



NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2021

President's Report

Welcome and best wishes to all in 2021. I'm sure that you join with me in hoping for 2021 to be a much better year than 2020. There have already been challenges to face in some states, and we can be sure that the threats posed by the pandemic will not be disappearing anytime soon. Let's hope that the vaccine rollout world-wide works well for us. Over the past year, Central Queensland has fared well. At times like this, there are advantages associated with living in small communities.

We express our sadness at the death of our President, Mrs Lorraine Antonello, on 11th September 2020. This newsletter includes a tribute to Lorraine in the form of a brief account of her life. We are fortunate that Chris Putman interviewed Lorraine about her life and career in late 2019, and this tribute is based on the interview. We are reminded that until relatively recently, married nurses were not permitted to work in hospitals. Fortunately, these rules which seem strange now are consigned to days gone by.

Many of our regular management committee meetings were cancelled last year because of the lock downs. However, we had a successful Annual General Meeting on September 28th at which I was elected President, Dot Broad was elected Vice-President and Del Kajewski was elected as a new Committee member. The remaining membership remains unchanged. As usual, you can find the list of committee members on the back page of this newsletter. The Secretary will also include the AGM reports with this newsletter mailout.

On a personal level, I joined ACHHA in July 2002 and have been involved in a small way with the setting up and continuing work at the Museum.

I must admit because of the enormity of the work, it sometimes feels as if we take 2 steps forward and 3 steps back. I have always preferred to be an INDIAN, never a CHIEF. However, I have agreed to take on this chief position and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you all in advance for the help and support that you show me.

We have decided to take advantage of the Standards Review Program offered this year in the Central Queensland area by the state-wide Museums and Galleries Association. This will involve a huge amount of work and effort by a small working group to complete this program in the time frame required. We will

soldier on and hopefully see the rewards for our effort and the input and advice we receive from external museum experts.

The Secretary wrote in the introduction to our August 2020 newsletter, that Council decided to keep the Heritage Village closed even after the lockdowns had eased. They said that they would use the year to plan a better future for the Village. Unfortunately, we still do not have an opening date. Since we are leaseholders within the Village, Council's General Manager – Community Services, Alicia Cutler, emailed us on 21st December to say that Council staff have been *“working hard behind the scenes on an extensive review of the Heritage Village and plans for its future. We are now coming to an end of this process and early next year we expect to be in a position to present these plans and a proposed timetable for the reopening of the Heritage Village with Councillors. From there, we intend to meet and engage with our volunteer family to discuss the bright new future of the Heritage Village and obtain your feedback and input into these plans and next steps forward.”*

The resignation of the previous Mayor and the election of a new Mayor would not have helped the process. However, this has now been completed with long-serving Councillor Tony Williams elected to the position.

As leaseholders, we are entitled to visit our Museum provided we comply with the overall Council Covid-19 plan. Our small Tuesday volunteer group restarted work on 2nd February. There is still much to be done to maintain the collection and there are still many items packed away. Sometimes we think that we could use a building about twice the size of the one we have! There is also a very crowded shipping container with many collection items, tucked away in the background of the Village site. A small number of other Village volunteers are still on site from time to time, but it is hoped that many more will return when the Village reopens to the public.

Let's hope that there will soon be an opportunity for all to visit us again. A museum without visitors is a fairly boring place! At least all of the animals are still wandering around to provide signs of life.

Del Leitgeb
President

**Tribute to Mrs Lorraine Estelle Antonello
(28 Jul 1939 -11 Sep 2020)**

We were sorry to receive news of the passing of our President, Mrs Lorraine Antonello, on 11th September 2020. Lorraine joined our association on 12th October 2005 and was elected President at the 2013 Annual General Meeting. In this tribute, we will cover aspects of Lorraine's long career based on an oral history interview between Mrs Christine Putman and Lorraine recorded on 20 Nov 2019.



Lorraine was born in Penong, a very small settlement located on the Great Australian Bight just inside the South Australian border and more than 600 km from Adelaide. She lived there until she was 3, when her family moved to Adelaide. However, she still had extended family at Penong and she returned often.

How Lorraine's family came to live in Penong is interesting. After World War One, the South Australian Government made blocks of land available to soldiers who had served overseas in the war to try to help them to become settled and earn an income. Lorraine's grandfather was such a "Soldier Settler". He drew a block of land in the remote settlement of Penong which was a very difficult location for farming. He and his family set off from Adelaide with 5 or 6 horses, a dray, chickens, and their 5 children. At Penong, they lived in makeshift housing and Lorraine's parents married there. When the grandfather died, the eldest son took over the property and Lorraine's family moved to Adelaide.

