



DEAF HERITAGE CENTRE

NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS 2022



RSN Number: 20165611

RRP €5



Chairperson's Message

By Annie Murphy



Welcome to the Deaf Heritage Centre's Christmas Newsletter. I hope you are all keeping well and avoiding Covid and the winter 'flu. Please keep in contact with your friends and neighbours during the Winter months, to make sure they are keeping well and warm. Keep in touch with members of the Deaf community, especially the elderly, who may be unwell, alone or lonely. A kind word can go a long way ... don't forget.

We in the DHC have been busy all year with lectures, Heritage Week and improving the DHC from grants we got from the Heritage Council and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport & Media. These two grants are helping us to do a Virtual Exhibition of the DHC, and organising an Archival Data Base of the DHC's memorabilia. Work on both projects has gone very well under the guidance of Dark Blue Media and Eneclann Ltd.

The DHC committee are hoping to produce a USB recording of the full 3D Tour of the DHC, so that visitors can buy a copy as a souvenir. The camera work and drone footage of the Virtual Exhibition are excellent, with subtitles, ISL tags and corresponding voiceovers. This 3D tour of the DHC will be a very attractive gift for Christmas at a reasonable price of €20. Please watch the DHC Website and Facebook for updates on when the VE USB is for sale.

In early October, we received good news from Reach Deaf Services to say they will fund the Reinstallation of

the Stained Glass Windows in the DHC. We have ongoing problems with dampness in the Altar alcove which has to be rectified before the Stained Glass Windows can be reinstalled. Thanks to Reach Deaf Services for their ongoing support.

Our Annual November Remembrance Mass for Past Pupils will be held on Sunday, 20th November, at 12 noon in the DHC. Please tell your friends ... we look forward to a good attendance. Refreshments will be available in the Hub Café afterwards.

The DHC is still suffering from the after effects of Covid-19, and our visitor numbers are greatly reduced. We would ask Deaf groups and others to hire out the Thomas Mahon Hall for seminars, workshops, meetings and exhibitions, to support us. We were lucky to get the grants above but we still have to fund about 25% of each of these Projects. For that reason, the DHC is very dependent on incoming Membership fees to help us develop the DHC.

We are asking present members to encourage their friends and colleagues to become members of the DHC. We can't send letters to non-members because of strict GDPR rules. Please find enclosed membership application forms to give to your friends and colleagues to encourage them to join up.

The DHC is open to visitors on Wednesdays from 11am - 3pm. If this does not suit you, please contact a committee member to arrange a visit. (See the address on back page of DHC Newsletter)

Wishing you a peaceful and holy Christmas, and a healthy and prosperous New Year. I hope you enjoy Christmas with your family and friends, and look forward to your continued support in 2023.

Stay safe.



50th Anniversary of Thomas Cooley's Exhibition in the Neptune Gallery



1. Portrait of himself.

This month will mark the fiftieth anniversary of the first exhibition of Irish Deaf Portrait Painter, Thomas Cooley's drawings, organised by myself that took place in the Neptune Gallery, 122a St. Stephen's Green, opened officially on 26th October 1972. On 4th March 1968, I got a letter from Andrew B. Law that he wanted to employ me at the Neptune Gallery, 122a St. Stephen's Green facing the side of the College of Surgeons on a full-time basis, starting as a picture framer. I was happy to work in the gallery and enjoyed seeing various old prints to frame and mount.



2. In June 1970, the Neptune Gallery purchased three small sketch-books from The Dublin Bookshop, 32 Bachelors Walk for £30. The assistant at the gallery, Christopher Ashe, showed me the old sketch-books in the workroom which I recognised

as those of Thomas Cooley (1795 ~ 1872). I was overjoyed to see the drawings in pencil, crayon and ink with signed names and dates.



3. Thomas was born deaf in a large house of Richard Cransfield's family in Tritonville Lodge, Sandymount Green, Dublin, in 1795, son of William, the Lawyer, and grandson of Thomas Cooley, the London-born architect who designed the Exchange Hall, (now the Town Hall near Dublin Castle), and also part of the west wing of the Four Courts. His father graduated from Trinity College in 1793 and married Emily, daughter of Richard Cransfield, the well-known wood carver and designer. When Thomas was a grown boy, he learned the drawings from his grandfather Richard who taught him to write and read in the 1800s prior to being sent to Braidwood's Academy for the Deaf and Dumb, Hackney, in East London, by his parents in 1803.

