Deaf History from within

Patricia Levitzke-Gray
2017 WA State Heritage & History Conference
Friday 12\textsuperscript{th} May 2017
My Maternal Deaf Heritage
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James and Evelyn schooled at Victorian School for Deaf Children
Ernest Levitzke schooled at
WA School for Deaf Children
Adult Deaf Lacrosse Club (Vic) - 1913
WA Deaf Lacrosse 1920’s

Grand Uncle
Auby Levitzke

Grandfather
Ernie Levitzke

Grand Uncle
Gus Levitzke (hearing)

Grandfather Ernie Levitzke
WA Lacrosse – 1926 to 1929 (hearing)
Victoria Deaf Club 1930’s

Nana Dorothy Shaw

Great-Grandmother Evelyn Johnston

Great-Grandfather James Johnston

Grand Uncle Eric Johnston
Western Australia Deaf Society 1935

The Society’s first premises, Stanmore House at 292 Hay Street, East Perth
Deaf Convicts

1790: Elizabeth Steel arrived on the Second Fleet. She was ‘mute by the visitation of God’ according to the jury at her trial in the Old Bailey.

1819: John Fitzgerald arrived in Sydney.

1827: A third deaf convict, James Smith

Acknowledgements to Dr Breda Carty, RIDBC Renwick Centre
Deaf Free Settler

1825: John Carmichael arrived in Sydney as a free settler

Some of John Carmichael’s work

[From https://deafhistoryaustralia.com/2014/08/26/john-carmichaels-works-advertisements-stamps/]

[Carty, 2000]
Deaf History books
The 10th Deaf History International Conference will be held in Sydney.

Sydney, Australia
July 2018
www.dhi2018.com

Hosted by Deaf Australia Inc.

Excerpt of Certificate of Freedom courtesy of State Records NSW
Thank You

• Acknowledgements
  – My Deaf Family and friends
  – History of the WA Deaf Society 1921-2001
  – Dr Breda Carty, RIDBC Renwick Centre
  – Callum Crofton
  – The Deaf Community
The Swan Express
Midland Junction, WA
Friday 28 June 1929

Popular Personalities

One of the most likeable of our townspeople is Mr Ern Levitzke, of North Midland. This young gentleman, though unfortunately deprived of the power and blessing of speech and hearing, is an athlete of no mean order, and has had a try at almost every sport with outstanding success. For many years Ern played cricket with North Midland and has topped his century-sixes being his speciality. He also proved himself a good footballer, had an uncanny knowledge of when the umpire’s whistle blew. From the football field he entered the lacrosse game, and was once State champion, receiving honourable mention in Eastern papers in an interstate game. Summer saw him in tennis flannels at his own private court in North Midland. Mr. Levitzke then wondered how he would fare with his fists and went to White City and entered the ring. He hit his opponent, and the seconds took some time to bring the man around. Ernie was satisfied. We hear that his latest hobby is fishing. Popular with both sexes, good company anywhere, he is now an enthusiastic member of Deaf and Dumb Bible Class in Perth. We wish him all the success he deserves.