

LOCAL AANS Who were they?

Trained at the Rockhampton General Hospital

Rosamund Brenda Atherton

Trissie Bailey

Beryl Anderson Campbell

Caroline Rose Griffiths

Alice Ethel Imison

Margaret Elizabeth Jones

Jessie Violet Marion Kennedy

May Agnes Maloney

Mary Theresa Martin

Elsie Kate McLaughlin

Catherine Monkton

Margaret Frances Murray

Ellen Agnes Norton

Violet May Phillips

Mary Clare Price

Catherine Annie Toft

Edith Mary Toft

Served in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve (Q.A.I.M.N.S.R).

Annie Isobel Brizzell

Rosamund Brenda ATHERTON

Born: 1882 in Mackay, Queensland
Later lived with her parents at Yeerongpilly, Brisbane

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital October 1905 – October 1908

Enlistment Details: Aged 34 years
Detail from AIF Project website shows: Enlisted 2 June 1917
Detail from Nominal Roll shows: Enlisted 12 May 1917
Rank on Enlistment – AANS Sister

Service Details: **Detail from Embarkation Roll shows** Embarked 9 June 1917
from Sydney on RMS “Mooltan”

A photograph taken in Adelaide, South Australia in June 1917 shows Sister Atherton with of group of AANS Sisters from Queensland prior to embarking for Greece
awm.gov.au/collection/A01240/

Served in Solonika, Egypt
Discharged in United Kingdom due to her marriage in February 1919

Awards:



Mentioned in Despatches

Date of Commonwealth of Australia Gazette: 6 October 1919
Location in Commonwealth of Australia Gazette: Page 1467, position 24

Date of London Gazette: 5 June 1919
Location in London Gazette: Page 722, position 1

'For gallant services rendered during the period from 1st October 1918 to the 1st March 1919'

Post War:

Married George Vincent Ranson, 19th February 1919 in England

Died in N.S.W. 1974

A photograph posted on [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) shows



Rosamund Brenda Ranson (nee Atherton) (1882-1974)

Trissie BAILEY

Born: 6 December 1892 in Tumbaruma, NSW
Later lived in Pomona, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital June 1914-June 1917

Enlistment Details: Aged 24 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 6 November 1917
Rank on Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: **Detail from Embarkation Roll shows:** Embarked 16 November 1917 from Sydney on "Canberra"
Served in Bombay and Gharial, India
Served in Victoria War Hospital, Gerald Freeman Thomas War Hospital, King George War Hospital and 19th British General Hospital.
Returned to Australia 19 November 1919 on "Montoro"

Post War: **Information found on www.adoptadigger.org shows:**
Trained as a midwife 1921 Lady Bowen Hospital Brisbane
Matron Maleny Hospital 1927
Matron St. Anne's Private Hospital Cleveland Brisbane
Worked in various hospitals in N.S.W.
Married Robert Gavin Ralston in 1939
He died 19th December 1947
Then remarried 31 August 1963 to Clarence Walter Weis
He died 8 July 1988
Died 31 July 1991 in Dunedoo NSW in aged 98 years
Buried Dunedoo General Cemetery N.S.W.

Beryl Anderson CAMPBELL

Born: Was the elder of twin daughters born 1889 in Gladstone, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital September 1908-November 1911

A photograph in the Australian Country Hospital Heritage Association Inc. (ACHHA) Archives shows Miss Campbell as a trainee nurse at the Rockhampton Hospital on Christmas Day 1910

Pre War: Between 1912 and 1914 worked as Head Nurse at Rockhampton Children's Hospital and then as Matron of the Marmor First Aid Hospital

Enlistment Details: Aged 25
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 12 November 1914
Rank on Enlistment AANS Matron

Service Details: Embarked from Brisbane 21 December 1914 on HMAT A55 "Kyarra," 1 Australian General Hospital (November 1914)
Served in Egypt and Salonika
Returned to Australia 9 March 1917

In May 1919 was on leave to attend Motor Course in London which was an unusual interest for women in this era

Resigned her appointment in United Kingdom on 5 December 1919 to sail to Canada "to rescue her dead sister's four children orphaned by the 1918 Influenza Epidemic"

Awards:



Royal Red Cross 1st Class

Date of Commonwealth of Australia Gazette: 7 November 1918

Location in Commonwealth of Australia Gazette: Page 2112, position 18

Date of London Gazette: 3 June 1918

Location in London Gazette: Page 6507, position 1

Post War: Married George Harold WALKER Died 1962 in Malvern, Victoria



Rockhampton Hospital, 25 December 1910 Miss Beryl Campbell is in the back row, second from left.