In the local rural area of Hackney, Thomas accompanied his pupils with supervisor Mrs. Isabella Braidwood, to walk around the fields where they saw many cows on the grass and nearby ponds, so he sketched them on his new sketch book. He remained there from 1803 to 1809 and went to the Royal Academy of Arts to study the subject of art, such as painting, drawing, architecture and sculpture. He was instructed by the most celebrated English artists of the time: Sir John Sloan. R.A., John Flaxman. R.A., William Turner. R.A., and Henry Fuseli. R.A., portraits of whom Thomas had drawn in his first sketch-book in 1810. While a student in the studios he must have known Joshua Reynolds who was the First Deaf President of the Royal Academy of Arts who had

died in 1792.

Thomas became the youngest ever to have studied at the R.A., for two years until he completed and passed his examinations in arts and he then became a professional portrait painter. He returned to his family's home in Dublin who welcomed him to set up a spacious studio with painting equipment. His father William introduced him to the Dublin Society by showing his numerous drawings from his student days in late 1810. Thomas sent to the Irish Society of Artists in Hawkins Street for exhibition: "Portrait of Himself" at the age of 16 in 1811. This painting has never been found since.

Thomas painted more than 25 portraits between 1814 and 1816 including: A Crowd of Lord Mayors, Aldermen, Sheriffs and a great variety of high officials of the society One of the most important was a Portrait of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, John Cash, painted in 1813. Thomas continued to paint quite a lot of portraits submitted to the Royal Hibernian Academy and other exhibitions and was elected an associate of the R.H.A. In 1828 he was appointed Portrait Painter to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, the First Marquis Henry William Paget of Anglesea, North Wales.



4. This painting had been missing for many years until I was invited to view an Exhibition of Works by my friend, Pat Reel, the artist from Navan on the evening of 10th March that year. I went walking to view the paintings hung in Dublin Castle Apartment's Portrait Gallery where I searched for missing paintings by Cooley. I discovered the

missing portrait in a half-length painting, entitled Marquis of Anglesea on the bottom of the gilded frame without Cooley's name signed on it.

Cooley returned to Dublin from London for good in 1846 and resided at 15, Aston Quay for two years and sent nine pictures to the R.H.A.'s exhibition, including a "Portrait of Himself". He moved to lodgings at 97, Harcourt Street, near St. Stephen's Green in 1853 until he died there in 1872.

In 1858 Thomas appeared to have retired from his profession because he realised that the newly invented photographic camera offered a cheap and quick method for capturing natural images, compared with the slow and tedious alternative of oil painting. He was working with his cousin Thomas Cranfield of 115, Grafton Street, in an Art and Photographic Gallery - selling paintings, prints, frames, art materials, pictures, as well as Cooley's works.



5. After his death on 20th June, 1872, aged 77, he was buried in an unmarked grave at Mount Jerome Cemetery, Harold's Cross on 23th June. His paraphernalia went to the public salesroom of John Littledale and Company, Auctioneers, at No.9, Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin on 7th November, 1872, published in Saunders' News Letter. From there John Read, the Solicitor on Dawson Street, bought three sketch-books and a portrait of William by his brother. I went to the National Archives, Bishop Street, Dublin, to examine Cooley's will in 1872 and saw one of recorded books '1872' survived from a major fire caused by the Free State

soldiers at the Four Court in 1922. Fortunately, Cooley's record was saved amid the nearby damaged books. On the same shelves I read in his will that he had left £600 to his sole brother, William.

Ninety-eight years later the battered and faded three sketch-books containing the pencil drawings that still bear the name of Thomas Cooley, still exist. The year 1972 was approaching very quickly for the remembrance of the death of Thomas Cooley in June 1872, so I decided to organise a special exhibition of his works in the Neptune Gallery. I wrote a letter to Bruce Arnold, and suggested we should have an exhibition of the majority of these drawings of portrait sketches - often of family groups - some rural scenes, a few landscapes in pencil, mounted in pale blue and framed in gilt wood. Bruce agreed with my suggestion of a centenary exhibition to be held at the Neptune Gallery in October of 1972.

Seventy-two suitable drawings were selected out of the sketch books by me. Thomas seems to be another of those artists whose work has been swallowed up by time, leaving little more than documentary evidence of the fact that he enjoyed moderate success over a fairly long period of years.



