

# WA DEAF EDUCATION HISTORY GROUP

Issue 1  
2020



Early  
Intervention  
Centre photos  
page 11

Selby St and  
Sylvia Thame  
page 12



Rewind back 50 and  
100 years ago and  
check out our photos  
and stories from the  
70's & 20's  
page 3

Check out our  
Visitors to the  
history group  
page 17



Old Staff  
photos - blast  
from the past  
page 16

Help us identify!  
page 19 & 20

Lots more  
inside!



# WA DEAF EDUCATION HISTORY GROUP

## ABOUT US

In 1900, the “House on the Hill” in Cottesloe became the home of the West Australian Foundation for Deaf Children. Today the legacy of its importance in the lives of hundreds of Deaf children and their families is being recorded by The WA Deaf Education History and Heritage Group.

The group of passionate volunteers, made of up ex staff and students from the school, parents and community members, are currently working on preserving documents, photographs, and items related to the history of Deaf Education in Western Australia from 1896 to 2020.

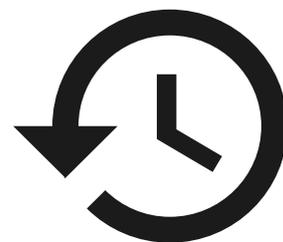
We hope you enjoy our new newsletter keeping you up to date with the activities of the WA Deaf Education History Group.

If you have any stories you would like to share about your time at the school, feel free to contact us at [deafheritage@wafdc.org.au](mailto:deafheritage@wafdc.org.au)

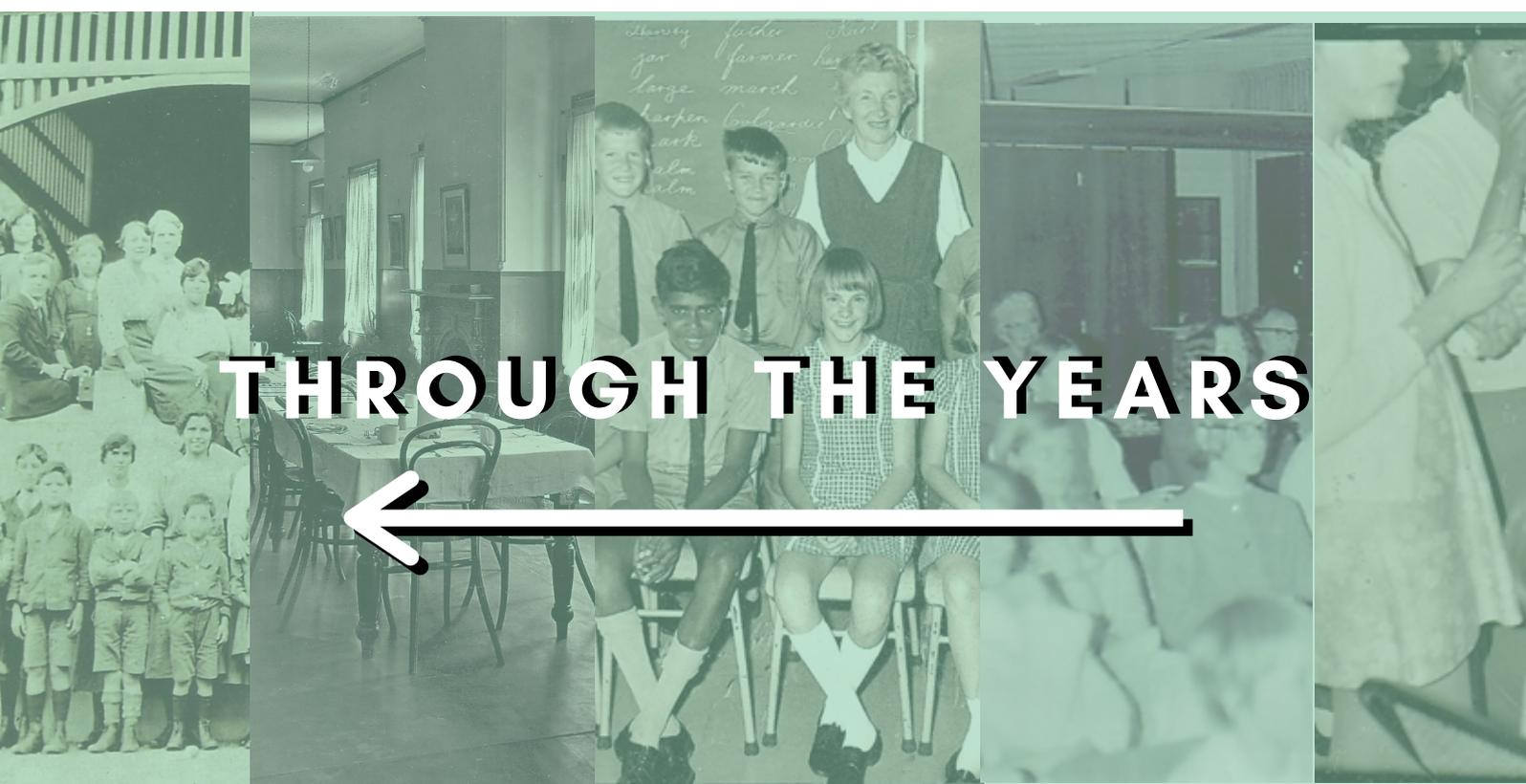
Disclaimer: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers are warned photographs in this publication may contain images of deceased persons which may cause sadness or distress.