Caroline Rose GRIFFITH(s)

Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Griffith(s)

Detail from Attestation Paper shows: Signed as Griffith, Typed as Griffiths

Born: 12th July 1887 in Mackay, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital September 1909 – September 1912

Pre War: Mother Next of Kin in Barcaldine

1914 Reported in Morning Bulletin Tuesday 19 May 1914
Page 4, Matron Rockhampton Women's Hospital

Enlistment Details: Aged 29 years

Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 28 August
1916

Rank on Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Embarked 19 September 1916 on “Karmala” from Sydney

A photograph taken at the Enoggera General Hospital Brisbane
appears in Rupert Goodman’s book “Queensland Nurses Boar
War to Vietnam” and published in ACHHA Newsletter in April
2012, shows her with a group of nursing colleagues prior
to embarking for overseas service

Served in Bombay

Was seriously ill with Malaria soon after arriving in Bombay

Promoted to Sister 1 July 1917

Returned to Australia on “Corinthian” 11 February 1918

Appointment Terminated 21 December 1920

Post War: Reported in The Courier-Mail (Brisbane, Qld. 1933 - 1954
Saturday 16 October 1954 Page 9 while Matron Jundah
Hospital

*“Matron Griffith is one of the rare people who has devoted an
entire lifetime to nursing. She trained in Rockhampton 47 years
ago, went to the first World War, and has been in the bush ever
since.”*

Did not marry

Died in 1972 in Queensland

Caroline Rose GRIFFITH Back Row 5th from Left



Alice Ethel IMISON

Born: 27 April 1893 in Laidley, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital January 1914 – January 1917

Enlistment Details WW1: Aged 24 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 1 August 1917
Rank on Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details WW1: Embarked 8 August 1918 from Sydney on “Anchises”
Served in Kangaroo Point Hospital Brisbane
Served in Bombay India and Lahore Pakistan
Returned to Australia 28 October 1919 on “Marathon”
Discharged medically unfit.
Appointment Terminated 11 February 1920



Post World War 1: Traveled to England, Married Captain Charles Horace WOOLSEY of Shepherd's Bush, London 03 July 1920 at St. Thomas' Church, Shepherds Bush, London.
29 September 1933 was admitted “by reciprocity with the Nurses Board of Queensland’ as a Registered Nurse with the General Nursing Council of England and Wales.

Service Details WW2: **As Alice E. Woolsey**
Served with Queen Alexandra’s Imperial Nursing Service
Posted to France and evacuated from Dunkirk in 1940 after fall of France.
Served in Egypt, Lebanon, Italy and Belgium from 1940-1945.
Released from Service August 1948 and granted honorary rank of Sister by the War Office.



Nurses Badge QAIMNS

Awards WW2: **Royal Red Cross Medal** together with a personal letter from King George V1.



WW2 medals



The 1939-45 Star’



AFRICA STAR 1940



ITALY STAR 1943



FRANCE and GERMANY STAR 1945



DEFENCE MEDAL



WW2 WAR Medal

Post World War 2: Returned to Australia 1972. Died 8 April 1982 aged 88 years.
Ashes in War Service Memorial at the Albany Creek Crematorium



All Nursing Certificates and badges, Service Medals, Photographs, original documents, letters home and letters related to her war service have been donated to the Country Hospital Museum by Janice Marshall, Burpengary, Queensland. December 2014.

Margaret Elizabeth JONES

Born: June 12 1882 in Gladstone Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital June 1912 – June 1915

Enlistment Details: Aged 24 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: 2 June 1917
Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Embarked 9 June 1917 from Sydney on RMS “Mooltan”
Served in Sutton Veny, England and Solonika
Promoted to Sister 1919
Returned to Australia on duty 17th November 1919 on “Port Macquarie”
Appointment terminated 5th March 1920

Post War: Known to have been Matron Rockhampton General Hospital 1925
Married by April 1954. Married name was Graham
Died 1983

Jessie Violet Marion KENNEDY

Born: 1883 in Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital March 1905- March 1908

Pre War: Family lived in Muttaborra Queensland

Morning Bulletin Tuesday 17 August 1909 Page 9 Article shows was nursing at Dr. O'Brien's private hospital in Rockhampton

Enlistment Details: Aged 31 years

Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 12 August 1915

Rank at Enlistment AANS Sister

Service Details:

Embarked 21 August 1915 from Sydney on RMS "Morea"
Served in Cairo during the Gallipoli landing and the campaign.