5. Prior to the official opening of the exhibition, Bruce, Secretary Jennifer Leslie and I arranged to hang 72 framed pictures on the walls, noting the names and dates for an exhibition catalogue with labels stuck on the backs. We sent invitation cards to some well-known antique dealers and customers as well as many Deaf friends, my family, and the Cranfield relatives who came to view the exhibition

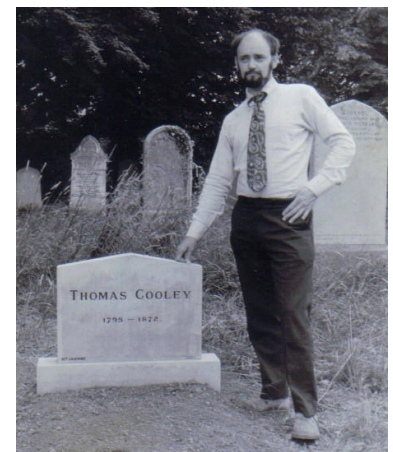
and were served wine at the reception in the gallery on the evening of 26th October. Most of them sold very well and the event proved very successful.

6. The three-week long exhibition was a great success. I suggested to Bruce Arnold that a simple limestone headstone should be erected from the proceeds of the sales, and he agreed. The headstone with lettering's 'Thomas Cooley 1795 - 1872' was ordered by me at Mount Monumental Company in October 1973, in order to erect it on the unmarked grave of Thomas Cooley in Mount Jerome Cemetery.



7. When it was completed, I inspected it and found it satisfactory, prior to the unveiling of Cooley's headstone on 22 June, 1975 by Chairperson of the N.A.D. Anthony Hederman, S.C., and Bruce Arnold in the presence of thirty-three Deaf members in glorious weather. Then Anthony Hederman unveiled the headstone, covered in green velvet. The headstone was simple but beautiful, showing the resting place of his remains, bearing the simple inscription, having been made at my own expense, which was well worthwhile. The Deaf Portrait Painter, Thomas Cooley, will never be forgotten.

**David C. Breslin,
12th October 2022.**



'You are seeing my dream come true'

by Dominic McGreal

Louise Fletcher: Child of Deaf Adult (CODA) and Oscar Winning Actress.



Louise Fletcher is well known for the best actress award she received for her role of villain Nurse, Mildred Ratchet, in the movie, "One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest" in 1975. Louise died at home in the south of France on 23rd September, 2022, age 88.

Louise was born in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1934 of Deaf parents: Robert and Estelle Fletcher. Louise's father, Robert Fletcher, was seven years old when he was struck by lightning, which caused his deafness. He went to the State School for the Deaf in Talladega and in later years he went to Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. Robert met Estelle Caldwell from Texas at Gallaudet and fell in love with her. They were married in 1930. Robert went to Philadelphia Episcopal Seminary to become a minister. When he completed his Episcopal education, he travelled around 40 churches in 11 states on the Louisville to Nashville Railroad line between 1931 and 1951. He was preaching to deaf congregations for 22 years. He also was the first person to open the US senate with a prayer using

sign language. He continued to serve congregations in Alabama for many years until he died in 1988, just before the first Deaf President uproar in Washington, DC.

Robert and Estella Fletcher raised four hearing children, John, Louise, Roberta and Georgina in Birmingham, Alabama. Louise was born in 1934. She was taught sign language by her deaf parents. Her parents encouraged the four siblings to learn the hearing world language so her mother's sister from Texas came to stay with them and taught them to learn speech and language.

Louise's brother, John, followed in his father's footsteps and became a minister and president of the Episcopal seminary. Louise's twin sisters, Roberta and Georgina both became teachers of the Deaf in Gallaudet University. Louise became an actress when she went to Hollywood to star in small roles in the TV series 'Lawman' in 1958, and in 'Maverick' with James Garner in 1959.

In 1960, Louise married the Hollywood movie producer, Jerry Bick, with whom she had two sons, John and Andrew. Louise had taken a break from Hollywood, and she raised her two sons for eleven years.

Louise returned to Hollywood in 1974. She got the part of villain Nurse Ratchet in the movie, "One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest" in 1975. She won the best actress award at the Oscar Award Ceremony in Los Angeles. Louise was a first person to accept an Oscar award through ASL (American Sign Language) at the Oscar Awards and she signed the following words to her Deaf parents:

"I want to thank you for teaching me to have a

dream. You are seeing my dream come true.”

Louise continued to act in many movies such as ‘The Flower in Attic’ and TV series ‘Star Trek’, ‘Deep Space Nine’ and ‘Picket Fences’ to earn the nomination for best actress for Emmy Awards along with Deaf actress, Marilee Maltin, in 1996.

In 1982, Louise Fletcher received an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters. She was the keynote speaker to her father Robert when he delivered the invocation at the new Gallaudet University Field House. Gallaudet University was established in 1864 and was the first school for the advanced education of the deaf and hard of hearing in the world, and remains the only higher education institution in the USA. Gallaudet University is officially bilingual, with American Sign Language (ASL) and written English used for instruction and by the college community as Deaf and Hard of Hearing people.

