Trained At:

Rockhampton Children’s Hospital

Margaret Halpin
Helen Lawson
Louisa Sarah Parnell
Elizabeth Parker
Greta Norman Towner

Rockhampton Women’s Hospital

Ellen Barron
Sarah Kellaway

Gladstone Hospital

Florence Herbertson
Margaret HALPIN

**Born:** 11 February 1878 in Maryborough, Queensland

**General Nursing Training:** Rockhampton Children’s Hospital
Reference “More Than Bombs and Bandages: Australian Army Nurses at Work in World War One” by Kirsty Harris 2011

**Enlistment Details:** Aged 39 years
**Detail from Embarkation Roll shows:** Enlisted 8 November 1917
Rank on Enlistment – AANS Staff Nurse

**Service Details:** Embarked 16 November 1917 from Sydney on “Canberra”
Served in India
Returned to Australia 13 April 1919 on “Eastern”
Appointment Terminated 25 July 1919

**Post War:** 1923 Sister at Toowoomba Baby Clinic
Married John McGuirk 17 June 1925
Died 1970

Sister Margaret Mary Halpin

http://www.aans.gravesecrets.net/mca-mcn.html
Helen LAWSON

Born: 1893 in Rockhampton Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Children’s Hospital
Reference “More Than Bombs and Bandages: Australian Army Nurses at Work in World War One” by Kirsty Harris 2011

Enlistment Details: Aged 34 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 14 September 1916
Rank on Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

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

Service Details: Embarked 2 September 1916 from Sydney on R.M.S. “Kashgar”
Served in Salonika and India
Returned to Australia 6 February 1919 per “Lancashire”
Appointment Terminated 12 May 1919

Post War: The Central Queensland Herald, Thursday 2 May 1935, Page 20 reported Sister Lawson’s 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
Died in Kent, United Kingdom, in 1962 Aged 87

Sister Helen Lawson

http://www.aans.gravesecrets.net/mca-mcn.html
Louisa Sarah PARNELL

**Born:** Port Doulas, Queensland

**General Nursing Training:** Rockhampton Children’s Hospital
Reference “More Than Bombs and Bandages: Australian Army Nurses at Work in World War One” by Kirsty Harris 2011

**Enlistment Details:** Aged 34

**Detail from Embarkation Roll shows:** Enlisted 12 August 1915
Rank on Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

**Service Details:** Embarked from Sydney 21 August 1915 on RMS “Morea”
Served No1 AGH Heliopolis, Mena House, Luna Park then No3 AGH Abbassia December 1916 to Netley Hospital England 1917-1918 Southall Hospital, Harefield and Rouen Promoted to Sister Returned to Australia 8 January 1919 on S.S. “Orsova” Was first Rockhampton nurse to return following the signing of the Armistice

The Brisbane Courier Mail Friday 28 March 1919 Page 9
Reported she was given a hearty welcome at the Soldiers Rest and Recreation Rooms by the Mayor of Greater Rockhampton Alderman T. Kingel

http://www.aans.gravescrets.net/mca-mcn.html
Elizabeth PARKER

Born: Rockhampton, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Children’s Hospital
Reference “More Than Bombs and Bandages: Australian Army Nurses at Work in World War One” by Kirsty Harris 2011

Enlistment Details: Aged 29 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 31 July 1915
Rank on Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Embarked 2 September 1915 at Sydney on R.M.S. “Kashgar”
Served in No3 AGH Lemnos and Solonika, France, Belgium and England
Ill with Influenza and Pneumonia October 1918
Promoted to Sister 1 September 1917
Returned to Australia as nursing staff on “Benalla” 2 April 1919
Appointment Terminated 27 July 1919

In 1938 Sister Parker attended the unveiling of Villiers-Bretonneux Memorial by His Majesty King George VI
Died in London 1965
Greta Norman TOWNER

Born: 1891 in Blackall, Queensland

General Nursing Training: Rockhampton Children’s Hospital
Reference “More Than Bombs and Bandages: Australian Army Nurses at Work in World War One” by Kirsty Harris 2011

Enlistment Details: Aged 24 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 30 July 1915
Rank on Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Embarked 2 September 1916 from Sydney on R.M.S. “Kashgar” Hospital Ship “Demesthones,” and England
Sister Towner was on duty at Lemnos during the Gallipoli campaign Imperial Government lent Greta to the French and she saw service in the French Military Hospitals until the signing of the Armistice
Promoted to Sister
Returned to Australia 14 January 1919
Discharged medically unfit 4 July 1919

Awards: Mentioned in Despatches.