# REWIND

WE ARE REWINDING THE CLOCK TO  
**1970 (50 YEARS AGO)** AND  
**1920 (100 YEARS AGO)**



Check out our great stories and photos from students of the  
WA School for Deaf Children in 1970



**THROUGH THE YEARS**

Enjoy our archived pictures of the 'House on the Hill' from the  
1920s

# 1970'S

During March 1970 Mr and Mrs Heatly retired after 15 years service. Mr Heatly was Superintendent and Supervisor of Education and his wife Mrs Margaret Heatly was the Matron. At this stage, the school had full and weekly boarders and also day pupils. A new wing was added to the school in 1970 that housed a new staffroom, office, audiological and audiometric rooms, manual arts room, home economics room and toilet blocks.

## Students in 1970

- 76 students attended the Senior School, Mosman Park, (Headmaster Mr John Wray)
- 48 students were attending the Junior School, Cottesloe, (Headmistress Alice Cordwell)
- 26 children were involved with the Parent Guidance Clinic, Cottesloe, (Mrs Cordwell)
- 8 students were in a classroom at the Cottesloe Primary School, (Mrs Dorice Bains)
- 19 students attended the Claremont Demonstration School, (Mrs Val Stephens and Mrs Norma Thompson), and
- 8 students were at the Swanbourne High School (Mrs A Sargent).



## *1970 Miss Buckwell and Students at the WA School for Deaf Children*

**Back row:** David Holmes, Boyd Maitland, Miss Buckwell, Mark Merciadri, Murray Hollaway  
**Front row:** Kim Roberts, Eric Clarkson, Kerry Reed, Susan Spicer, Gary Easter

## *1970 Movie night in the C. S. Harper Memorial Library at the WA School for Deaf Children.*

The C. S. Harper Memorial Library was opened on the 27th of June 1969. This library was dedicated to Mr Harper as a memorial for his work with the school that included 15 years as President of the School Committee.





## At School in 1970 with Peter Best

In 1970 I was a student at the Mosman Park School for the Deaf. I was a border from Monday to Friday only, but not on the weekends. I enjoyed breakfast, lunch and dinner in the Hostel dining room every Monday through to Friday. Look at me in the photos (Today I still look very young!!)

The first photo shows a special church service in 1970 that some of us from the Deaf School joined in.

The second photo is two years later in 1972 in the “Leaving class” – I am in the back row on the left.

### 1972 MPSD Leaving Class

**Back row** – left: Peter Best, Kathy Farr, Susan Moffett, Deanne Cooper, Karen Jackamara and Ian Murray

**Front row** - Devon Jones, Paul Annakin, Graham Wilkins and Peter Kozuh





# The Perth Royal Show in 1970.

The weekly and full boarders and I went to the Perth Royal Show in Claremont during September. It was the 3rd Thursday of September and it was the “Children’s Show Day”. We went to the show by train. Miss Stanners, Mr Berry, Mrs Donovan and some of the other staff were with us to guide us to the Royal Show. We had hot dogs and cool drinks for lunch at the Farmers Union building.

After lunch we (the girls) went to sideshow alley with Miss Stanners. She asked the assistants to get free rides for us. We had eight free rides and it was a lot of fun on these rides. (I remember the rides cost 20 cents in 1967.)

We bought some show bags before we left the showgrounds and then back to the Deaf school hostel by train. We were very excited and could not wait to open the show bags and eat some lollies. At five o’clock back at the Hostel we had to have our dinner, but we were not hungry because we had been eating lollies. We told Miss Stanners that we did not want our dinner. She was firm with us and insisted that we must eat our dinner or no more lollies. We had no choice, so we ate our dinner and then after dinner we swapped lollies. These were great memories .