In 1993, Louise came to Ireland and promoted her acting role in the Olympia Theatre in Dublin while acting in the play, “Keeley & Du” by Jane Martin, award winning playwright. The play was part of the Dublin Theatre Festival. Josephine O’Leary, a Deaf presenter of the Deaf monthly programme, “Sign of the Times” by RTE and Apple Production, met Louise Fletcher at the Olympia Theatre, and interviewed her about her experience with her Deaf parents, her family, and her movie career in the USA. The interview was broadcasted on RTE One in 1993.

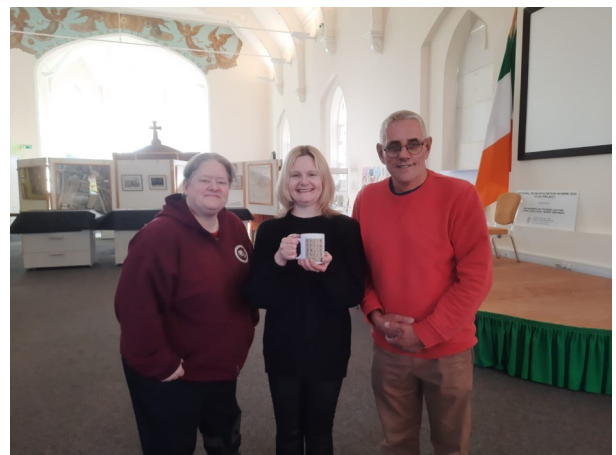
Louise’s sister, Roberta Fletcher Ray, has donated a collection of family artefacts, including photos, movies, documents, letters and her father’s sermon book Gallaudet University Archives.

She lived in the South of France in semi-retirement

until she died peacefully in her sleep at home on 23rd September, 2022. Louise is survived by her two sons.



Eneclann Ltd staff working for the Deaf Heritage Centre on a catalogue of our archives. They did a great job working for 10 weeks. They put the items in acid free boxes which protects them from environmental damage, like dampness and insects. We at the DHC would like to thank Sarah Hamner and Ronan Doheny for their hard work.



Alvean Jones, Siobhan Byrne and Liam Breen.

Siobhan Byrne was working with the Deaf Heritage Centre as the Community Employment (CE) participant for more than one year. She had to leave to start a college course. We were sad to see her go, but we would like to wish her all the best on her college course.



The Brave Deaf Mute

The tale of bravery I tell,
Will your attention hold,
Though not performed on battle
field,
Nor by a warrior bold.

An Irish girl to whom the Lord
Nor speech nor hearing gave,
Tho' but a poor deaf mute was she,
Her heart was stout and brave.

Deaf, dumb, yes, poor and mother-
less,
Friendless and obscure;
Only her father left to her,
And he was old and poor.

A farmer he, and owned a bull,
That in a shed was chained,
For it was savage, but one day
Its liberty obtained.

The poor old man was unaware
The bull had broke its chain
Until the beast upon him turned
Ere he the door could gain.

The dumb girl neared the open shed,
As she the threshold crossed;

Oh! Dreadful sight, her father high
By savage bull was tossed.
She could not hear if help was nigh,
She could not call for aid;
So quick to rescue him she ran,
Too brave to feel afraid.

One hand she slipped within a ring,
That through its nose was placed;
And with her father's stick upraised,
The angry bull she faced.

Oh! then ensued a struggle, fit
To fill her heart with dread;
While at her feet her father lay,
To all appearance dead.

Long and fierce the battle raged
Between the bull and maid;
Nor would she yield, tho' by its horns
Her side was open laid.

Blow after blow upon its head,
with heavy stick she rained,
Until the savage beast was cowed,
And she the victory gained.

And then the stick away she threw,
(But held on as before,)
Her father with one arm she raised,

And slowly neared the door.

Then back into the shed she forced
The bull, and slammed the door,
While in her aching, bleeding arms,
Her father's form she bore.

But, sad to say, her father dear,
Whom thus to save she tried,
Had been so injured by the bull,
In one short hour he died.

An orphan now, alone and poor,
Homeless, and deaf and dumb;
Oh, who will help some christian
friends,
To make for her a home?

If you who read these simple lines,
with speech and hearing blest,
And have it in your power to aid
And comfort the distressed,

Oh! think of this brave-hearted girl,
And help her in her need; -
With voice and pen on her behalf
For timely help I plead.