Served also in England and France

Matron Sidcup Military Hospital Kent,

Matron "Somali"

Returned to Australia as duty nursing staff 22 July 1919 on HT "Demosthenies"

Disembarked Sydney 19 September 1919 for onward travel to Brisbane.

Discharged 24 November 1919

Awards:



The British Journal of Nursing, 24 March 1917 Page 204, shows Sister Kennedy was awarded the

Royal Red Cross (2nd.Class)

Bestowed by Queen Alexandra widow of King Edward VII

'Exceptionally meritorious services in connection with the nursing and care of the Sick and Wounded officers and men.'

Recommendation date: 23 January 1917

Recorded in Commonwealth Gazette No 116

Date: 25 July 1917

Post War:

Married in Clayfield, Brisbane 15 December 1926 to Edward Norman Stephen Bourke They left for a motor touring honeymoon

May Agnes MALONEY

Born: Rockhampton, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital June 1912- June 1915

Enlistment Details: Aged 24 years

Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 1 May 1917
Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details:

Embarked 9 May 1917 from Sydney on 'Ulysses'

Served in England and France

Returned to Australia as nursing staff 14 May 1919 on "City of Poona"

Appointment terminated 19 June 1919

Post War:

The Central Queensland Herald, Thursday 2 May 1935, Page 20 reported her attendance at a function held by the Citizen's ANZAC Day Dinner Committee for 600 returned nurses, sailors and soldiers at the Palais Royal in Rockhampton

Mary Theresa MARTIN

- Born:** 1879 in Rockhampton, Queensland
- General Nursing Training:** Rockhampton Hospital March 1900 – March 1903
- Enlistment Details:** Aged 33 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 24 November 1914 at Cairo, Egypt
Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse
Detail from Nominal Roll shows: Rank as Sister
- Service Details:** Embarked 28 November 1914 on Transport A55 “Kyarra”
Served in Egypt, France and England.
Sister Martin was often under shell fire in France.
- A photograph on the Australian War Museum website shows her with a group of Australian nurses in the Gesirah Palace in Egypt
Another shows she left her mark in Egypt when visiting the Great Pyramid of Giza by painting
“SISTER M.T.MARTIN 6.2.15” on the wall inside Campbell’s Chamber, the uppermost of four chambers directly above the King’s Chamber
- Left England for Australia 29 December 1918 on “Giaka”
Appointment terminated 1 March 1919
- Post War:** Worked for 10 years at Prince of Wales Hospital Sydney.
Died in Randwick N.S.W. October 1929 and is interred in the Botany Bay Cemetery, Sydney



Sister Mary Theresa Martin

<http://www.aans.gravesecrets.net/mca-mcn.html>

Elsie Kate McLAUGHLIN

- Born:** 26 September 1892 in Mt. Morgan, Queensland
- General Nursing Training:** Rockhampton Hospital December 1912 – December 1915
- Pre –War:** The Western Champion and General Adviser for the Central Western District, Saturday 9 June 1917 Page 11 Article shows was Head Nurse at the Longreach Hospital and was presented with a satchel of notes as a mark of esteem and affection when leaving to enlist
- Enlistment Details:** Aged 24 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 1 September 1917
Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse
- Service Details:** Embarked 15 September 1917 in Sydney on HMAT A33 “Ayrshire”
Served in Egypt, 31 British General Hospital, British Citadel Hospital and Nazareth Hospital
Returned to Australia 30 August 1919 per “Dunluce Castle”
Appointment Terminated 19 December 1919
- Post War:** The Central Queensland Herald, Thursday 2 May 1935, Page 20 reported her attendance at a function held by the Citizen’s ANZAC Day Dinner Committee for 600 returned nurses, sailors and soldiers at the Palais Royal in Rockhampton



Sister Elsie (Kate) McLaughlin

<http://www.aans.gravesecrets.net/mca-mcn.html>

Catherine MONCKTON
Sister to Nonie Monckton.