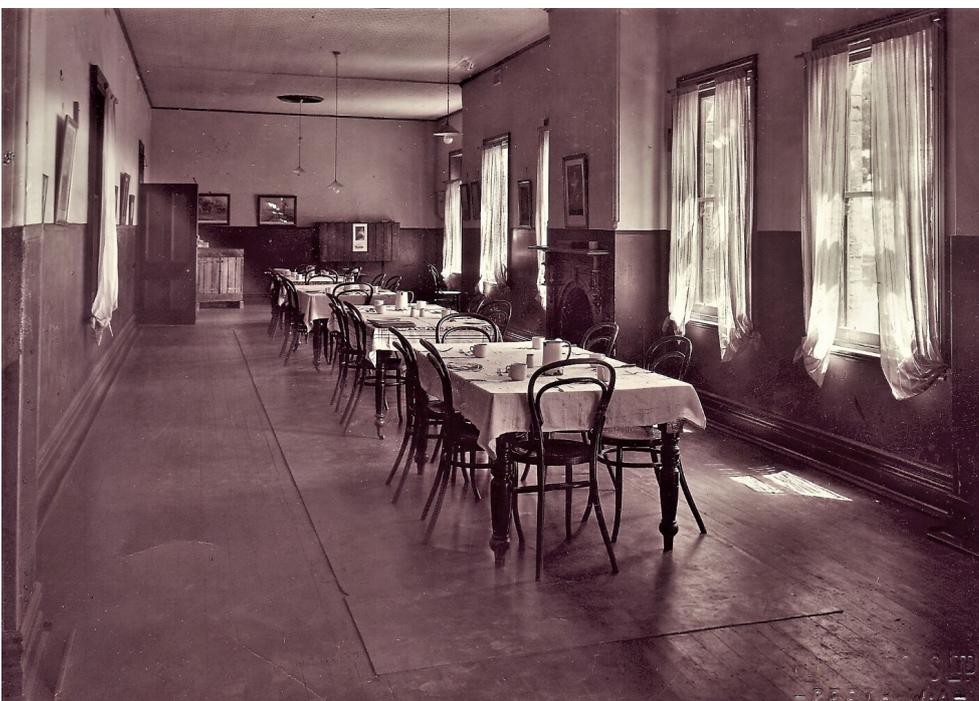
**Kerry Reed**

# 1920'S



## *100 years ago (1920) – School Photo*

Mr and Mrs Witchell and Pupils in 1920. Mr Henry Witchell was the WA School for the Deaf's first Superintendent/Teacher and his wife Mrs Eleanor Witchell was the school's first Matron/Teacher. They were at the school from 1896 through to 1926.



## *100 years ago (1920) Hostel – Children's Dining Room*

In 1919 there were 23 students residing at the Hostel and in 1921 the number had increased to 25 students (We do not have student numbers for 1920)

# We need your help

## The Search Continues

In our history collection we recently found a beautiful sketch on a small notebook page of the "House on the Hill" building. Everyone connected to our History Group has been asked if they knew who had sketched this picture but without any success.

One of our History Group, Flora O'Connor who has been looking after our library collection, decided to write to the West Australian Newspaper. On Monday 4th of May 2020, the sketch and Flora's request for help was published.

So far we have had only one response, from a former Journalist,

Erica Edelman who previously worked for the Balcatta Community Newspaper. Ms Edelman thinks she may know the name of the artist. Apparently this artist was well known for her drawings of old buildings and relics.

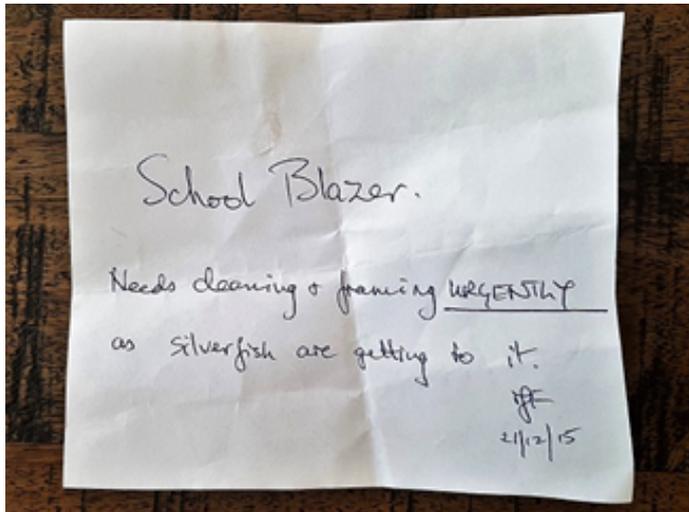
We believe we are getting closer to actually finding out who the person is behind this lovely sketch of our main building. To achieve this Flora is continuing on with her search having been inspired by the phone call from the journalist. Hopefully she will find out the person's name and maybe even contact this person.

