



KERRY DEAF RESOURCE CENTRE

KDRC provides services to Deaf and hard of hearing people at county level and contributes to national issues of equality, access and rights.

Charity No: **CHY20854**

4 Gas Terrace
Tralee
Co. Kerry

27.02.17

THANK YOU FOR HEARING AID DONATIONS FOR ETHIOPIA.



We would like to extend a huge thanks to our friend & colleague Grainne Moloney who donated nine 2nd hand hearing aids for our work in Ethiopia.

Our Manager Willie White will in turn donate these to the KAL Deaf Center in Bahir Dar. Catherine Clark is an audiologist in Rochester (USA) & she will re-tune the hearing aids & she will bring them to Ethiopia in August.

The hearing aids will be given to local people in Bahir Dar when they get their hearing tested by a local Deaf person Mulugeta Moges & his hearing colleague Mizanu Cheklie. Both were trained up by Catherine & all 3 of them are sign language users too.

The Centre in Bahir Dar is supported by Visions Global Empowerment & we know its founder Greg Taylor Buie will be delighted too with the donations. Thanks, so much Grainne- we know this will make a huge difference to local people in Ethiopia with a hearing loss

THANK YOU TO CHAIR & DEAF PARTICIPANTS OF ACCESS RESEARCH MEETING

We would like to thank everyone who attended our meeting during the week on 'Access to Government Depts. & Public Services'.

The meeting was chaired by Tom Martin of TMA Management Consultants with Catherine White acting as interpreter.

Tom is carrying out research on behalf of the Citizens Information Board (CIB) on the challenges faced by Deaf sign language



users when they try to access Government services & Public Bodies across Ireland.

Information gathered from the research will be presented to the Board of CIB and to relevant Government Departments.

We would like to thank Tom Martin & his colleague for linking in with our service during the course of their research. We would also like to thank him for taking the time to travel to Co. Kerry to meet with our Manager, staff and in particular members of the Deaf community. Thanks also to Catherine for interpreting the meeting for us.

DOCUMENTARY ON FOUR DEAF PEOPLE 'DEAFENING' RTE ONE 2nd OF MARCH



RTE News & Weather presenter Sarah O'Keefe is about to become a first-time mum of twins. Sarah says she loves being Deaf but admits that she worries about what her twins will go through if they're born Deaf and have to face the same barriers she has to work so hard to overcome.

Deaf siblings, Julia and Matthew Viner were born in South Africa and moved to Waterford aged 4 and 6. They both have Cochlear Implants and just their perfect speech doesn't do the daily speech therapy they received in South Africa after their operations. Now 22 and 24, they share their concerns about fitting into a mainstream school, the challenges of making friends and how learning Deaf in Tullamore sets them at a distinct advantage.



John Heffley is a teacher at a Deaf school in Dublin, but is originally from the West Cork Gaeltacht, where his Irish-speaking parents had to switch to English when three of their four children were born Deaf. John believes his Deafness is a gift that allows him to travel the world without language barriers. He's been to 81 countries and in any corner of the globe he can meet another Deaf person and communicate fluently in sign language. In his view, his hearing people who are at a disadvantage when it comes to travel.



A new TV documentary looking at the lives of four Deaf people will be shown on RTE One next Thursday 2nd March at 10:15PM.

The documentary is called "Deafening" and is produced by Mind the Gap Films. On their Facebook page, they say "It's a beautiful piece following four deaf people with unique perspectives on life".

If you would like to learn more about the documentary & the Deaf participants, check out their blog at:

<http://mindthegapfilms.com/new-documentary-deafening/>

DEAF INTERPRETERS SUMMER SCHOOL WITH EFSLI

The European Forum of Sign Language Interpreters (EFSLI) are hosting a Spring School that will be of interest to Deaf interpreters.

The school will be held in Slovenia from the 24th-26th of March. The theme will be 'The Role & Status of Deaf Interpreters' and will be presented by Christopher Tester, a WFD-WASLI accredited International Sign (IS) interpreter. He is Deaf and a well-known consultant, educator, interpreter and trainer.



Around the world, there is an assumption that sign language interpreters are always hearing. This is not the case. There is a growing demand for qualified interpreters who are Deaf. The EFSLI school will explore their role as well as Deaf-hearing interpreting teamwork. For more info, go to <http://efsli.org/efsli-2017-spring-school/>

THANK YOU TO CDS STUDENT DANIEL CREAN.



Daniel Crean (CDDA)

Finally, we would like to extend a sincere thank you to Daniel Crean, who spent the past fortnight with us on placement as part of his 4th year sign language interpreting studies.

In addition, our thanks to our interpreters Willie, Veronica & Catherine who mentored Daniel and to all our staff & service users who met Daniel while he was on placement in our Centre.