Born: 19 June 1883 at Lakes Creek, Rockhampton, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital July 1912 – July 1915

Pre War: *“The first operation to be performed at the Mater was undertaken by Dr O’Brien in late November 1915. For the appendectomy, Dr O’Brien called upon Dr Sampson Stuart, a fellow Rockhampton practitioner to anaesthetise, and Sister Catherine (‘Kit’) Monckton, a registered nurse from Leinster, to join him as Theatre Sister. Miss Monckton had been trained at the Rockhampton Hospital, and following the success of the operation at the new Mater, Bishop Shiel offered Miss Monckton, a lay person, the position of Matron which she duly accepted.”*

Source: ACHHA Newsletter April 2009

Written by Secretary: Errol Payne

Enlistment Details: Aged 27 years

Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 2 June 1917
Rank at Enlistment AANS Sister 14th AGH

Service Details:

Embarked 12 June 1917 from Melbourne on “Mooltan”
Miss Monckton was taken on strength 23 July 1917 in Egypt
Served in Egypt, 14 AGH Abbassia, Port Said, Cairo and
Dartford in England

Returned to Australia on “Demosthenies” 19 September 1919
Appointment terminated 21 January 1920



Sister Catherine Monckton

<http://www.aans.gravesecrets.net/mca-mcn.html>

Margaret Frances MURRAY

Born: 1890 in Rockhampton, Queensland
General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital. Recorded as successfully passed final examination 27 January 1915, Examination Results 1915-1927

Enlistment Details: Aged 21 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 23 July 1915 at Heliopolis, Egypt.
Rank at Enlistment AANS Sister 1st Casualty Clearing Station

Service Details: Embarked 30 July 1915
Served in Egypt, England and France
Six surgical teams from the Australian Hospitals were specially detailed by Headquarters A.I.F. in March 1918, 2 to be attached to each General Hospital, to be available as required for the Front or Base.



Sister Margaret Frances Murray is located third from the left in the rear row, directly behind the seated officer
Photograph AWM

Among the Sisters who did team duty was:

No.1 Australian General Hospital

Sister M. F. Murray A.A.N.S.

Returned to Australia on "Beltana"

Appointment terminated 19 September 1919

An extract from an article in the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin 27 January 1919 Page 9 LOCAL AND GENERAL NEWS. "Sister M. F. Murray, daughter of Mr. F. H. Murray, Park Avenue, North Rockhampton, who has been at the front for three and a-half years, writing from London on the 3rd of November, says : -. "*I was very pleased when I landed in Dover. I am so weary and tired of war and all things connected with it : but it looks like ending soon.*"

Mentioned in Despatches

Date of Commonwealth of Australia Gazette: 30 October 1919

Location in Commonwealth of Australia Gazette: Page 1653, position 59

Date of London Gazette: 11 July 1919

Location in London Gazette: Page 8835, position 71

Award:



Post War:

A reference is made in "Rockhampton: a bibliography to 1975" written by Olivia Abbay Regional CQ Collections @CQU Library Regional CQ Collections
"MURRAY, MARGARET FRANCES, d. 1924
993 'First matron of "Tannachy"', port. Cutting from MB,"
Thursday 3 September 1925 a Rockhampton citizen, Mr. H. J. Iverson wrote in the Rockhampton Morning Bulletin suggesting that the street leading to his property at Park Avenue be named Francis Street, after the late Francis Margaret Murray, who was a resident of the district for over 29 years, and who served in the Great War as a nurse. It was Referred to the General Purposes Committee however further research suggests neither Francis nor Frances Streets in Rockhampton were named in her honour

Died on 15 July 1925 aged 29 just 6 years after returning home and is buried in the South Rockhampton Cemetery

Agnes Ellen NORTON

(At times written as Ellen Agnes)

Sister to Annie Norton

Born: Capella, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital November 1910 – November 1913

Pre War: Was working for Dr. S. Stuart and Dr. E. A. Buchanan at their Rockhampton private hospital
Acting Matron Springsure Hospital

Enlistment Details: Age unknown
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 3 November 1915 1st Military District
Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Embarked 9 December 1915 on “Orsova”
Served in France and No3 AGH Heliopolis, 25 British General Hospital Boulogne, 49 CCS Achiet le Grande, 3 AGH Abbeville, then to Dartford England

In a letter written to Mrs. M. Hansen, Capella and printed in The Rockhampton Morning Bulletin Friday 3 August 1917 Page 7 she wrote of the awful cold she was experiencing in France but was reminded “to remember how the boys in the trenches must be suffering too cruel for words to express”

She went on to write that it was “war nursing alright as the nurses went as hard as they could, yet could never get done and most of the poor lads were gassed as well as wounded”

Returned to Australia with her sister Annie 23 August 1919 per “Zealandic”

Appointment terminated 19 October 1919



Sister Ellen Agnes Norton

<http://www.aans.gravesecrets.net/mca-mcn.html>

Violet May PHILLIPS

Born: 1893 in Mount Morgan, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital November 1912 – November 1915

Enlistment Details: Aged 23 years

Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 16 March 1917

Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Embarked 21 March 1917 from Sydney on “Kanowna”

A photograph taken at the Enoggera General Hospital Brisbane appears in Rupert Goodman’s book “Queensland Nurses Boar War to Vietnam” and published in ACHHA Newsletter in April 2012, shows her with a group of nursing colleagues prior to embarking for overseas service

Served at 14th AGH Port Said

Resigned appointment in Egypt 12 February 1919

Post War:

Married Major N. Hamilton Fairly in Ciaro.

