

## Happy 140th Birthday Waratah School!

### Rosary Convent School for Deaf Girls, Waratah

In 1875 the Dominican Nuns of Cabra, Ireland sent Sister Mary Gabriel Hogan, (who herself was deaf - *please see page 10 for more on Sr Hogan*) to Australia to teach deaf children. The first Catholic school for deaf children was established in a building in the grounds of the Sisters' Convent in Newcastle NSW. On 8 December 1875, Catherine Sullivan from Bathurst was admitted as the first pupil.

Between 1875 and 1888 17 girls and 13 boys were enrolled to the boarding school. Many pupils had come from various parts of NSW, Victoria, Queensland and even from New Zealand. A property was bought at Waratah, Newcastle for the separate Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and in 1888 a large brick building (Rosary Convent School) was opened.

In 1922 a new St Gabriel's School for deaf boys was opened at Castle Hill, Sydney and deaf boys were transferred there from Waratah. By the early 1920s more than 200 girls and 100 boys had passed through Rosary Convent School.

During the 1930s the title of the school was changed from 'Institution for the Deaf and Dumb' to 'School for Deaf Girls'.

On 11 July 1948 fire broke out in the girls' sleeping quarters and the Sisters had a hard time rescuing the girls in darkness. All were safely evacuated from the burning building. However, one man collapsed and died after carrying the smaller girls to safety.

Some ex-pupils remained on at the school to help the Sisters as teachers, in the sewing department or in domestic duties, so necessary for the smooth running of a boarding school.

In the late 1950s group hearing aids were introduced for the classrooms with speech lessons, small wind organs to develop breath control for speech and equipment for amplifying music, and sign language was banned. Cued Speech was introduced in 1970 and some deaf girls were integrated into local normal schools.

In the early 1960s Waratah started their newsletter 'Veritas' for ex-pupils. In 1967 some secondary school girls with Sister M Norbert moved from Waratah to Santa Sabina College, Strathfield. In 1969 a pre-school for the deaf was opened at Strathfield. It is now known as 'Catherine Sullivan Centre', named after Waratah's first pupil, Catherine Sullivan.

Sadly, the Rosary Convent School for Deaf Girls, Waratah closed at the end of 1976. However, St Dominic's Centre for Hearing Impaired children was later opened at Mayfield, Newcastle. This year (2015) is the 140 Years of Catholic Deaf Education in Australia.

For details of the 140th Waratah Reunion Weekend information, see page 9.



*The front and the side of Waratah Deaf School.*



*Can you spot Pearl Beath in this photo of the Reunion at Santa Sabina, Strathfield in 1946?*



## FROM THE KNIGHT'S DEN

Dear Friends,

Rejoice, Rejoice, Rejoice, Jesus is Risen Alleluia! We celebrated a wonderful Holy Week up to the Easter Vigil. Hope you've had a wonderful Easter.

For many of us we may think that Easter is over, we have fasted for 40 days, Jesus is risen, we've enjoyed Easter bunnies, chocolates and that we can "relax" and continue with our busy lives but - no! - this is not how we should approach this. I have listened to sermons from various priests talking about Lent as being a time of fasting, repent, pray and renewal of our relationship with God. They have highlighted that this is not a once off event each year but as a reminder that we should continue to renew our commitment and serve the Lord every day of our lives. Lent is a wonderful reminder that we need to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel daily. Dear Jesus, let us pray and be reminded of your presence every day of our lives.

Welcome to this edition of Catholic Deaf News and my last director's report before retirement. I would like to ponder over the years since I began my employment at Ephpheta Centre.

First and foremost I would like to thank God for his guidance and encouragement when I began work as pastoral worker with Ephpheta Centre about 15 years ago. It was

a bit of a rocky journey without considering any future opportunities especially after working in the printing trade for some 33 years plus a 3 year stint at Thomas Pattison School for deaf children (TPS) North Rocks. It was a big jump in job description however with open opportunities. I believe working at TPS was God's little plan to prepare me for Ephpheta Centre. You could say I came from a "macho" male environment in the trade to TPS where I felt like Arnold Schwarzenegger in "Kindergarten Cop". Nonetheless it was a learning curve.