Watch out what happens next in our 2021 Newsletter.



**Seeking information about this sketch of the WA School in Mosman Park. Does anyone know the name of the artist and the year it was drawn? Contact: Flora O'Connor, heritage group volunteer, 0409 990 417.**

# A VALUABLE ADDITION TO OUR MUSEUM COLLECTION



I recently came across a handwritten note written to myself;

("School Blazer - Needs cleaning & framing URGENTLY as silverfish are getting to it. MJF 21/12/15")"

Since that was nearly five years ago I thought it was time we did something about preserving and mounting Kerry Reed's school blazer. With permission from the WA Foundation for Deaf Children, Flora O'Connor and I recently took it to a "Picture Framer" and obtained a quote. The Foundation approved the quote and this is the result. There will be more information about this Blazer in our 125th Anniversary Newsletter next year.



**Mavis Fisher**

# GUESS WHO TURNED 96 YEARS OF AGE?



Ruth Mickelson at home just after her 96th birthday.



Ruth's high-speed skateboard!!



Congratulations to Ruth Mickelson who recently celebrated her 96th birthday.

**RUTH TREASURES HER SKATEBOARD WHICH SHE USES TO FOLLOW THE EXERCISES SET BY HER PHYSIOTHERAPIST. OUR DREAM (AND IT IS A DREAM) TO SEE RUTH DOWN AT THE LOCAL SKATE PARK ENJOYING HER SKATEBOARD!!!**

**MANY WILL REMEMBER RUTH AS SHE WAS A TEACHER OF THE DEAF AT THE WA SCHOOL FOR DEAF CHILDREN FROM 1962 TO 1984.**

# EARLY INTERVENTION CENTRE

We, Leonie Gornik and Leonie McLarty, meet once a fortnight to scan and archive the Parent Infant Centre/Early Intervention Centre photos. The Parent Infant Centre (PIC) was later re-named the Early intervention Centre (EIC). We meet on a Wednesday afternoon after everyone, except Mavis and Flora, has gone home. We usually have a short gossip to catch up on all the news and then we're hard at work, usually taxing our brain power and memory. Over the past couple of years we have experienced many and varied emotions including:

**Confusion ...** wondering how to organize all the photos; remembering, fortnight to fortnight, how to scan the photos and put the identifying information in the correct order and, hardest of all, trying to remember the names of some students and their year of attendance.

**Ecstatic Joy ...** when we find a photo which has a name and date.

**Frustration ...** when we think we have all the details correct and then find out we don't, and...

**Happiness ...** when we are reminded of a favourite student or a particularly enjoyable occasion.

I'm sure we are not the only ones to experience these feeling.

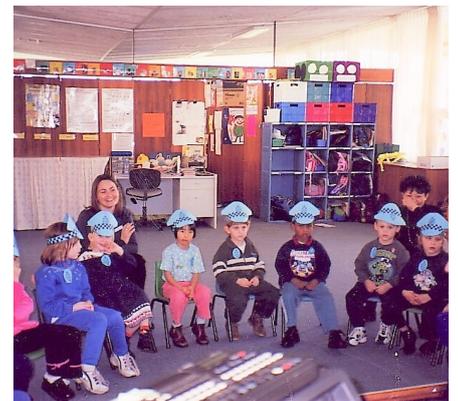
We both wish you all the best in these unusual times and trust you will all KEEP SAFE.



The Kindy group at the Parent Infant Centre in 1995



Visit by the Firemen to the Early Intervention Centre in 1999



The Police visit to the Early intervention Centre in 2000.



Leonie Gornik  
History Group Member



Staff at the Early Intervention Centre in 2001

From the left: Leonie Gornik, June Lambert, Vanessa Ravenscroft, Trish Hardy, Sharon Giltrow, Leonie McLarty, Nellie Lau, Christine Lee, Vicki White, and Jean Rose.



Leonie McLarty  
History Group Member

By Leonie McLarty

# HOSTEL MEMORIES

I have recently been typing Sylvia Thame's memories of her time as a housemother at the WA School for Deaf Children. What a treasure trove of wonderful memoirs from an ex-housemother. A lot of previously unknown facts of caring for Deaf Children came to light including this gem where I learnt that in 1982 Sylvia was the Housemother at the Selby Street Hostel, until it closed three years later. We do not have much information about Selby Street yet it was quite a significant advance with the children living in a suburban house. Most of the students who lived at the Selby Street Hostel attended "Unit classrooms for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children" in regular schools.

