

Portion 30

Agnes Helen (Nell) Storie (30-36-31)

A former Bardon resident, Nell worked with the St Lukes Nursing Service. She was born in Mullumbimby, NSW in 1905 to William and Agnes Bassett. She married Victor Storie in Brisbane on 16 Dec 1930 and had three children. Nell died on 8 Oct 1990.

Further Reading

Goodman, R. *Our War Nurses: The History of the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps 1902 - 1988*, Brisbane: Boolarong, 1988

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Gregory, H. and Brazil, C. *Bearers of the tradition: nurses of the Royal Brisbane Hospital 1888-1993*, Brisbane: Boolarong with Royal Brisbane Hospital Graduate Nurses Association, 1993

Patrick, R. *The Royal Women's Hospital, Brisbane - the first fifty years*, Brisbane: Boolarong with Royal Women's Hospital Board, 1988

Schultz, B. *A tapestry of service: the evolution of nursing in Australia*, Melbourne: Churchill Livingstone, 1991

Strachan, G. *Labour of Love: The History of the Nurses' Association in Queensland 1860 - 1950*, St Leonards: Allen & Unwin, 1996

Tyrer, J. *History of the Brisbane Hospital and its affiliates: a pilgrims progress*, Brisbane: Boolarong with Royal Brisbane Hospital, 1993

Additional information provided by Cecilia Brazil, Curator, Museum of Nursing History, Lady Lamington Nurses' Home, Royal Brisbane Hospital.

Information of Mary Hogan provided by Ray and Lizzie Sergeant.

Compiled by Hilda Maclean, assisted by Margaret Graham and Margaret Campbell.

TOOWONG CEMETERY

In their caring hands

A heritage trail to
commemorate the role of
nurses, doctors and health
professionals



Course Map

Parking is available inside the cemetery along the roads. Please park on one side.



Lillian Leitch (8-40-30/31)

World War One army nurse, Sister Lillian Leitch was honoured with an OBE in 1965. She served at the No.3 Australian General Hospital in Egypt before being transferred to Lemos, a Greek Island in the Aegean Sea, arriving there on 5 Aug 1915. She died on 9 Jul 1967 aged 80.

Isabella Jane Mason (18-120-8)

Nurse Isabella Mason, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Mason, died on 17 Oct 1930 aged 54.

Lilian Gertrude Ramsay (11-71-2)

Lilian Ramsay was a staff nurse with the Australian Army Nursing Service having received a Brisbane General Hospital Certificate in 1914. She died on 5 Jun 1960 aged 69.

Nurses buried in Portion 22

Portion 22 is a very steep section of Toowong Cemetery and great care is required to visit these graves.

Mary Hogan (22-16-18)

Mary Hogan (nee Wells) was born in 1923 in Euroa, Victoria and completed her education at Star of the Sea Convent, Melbourne before training as a nurse at Wangaratta Base Hospital. Mary next completed her midwifery training before marrying John Hogan in Brisbane in 1949 and having four children. She worked in various Brisbane hospitals including St. Helen's and Mt. Olivet, and then trained as a Maternal and Child Welfare Sister. As the result of an accident, Mary was widowed in 1962. She then worked full time as a clinic sister in the Inala, Darra, and Wacol areas while raising her 4 children alone. Her final working position as a nursing sister was at Canossa Hospital, where Mary herself died from multiple myeloma in May 2002, aged 78. After 40 years as a widow, Mary Hogan was buried in Toowong Cemetery alongside her beloved husband John in the grave she purchased in 1962. She was a mother, grandmother, nurse and friend to many.

Patricia Marion Hull (22-17-25)

Patricia Hull's qualifications were recognised by the Nurses and Masseurs Registration Board of Queensland. She died aged 37 in 1964, leaving behind a husband and three children.

Annie McGarrigal (22-22-23)

Annie McGarrigal was better known as Matron Cox. She trained at the Brisbane Children's Hospital in 1922 and was on the ANTA Register in 1923. Annie died on 11 Oct 1964 aged 82.

Helen Veronica Luton (22-30-11)

Helen (known as Lena) Luton was with the Australian Army Nursing Service attached to the 1st Australian Infantry Force. She died on 14 June 1977 aged 83.

Gertrude Daly (7A-171-1)

Miss Daly worked mainly as a 'Children's Nurse' at the Hospital for Sick Children (HSC), Herston. She was appointed as a registered nurse at the HSC on 22 Jul 192. While at the Brisbane Hospital in 1926 she was appointed a sister on 28 Sep 1926. In October 1926 she returned to the HSC and was appointed a senior sister there on 1 Jul 1928. In the 1930s Gertrude was in charge of the outpatient's department at the HSC. In 1938 she was granted leave to undertake a four-month course in child welfare training. She then became Matron of the Metropolitan Hospital for Infectious Diseases from the late 1940s to the early 1950s. On 1 Jan 1952 she was appointed Matron of the Brisbane Children's Hospital. After a long illness she died while still in service on 30 Oct 1961.