Despite the rocky journey, I felt the excitement and nervousness of the new job which required me to visit the deaf some of whom I did not know but later build lasting friendships. Memories will remain with me as I pay homage and sad moments of those who passed away not to mention Shirley Carroll who was our office administrator and Fr Peter Woodward our chaplain.

My responsibilities were visitations, liaising with other organisations, preparing PowerPoint presentations for Mass etc. I remember preparing the PowerPoint, carrying all the IT equipment and set up for Mass each Sunday. I do not forget Fr Peter Woodward, (he would be reading this now) who was notorious in giving me the readings to prepare PowerPoint almost at the end of the day on Fridays. God bless you Peter, I know you are up there in Heaven. Many a time I had to stay back or take my work home to finish.

I would like to thank the staff in my early years as well as my current staff. They have supported me through thick and thin especially since I became director. Becoming director was an uneasy moment for me when I replaced Fr Peter as he

too was going through a very difficult time. However Fr Peter continued to support me through my transition and I would like to think that we remained close friends until his passing in June 2014. I learnt to become accustomed to it in the new position.

I am thankful for the Archdiocese of Sydney for giving me this position as leader of Ephpheta Centre. I am also grateful for the previous directors who set Ephpheta Centre on a platform for me to carry on God's work. I have witnessed Ephpheta Centre grow as a strong organisation by being more open and embraced the deaf community regardless of religion. My thanks to the community and as director I am grateful for all your support over the years. Ephpheta Centre has brought many new projects and ideas into the community and the number of attendances continues to grow. I am excited and trust that the new management will continue along that path for years to come. It is important that the general deaf community need to know that Ephpheta Centre will always welcome you and support you and that you need to ask. This includes non-Catholics and I repeat we are OPEN to all deaf/hearing impaired regardless of religion.

In conclusion, I thank God for all his blessings, his support, his love, and his compassion during my time at Ephpheta Centre. I have enjoyed being able to guide Ephpheta Centre to what it is today. Rest assured I will always be part of Ephpheta Centre but you will have to learn that I'm not on the job! ☺

Jesus I trust in you.

Ephpheta to you,

*Big Steve KSS*



## Fr Michael's Reflections...

I used to be a member of the Scouts, and one of the most important days of the Scout year was Anzac Day. Some Scouts would be chosen for the big responsibility of having some part to play in the day's proceedings. So, I learned at a young age the story of Anzac Day and to honour those who had died. As I've grown older, I have only grown in respect for the Anzac Day tradition. There is wisdom in it that fits with our Christian faith. Virtue is celebrated, not war, and that virtue is remembered, not in a story of easy victory, but in the reality of tragic loss and mistakes, suffering and death. Anzac Day does not hide the frailty of human beings, the sometimes terrible trials of this life, or how difficult it can be to love selflessly and live justly. Anzac Day reminds us to appreciate and never forget the good example and legacy of those who have died. We are united in this as an

Australian family, and even more, as Christians, we hope that all God's children will find their place in the family of God. We pray for the repose of all those who died. May they rest in peace.

God bless,  
Fr Michael.



## MEET THE SAINTS - St. Mark the Deaf

There is a Deaf Saint! Unfortunately he's not Catholic but Greek Orthodox.

We know very little of St. Mark the Deaf (some call him Saint Mark the Deaf Mute) other than what is written in the Synaxarion probably from the 13<sup>th</sup> century for his feast day on January 2<sup>nd</sup>:

"Saint Mark the Deaf was an ascetic (humble man) that lived a venerable (honourable) life and died in peace."

The following is written about St. Mark as well:

"Mark did not hear an earthly word, and before he left the earth, his earthly ears were extracted."

In Rethymnon, on the Island of Crete, there is the only church dedicated to Saint Mark the Deaf, in the entire world. It is on the grounds of the Holy Monastery of Saint George Ardaniou. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew (like the pope of the Orthodox church) visited this chapel in 2003 and served here a Divine Liturgy (Mass service), praising the fact that the Divine Liturgy was done in sign language.



Other Orthodox churches in Greece and throughout the world also have services in sign language as well, especially in Russia. We also know many Catholic churches around the world have Mass in Sign Language.