**(Poem written by an American Deaf
poet on reading about Bridget
Prunty who fought with a bull.)**

A CHRISTMAS AFFRAY



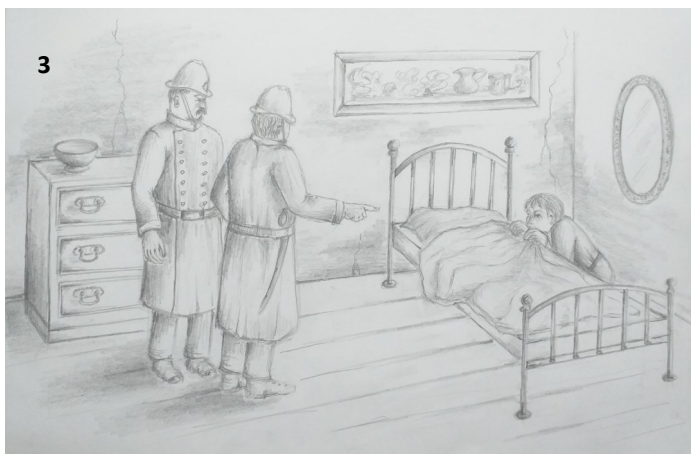
1. Birmingham, Christmas night.

Samuel Todd and Edward Walters enter the lodging house, looking for Jimmy Brislin.

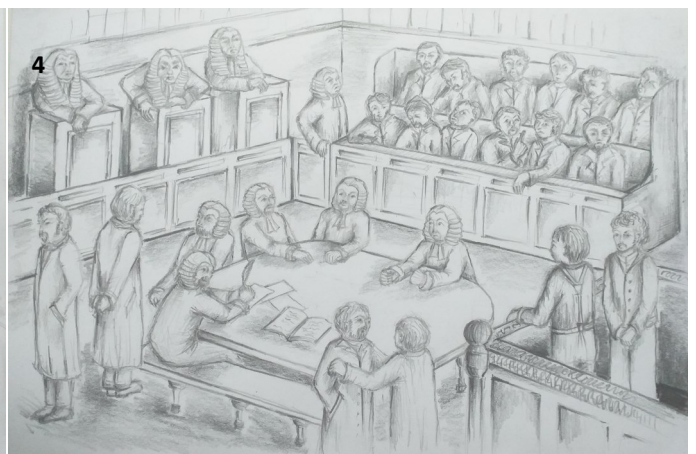


2. A fight ensues.

The other boys are enjoying the entertainment. Jimmy Brislin is no match for Edward Walters, and so someone fetches his father.



3. Police Constable Eli and Detective Cooper find Samuel hiding behind the bed and arrest him.



4. Samuel Todd appears before the magistrates at Birmingham Police court.



John Parker, a former housemate of Todd, acts as an interpreter during the case. This may be the first recorded instance of a fee being paid to a sign language interpreter.

5. Samuel Todd was found guilty but insane and was sentenced to imprisonment.

Illustrations: Elzbieta Cichocka

Captions: Gill Boate

Very Rev. Monsignor Yore



DEAR FATHER ! 'round thy lifeless form we strew
these flowers,

Poor tribute of our hearts' undying love,
Faint emblems of that wreath of glory too,
That crowns thee now in endless bliss above.
Thy hand it was that smoothed a rugged path,
That led us forth from out a darksome night,
'Twas thou didst sweeten our most bitter lot,

Didst fill our clouded souls with heavenly light.

O more than parent ! let our silent tears,
Mingling with those of every child of wo,
Tell how we mourn, but vainly mourn alas !
That cruel death could e'er have laid thee low.
Tho' gone for ever, yet we fondly hope,
That still thy gentle spirit hovers near,
Guarding the cherished objects of thy care,
The friendless outcasts thou didst hold so dear !
Thy prayers will aid us through life's dreary way,
That when like thee we sleep beneath the sod,
Our souls released, may soar on high, and live
For ever in the Bosom of our God.

ELLEN MARY HOGAN.

February 15, 1864

Ellen Mary Hogan/ Sister M. Gabriel Hogan O.P.



Ellen Mary Hogan was born in August 1842 in St. Michan's, Halston Street, Dublin 7. She was daughter of John and Mary Hogan. Her parents were heavily involved in the nationalist Young Ireland which was established in 1842 and was dissolved in 1849. At the age of seven years, Ellen

suffered from scarlet fever which left her deaf in both ears. At the age of nine, Ellen was admitted to St. Mary's School for the Deaf. When Ellen was thirteen, she became an assistant teacher until she left the school and joined St. Mary's Convent in Kingstown for seven years as a novice. Then she returned to Cabra to continue her teaching post as Sr. Gabriel Hogan, OP. Sister Gabriel left Ireland in 1875 and sailed to Australia to work in a teaching post in a school for Deaf children in Newcastle, New South Wales. In 1886, Sister Gabriel was founded a new school in Waratah, called **Waratah Deaf and Dumb Institution**. She continued to teach Deaf children for the next forty years until she died peacefully in her sleep in 1915.