(We are planning to include Sylvia Thame's full story in the 2021 Newsletter.)

by Sue Panczyk



Sylvia Thame at the 2019 Foundation's Christmas Lunch



The Selby Street Hostel backyard in 1982. From the left: Matthew Johnson, Martin Tigan, Ahmed Dimer, Shane Picket, Adrian Pitt and Kevin Fazekas.

# HISTORY OF SIGN LANGUAGES

During the last term I have been researching the use of Sign Language with the Deaf. I have found some articles which indicate that Signs were used to communicate with Deaf people as far back as the 14th Century. I am trying to trace the use of this Sign Communication through Europe, Britain and over to America.

Eventually this Sign Communication came to Australia and I hope to be able to document the various routes each state took. Also, I will document the eventual co-operation that made the Auslan Dictionary a reality. It has been very interesting to follow the various Sign Languages and their development through the years. I am planning to include my findings in the 2021 Newsletter.

Margaret Warden



# SHARON GILTROW

TEACHER OF THE DEAF  
AND NOW.....BOOK AUTHOR.

## Bedtime dream come true

Tanya MacNaughton

WHILE many parents struggle to balance work and home schooling, first-time children's book author Sharon Giltrow found a way to combine the two when her 11-year-old son Gabriel had to write a book review.

She suggested he reviewed her new book *Bedtime Daddy!*, released by EK Books on May 1, which reverses the roles of parent and child as a little bear tries his best to get an uncooperative daddy bear to bed.

Thankfully the review was a positive one.

"He said it was a story about a cheeky little bear and a loving daddy bear who switch roles for the night and that it's his favourite book ever," Giltrow, of Floreat, said.

"He said the switching roles idea was genius and the funny and playful characters are amazing. He



highly recommended it."

The mother of two, whose 13-year-old daughter Kiana also became Giltrow's at-home editor, checking the manuscript's grammar and punctuation, said writing the picture book was a dream come true.

"I'm a part-time early childhood teacher and assist children with language development disorder, so I read a lot of picture books," she said.

"When you read a lot of books you start to think it would be good to write your own. I think every parent, when they're putting their child to bed, wishes it was

the other way around. One night when my son went to brush his teeth, my husband Paul jumped into his bed and pretended he was the one going to bed instead. That sparked the idea of the role reversal."

With pictures by Brisbane-based illustrator Katrin Dreiling, *Bedtime Daddy!* will be launched virtually by Giltrow from her home on May 1 via Instagram Live with the help of Paper Bird Children's Books and Arts in Fremantle.

"The director Jennifer Jackson was one of the first people I showed the book to and I was going to have my book launch there to begin with," Giltrow said.

"She suggested doing a virtual book launch (via their Instagram account).

"My children will help me video it and be my audience. I have activities planned from teaching notes I've done, then we might eat some cake."



Sharon Giltrow showing the EIC children how to feed a piglet during a visit by the "Farmyard on Wheels" in 2002.



Sharon Giltrow dressed as the Easter Bunny in 2002



## She has a book!

Sharon joined the Early Intervention Centre (EIC) staff in 2002 when the programme moved to the old Mosman Park School for the Deaf site. Sharon was recruited from the Deaf-Blind section of the WA Institute for Deaf Education (WAIDE) in order to provide a specialized instruction programme for a newly enrolled student. Sharon also worked with other EIC students which she did with similar dedication as in her work with the deaf-blind. Sharon quickly adapted to the unique team environment of the EIC and became a valued member of staff. Her quiet and empathetic approach with the children was evident. She delighted all when she took on the role of the Easter Bunny in full costume. Sharon eventually moved on from the EIC and took up an appointment at a Language Development Centre. We all wish Sharon well in her new role as the co-author of the newly published book, "Bedtime Daddy!".

By Leonie Gornik

# AUSLAN INTERPRETERS INCLUDED IN TV NEWS BULLETINS

With the recent outbreak of the Corona Virus there has been daily reports on TV of its impact. Each time the Premier of Western Australia, the Hon. Mark McGowan spoke to the media about the virus, his speech was interpreted onscreen by an Auslan interpreter. This has enabled the Deaf Community to keep up to date with the impact of this virus.



One of the WA's Level 3 Auslan Interpreters, Fiona Perry, has built up a wonderful rapport with the Premier during these briefings for the media. It has been pleasing to see Fiona and the Premier joking about eating kebabs and on one occasion Fiona was seen teaching him how to sign some familiar Easter signs including the Easter Bunny.



I have a special interest in Auslan Interpreting as I was an Interpreter myself, both in the community and in schools, at one stage of my career.