As Lorraine grew up, she wanted to leave school as soon as she could. Her parents told her that she could only leave if she had a job which she found at John Martin's, a large Adelaide department store. This covered the period 15 March 1954 until 17 December 1955. Lorraine's ambition was to become a nurse and on 25th Jan 1956 she obtained a position as an Assistant in Nursing at the Adelaide Childrens Hospital.

To do a full nurse training program, Lorraine was required to spend two years training in a country hospital, followed by two years at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. She chose Murray Bridge, a 60-bed hospital, as the country hospital. Lorraine recalled that the lectures were in her own time in the middle of a split shift.

When working on night shift, the staff were required to sleep in the Night Duty Quarters from 8:30 am until about 4:00 pm. Night duty started at about 9:00 pm and one of the jobs was to prepare the food for the hospital breakfast. Night duty typically ran for a month with a week off at the end.

Lorraine met her future husband, Guisepppe (Gus), soon after she arrived at Murray Bridge and they had been going out together for two years when the time came for Lorraine to consider the second two years of training in Adelaide. Gus said that he was prepared to move to Adelaide. But in the 1950s, a woman who qualified as a nurse was not permitted to work in a hospital, so a nursing qualification would not have helped a family financially. They decided to marry and settle in Murray Bridge. Gus bought a garage/workshop (Riverbend Motors) in Murray Bridge on 1st May 1958. They were engaged on 19th May and married on 13th Sep 1958. Two children, Susan and Greg, were born over the following few years. Lorraine helped in the garage with such tasks as doing the books, organising spare parts, pumping petrol, using the lathe to resurface brake disks, changing tyres and other garage jobs. Lorraine was always busy!

By 1980, Susan and Greg had grown up and Lorraine decided to resume her nursing career. However, there was a new barrier to cross. The entry standard for nursing had increased and Lorraine first had to complete four Year 12 level subjects. She joined the students at Murray Bridge High School to do two subjects and completed the other two by distance study through the Open College. With this done, there were three or four Nurses Board of South Australia assessments to tackle. These assessed philosophical issues such as approach to problem solving. With these out of the way as well, it was time to decide where to train and Lorraine chose to enrol with the large Lyell McEwin Hospital in Adelaide.

Training started in 1981 with a six-week block session in the Hospital's School of Nursing. There were no nurses quarters but Lorraine shared a hospital-owned house while Gus continued to run the garage in Murray Bridge. Lorraine trained between 1981 and 1984, graduating in August 1984 when she was awarded Nurse of the Year for maintaining a high level of theory and practice in nursing within the hospital.

On 9th July 1984, Lorraine transferred to the Royal Adelaide Hospital where she studied a program in advanced clinical nursing. This involved 4 months in the Professorial Unit (where the professors attached to the hospital were based), then 4 months in the ear nose and throat unit and 4 months in the respiratory unit. Lorraine successfully completed this course in August 1985.

While at Royal Adelaide, she had applied to return to the Lyell McEwin hospital to undertake her midwifery certificate. Six months through this course, the garage at Murray Bridge was sold, and then their house was sold. Lorraine and Gus had purchased 3 acres of land at Barmaryee near Yeppoon. Gus did not like the cold weather and they had decided to move to Queensland. Lorraine said that she was happy to make the move on one condition – that all of her possessions and collections (including her pet rocks) come with them. Being a resourceful person, Gus purchased a semi-trailer and made two trips between Murray Bridge and Yeppoon to transport personal effects plus a boat. Lorraine did all of her own packing and was very pleased to find only one item broken during the shift. So that they would be prepared for the next stage of their lives, Gus commenced the construction of a house which had reached lockup stage before Lorraine arrived.

After completing her midwifery course, Lorraine arrived in Yeppoon on 21 Dec 1986 and commenced work at the Mater Hospital in Jan 1987. On 8 Oct 1988, she moved to a newly opened branch of St Andrew's Hospital at Yeppoon. She was soon asked to take the role of Acting Director of Nursing and then Director of Nursing, a role which she held for ten years. She made good progress with the development of the hospital facilities. But then, for reasons which are somewhat inexplicable, the owners brought in a Brisbane-based team with aged care experience to manage the hospital. This went badly. At one stage, St John's hospital tried unsuccessfully to run the hospital as well. The hospital eventually went into receivership and Lorraine spent a year working with the receivers, particularly to save the bed licences. She started the hospital again but then it was put up for sale. St John's Hospital also failed and was closed.

The name St Andrew's was changed back to Hillcrest at Lorraine's instigation. The hospital was sold to commercial interests about four times until Ramsay Health bought it and continue to operate it as Hillcrest Rockhampton Private Hospital. Lorraine actually continued to work at Hillcrest for a time after its reopening but then decided to retire, having spent about 10 years in the various roles.

