



NABS News for Auslan Users

National Auslan Interpreter Booking & Payment Service

'A Country Practice' Interpreter

NABS provides service all over Australia. There are Interpreters who live all over Australia. Some live in the city and some live in the country. Some are near or far. NABS has 422 Interpreters working all over Australia.

One of them is David Barnes. David, 47, is from Stanmore, Sydney, NSW. He moved to Tunbale Creek, on the Far North Coast of NSW, 10 years ago. Tunbale Creek is 30 minutes north-west of Lismore. He and his partner live on 65 acres of land and grow organic coffee, olives and vegetables, and also take care of the rainforest. David received his Professional Interpreting accreditation 3 years ago. He has been involved with the Deaf community for about 21 years ago and started interpreting 17 years ago.



the area where Interpreters want to live is a big thing and I would encourage more people who are Deaf to make the sea/tree change!"

"In Lismore the North Coast Deaf community are very supportive and provide lots of positive feedback to all the Interpreters in the area and I hope this continues", said David. On NABS, David says "It was a wonderful achievement for the Deaf community when the Federal Government finally acknowledged the need for private medical Interpreting services to be provided to people who are Deaf".

When asked what advice he would like to give to the Deaf community about working with Interpreters for NABS, David says, "I like to arrive a bit early and chat with the Deaf person like a 'catch up' to make sure I understand what is being signed and to check for any specific signs the Deaf person or I may use (in the appointment) so we are clear in our communication".

Lismore is a country town in the North East Coast of NSW. It is close to Byron Bay. David describes Lismore as a "busy town with a large Deaf community, with two big hospitals and an University". He says Lismore is called 'The Wok' because it is in a valley and in summer time it is very hot.

David says while there are some of the difficulties working as an Interpreter in a rural area such as the long distances to travel with roads sometimes in bad condition, there are many positive things about living in this region. He says, "It's wonderful! This region has beautiful villages and towns". David says "Having a Deaf community in



IN THIS ISSUE..

ASLIA Vic Awards Night

Recent Presentations

Flying Doctor is 80!

Highlights of ASLIA National Conference, Darwin

Please Remember



At the ASLIA Vic Awards in July

NABS was awarded Interpreting Agency of the Year by ASLA Victoria at the 2nd ASLIA Vic Awards Night held on 5 July, 2008.

NABS is very pleased to receive the award in this category which was

awarded for NABS outstanding contribution to the field of Interpreting Services. The Award was sponsored by the University of Ballarat. We thank all of our dedicated Interpreters who have made this possible.

Always Check

Always check your information before you send it to us. Some common mistakes are:

2 November when it should be **22 November**

10:10am when it should be **10:00am**

15 Smith Road when it should be **115 Smith St**

Did you Know?

422

Interpreters work for NABS

Recent Presentations Held for the Deaf Community

June

Tamworth, NSW

July

Bairnsdale, Shepparton, Bendigo & Geelong, VIC
(With the ASLIA Roadshow)

August

Ayr & Townsville, QLD
Perth, WA
Adelaide, SA

September

Gold Coast, QLD
Caboolture, QLD
Brisbane, QLD

October

Maryborough, QLD
Bundaberg, QLD
Lismore, NSW



You can invite NABS to your Community, Club or School for an Information Presentation.

Just email James on j.kerwin@nabs.org.au or go the NABS website (www.nabs.org.au) and look for the 'Free Information Session' icon.