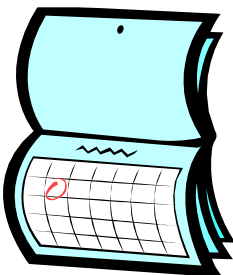
Though the Orthodox Church has many deaf saints, Saint Mark the Deaf has become the patron saint of the deaf. Among other saints who were deaf, there is St. Cadoc (Cadfan) Llankarvansky (+580), St. Drogo (Drew) (+12<sup>th</sup> cent.), St. Meriadoc (Meredith) (7<sup>th</sup> cent.), and St. Owen Ruensky (Eugene) (+684).

Source: <http://www.johnsanidopoulos.com/2010/07/saint-mark-deaf.html>



# Save the Dates

Some very important things to book in to your diary now so you don't miss out! See below for more information...



21st May - Deaf Women's Day Out  
23rd May - Big Steve's Farewell Party  
7th June - Community Presentation  
16th July - Deaf Men's Day Out  
2nd August - Ephpheta Sunday

## Deaf Women's Day Out - 21 May

Come & join the next Women's Day Out at the Powerhouse Museum! There are 2 interesting and historical women's exhibitions on clothing & shoes as well as many other things to see there. We will finish with lunch or a cuppa afterwards, at the café there in lovely company!

**When:** Thursday 21st May, meet at the front at 10am.

**Where:** Powerhouse Museum, 500 Harris St, Ultimo.

**Cost:** Entry is \$8 (pensioner or senior) or \$15 (adult) plus lunch or cuppa at your own cost. (or BYO lunch)

**RSVP:** Danni 0410 567 621 (sms only) or email [danni@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:danni@ephpheta.org.au)



Big Steve's last day at work will be at Punchbowl Mass, on 7th June! We will have a Community Farewell Party to celebrate Stephen's Retirement. It will be a lovely afternoon tea with finger food.

**When:** Saturday, 23rd May 2015, 2pm til 5pm.

**Where:** Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

**RSVP:** To Danni 0410 567 621 (sms only) or email [danni@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:danni@ephpheta.org.au)



## Deaf History Community Presentation - 7th June

David, Donovan & Brian went to a fascinating Deaf History workshop last year & would like to share this information with the community. We will have a Community Presentation on this Deaf History information based on what was learnt at that workshop. It will start after Mass, at 1pm.

If you are not coming to Mass but want to come to the Community Presentation, you are very welcome, you are also welcome to join the community for lunch as well.

**When:** Sunday 7th June, 1pm (after Mass and lunch).

**Where:** Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

**RSVP:** To David 0408 669 672 (sms only) or email [david@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:david@ephpheta.org.au)



## Deaf Men's Day Out - 16th July

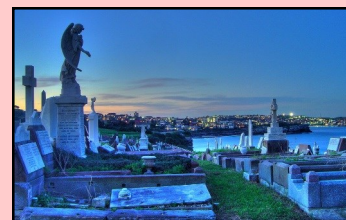
Come & join the next Men's Day Out for a Historical tour of the famous Waverley Cemetery! Please bring good footwear, sun protection and water. The cemetery is on a steep hill! We will finish with lunch afterwards.

**Where:** Waverley Cemetery Tour, St Thomas Street, Bronte.

**When:** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July, starts 10am for three hours.

**Cost:** \$25 per person for the tour plus extra money for lunch or bring your own lunch.

**RSVP:** For more information please contact David Parker, 0408 669 672 (sms only) or email [david@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:david@ephpheta.org.au)





## Ephpheta Sunday - 2nd August

Ephpheta Sunday is a special day celebrated by Catholic Deaf Communities all around the world! We celebrate the gift that the Deaf community brings to the world. Once again, we will celebrate Ephpheta Sunday in our own chapel and follow with lunch.

**When:** Sunday 2nd August, 10.00am Mass starts.

**Where:** Chapel of St Francis de Sale, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl

**(Lunch will be announced later. We will tell you when this is confirmed.**

**You must RSVP so we can tell you where lunch will be.)**

**Lunch Cost:** \$10 per person, \$20 per family with children under age 16. Under age 2 - free)

**Must RSVP by 28th July:** Please contact Liz to confirm you are coming. Email:

[office@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:office@ephpheta.org.au) or Fax: (02) 9709 5638

**Please RSVP as soon as possible to ask for a DeafBlind interpreter if you need one.**



## New faces in the community...

We welcome Evans and Shinto, 2 men from the Parramatta Seminary, training to become priests. They come to the Ephpheta Centre every Friday. They love practising their Auslan at Deaf Café and Pastoral Visits. If you would like a visit please contact Donovan.