Susannah Josephine McGann (15-31-16)

Sister Susannah McGann, daughter of John and Susannah McGann, was a member of the New Zealand Army Nursing Service. She had trained in Maryborough, obtaining both General Nursing and Obstetric Certificates. Susannah was on the staff of the Diamantina Hospital in 1908 and was on the ANTA register in 1923. She died on 10 Jun 1925 aged 46.

Elizabeth Margaret Hulett (15A-9-16)

Elizabeth Hulett completed her general training at the Royal Children's Hospital, Brisbane in 1922, and her midwifery training at the Royal Women's Hospital in 1938 after the premature death of her husband, John Hulett. She was appointed to the staff of the Women's Hospital in Dec 1943 and was promoted to Senior Sister in 1946. After 18 years service she retired from the staff of the Women's Hospital in Jan 1961 to join the staff of the new Mater Mothers' Hospital. She taught midwifery for many years, affectionately known to her students as "Granny Hulett". Sister Hulett died in 1986 aged 87.

Ethel Ivy Ellen Amess (25-29-16)

Nurse Ivy Amess received her training at the Bundaberg General Hospital where she was extremely popular with the staff and patients. After graduation she moved to Brisbane where she contracted a fatal illness. She died aged 24 on 31 Oct 1927.

Katherine Glasson Taylor (8-71-37)

Dying aged 104 on 14 May 1998, Sister Taylor had seen service at the 5th Australian General Hospital which was a Victoria-based unit.

Lillian Violet Cooper and Mary Josephine Bedford (8-69-13/14)

Dr Lillian Cooper was the first woman to practise medicine in Queensland. She studied medicine at the London School of Medicine for Women and obtained an MD from Durham. While studying there, Lillian met and shared lodgings with Mary Bedford who was to become her lifelong companion. Dr Cooper commenced private practise in Brisbane in 1891 at The Mansions, in George Street. She was a great advocate of sterilization and the use of protective clothing during surgery. Lillian died on 19 Aug 1947 aged 86. Mary Bedford died in 1955. Mt Olivet Hospital stands on the site of their Main St home at Kangaroo Point.

Introduction

Amongst the 120 000 interments at Toowong Cemetery are many health professionals; nurses, doctors, dispensers and others, some of whom gave their lives in the course of their duties. This trail represents just a small number of those people who spent their working lives caring for others.

Mary Elizabeth Weedon and Annie Griffiths (4-3-20)

Mary Weedon, who trained at London's Charing Cross Hospital, was the first head nurse of the Brisbane Hospital, holding the position for five years from 1885. She was the Vice-President of the Australasian Trained Nurses' Association (ATNA), Queensland Branch from 1904 to 1905 and a councillor from 1905 to 1906. She and her friend, Annie Griffiths, shared a house called *Garton* in Terrace Street, Toowong for many years. They were also members of the congregation of St Thomas Anglican Church. They died within eighteen months of each other; Mary in March 1942 and Annie in July 1943.

Edith Harriett Rennie (10-62-22)

Staff Nurse Edith Rennie of the Australian Army Nursing Service died on Christmas Day, 1930, aged 45. She was the daughter of Charles and Liliias Rennie of Sydney. She had obtained her General Nursing Certificate from Hamilton Hospital, Waikato, New Zealand in May 1916 and her Obstetric Certificate from the Royal Hospital for Women in August 1921. She appears on the ATNA register of members in 1923.

Nina Robertson McDonald (10-68-31)

Nina McDonald graduated from the Royal Brisbane Hospital in 1915. She became a Staff Nurse with the Australian Infantry Force. She died on the 11 May 1934, sadly missed by her mother, Catherine McDonald, brother and sister.

Elsie Muriel Jones (10-45-24)

Elsie Jones was known by her maiden name, Sister King, when she nursed for the Australian Infantry Force. She subsequently married and had a son and a daughter. She was awarded a Member of the British Empire. Elsie died on the 17 May 1942 aged 53.

Julia Harriett Blaycock (10-14-6)

Julia Blaycock, daughter of Richard and Ann Hayward was a member of the ATNA. She died on the 11 Sep 1916 aged 34.

Alice Maud Mary Le Bas (1-39-14)

Alice Le Bas, daughter of Frederick and Mary Le Bas, was a nurse at the Brisbane Hospital. She died on the 25 Sep 1886.

Emily Owen (1-39-5)

Emily Owen was an immensely popular and respected nurse at the Brisbane Hospital. She died, unmarried, aged only 23 of typhoid fever contracted doing her duties on 24 May 1885. Her headstone was erected by the nurses and employees of the hospital where she worked, grateful patients and bereaved friends.

Mary Constance Crosse (1-39-15)

Mary Crosse, who graduated in 1888, died aged 28 on 28 Oct 1890, was also a nurse at the Brisbane Hospital. Fellow nurses and patients erected her headstone. She was the daughter of Thomas and Jane Crosse.

James Gray (2-37-14)

Patient James Gray of Forest Hill, via Brisbane, died on 22 Jan 1906 aged 52. His headstone describes his death. *His last days were spent in Brisbane Hospital and while there suffering from a painful and incurable disease, he bequeathed to that institution the savings of his lifetime in gratitude for its comforting ministrations.*

Florence Truelove (2-44-31)

Little is known of Florence Truelove other than that she had trained as a nurse and died on 12 Mar 1896. She was the daughter of John and Emma Truelove.