However, retirement didn't last long before she returned to work in nurse education to teach Diploma of Nursing students at the TAFE in Rockhampton for four days per week. After two years, she was asked to take on the role of Coordinator of Studies. Still Lorraine was not ready to stop her program of self-development. She completed a Diploma of Assessment and Training and a Graduate Diploma in Vocational Education and Training. This helped with her teaching. She also completed a Bachelor of Health Science Nursing degree at Central Queensland University.

Another important milestone was achieved when she was made a Fellow of the Royal College of Nursing. Lorraine decided to retire again but was then persuaded to take on a part-time role to train nurses at the Benevolent Society which has a major aged persons home in Rockhampton. She also continued to do short courses through the Royal College of Nursing e.g. case mix studies. She finally retired when she was 70.

But this is only part of the story. Lorraine was also a very active volunteer with many community organisations, of which our ACHHA was just one. Furthermore, she commonly took on executive roles in these organisations. She was a very active volunteer with Meals on Wheels and organisations such as the University of the 3rd Age (U3A). As her health deteriorated, Lorraine made it clear that the ACHHA was the organisation she wished to support for as long as possible. In an email, she said she was hoping to be able to attend the 2020 Annual General Meeting on 28th September, but passed away a couple of weeks too soon.

Here we see Lorraine welcoming guests Denise and Jim Lyons and Adele Rogers (Right) at our Museum's "Fence Function" on 18th October 2016.



Lorraine touched the lives of very many people during her career. We are all very grateful for her untiring efforts on behalf of others and her extensive contributions to the nursing profession.

Errol Payne

Rockhampton Nurses in World War 2

The 75th Anniversary of the end of World War 2 was commemorated during 2020. This started us thinking about local doctors and nurses who served Australia during that war. We do have memorabilia in our museum donated by some of those who served, or by their families.

To mark the centenary commemorations for World War One, Ashley Reid undertook a major project which researched the story of all nurses with links to our local area. You can see Ashley's work on our website at:

<https://achha.org.au/WW1-AANS-ver-3.php>

As we often say, every journey starts with a single step. Consider the story below as one which starts the journey of telling the stories of local health professionals who served in World War 2.

The story of one of the key Rockhampton doctors, Norman Charles Talbot who served in both World Wars has already been covered in our August 2015 Newsletter and may be found on our website at:

www.achha.org.au/Norman-Charles-Talbot-web.php

There will be at least 30 individual nurses to cover, so I am planning to spread the story over the three newsletters which I hope to prepare this year. The stories will be enhanced by brief descriptions of some of the environments in which the nurses served, especially in military hospitals.

I will be relying on information in Rupert Goodman's book "*Queensland Nurses – Boer War to Vietnam*" published by Boolarong Publications in 1985. In the following, we will make reference to this book simply as "*Goodman*" usually with a page number. In preparing his book, Rupert Goodman tracked down and contacted as many nurses as he could and collected their individual memories. Apart from this, the other major sources are on Australian Government websites, especially the Australian War Memorial. Reference will be made to our museum resources wherever possible.

Every person who served in World War 2 is listed on the Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs website at [DVA's Nominal Rolls](https://www.dva.gov.au/nominal-rolls). This will provide a starting point for each person who served, and we will use the rank given on the nominal roll in our story.

This summary is in alphabetical order. Once we have the framework, additional information can be added as it becomes available.

Lieutenant Regina May Breene (Married name Birch or Burch)

Regina May Breene was born in Wynnum, Queensland, on 6th July 1917. She trained at the Rockhampton

Hospital between 8th June 1937 and 1941. She may have spent up to a year in a second hospital, probably in Brisbane, before enlisting with the Australian Army Nursing Service on 9th September 1942. Her time in the service was relatively short because she married on 29th July 1943 and was discharged on 19th October 1943. During her service she spent time with the 116 Australian General Hospital based in Charters Towers and her posting when she was discharged was to the No. 1 Ambulance Train in Queensland. This ambulance train was used to transfer soldiers wounded in the New Guinea area to hospitals further south. The No. 1 Ambulance Train ran from Cairns to Toowoomba and Warwick via Brisbane.

Goodman (p. 204) reports that Sister Breene particularly recalled one train transfer from the Charters Towers Hospital to Townsville so that a patient could be taken south on the Australian Hospital Ship Centaur. On the return trip, the Centaur was torpedoed by a Japanese submarine on 14th May 1943 with the loss of 268 lives. Because the ship was on the return trip to New Guinea there were no patients on board but many medical and nursing staff were lost.