### Evans Mary Onah

**1. Where were you born and how long have you lived in Sydney?**

I was born in Nsukka, a city in the state of Enugu, Nigeria, a country in West Africa & came to Australia only last year - 2014.

**2. Do you have brothers and sisters? What do you love most about your family?**

I have seven brothers & sisters. The gift of my family is what I love most because in any family where there is charity and love, God is there too.

**3. Do you have a favourite Saint and if so why?**

For me, the Blessed Mother Mary is my favourite Saint, because she loves everyone, like she loved Jesus.

**4. Do you have a hobby? What do you do in your spare time?**

I have so many hobbies like reading, watching movies, sports and but I think my favourite hobby is to share socially and religiously, the precious gift of my life to everyone, including deaf people.

**5. What is the most adventurous thing you have ever done?**

It was most adventurous for me to discover the reason, meaning and significance of my life in God. That means knowing what I am living for in Christ, through a personal relationship with Christ and in the sacramental life of the Catholic church.

**6. How do you feel about coming to work with the Deaf Community?**

When I came to Ephpheta Centre for the first time, meeting deaf people in the community, I felt like touching everyone's ears to apply Christ's power of Ephpheta "be open". But I realised that will mean there will be no Ephpheta deaf community if everyone's ears had been healed! 😊 However, talking with Nicole & Fr Michael was inspiring & powerful, especially when Nicole said, that deaf people will help me to learn their language because they are the best communicators in the world. It was amazing that instead of me touching their ears, the deaf people touched my heart with love, a win over to communicate with them.



### Shinto Francis

**1. Where were you born and how long have you lived in Sydney?**

I was born in Kerala, a state in south India. I came to Australia three years ago and have been living in Sydney for last 1 1/2 years.

**2. Do you have brothers and sisters? What do you love most about your family?**

I have three brothers and three sisters and both my parents are alive and healthy. I love my family very much since my best friends are my parents, brothers and sisters themselves.

**3. Do you have a favourite Saint and if so why?**

Saint Joseph is my favourite saint. I like his humility and readiness to do the will of God.

**4. Do you have a hobby? What do you do in your spare time?**

I love playing musical instruments, especially keyboard (electric piano) and piano.

**5. What is the most adventurous thing you have ever done?**

The biggest adventure in my life is my decision to join the seminary when I was fifteen years old.

**6. How do you feel about coming to work with the Deaf Community?**

I love coming to work with the deaf community. All are quite welcoming here in spite of my very limited sign language skills.



# Out and About in the Deaf Community

## Australian War Memorial day trip 22nd March



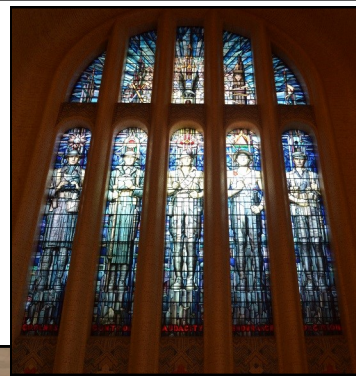
We left Sydney for Canberra for one day to visit the Australian War Memorial. It was a whirl wind trip and the weather was cloudy. There were over 50 deaf people and we managed to have fun! The deaf group was split into four groups. and there were four



tours with four Auslan interpreters. We went to the memorial to remember all the soldiers who died fighting for their country. On April 25th 1915, in the dark before dawn,

battleships, destroyers and troopships approached the Turkish coast where the Australians and New Zealanders landed. The fighting in the hills and scrub became fierce, and this is where most of the day's casualties occurred. This the occasion that Australia has marked this as the Dawn of the Legend, 25 April 1915. On 25th April 2015, ANZAC will be commemorating 100 years of service and sacrifice by the men and women of the Australian Defence Force. Thank you to Donovan and Danni for making sure the bus trip by Jimmy Ashley and the organisation of the tours went smoothly.