Lieut. Towner V.C. MC. was Sister Towner’s brother

Sister Greta Norman Towner

http://www.aans.gravesecrets.net/mca-mcn.html
Ellen BARRON
Sometimes known as Nellie

Born: 1875 in Berkshire, England

Obstetric Nursing Training: Rockhampton Women’s Hospital 1904-1905

Pre War: Migrated to Queensland with her parents in 1884
Pre enlistment 1912-1913 obtained Certificate of the Incorporated Society of Trained Masseuses from London

Enlistment Details: Aged 39 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows; Enlisted 26 April 1915
Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Embarked 15 May 1915 from Sydney on R. M. S. “Mooltan”
Served in England and England
Nursed ANZAC casualties at Lemnos
Returned to Australia 7 March 1917 on “Kanowna”
Appointment terminated 18 April 1917

Post War: Sister Barron was in charge of the first baby Clinic
opened in a small rented cottage in Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley, Brisbane on 18th March 1918

Nursing Superintendent of Baby Clinics in Brisbane 1923
establishing training courses for clinic nursing staff
She retired in 1939
The Ellen Barron Child Health Centre in Brisbane is named after her

Died 8 July 1951 at the War Veteran’s Home in Caboolture, Queensland

Staff Nurse Ellen Barron stands beneath a solitary tree near a port on the Island of Lemnos. Photograph AWM
Sarah KELLAWAY

Born: Emerlad, Queensland
Obstetrics Nursing Training: Rockhampton Women’s Hospital completed February 1916
Pre War: General Training at Longreach Hospital
Was Matron Emerald Hospital when she was accepted for service
Enlistment Details: Aged 27 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 16 November 1916
Rank at Enlistment AANS Sister
Service Details: Embarked 26 May 1917 from Sydney on “Khira”
Served in India and Egypt
Returned to Australia 20 February 1920 on “Borda”
Appointment Terminated 12 March 1920
Post War: Sister Kellaway spent several years in Lady Minto’s Nursing Association in India

Sister Sarah Kellaway

http://www.aans.gravesecrets.net/mca-mcn.html
Florence HERBERTSON

Born: Clunes, Victoria

General Nursing Training: Gladstone Hospital

Pre War: Head Nurse Longreach Hospital June 1913
The Rockhampton Morning Bulletin Thursday 5 June
1913 reported Matron Herbertson halted overnight in Gladstone
as a guest of Miss Scully who was Matron of the Gladstone
Hospital and continued her journey to Emerald the next day
ready to commence duty as Matron of the Emerald Hospital

Enlistment Details: Aged 30 years
Detail from Embarkation Roll shows: Enlisted 30 July 1915
in Heliopolis, Egypt
Rank at Enlistment AANS Staff Nurse

Service Details: Embarked 31 July on “Orontes” for Heliopolis in Egypt
Served in No1 AGH in Heliopolis, Ismailia and No 1 Aux.
Hospital Abbassia
1916 to No 3 Aux. Hospital Dartford in Kent
Miss Herbertson is photographed with the nursing staff of the
1st Australian Stationary Hospital
Returned to Australia as nursing staff 10 September 1917
On “Ulysses”
Appointment terminated 2 December 1917

Post War: Worked at Stanthorpe and Rosemount Hospitals
The Brisbane Courier Thursday 20 June 1918 Page 11 reported
her attendance at a tea party held at the Military Hospital
Kangaroo Point in honour of the nurses who returned from the
war The guest speaker, Mrs. Stodart spoke of a 5000 pound
fund being invested for the future provision of the nurses under
control of the Australian Trained Nurses Association
Miss Chatfield, President of the ATNA, told the nurses that any
military nurse in need of temporary funding could apply to the
ATNA. She assured the nurses the matter would be handled
confidentially. Mrs. Stodart also made mention of a medal to be
given to the nurses by returning soldiers as their own tribute

Married 1 June 1921 at Ormiston to Mr Flowers
Died 1962 aged 76 years

Identified left to right (back row) Sister Florence Herbertson  AWM C02305