Programme of Public Examinations 1887

INFANTS' CLASS.

First lessons taught to deaf-mutes – Familiar objects indicated by any of the gentlemen present, and expressed in signs by a class of very small children.

Arithmetic – value of numbers shown by objects, &c.

Nomenclature lesson – in this lesson children are taught to attach the proper meaning to written words. Some of the visitors will point to the names of objects in the lesson-book: these will be signed by a Deaf-Mute to the smaller children, who will write the name on the large slate.

LANGUAGE LESSONS – First Course.

Distinguishing qualities - adjectives expressive of Colour will be

pointed out, and nouns meanings of which will be appropriate to these colours expressed in signs by the pupils. supplied by the children.

Illustration of the Natural language of the Deaf and Dumb, as distinct from the written language – The Infants' Class, by countenance, gesture, &c., will express the meaning of certain adjectives written on the large slate.

LANGUAGE LESSONS – Second Course.

Adjectives in different positions in the sentence. Sentences illustrating the use of the verbs to be and to have.

An exercise in the natural language of the Deaf and Dumb, showing by signs the distinguishing characteristics of different animals.

An exercise in the natural language of the Deaf and Dumb, showing by signs the distinguishing characteristics of different animals.

LANGUAGE LESSONS – Third Course.

In this course the children are taught to distinguish between the present, past and future senses of the verb. Objects will be pointed out, and sentences composed by the children, to illustrate the use of the verb in the present, past and future tenses.

Actions Expressed by Signs – Certain verbs written out, the

LANGUAGE LESSONS – Fourth Course.

Exercise in the use of the preposition in signs and writing.

LANGUAGE LESSONS – Fifth and Sixth Courses.

The verb in the active and passive forms – Compound sentences – Connecting words.

An Exercise in the Language of Signs – Illustrating the facilities this language affords of expressing the various emotions, feelings, &c.

CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE.

The Mysteries of Religion – Nature and kinds of sin – the Commandments – The Sacraments &c.

GEOGRAPHY

The World – Its Divisions – Principal Countries – Important Cities – Chief Rivers – Mountains – Seas – Lakes, &c.

BIBLE HISTORY

Leading events in the History of the Old Testament.

IRISH HISTORY

Early inhabitants – Establishment

of Christianity – Danish invasion – afforded to visitors, before and knitting and weaving, weaving St. Malachy – St. Laurence O'Toole after the Examination, to inspect wool and cotton into materials for – English Invasion and History of the Institution and the work of the shawls, quilts, dresses &c. Ireland from 1800 to the present Deaf-Mutes.

time.

Music ... By the Orchestra

ERIN:

A Drama in Four Acts.

Represented in Signs

Act I. - St. Patrick's Mission – Erin receives the gift of faith at his hands – He prays for her perseverance.

Act II. - St. Patrick is warned by an angel of his approaching end – His last prayer for Erin ere he leaves this world.

Act III. - Erin clings to the faith of St. Patrick, in spite of persecution and the sword – Her angel consoles and encourages her.

Act IV. - Surrounded by invisible protectors, Erin once more rules her green-crowned hills, and a day of glory dawns again for her.

Music ... By the Orchestra

Ample opportunity will be

In the Work-Room where the pupils of the Institution will be found, will be exhibited specimens of their work: such as lace of various kinds, embroidery in gold and other materials, machine-sewing, machine-knitting, dressmaking, plain and ornamental needlework in all its branches, &c.

In the Refectory will be seen the work of those Deaf-mutes, who, having completed their school term, and being homeless and friendless, are thrown entirely on the charity of the community. They are maintained at the expense of the Nuns and are engaged in the following industrial employments:

FLAX – Hackling, spinning and warping; weaving into linen (looms in the weaving house situated in the garden).

COTTON – winding onto bobbins, warping, materials from Cotton for sheeting, pinafores, various articles of underclothing, &c.

WOOL – Teasing, breaking, and carding wool; spinning wool for

BOOT-BINDING – Machine sewing &c.

DOMESTIC EMPLOYMENTS - Laundry, Kitchen, Dairy work &c.

VARIOUS OTHER OCCUPATIONS – Garden and Field work

THE SCHOOLROOM – The Examinations will be held in this room.

IN THE CHILDREN'S DRESSING ROOM – The special books, pictures and appliances for teaching the Deaf and Dumb may be seen. Specimens of writings of the Deaf-Mutes will be shown.

