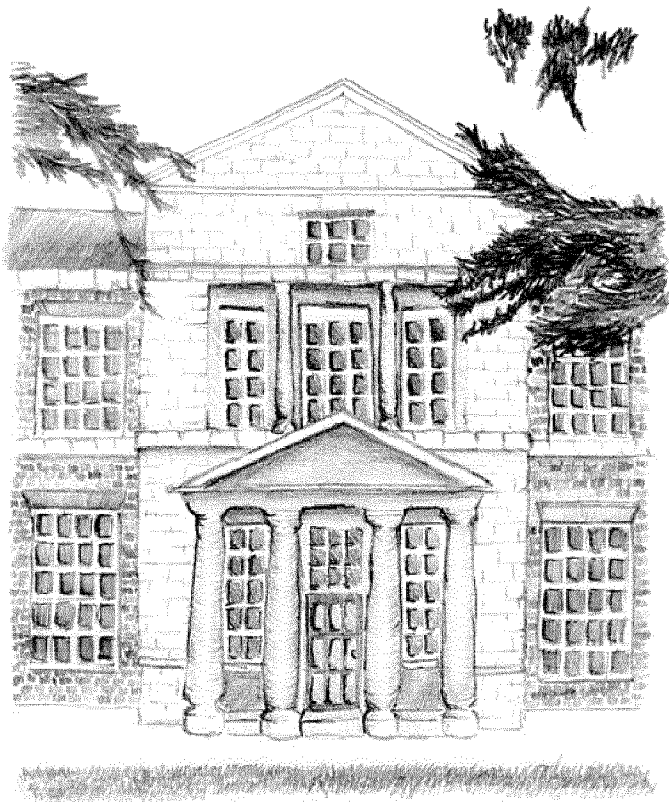


eBook/CD in British Sign Language/English



# My First Boarding School

Written and  
Signed by Patricia Gibson

DeafEducate

**My First Boarding School**  
eBook/CD in British Sign Language/English

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# My First Boarding School

Patricia Gibson

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I was born in Coventry. I was born Deaf and was the first child of five. I was two and half when I went to a PHU (Partially Hearing Unit) at a day school in Spon Gate in Coventry. I stayed there for two years.

Then, when I was five, I moved to a boarding school, The Royal Junior School for the Deaf, in Martley near Worcester. It was the first of three boarding schools I went to.

For three years, I stayed there, ate there, played there and had lessons there. I remember it was an old building, a mansion out in the countryside. It was a huge, dark bricked building.

I remember on the first day, a Sunday, my parents took me there and left me with the matron - I can't remember her name. I didn't cry then, but a while later in the day when I realised that I was not to go home, I cried.

I must have felt quite alone at the boarding school, and confused because neither my parents

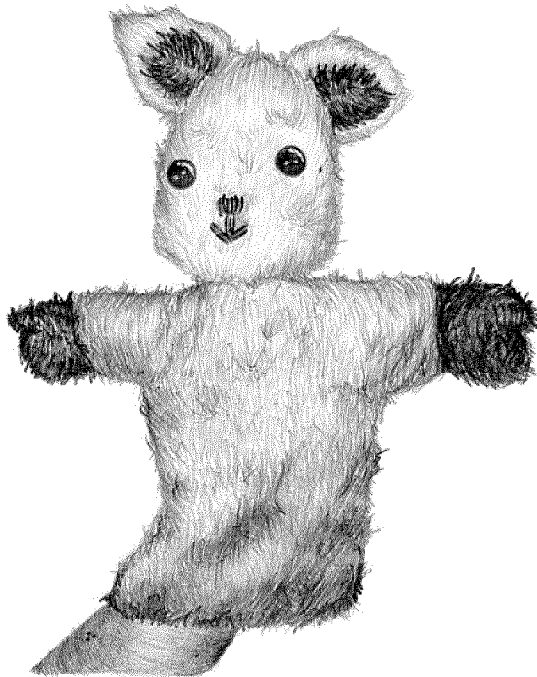
nor my brother and sister were there. I couldn't understand why.

My Mum told me I would go home in three weeks time. So the days went by; Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. I think I must have thought three weeks was three days. And Wednesday came and my parents didn't come to collect me. I cried again and I couldn't understand.

Eventually, as time went by, I made some new friends and got to know the teachers, Miss Ross and Miss Jelly. I was fond of Miss Jelly. I then settled in better.

I remember getting letters from home almost every day from my Mum. She wrote briefly about what my family had been doing; my Dad, Mike, my brother and Sally, my baby sister. Mum was good - she used simple words and simple English. Sometimes she drew pictures. The letters cheered me up and I always looked forward to more letters from my Mum.

The next two weekends when I stayed at school, I got parcels from home! In the parcels, there was, of course, a letter amongst some little gifts, all surprises such as a note book with a pencil, a drawing book with coloured crayons, some sweets, and little games. But in one parcel, I found a puppet that Mum made out of my Granny's old coat. A puppet - it was a light brown, short furred teddy bear with two tiny black buttons sewn on for eyes. It was my favourite and I called it Teddy. Today I still have it and keep it as a souvenir.



When the third weekend came, Dad came to collect me and I was so happy. As time went on, I began to understand when it was the third weekend, it was my home time; by counting the days and weeks. I always looked forward to it and the third weekend was very special to me.

I became more settled and got used to being at the school.

Mike my brother, who is also Deaf, came a year later. I was happier as a member of my family was there with me. I comforted him and looked after him. Miss Jelly would put Mike with me in the same class. I remember Mike and I had a bath together in a huge, old fashioned type of bath!

Eventually, my time at the school ended when I was 8 and I moved to Royal School for the Deaf in Edgbaston, Birmingham. Again, I boarded there. Mike stayed at the school for one more year before joining me at Edgbaston.

The Royal Junior School for the Deaf eventually closed down a few years later.

## System specifications

Operating systems:

Windows 98

Windows ME

Windows 2000

Windows XP

Windows Vista

Screen resolution: 1024 x 768 pixels

## Troubleshooting

When the CD is loaded, it should autorun. If it does not, please do the following:

Click

*Start*

Click

*My Computer*

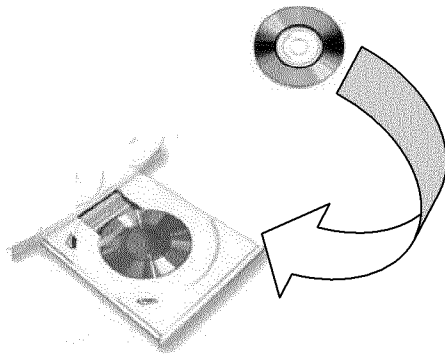
Double Click



CD Drive

It should now work.

If you have any other problems, visit [www.deafeducate.co.uk](http://www.deafeducate.co.uk) and click on *Troubleshooting* at the bottom of the page.



Load the CD into your CD/DVD drive to watch the BSL translation.

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The Peter and Kerry Series  
The Wheatley Series  
The Birth of Jesus  
History of Britain  
Tales from Sigtown  
Abbas Comes To College  
No One Told Me I Was Deaf  
Leaving Deaf School  
Fair Donald Dark Donald  
James Herriot  
Islamic Stories  
Romeo and Juliet  
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