Lieutenant Mary Alma Collins (married name McCourt)

Lieutenant Mary Alma (Alma) Collins commenced her service in the Australian Army Nursing Service in 1942 and was discharged 12th February 1946 with the rank of Lieutenant. Alma trained at the Rockhampton Hospital between 10th May 1926 and 9th May 1930. She completed her midwifery certificate at the Lady Goodwin Hospital between 2nd September 1931 and 1st March 1932. She later became matron of the Rockhampton Hospital from July 1952 until 30th October 1955 when she resigned to be married.



Alma was born on 13th February 1906 and died on 10th December 1971. Her relatively early death means that Rupert Goodman would not have interviewed her for his book. Further research will be needed to establish details of her service.

There are several photographs of Alma in the ACHHA collection, including two of her in her army uniform, one of which is shown above.

Captain Alma Crudgington (married name Mc Dougall)

Captain Alma Crudgington (born 18th May 1912) was the youngest child of Albert Crudgington and Elizabeth Browning and the fourth daughter in the family to join the nursing profession. Our museum holds many items of memorabilia from the Crudgington family, donated by their brother Albert.

Alma trained at the Rockhampton Hospital from 5th January 1932 until January 1936. She followed this with a midwifery qualification at the hospital between 10th March 1936 and 18th September 1936.

She enlisted in the Australian Army Nursing Service on 14th October 1940 and served until 10th August 1943. She retired as a Captain posted to the 2/9 Australian General Hospital in which she served in the in the Middle East, Palestine and Egypt as well as in Australia and New Guinea. (Goodman p. 181).

In order to understand how these nurses fitted into the military hierarchy, it will be useful to understand more about how the military hospitals were used in overseas war zones.

The hospitals were mobile units which were designed to be relocated, both to meet demand as the war unfolded, but also to be shifted if a chosen site became too dangerous. A series of web pages referred to as the 'BirtwistkeWiki' has researched and summarised some of the information on the 2/9 AGH in which Alma Crudgington served. By reading this web page, we learn that the hospital grouping was assembled at the Wayville Showgrounds in South Australia on 3rd December 1940 with a 600 bed capacity. Following training, the first group of staff boarded the *SS Mauritania* in Sydney on 5th February 1941 and the last group boarded in Fremantle on 12th February 1941. They travelled to the Middle East via Bombay where they boarded the *SS Indrapoera* on 11th March 1941 to travel to Port Tewfik in Egypt. The nursing staff were disembarked at this port and assigned to the 2/2 AGH to help the staff deal with the many war casualties arriving from Greece and Crete. Meanwhile, the rest of the staff continued their trip so that they could establish the hospital at Abd El Kader in the Amiriya district south-west of Alexandria.

By 17th April, the hospital was in operation and dealing with 600 evacuees from the fighting in Egypt. The chosen site proved to be unsuitable, and once this group of casualties was dealt with, the hospital was relocated by train and road to Nazareth in northern Palestine in July and August 1941. The majority of patients at the Nazareth site were troops suffering from endemic diseases caught in Syria and chest complaints associated with the very cold weather.

When the Japanese entered the war, many of the military and hospital units were ordered to return to Australia to assist with fighting the new war in our region. The return of the hospital commenced on 29th January 1942 with buses to Haifa and train to Gaza and then Port Said at the northern end of the Suez Canal. They boarded the *SS Strathallan* on 17th February 1942. Their destination changed a number of times during the trip home as the war escalated and they finally landed at Port Adelaide on 16th March 1942.

In August 1942, the male members were sent to Bootless Bay in New Guinea to set up the hospital there but the women were not permitted to join them until October 1942 when the military situation became more stable and 68 sisters were sent to join the men who were already dealing with over 700 patients. Medical patients actually outnumbered war casualties by 10:1 because of the prevalence of tropical diseases such as malaria, dysentery and scrub typhus. The hospital was bombed by the Japanese but there were no casualties.

The grey nurses' uniforms with starched veils, collars and cuffs were totally unsuitable for New Guinea and the sisters were issued with army boiler suits and boots until grey safari suits could be made. By the end of 1942, there were over 2000 patients, 29 medical officers, seven military officers, 275 male other ranks, 112 AANS sisters and three female physiotherapists in the hospital.

With 1,200 beds but having to deal with up to 2,000 patients, the extras had to be accommodated on stretchers. In January 1943, assistance was received through the arrival of 2/5 AGH from Australia which established a second hospital at Bootless Bay near Port Moresby.