By David Parker



## Seniors week Events - 17, 18 & 20th March

Over 30 Deaf people went to individual 2015 Premier's Seniors Week Gala concerts on Tuesday and Wednesday 17 and 18 March respectively. The Viva Las Vegas were full of music and dazzling lights and there were two fantastic Auslan interpreters, Chevoy Sweeney and Nicole Clark. On 20th March we had debate -



"The Arts is better than Sports" in the beautiful City



Recital Hall. The debate was so funny and we all had a great time! See you all again in 2016. The NSW Seniors week is an annual NSW Government event and largest celebration for seniors and people with a disability.

By David Parker



## Happy 50th (Gold) Wedding Anniversary!!

The Ephpheta Centre community congratulated Edith and Ernie Gartner on their 50th Wedding Anniversary on the 19th April 2015, after Mass at Seven Hills the same day.



## Bernie Jopson's 90th Birthday!!!

Congratulations to Bernie Jopson who turned 90 on 18th April. His sons John & David visited him in hospital, bringing these yummy cupcakes made by a friend. Happy Birthday Bernie!





## New Archbishop of Sydney

On 12 November 2014 Archbishop Anthony Fisher was installed as Archbishop of the Diocese of Sydney at St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney.

Born in 1960, Archbishop Fisher attended primary school in Lakemba and Lane Cove, attended high school at St Ignatius College Riverview and then attended Sydney University where he studied law. He worked as a solicitor for a number of years and then, in 1995, joined the Dominican order –dedicated to preaching the Catholic faith in the context of a life of study, prayer and community. He studied for the priesthood in Melbourne. He was ordained as a priest in 1991.



*Archbishop Anthony and his mother, Gloria Fisher*

Archbishop Fisher has always had a very busy and involved life in the church – as well as being parish priest in Watson's Bay for many years, he held a number of academic positions and in 2010 was appointed the Bishop of Parramatta.

In his homily at his installation – where Ephpheta director Stephen Lawlor was an invited guest – Archbishop Fisher said : “My hope is for a Church in which the Gospel is preached with joy, the wisdom of our tradition minded with fidelity, the sacraments celebrated with dignity and welcome, and the seminaries, convents and youth groups teeming with new life,” he said, “a Church in which our parishes, chaplaincies and educational institutions are true centres of the new evangelisation, our (priests) theologically literate and spiritually well-formed, our outreach to the needy effective and growing; and God glorified above all.”

## Deaf Blazeaid Nomads

Robert (Rob) and I had the most spiritually Lenten season this year, travelling down to Victoria, to try the new country community assistance of Australia for Farmers after Fire, Flood or disaster of any kind. We became volunteers with Blazeaid.



About 16 of us, who travelled there by caravans, worked to remove and rebuild or repair 39kms of burnt out fencing in the area after the devastating fires from last Christmas. Farmers, who lose their fences and animals in these fires, have to strip the fences and rebuild. We volunteered two weeks of our travels to Blazeaid and stayed at Moyston Camp (outside of Ararat, Victoria) and were spiritually rewarded by hard work in a small farming community with friendship and peace.

Rob is now an apprentice “Rigger” from what he learnt, so he can get work as a “Rigger” on farms in future, but he is retired! Haha. We are heading up to Queensland in June to do more work with Blazeaid at Mondo, Benalla and The Caves, Rockhampton, after the recent Cyclone damage. We will relax and enjoy the touring of Deaf Grey Nomads, later in the year.

If you ever have the chance, it is well worth the feeling of spiritual renewal by just helping others in this way. For more information, please see Blazeaid on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Blazeaid?fref=ts> or website <http://www.blazeaid.com/>



See ya on the tracks!

Blessings, Lorraine and Rob Mulley (Campbelltown)

## FAREWELL FR ADRIAN

Many of you will know Fr Adrian Horgan, who in recent years has helped us with our Mass and liturgies (like the Lenten DVD program) at the Ephpheta Centre. Sadly Fr Adrian passed away on 20 April 2015 in Concord hospital. Fr Adrian experienced poor health for many years but, despite this, was always happy to help and to extend a hand of welcome and friendship to anyone. He will be sadly missed.





# Noticeboard



## Deaf Cafe

for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people!



Deaf Café is for anybody, no need to book, just turn up. We will have the coffee hot and the cake and biscuits waiting!