**Pat Charlton**



# STAFF BLAST FROM THE PAST



**The staff at the "Cottesloe School for Partially Hearing Children" 1984**

**Back row:** Audrey Caldwell, Sylvia Martino, Anne Kay, Margaret McGonigle and Rosemary Widger.

**Front:** Pam Henson, Wendy Lee, Audrey Coll, Barry Henson (Principal), Anna Huxtable, Pat Charlton and Judith Kelly.



**Two opposing sides during the 50th birthday celebrations for John Richards in 1998.**

**Photo 1.** Nellie Lau, June Lambert, Vicki White, Mavis Fisher, Jean Rose and Leonie McLarty.

**Photo 2.** Kara Passi, Sarah Hill, Nina Thompson, Val Cousins, Anita Johnson, Stephanie Church, Sandra Murray and John Richards.



**Gabriel Chee's retirement afternoon tea in 2000.**

**Left to right:** Steve Watson, Gabriel Chee, Kate Leigh and Mavis Fisher.



**The Early Intervention Staff (EIC) in 1993.**

**Left to right:** Vicki White, Leonie Gornik (Principal), Jean Rose, Pia Leeming, Sue Etelaaho, Mavis Fisher, Nellie Lau and June Lambert.



**Don Mune's 65th birthday in 2004**

**Back row:** Marian Brown, Phillip Singh, Jenny Buckley, Roz Davies, Wendy Attwater, Margaret Besomo, Vicki Levitzke, Mel Pereira and Jacqui Cole.

**Front:** Don Mune and John Richards



**The sheep (from NZ) are joining in the birthday celebrations for Don!!**

**Left to right:** Don Mune, Louise Ratter, Jenny Buckley, Margaret Besomo and Gwen Colloff.

# SO MANY GUESTS!

*We have enjoyed the visits from  
past students and teachers of the  
school over the years*

We really value people coming to meet with us - usually over morning tea! It is important to our history project that we add as much past information about Deaf Education as possible, so please come along and tell us about your experiences. We usually meet on Monday and Wednesday mornings. It helps if you let us know you're coming to visit by emailing us at [deafheritage@wafdc.org.au](mailto:deafheritage@wafdc.org.au) or sms Mavis Fisher 0439090910 or John Richards 0402142442

## PAST STUDENTS



Margaret Warden, Matthew Peet, Phillip Uyen, Pat Charlton, Mark Macri, Peter Best (standing), Eddie Szczepanik and William Cooper. (Margaret Warden, Pat Charlton and Peter Best are all members of the History group)



Matthew Peet and Margaret Warden.



From the left: Claudio Silvestri, Claude Bolgna and Kerry Reed (History group member). Claudio attended the WA School for Deaf Children as a student and now lives in Italy.

## BRINGING US STORIES ABOUT LIVING ON-SITE

Doug Love (son of Mr John Love, who was Superintendent during 1927 to 1955). We have appreciated that Doug Love has visited us on a number of occasions along with his wife Judy and his brother John. I am sure many will remember Doug's talk on the 12th of September 2018, during the "Love Era Revisited", (1927 – 1955) presentation. He gave us a thorough and extremely interesting insight as to what it was like living on-site as a child at the School for the Deaf with his parents, brother and sister.



# SO MANY GUESTS!

*We have enjoyed the visits from past students and teachers of the school over the years*

## PAST STUDENTS



Students who were educated at the WA School for Deaf Children. From the left: Kim Roberts, John Fleming (New Zealand), Paul Annakin, John McKenzie, Wally Guess, Kerry Reed (History group) Peter Best (History group) is seated at the table. John Fleming now lives in NZ but as a child attended the WA School for Deaf Children.

Here is an earlier photograph of three of the past students, Peter Best, Paul Annakin and Wally Guess – perhaps they have changed just a little!



WA School for Deaf Children Scout cubs in 1966.

## STAFF WHO WORKED AT THE WA SCHOOL FOR DEAF CHILDREN

The WA Foundation for Deaf Children and History Group's 2019 Christmas lunch.

Left to right: Debbie Bennison, Sylvia Thame and Dallice Hartwell certainly look like they are enjoying themselves!