Divorced in November 1924 in Armidale N.S.W

Died 1 February 1965 and was buried in Springvale Botanical Cemetery



**Staff Nurse Phillips, standing 2nd in Back Row (L to R)
Australian General Hospital at Enoggera,
Brisbane, on 10th April 1916.**

awm.gov.au/collection/A01240/

Mary Clare PRICE

Born: Rockhampton, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital November 1908 – November 1911

Enlistment Details: Aged 28 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 26 May 1916.
Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Embarked from Sydney 2 September 1916 on “Kaiser-i- Hind”
Served in Solonika
Resigned her appointment to AIF in London 10 July
1919 due to her marriage

Post War: Married Cpl C. N. HARVEY on 2 June 1919
Returned to Australia 19 August 1919 on “Wiltshire”

Catherine Annie TOFT
Sister to Edith Mary Toft

Born: 1888 in Rockhampton, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital January 1912–January 1915

Enlistment Details: Aged 29 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 26 April 1917
Rank on Enlistment AANS Sister

Service Details: Embarked 9 May 1917 from Sydney per ‘*Ulysses.*’
Served in England, sent to Croydon War Hospital (Massage, hot air and electrical treatment)
1918 to Hardelot, France and 3 AGH Abbeville then posted to 3 AGH Dartford, England

In her book “Red Reflections on the sea: Australian Army nurses serving at sea in World War 1” Kirsty Harris writes of the dangers for all on board Allied ships during the war as German submarines torpedoes sank three British hospital ships in the Aegean Sea in 1916, eight in 1917 and four in 1918

Kirsty Harris wrote that while travelling to England, Catherine Toft “had the experience of “action stations” drill as submarines were reported to be chasing us, but luckily for us they did not attack”

Appointment was terminated 21 January 1920

Post War: Succeeded Matron Marianne Dowling (ex AANS) as Matron Yeppoon Hospital 1939-1951

Edith Mary TOFT

Sister to Catherine Annie Toft

Born: 2 May 1886 in Rockhampton, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital April 1907 –April 1910

Pre War: Private nursing in Sydney

Enlistment Details: Aged 30 years

Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 18 November 1915

Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Served at Enoggera Hospital Brisbane

A photograph taken at the Enoggera General Hospital Brisbane appears in Rupert Goodman's book "Queensland Nurses Boar War to Vietnam" and published in ACHHA Newsletter in April 2012, shows her with a group of nursing colleagues prior to embarking for overseas service

Embarked 29 December 1916 from Sydney on HMAT A32 "Themistocles"

Served in France attached to British Forces in Rouen and Boulogne

Served in Harefield and Sidcup Hospitals England

Returned to Australia 14 July 1919 on "Aeneas"

Appointment Terminated: 21 August 1919

Post War: Married name was HOWARD



Sister Edith Mary Toft

<http://www.aans.gravesecrets.net/mca-mcn.html>

Annie Isobel BRIZZELL

Served in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve (Q.A.I.M.N.S.R)

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Hospital September 1892 – September 1895

Confirmed in a Register of Student Nurses held at the Country Hospital Archive, Rockhampton

Service Details:

The British Nursing Journal September 11, 1915 Page 216 records the appointment at the Military Hospital, Richmond, Surrey, England of Sister Brizzell (Trained at Rockhampton General Hospital) Queensland, Australia, as Matron Government Hospital, Leribe, Basutoland

The British National Archives, Reference WO 399/933 and WO 399/23/4830, confirm a record of her enlistment and service in Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service Reserve (Q.A.I.M.N.S.R)

M.B.E. Mention is made in 3780 supplement to the London Gazette, 3 June 1915 of Miss Annie Isobel Brizzell, Matron, Maseru Hospital, Basutoland Nursing Service

Basutoland Annual Medical and Sanitary Report 1932 Printed by Waterlow and Sons Limited London Wall London 1933 records Miss A.I. Brizzell, M.B.E. Matron, Maseru Hospital



MBE as awarded in 1918