You can meet & chat with new people or catch up with old friends over a cuppa.

Tea & coffee available all day! Gold coin donation. Bring your own lunch or you can buy your lunch for \$3.

The next dates are:

**8th May, 12th June, 10th July & 14th August 2015**

(always on the 2nd Friday of the month)

Time: **10am to 2pm**



At: the Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl. See you there! ☺

## Central Coast Deaf Cuppa



for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people! For everybody, just turn up! CC Deaf Cuppa is a great place to meet & chat with new people or catch up with old friends over a cuppa. Bring your money if you want to buy a drink or morning tea.

Always on the LAST Friday of every SECOND month. The next dates are:

**22nd May (SPECIAL) at:**

**Deaf Society of NSW, 1/125-127 Erina St, Gosford (NOT AT ERINA FAIR)**

Special Trial of new venue - at the Deaf Society of NSW Central Coast Office!

**24th July 2015 (normal) at:**

**ERINA FAIR, 620-658 Terrigal Drive, Erina**  
There are a few coffee shops around the food court at Erina Fair shopping mall. Meet at middle of food court.

**Time: starts 10.30am til 2.00pm**

**Contact: Donovan SMS: 0408 697 773**

**Email: [donovan@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:donovan@ephpheta.org.au)**

See you there! ☺

## Rock Climbing!



*Let's climb! Come join us for a*

*GREAT night at indoor rock climbing*

**Who?** Young deaf, hard of hearing people aged between 12 and 17 years old

**Where?** Sydney Indoor Climbing Gym — Villawood  
Unit 5/850 Woodville Road  
Villawood NSW 2163  
*Meet outside the rock climbing gym*

**Time?** 5:30pm — 9:30pm

**When?** Friday 15 May 2015

**Cost?** \$10 for climbing and harness hire  
Please bring extra money for dinner

**RSVP:** Friday 8 May 2015  
(Please RSVP or you'll miss out!)

**A safety waiver is required to be filled out and signed before you participate in this event**

Do you find it hard to get to a youth event? If yes, Contact Christiane or David for help with transport.

**Christiane**

[ckassab@deafsociety.com](mailto:ckassab@deafsociety.com)

SMS: 0405 749 488

**David**

[david@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:david@ephpheta.org.au)

SMS: 0408 669 672



The next 2015 dates for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth Events in Sydney are:  
15<sup>th</sup> May (see above)      17<sup>th</sup> July  
19<sup>th</sup> June      21<sup>st</sup> August

More information can be found at the Deaf Youth Sydney website:

<http://www.deafyouthsydney.org.au/>



## International Eucharistic Congress Philippines (Cebu)

**24th-31st January 2016**

If you are interested in going to the 51st International Eucharistic Congress in Cebu, Philippines 2016 on 24th-31st January 2016, please talk to Nicole at the Ephpheta Centre **before the end of July 2015**.



There will be a Deaf Track again like at IEC Dublin, Ireland. If there are enough people interested, the Ephpheta Centre may organise a group trip. For more information on the Congress, please check <http://www.iec2016.ph/> & contact Nicole if you would like to join our Deaf group.

Contact Nicole: [nicole@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:nicole@ephpheta.org.au) or mobile 0483 201 707 or make an appointment to come and talk with Nicole.



### **Waratah Reunion Weekend To be held at Santa Sabina College Strathfield in Sydney 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2015**

This will be a special weekend of events to celebrate 140 years of Catholic Deaf Education in Australia & Waratah School.

#### **Friday night 21st August:**

- Welcome night at Bankstown Sports Club

#### **Saturday 22nd August:**

- Photographic display at Santa Sabina College including lunch.
- And Reunion Dinner in the Garrison Room at Bankstown Sports Club. (This function has a limit of 122 people.)

#### **Sunday 23rd August:**

- Thanksgiving Mass in the Chapel at Santa Sabina starting at 10am.
- After the Mass - Buffet Lunch at Dooleys Catholic Club, Lidcombe.

You are all invited to join us for a great weekend of catching up with old friends. Bring the family along too.

Please see flyer insert for details for all events for this Waratah Reunion Weekend.

Registration forms are now available with all information from Mary Profilio 0400 985 519 or Sue Cattell-Cateris 0408 117 904 (SMS) or email [deafwaratah1875@gmail.com](mailto:deafwaratah1875@gmail.com) Or pick the form up from the Ephpheta Centre.