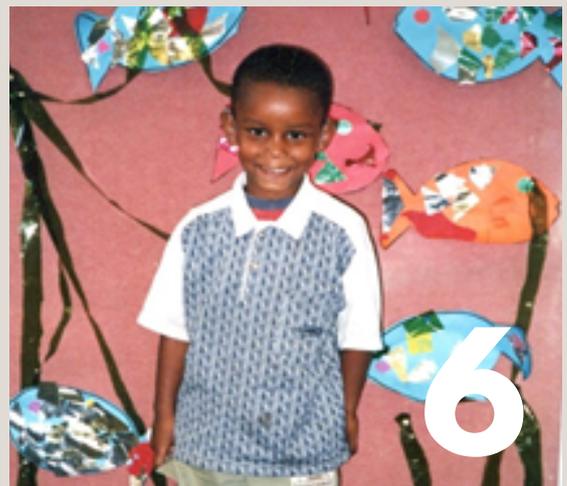


# DO YOU KNOW THESE PEOPLE?

Please help us identify the staff & students in these photos

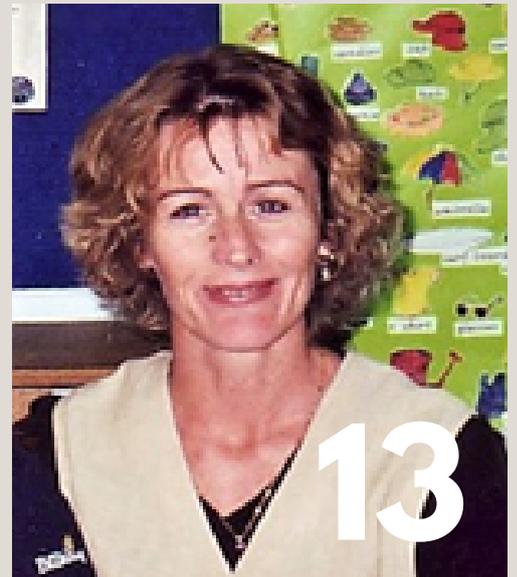
**IF YOU CAN IDENTIFY ONE OR MORE OF THE PEOPLE IN ANY OF THESE PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE EMAIL US AT [DEAFHERITAGE@WAFDC.ORG.AU](mailto:DEAFHERITAGE@WAFDC.ORG.AU) WITH YOUR INFORMATION. (PLEASE INCLUDE THE PHOTO NUMBER).**

**MANY THANKS FROM THE DEAF HERITAGE TEAM!**



# DO YOU KNOW THESE PEOPLE?

Please help us identify the staff & students in these photos



# WHAT THEY DID DURING THE LOCKDOWN

(AS RECORDED ON "WHATSAPP")

## SUE

Bought a new computer, son moved out, so she spring cleaned his room and transformed it into a study, learned how to join a "Zoom" chat, played scrabble on-line, read and visited Garden City.

## MARGARET

Dropped her dinosaur phone in the dog's water and had to buy an "iPhone". YEA dragged into the 21st century at last.



## MAVIS

Made rhubarb jam and Kafir Lime marmalade, joined TaiChill via "zoom", baked a boiled fruit cake, Zucchini slice and Yorkshire Parkin but nothing good enough for the baking competition and received a gift of cookies from a lady from the church because she is over 70 (just).



Hi everyone! Well which one is your favourite. Mine is the trifle no sponge please 🍓

11:52 am

## LISA

Looked up fitness videos, documentaries, pictures of ancient equipment, household hints and other useless information.



## JENELLE

Cleared out drawers and unearthed old newspaper articles, baked muffins, camped in the back garden at Easter, produced a variety of Auslan lessons for the History group and spent a lot of time drinking coffee.

## THE GROUP ZOOM



# WHAT THEY DID DURING THE LOCKDOWN

(AS RECORDED ON "WHATSAPP")



This is real bread - fresh out of the oven!! I think I will have a good chance of winning the competition.

12:02 pm ✓

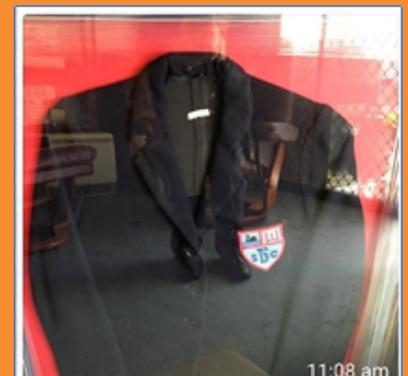
## JOHN

Baked sour dough bread, "Zoomed" with family, suggested a baking competition, had business meetings online, made real coffee, worked in the garden and as Chief Techno sent emails, cartoons and SMS's to members of the History Group.



## FLORA

Researched the sketch artist, visited the picture framer with the school blazer and ironed her hankies.



## KERRY

Visited her Mum in Corrigin, read, watched Netflix, used a skin cleansing face mask, walked, made corn fritters, broke her glasses and had to have new ones, "facetimed" with her friends, played Skipbo and did lots of cooking and cleaning.



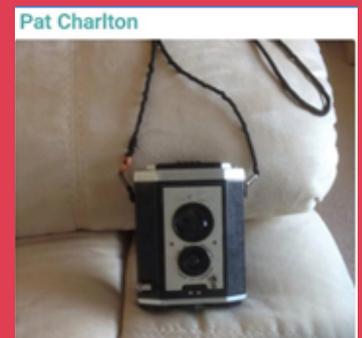
## CLAUDIA

Did her first piece of embroidery and showed us her favourite plant.



