

Presentation Sisters, Society of Australian Congregations of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

URL: <http://presentationsociety.org.au/about/our-history/>

Details

The Presentation Sisters were founded in 1775 in Ireland by Nano Nagle. Their website gives some history of the Presentation Sisters' work in Australia. They came first to Richmond in Tasmania in October 1866, to Victoria in 1873 and to New South Wales in 1874. In 1900, the Presentation Sisters went from NSW to the Western Australian goldfields and July 1891, another group came directly from Ireland to Geraldton.

The Presentation Sisters and Christian Brothers have had some historical links because of the inspiration drawn by the founder of the Christian Brothers, Edmund Rice, from Nano Nagle's approach to religious life and work, and the practical support he gave to the establishment of their convent in Waterford, Ireland. In July 1941, four Presentation Sisters formed a community at St Mary's Christian Brothers' Farm School Tardun.

The Presentation Sisters kept a Community at Tardun until 1966.

In his book, *Enduring Struggle*, Tardun ex-student David Plowman writes (p.255) that the Sisters of Nazareth were the first females at Tardun and after them came the Presentation Sisters. These were Mother Laurence (Ryan) and Sisters Aidan Coady, Philomena Ryan and Patricia White. They were followed in 1942 by Sister Peter, Sister Benedict, Sister Evangelist, Sister Paschal, Sister Bridget and Sister Margaret Mary to help with the boys from Clontarf who were evacuated to Tardun. The Presentation Sisters were asked to take charge of 'the domestic arrangements in connection with the school, such as cooking, taking care of the sick, superintending laundry, clothes mending and the Chapel.' Professor Plowman also records (p.259) that the Sisters at Tardun led an 'uncomplicated life' enjoying simple recreations such as Sunday films, walks and concerts put on by the Tardun students. They had an annual holiday in December at Geraldton with other Presentation Sisters. Apparently, it was their habit to have a 'Sunday drive around the property and to neighbouring farms.'

In 1948, the Presentation Sisters also established a primary school at the Pallottine Mission at Tardun, a few kilometers from St Mary's Farm School.

More info

Related Entries

Related Organisations

- [Sisters of Nazareth \(1888 - current\)](#)

The Presentation Sisters came to Tardun Farm School when the Sisters of Nazareth left to work at Nazareth House in Geraldton.

Date: 1941 -

- [Tardun Farm School \(1928 - 2008\)](#)

The Presentation Sisters had a working community at Tardun.

Date: 1941 - 1966

- [Pallottine Mission, Tardun \(1948 - 2004\)](#)

Presentation Sisters, Society of Australian Congregations of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary established a primary school at the Pallottine Mission, Tardun.

Date: 1948 - 1949

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