### **Skype Access at Ephpheta Centre**

Do you like to use Skype but don't have it at home? Or maybe you would like a "Pastoral Visit" at home on the computer?



You're welcome to Skype any of the staff at the Ephpheta or you can come to the Ephpheta Centre and use our big TV to Skype your friends, maybe they live far away in the country - you can chat with them and it will feel like they're in the same room!



Contact Donovan on [donovan@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:donovan@ephpheta.org.au) if you would like to Skype us or make an appointment to use our Skype.

### **Waratah Reunion Get-together 70s BBQ**

Come to help fundraise for the Waratah Reunion Weekend, while you have fun dressing up in your Disco 70's clothes!

**When:** Saturday, 27th June, 12pm til 4pm.

**Where:** Ephpheta Centre, 4 Turner St, Punchbowl.

**Cost:** BBQ \$15 with salads.

#### **RSVP by 18th June:**

Mary Profilio - 0400 985 519  
Margaret Imrie - 0457 410 074

**No Dress-up? Fine \$2!!**



# CRAFT CORNER

The Deaf Craft Group is always open to any interested ladies, meets **every Wednesday** (except when there's something on) from **10am until 2pm** at the Ephpheta Centre. Bring your crafts to work on. Lunch is provided for \$3. More information? Contact the Ephpheta Centre!



## History Corner

By Brian Johnston

### Sister Mary Gabriel Hogan, O.P.

Sister Mary Gabriel Hogan, O.P. (Ellen Hogan) is the foundress of the Catholic Deaf Education in Australia which we are now celebrating their 140 years this year. She was Deaf herself and began her work as a Deaf Teacher at the Catholic School for Deaf Children in Newcastle NSW in 1875.

She was born in Dublin, Ireland in August 1842 (or 1843), daughter of John Hogan and Mary McMahon. She became deaf at about seven years old from scarlet fever. She entered the Dominican Institution for the Deaf Girls at St Mary's in Cabra, Dublin in 1851 and was reputedly a very clever student. She was appointed an assistant teacher's aide around 1856 at a very young age and stayed there until 1864.



Sister Mary Gabriel Hogan, O.P.

When she finished school she joined the Catholic Committee of the Deaf in Ireland - a similar organisation to Catholic Deaf Adult Association (now Catholic Deaf Community) in Sydney. It was at her urging that the Catholic Deaf Association in Sydney was formed in 1914.

She entered the Dominican Novitiate in 1864. She was given a new name of Sister Mary Gabriel and was admitted to Religious Profession in 1867.

She left Ireland for Australia in July 1875 with a small group of Dominican Sisters, arriving in Newcastle NSW in August 1875. She was sent to The Star of The Convent in Newcastle to teach deaf children. By 1886 a school was built in Waratah, Newcastle called 'Waratah Deaf and Dumb Institution, but was changed to 'Rosary Convent, School for Deaf'. The school used the method of Manualism (sign language) to teach the deaf.

She was a much beloved friend to her many deaf ex-students. She attended her deaf ex-student reunions for many years. Despite a long illness, she travelled to Sydney for her last reunion with her deaf ex-students in January 1915.

Sister Mary Gabriel Hogan died in Waratah NSW on 25 November 1915 at the age of 73 years and was buried in Sandgate cemetery in Newcastle. She was remembered as the 'Mother of the Australian Catholic Deaf Community' and a wonderful gifted woman. She had been teaching deaf children at Newcastle/Waratah for about 40 years.

Sources: Books 'History of Catholic Deaf Education in Australia 1875-1975' and 'Open Minds Open Hearts' – Stories of the Australian Catholic Deaf Community, 1999.

If you would like to celebrate 140 years of Catholic Deaf Education, by attending the Waratah Reunion Weekend, please see page 9 for more information & details.