Rose Jane Walker (5-25-1/2)

Rose Jane Langford was born in Devon, England and came to Queensland at the age of four. She undertook her nursing training at the Ipswich Hospital. Before the outbreak of World War One, Rose was the Matron at Mt Perry Hospital and later at Mt Morgan and Mackay. Between 1914 and 1917, she was a member of the Australian Army Nursing Service. Rose left on the hospital ship *Kyarra* for Egypt where she served in the No. 1 Australian General Hospital. She later transferred to Flanders. Rose was mentioned in despatches for her devotion to duty. After the war, Rose was on the staff of the Kangaroo Point Hospital and later matron of the Rosemount Repatriation Hospital. Rose married James Walker and lived in Brisbane until her death in 1935, aged 56 years.

Sarah Stevens Lygo (5-38-7)

Sarah Lygo was the fifth daughter of Richard and Martha Harriett Lygo of Kent, England. Her nursing qualifications were certified by the ATNA. She died aged 69 on 9 Jul 1928.

Arthur Charles Frederick Halford (5-17-18)

Dr Arthur Halford was born on 23 Nov 1869. When he was an Honorary Assistant Physician at the Brisbane Hospital in 1908, he treated burns and scalds in what was considered a new method by the Hospital. He punctured the blisters and cut away as much skin as possible, a method employed until the 1960s. In addition to his hospital duties, he was the Vice-President of the ATNA, Queensland Branch, between 1904 to 1910 and 1912 to 1937 and President between 1910 to 1912. He was also Vice-President of the Nurses' Rest Home Committee from 1931 to 1932. Dr Halford died on 13 Jan 1945 and is buried with his infant daughter, Grace.

Vera Evelyn James (2A-23-16)

As Sister Pfingst, Vera James was a trained nurse and ward sister at the Brisbane General Hospital having graduated in 1951. She was the last President of the Nurses Rest Home and Benevolent Fund. This incorporated organisation

ceased to exist in 1993. The Nurses' Rest Home, located at 17 Mallon Street, Bowen Hills, was administered by this organisation. It closed in 1992 following the sale of the building. The Nurses' Rest Home was used as a residence for nurses for over sixty years. Vera died in 1999 aged 70.

Mary Jane Brown (5-63-24)

Mary Jane Brown, born ca 1861, was working as a nurse when she was widowed in 1916. She died on 18 Aug 1939 aged 78.

Nora Halford and Catherine Fitzgerald (7A-102-23A)

Nora and Catherine were the daughters of Cornelius and Catherine Fitzgerald. They had emigrated from Ireland in the late 19th century. Nora received her Brisbane Hospital Certificate in 1894 and remained on the staff. Nora was a charge nurse from 1897 to 20 February 1899 when she left to marry Dr Arthur Halford (see above). Nora died on 9 Aug 1932 aged 63. She is buried with her sister Catherine Fitzgerald who was also trained nurse. Catherine received her Brisbane Hospital Certificate in 1896 and remained on staff as a ward nurse until 1898. Catherine was one of the first councillors of ATNA, Queensland Branch that was formed in 1904. She remained a councillor until 1918 when she became Vice-President (1918-1921). Catherine was Matron of the Alexandra Private Hospital, located in Wickham Terrace, from 1904, later becoming the owner. She was also a member of the ANTA Nurses' Rest Home Committee. In her retirement Catherine lived at *Craigston*, Wickham Terrace, until her death. She died on 23 Jan 1931 aged 63.

Agnes Kathleen Isambert (7-59-5/6)

Agnes Isambert was born in 1874. She trained at the Brisbane General Hospital between 1897 and 1899 and became a member of the ATNA in 1904 and a councillor of the Association between 1912 and 1919. Agnes was engaged in private nursing at the Walmer Nursing Home and the Colmslie Plague Hospital until 1913 when she returned to the Brisbane General Hospital to obtain her midwifery certificate. She then became Matron of the St Mary's Hospital in Ipswich. From 1904 to 1914, Agnes was a member of the Australian Army Nursing Service Reserve. During World War One she sailed aboard the *Kyarra* and was eventually appointed to the No. 1 Australian General Hospital in Heliopolis in 1916. A former resident of Red Hill, she died on 7 Jun 1956 aged 83. She was the daughter of John and Margaret Isambert.

Ellen Margaret Kavanagh (7A-29-14A)

Sister Ellen Kavanagh died, unmarried, while nursing at the Rosemount Military Hospital, Lutwyche Road, on 5 Nov 1944 aged 59. She was attached to the 1st Australian Infantry Force. Her headstone was erected by the Hospital's patients.

Zita Stella Lyons (7A-164-18)

Zita was born in Rockhampton and trained at the Brisbane General Hospital. She sailed on the hospital ship *Kyarra* on 21 Nov 1914. She saw service with the Australian Army Nursing Service in Persia, Palestine, Egypt and aboard hospital ships off Gallipoli. After the war, Zita was in charge of Queensland's first radium clinic.