Among the books compiled for the pupils of the Cabra institution and published at the expense of the Committee are: - The Christian Doctrine, for the use of the Deaf and Dumb;

The Deaf-Mute Prayer Book;

Bible history, for the use of the junior pupils of the Deaf and Dumb Institution, Cabra;

Course of Language Lessons;

Familiar Questions for the Deaf and Dumb, &c., &c.

Deaf and Dumb—

To the Editor of the Newsletter

Belfast Newsletter, 13 November 1832, p. 4.

Sir—To the last year's Report of the Claremont Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, there is added an appendix, by Dr. Orpen, the Secretary, which has been very extensively circulated in this town and neighbourhood, and in which I, in common with others of my fellow-citizens, are held up to view in a very unfavourable light, in order to exculpate that establishment from the well-merited blame of monopoly, which it has been forced to abandon. The whole of the writer's argument respecting the non-existence of a restrictive system in the education of the Deaf and Dumb, is founded upon an error in the date of one of my letters, I having inadvertently written 1826 instead of 1825, it being on the 11th of July of the latter year,* that I made my application to Mr. Kinniburgh, teacher of the Deaf and Dumb in Edinburgh. From this mistake, Dr. Orpen attempts to prove that I was altogether wrong in my statements, while he substantiates the whole of them by publishing the following extracts from letters addressed to the Committee of the Claremont

Institution, by Mr. J. F. Gordon, the Secretary, and Mr. Kinniburgh, the Master of the Edinburgh School. On the 18th November, 1825 (four months after my visit to Edinburgh) the former writes, "I can now inform you that we understand you and your Institution to be perfectly free and unshackled in every respect"; and at the same time, Dr. Orpen says, a letter was received from Mr. Kinniburgh, in which are those expressions—"I beg it to be most distinctly understood, that Mr. Humphreys (the Teacher at Claremont) is no longer under restrictions of any kind whatever."—Thus, Sir, these statements, which broke up the compact in 1825, so soon after my visit and expostulation with Mr. Kinniburgh, effectively prove all that the writer of the Appendix has laboured in vain to contradict and deny.

As a farther proof of his unjust censure, he makes the following unwarranted attack upon one of our most valuable charitable institutions, the Poor-House. He observes:

"the children there are badly fed, badly clothed, and badly educated, and that there is scarcely a single pupil in the children's school, or infant's school, who is not overrun with scrofula, the King's evil, and that in fact the school presents such an appearance, as to make the

whole a disgrace to the city of Belfast, and no benefit to the poor children, but a positive evil and injury, as, under better treatment, they would be healthy, strong, long-lived, happy, warm, and well-instructed, instead of being the most miserable, sickly, squalid, unhappy looking objects that one can well conceive."

It may be asked, how has the Poor-house thus called forth such a melancholy anatomy of "the miseries of human life" from Dr. Orpen? Simply because I spoke of the economy of that institution in the distribution of its funds. The public will easily discern why this has given offence. The whole pamphlet is written in such parenthetical obscurity, and so interlarded with crotchets and childish exclamations, that I must confess I have neither desire nor leisure to attempt a translation—I can only attribute the attack of this most extraordinary production to envy. Our day-school for the deaf and dumb prospers here—it courts the inspection of all—the expense of its support is but a mere trifle. This is, no doubt, a stumbling block in the way of the Claremont Institution, which the benevolent have so long and so richly endowed. To say the least, it was unwise in the writer of the appendix to revive the subject at this distant period of time. He proves, by

written documents, all I formerly of ending an engagement so *The correctness of this date will be stated to be correct, and gives the disgraceful in itself, and so seen by referring to Mr. Kinniburgh's public good cause to believe that my dishonourable to the Christian name. letter, p. 151 of the appendix; or to application to Mr. Kinniburgh, and —I am, Sir, your's [sic], &c. the minutes of the Committee of the expostulation with him at that time, Belfast, 10th Nov. 1832. Brown-street School. caused the compact to be broken up, WM. M'COMB. and made me the humble instrument

A Protest. To the Editor of the Ballina Herald

Ballina Herald, and Mayo and Sligo Advertiser, 12 July 1917, p. 3.

Sir,—As a reader of your much esteemed paper for a long time, will you grant me space to protest against the sobriquet “dummy” as applied to deaf mutes generally. The expression is wrong and stupid, inas-much as it should apply only to inanimate things, while, of course, the deaf mute has life and a soul, and is, indeed, gifted in other ways in an extraordi-nary manner, his other senses are rendered more acute to make up for the deprivation of speech and hearing.