# Mass Times



## MAY

3rd	Sunday	10.00am
	<b>PUNCHBOWL Mass</b>	
10th	Sunday	10.30am
	<b>MANLY</b>	
17th	Sunday	11.00am
	<b>SEVEN HILLS</b>	
23rd	Saturday	6.00pm
	<b>REVESBY</b>	

## JUNE

7th	Sunday	10.00am
	<b>PUNCHBOWL &amp; Community Presentation</b>	
14th	Sunday	9.30am
	<b>NORTH GOSFORD</b>	
21st	Sunday	11.00am
	<b>SEVEN HILLS</b>	
27th	Saturday	6.00pm
	<b>REVESBY</b>	

## JULY

5th	Sunday	10.00am
	<b>PUNCHBOWL</b>	
12th	Sunday	10.30am
	<b>MANLY</b>	
19th	Sunday	11.00am
	<b>SEVEN HILLS</b>	
25th	Saturday	6.00pm
	<b>REVESBY</b>	

## AUGUST

2nd	Ephpheta Sunday	10.00am
	<b>PUNCHBOWL</b>	
	<i>(for more information, see page 5)</i>	
9th	Sunday	9.30am
	<b>NORTH GOSFORD</b>	
16th	Sunday	11.00am
	<b>SEVEN HILLS</b>	
22nd	Saturday	6.00pm
	<b>REVESBY</b>	

(More Mass information in the next Newsletter)

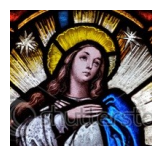
## Church Addresses



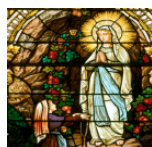
Chapel of  
St Francis de Sales  
4 Turner St  
Punchbowl



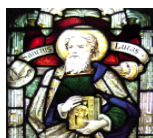
Our Lady of  
the Rosary  
92 Glennie St  
North Gosford  
*Integrated Mass*



St Mary's  
6 Raglan St  
Manly  
*Integrated Mass*



Our Lady of  
Lourdes  
7 Grantham Rd  
Seven Hills



St Luke's  
1 Beaconsfield St  
Revesby  
6pm  
*Integrated Vigil Mass*

### Campbelltown Mass Dates:

**At:** St John the Evangelist, 35 Cordeaux St, Campbelltown

**When:** 10th May, 14th June, 12th July & 9th August

**Time:** 9am

## *We pray...*

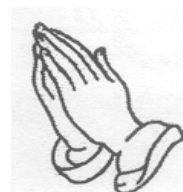
### For those who have died

4 January 2015 - Karen Rhodes (Wagga Wagga)  
10 January 2015 - Nola Hassan (aged 73, Waratah girl, used to live in Newcastle)  
25 February 2015 - Patrick Glennan (Newcastle)  
11 April 2015 - Joseph Callen (aged 63, St Gabriel's boy, used to live in Newcastle)  
20 April 2015 - Fr Adrian Horgan (Strathfield priest, said Mass for us and helped Ephpheta Centre)

### For those who are sick

Helen Farmer  
Jim O'Connor  
George Krams  
Bernie Jopson  
Ernie Gartner  
Robin Muggleton

(Please pray for those who are sick)






4 Turner St,  
PUNCHBOWL NSW 2196  
Phone: (02) 9708 1396  
TTY: (02) 9708 6904  
Fax: (02) 9709 5638  
Email: [office@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:office@ephpheta.org.au)

**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.ephpheta.org.au](http://www.ephpheta.org.au)**

 Join us on Facebook!  
<http://www.facebook.com/deafcentre>

The Ephpheta Centre is supported  
by the Charitable Works Fund. 

### Email addresses of our staff

Liz - [office@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:office@ephpheta.org.au)  
Danni - [danni@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:danni@ephpheta.org.au)  
David - [david@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:david@ephpheta.org.au)  
Donovan - [donovan@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:donovan@ephpheta.org.au)  
Nicole - [nicole@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:nicole@ephpheta.org.au)  
Stephen - [stephen@ephpheta.org.au](mailto:stephen@ephpheta.org.au)

*Please send your news, stories,  
information and requests to  
Danni to be considered for the  
next newsletter!*



### WEBSITE NEWS

Have you seen our website recently?

Our website is now being updated weekly so it is always full of current information - we hope everyone will get used to checking it!

If you have any ideas for our website please contact David.

### What does "Ephpheta" mean?

The name Ephpheta of our Centre came from the bible - a story about Jesus curing a deaf man, he says "Ephpheta" which means "Be open". So we keep that in our service to the Deaf Community! We are always open to you all!