## PETER

Kept the State afloat by keeping his job, watched Netflix and went fishing.



## PAT

Shredded old tax accounts, phone bills etc., did Yoga and dancing via "Zoom", had ears cleared of wax, had a flu jab, went walking, showed us her film camera, started knitting a blanket for her granddaughter and did jigsaw puzzles.

## LYNNE

Spent Easter with her family and had a lot of Easter eggs but otherwise kept a very low profile and did not give away anything on WhatsApp - perhaps she knew she would be quoted!

# Past Presentations

We hope that you have been able to attend some of the presentations below and we look forward to seeing you at the events we have planned for the future.

Watch out for the news about 2021 as the WA Foundation for Deaf Children and our History Group will be celebrating the school's "125th Anniversary"!!

## **2014 - 19th November**

An overview of the History of Deaf Education in Western Australia with focus on the earlier years (1896 – 2008).

## **2015**

Communication presentation by Margaret Warden.

## **2015 - 11th November**

Short history presentation including morning tea.

## **2016 – 11th May**

"Past, Present and Future Staff in Deaf Education" afternoon tea.

## **2016 - October**

120th Anniversary of WA School for Deaf Children/ WA Foundation for Deaf Children. This presentation included an overview of our museum collection.

## **2017 - 21st June**

"History and Heritage Website Launch" combined with a thank you presentation to the people who had donated computers to the History group.

## **2018 – 12th September**

The "Love Era Revisited", (1927– 1955). We now we have an excellent video recording of Doug Love's presentation.

## **2018 – 4th November**

Our History Group joined with a small number of Ex-Cottesloe students to conduct the "Cottesloe School Reunion" (including the Units for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children that were located within regular schools).

## **2019 – 16th October**

The "Heatly Era Revisited" (1955 -1970) presentation, plus a celebration for Ruth Mickelson's 95th birthday....remember the huge birthday cake!!.

The next presentation will be the "Fisher Era revisited" (1974 -1992). We plan to hold this event towards the end of 2020 or during 2021.

# HISTORY GROUP AT WORK



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*Flora O'Connor working on our Deaf Education History Library collection. We are always looking for any unwanted documents/books associated with the education of Deaf and Hard of Hearing children in WA.*

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*Kerry Reed and Peter Best working together on the "Heatly Era" project. Both Kerry and Peter have provided us with valuable information about the school years, when Mr Heatly was the Superintendent and Mrs Heatly was the Matron of the Hostel.*

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*Mavis Fisher and Kerry Reed cutting Ruth Mickelson's birthday cake at her 95th birthday celebration.*

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*Leonie Gornik and husband Ric at the 2019 Christmas lunch for the Foundation's staff and volunteers. (Ric Gornik is the Chair of the Board of Management for the WAFDC.)*

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# HISTORY GROUP AT WORK



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*John Richards fixing a computer issue....on his knees as usual!*

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*Margaret Warden in presentation mode with Mavis Fisher - making sure the speakers do not go over time!!*

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*Sue Panczyk scanning valuable Deaf Education historical photos so that we have electronic copies of all our photos and documents - that will hopefully keep forever.*

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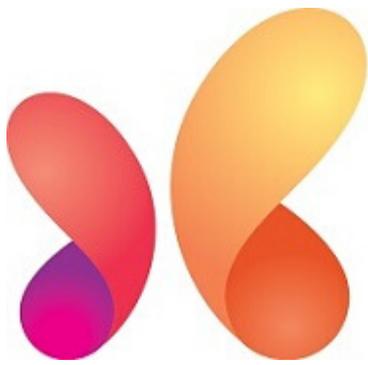


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*Pat Charlton working on her laptop scanning photos and documents. Pat recently scanned the "The House on the Hill" book - all 230 pages!!!*

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# WA Foundation for Deaf Children

## About us

The West Australian Foundation for Deaf Children (WAFDC) is dedicated to improving the lives of deaf and hard of hearing children and their families by giving them the knowledge, networks and confidence they need.

We have a Family Network Group of over 550 families with deaf and hard of hearing children in Western Australia who we support through unbiased information, advocacy and community events and activities.

Our Peer Parent Mentor Program has been developed to support parents by connecting them with those who have had similar journeys through the deaf and hard of hearing pathway.

If you would like to support us, there are many ways you can. please call us on 9385 3557 or head to our website: [wafdc.org.au/support-us/](http://wafdc.org.au/support-us/) to donate, volunteer or leave a legacy.

We are grateful for any and all support that allow us to continue delivering our services, events and programs to the deaf and hard of hearing children and their families in WA.