That being so, it would not be too much to expect people to give deaf mutes their due title, Christian name and surname, as is given to everyone else.

There can be no other reason for the application of the nick-name “dummy” except to provoke ridicule. Deaf mutes have borne these taunts a surprisingly long time without protest, but I think it is time now to do so through the press, and in, I hope, a dignified manner. It is due to me to say that educated people and kind friends such as clergymen and teachers deprecate and do their best to check this offensive nicknaming of those who are so afflicted, but, I think, parents could do a little in the direction of re-buking their children when they find them guilty of such bad manner towards my class.—

Yours truly,

An Educated Deaf Mute.



Youtube links:

**A Deaf History translate by the ISL
(Irish Sign Language)**

A lecture by Lianne Quigley on Eileen Murray:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?>

**A lecture by Dr John Bosco Conama on James
David Bouchier at the conference last year:**

<https://youtu.be/RQ1j6ydi-3g?t=11>



Important Dates

Annual Past Pupil's Remembrance Mass will be on Sunday, 20th November 2022 at 12.00pm at Deaf Heritage Centre, Thomas Mahon Building in Deaf Village Ireland. Refreshments will be available in the Hub Café afterwards.

Deaths: Please pray for recently deceased

Alan Smyth- Dublin

Nidal Anshasi- Malta/Dublin

Francis O'Connor- Dublin

Belinda Moore (nee Lyne)- Dublin/Kildare

Karol McGuirk- Kildare/Cork

Anna Byrne (nee Jordan)- Tipperary

Helen O'Leary (nee Kelly)- Kerry

Don Downey- Kerry/UK

Sinead Bovaird- Donegal

Charlie O'Neill- Belfast, North Ireland

Paul McCluskey- Belfast, North Ireland

Sarah Kelly (nee Cushen)-Kilkenny/Carlow/Louth

Richard O'Brien- Kerry

Eric Grandon- Cork

Mary Henry (nee Carlin)- Derry, North Ireland

Declan Tumulty - Westmeath/Dublin/Mayo

Tommy Carroll- Roscommon/ Mayo

Patrick Kent- Wexford

Patrick Murphy- Dublin

Noel Ivory- Dublin

Dympna Chambers (Nee Reddan)- Clare

James Doyle- Wicklow



History book of Deaf Sports

100 years of Deaf Sports in Belgium in a book !

Deaflympics 100 years BDC - EXPO

Wednesday, 19th October 2022: New book finally released on 100 years of Belgian Deaf sport ...

The BDC archives team has spent many hours putting together a beautiful book around the 100th anniversary of our deaf sports federation. Single sale price: 50.00 EUR (also available in English!)

You can click online: <https://deafsport.be/100-BDC>

Single sale price: 50.00 EUR (also available in English!)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Deaf Heritage Centre committee propose to hold their 2023 Annual General Meeting on **Saturday, 25th March, at 2.00pm** in the Deaf Heritage Centre. We would kindly ask other Deaf organisations on campus to leave this date free so as to avoid a clash of events.

DHC Christmas Competition Fingerspelling Wordsearch–

**Win the prize of 2023 Deaf Heritage
Centre Membership Draw**

Here is a fun wordsearch with the hidden words in ISL. The words, you see underneath the puzzle are what you need to find. Draw a line around the word you find in the puzzles. Some words are straight across, others are up and down, others are diagonal. Enjoy the puzzles!



Fingerspelling Wordsearch



War

Winter

At

Draw

Ring

Hand

Sweet

Red

Drama

Love

Tree

Christmas

Garden

Thomas

Leave

Education

Ball

Annie Murphy ©

Deaf Heritage Centre

Membership Application

Year 20 **/ 20**

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

ADDRESS

EIRCODE:

EMAIL

MOBILE

Annual Membership Fee - €20

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____

Please include your Eircode on the membership Application.

Please encourage your friends to become members of DHC. Members receive Newsletter and information about upcoming events.

Please forward your membership form and fee to: The Treasurer, Deaf Heritage Centre, 191 Beech Park, Lucan, Co Dublin.





**The committee of
Deaf Heritage Centre
wish you a very
Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year for 2023.**

Deaf Heritage Centre Address Details:

Thomas Mahon Building, Deaf Village Ireland, Ratoath Road, Dublin 7, D07 P973

Visit to see the DHC museum and make an appointment or enquiries to DHC committee:

deafheritagecentre@gmail.com

DHC Newsletter Sub-Committee:

Annie Murphy, Alvean Jones, Mary Moloney, Laurence Coogan, Helena Saunders, Liam Breen
and Dominic McGreal

DHC Newsletter layout:

Dominic McGreal