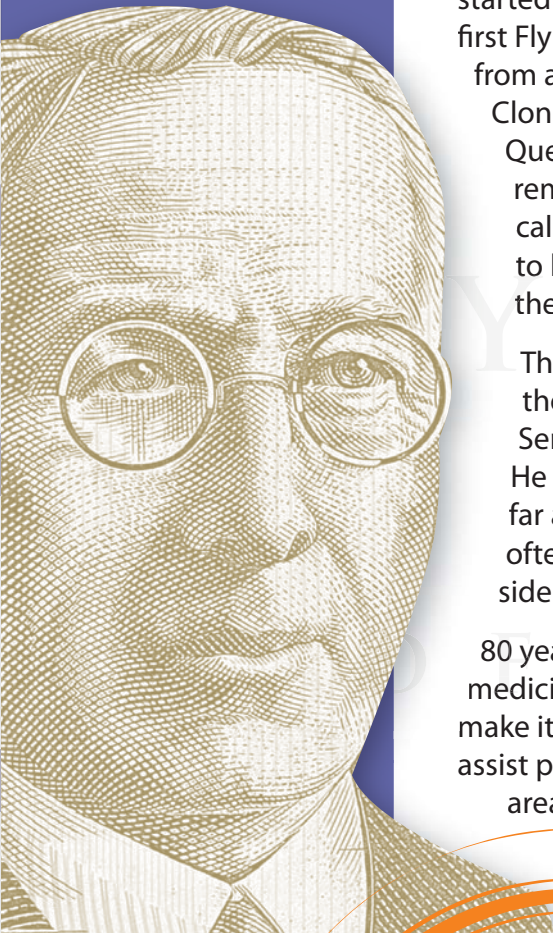


nabs

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Funded by the
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of Families, Housing,
Community Services and
Indigenous Affairs



Flying Doctor is 80 Years Old!

Other people in other countries know about the Outback of Australia. They know it is a large area, hot, and dusty.

They also know about the Flying Doctor. Because the Outback is so large, when people get sick or hurt there, doctors and nurses fly out to assist them.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) is celebrating 80 years of service this year. It started in 1928. The first Flying Doctor flew from a small town Cloncurry in Queensland to a remote town called Julia Creek to help someone there.

The man who thought of the Flying Doctor Service, was Reverend John Flynn. He knew the people living in the far away places in the Outback often suffer. John Flynn is on one side of our Australian \$20 note.

80 years later, improved technology, medicine, aircraft and communication make it easier for the Flying Doctor to assist people in the bush and coastal areas.

A pilot, doctor and nurse can be in the air within 45 minutes from a call for help. The RFDS have many bases all

over Australia. They say that no one in Australia needs to miss out on medical help for more than 2 hours away.

The Australian Government gives a lot of funding to RFDS but it still needs donations from other places to help the service keep going.

There are many clinics at isolated sites conducted by RFDS doctors, flight nurses and other specialised health professionals and in some cases State health practitioners. People can go there to get health checks and advice,

immunisation, child health care, dental, eye and ear check ups.

Deaf people who live in far away country areas who need the Flying Doctor can contact NABS to send an Interpreter with the Flying Doctor.

Sources: www.flyingdoctor.net, The Australian Women's Weekly "Outback Angels", August 2008. Photo reproduced courtesy of Royal Flying Doctors National Office & Royal Flying Doctor.



FREE

NABS Interpreting
Services are free
for private
medical services

ASLIA National Conference

Darwin, Northern Territory: September 2008

ASLIA is the Australian Sign Language Interpreters Association. Many Interpreters from all over Australia were able to catch up with each other and share Professional Development with each other.



Kylie Scott

Kylie Scott, our NT NABS Interpreter was on the Organising Committee with Tanya Miller and Debb Lovett. "I was lucky to be working with them as they both helped a lot". Kylie grew up in South Australia, lived in Melbourne for 11 years and now has been living in Darwin for 2 years. She has been a Professional Interpreter since 2004.

What were the highlights of the Conference?

"Seeing some of my friends...having so many wonderful presentations...I loved seeing Liz Scott Gibson and Patti Levitske-Gray presenting—both very strong and interesting women".

"Feeling like we made a change up here. We ran Deaf awareness sessions before the conference began, and during the conference it was lovely to see the staff at the hotel signing,

miming and gesturing with delegates".

How many Deaf people came?

"25 Deaf people came from all over Australia.. More at the informal gathering on Thursday night and at the Saturday night dinner". "I think they enjoyed themselves and felt very proud that Darwin was showcased, and that the conference went well".

Why was the theme called "Growing the Profession"?

"We picked the theme for many reasons...interpreting is starting to be recognised by many people and institutions as a profession. There is a lot of focus on how we can improve ourselves as a profession, how we can be better trained...how we can grow ourselves".

*Your Interpreter
Your Choice*

Example of how to send an SMS to NABS



Please Remember

If you need to **cancel** your medical appointment:

- Cancel the Medical Appointment
- Contact NABS to cancel the Interpreter
- Your responsibility to let NABS know
- Please cancel more than 24 hours in advance

5 Ways You Can Contact NABS

SMS 0407 671 261 (Anytime)

Fax 1800 24 69 14 (Anytime)

Email bookings@nabs.org.au (Anytime)

Online at www.nabs.org.au Click Book Interpreter

TTY 1800 24 69 48 8am - 8pm Mon - Fri;
8am - 1pm Sat

