text/Email/Calls
Quoting
Office space
Insurance

Professional/Personal

Wardrobe
Hair
Accountant fees
Accounts system
Tax
Childcare
Gym
Massage
Physiotherapy
Counseling
Health

The Job

Duration
Physical Demands
Emotional Demands
Mental Demands
Ethical considerations
Continued ethical responsibility
Qualification cost
Qualification time
Holiday pay
Sick pay
Bereavement pay
Quiet season
Prep time

The Conundrum of Interpreter Pay Rates continued...

You may be able to think of a few more to fill in the blanks. I know that these costs aren't something that are necessarily in the forefront of our minds while we are on the job, and I think they are definitely not something that are in the minds of the people we work with, at least, not many of them. But the fact remains that there is a lot more to interpreting a one-hour doctor's appointment or a two-hour staff meeting than meets the eye.

Going back to the question of appropriate hourly rate - as a profession, how do we tackle this one? And do we even want to? Or is this simply the nature of the freelance profession we have chosen – is it each to their own? I know that as my interpreting abilities have improved over the years, so has my hourly rate. A question for my superior colleagues – are you due a promotion?...



Te Reo Māori in the Online Dictionary of New Zealand Sign Language

Deaf and hearing New Zealanders now have access to Te Reo Māori vocabulary through the [Online Dictionary of New Zealand Sign Language](#), produced at Victoria University. Translation of dictionary entries in 2012 was funded by Mā te Reo, and endorsed by Te Taura Whiri. The resource was launched in May 2013, during NZSL week, and creates a link between the official languages of NZ. At present, only the main glosses (meanings) for each sign are translated into Māori. This work was undertaken by professional Māori-English translators.

A large proportion of the NZSL community and deaf children are Māori, and identify with both Deaf and Māori cultures. The addition of Māori to the dictionary creates a trilingual resource for Deaf people who want to learn Māori vocabulary. It also enables hearing speakers of te reo and hearing NZSL users to find correspondences between signs and Māori vocabulary. This is potentially useful to deaf children in Māori medium education settings, and to interpreters working with students who are learning te reo.

Following its 're-launch', the dictionary was presented at the recent National Māori Deaf Hui, in Te Kuiti,



***Launch of Te Reo Māori in NZSL Online, at the NZSL Awards Gala Dinner
Glenis Philip-Barbara (Maori Language Commission CE), David McKee (VUW),
Patrick Thompson (Ngati Turi o Aotearoa)***

INTERPRETER OF THE YEAR

The SLIANZ Committee would like to say congratulations to Angela Murray (Wellington) for winning Deaf Aotearoa's '***Interpreter of the Year***' award.
Well Deserved!

For Your Diary

Upcoming important dates

June 2013

21 June – Deadline for business for AGM to be submitted to SLIANZ Secretary

28-30 June – NZSTI Conference "Words, Meaning, Inference and Intention", Tauranga

July 2013

5-7 July- SLIANZ Conference "Staying Alive", Wellington

August 2013

22 August – Cut-off date for articles for September newsletter

October 2013

16-18 Oct – 2nd WFD International Conference "Equality for Deaf People", Sydney, Australia

19 Oct – ASLIA ANC conference (1 day), "All in a Day's Work", Sydney, Australia



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