In March 1944, the 2/9 AGH returned to Australia for a brief rest in Tamworth where they replaced the 102 AGH personnel. In March 1945, the hospital received orders to move to Morotai to service the Borneo campaign about to be mounted by the 7th and 9th Divisions. During the landings, the hospital provided surgical teams who travelled in the Landing Craft.

Along with the 2/5 AGH they handled not only the casualties from the Borneo landings, but also many of the POWs recovered from south east Asian camps,

beginning with a group of Indian POWs on 27th June 1945. The 2/9 AGH treated about 4,000 British and Australian ex POWs prior to the Japanese troops on the island surrendering, and then many more Australian, Dutch, and Indian POWs afterwards. A detachment of staff was sent to Singapore to assist with the rehabilitation of ex POWs. In early 1946 the number of patients began to ease, and the need for staff likewise, with many returning to Australia. The final hospital staff left for Australia on 2nd March 1946.

This photograph from the Australian War Memorial provides an interesting view of a tented ward at the 2/9 AGH near Port Moresby in 1943. A relatively quiet moment has allowed the nurses to enjoy a tea



break. Note the dirt floor.

[Australian War Memorial Photograph Accession No. 107160]

However, returning to the story of the Rockhampton-trained nurses, we know that Alma Crudginton was not involved in the latter years of the war. She had married Sergeant Fergus McDougall in New Guinea on 24th May 1943. They met during their service in the Middle East. The photograph shows Alma and Fergus cutting the cake after their wedding ceremony which had been conducted in a small church in New Guinea. On the left of the bride are the Hospital's Commanding Officer, Col. A Green, who gave the



bride away and Matron Nell Marshall.

[Australian War Memorial Photograph Accession No. 107160]

Fergus was from Adelaide where he and Alma lived after they were married. This was the second wedding of a member of the AANS in New Guinea and there had already been eight in the Middle East.

Captain Ruby Eileen Davis

Captain Ruby Eileen Davis was born in Rockhampton on 12th June 1905. She trained at the Rockhampton Hospital from 9th Apr 1927 until 8th April 1931. She then completed her midwifery qualification at the Lady Goodwin Hospital between 1st April 1931 and 18th October 1931. After qualifying, she worked at the Tully and Innisfail hospitals.

Her date of enlistment in the AANS is not included on her nominal roll certificate. However, Goodman says that it was 1939. He also gives her year of discharge as 1947. However, on her nominal roll certificate her date of discharge from the Royal Australian Army Nursing Service is given as 5th April 1950 so she must have remained in the service after the war.

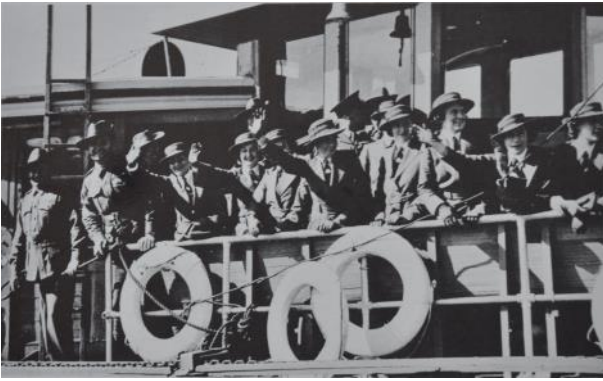
According to Goodman (p.131), the first Australian nurses to be sent overseas departed on 19th January 1940 and were assigned to the 2/1 Australian General Hospital at Gaza Ridge in Egypt which had not actually been constructed when they arrived. Ruby was in the second group to follow later, probably on 15th April 1940. They were assigned to the 2/2 AGH which also had not been constructed when they arrived.

We cannot find any photographs of Ruby in our collection. However, Goodman's book (p. 130) includes this excellent photograph of Ruby and Queensland



colleagues taken at a party at the Hotel Sydney, hosted by NSW Returned Sisters, World War 1. Ruby Eileen Davis is on the right of the front row.

Goodman (p. 136) has a second photograph including Ruby on board as her group departs for the Mid-



dle East in April 1940. This provides an interesting perspective on the excitement of the departure for unknown locations and adventures. Ruby is on the left of the group of nurses

Another Australian nurse, Elizabeth Burchill who appears to be in the same group as Ruby Davis has written about some of her experiences in a book "The Paths I've Trod", which is in our Museum library. Elizabeth (p. 127) paints a picture of the boat trip from Melbourne to Suez via Fremantle and Colombo as being quite enjoyable. An ABC team was on board on the Fremantle leg and recorded quiz shows involving teams of nurses and soldiers in competition.

With so many young people together, there were sufficient talented performers to provide excellent entertainment throughout the trip. Of course discipline was strict and there was no intermingling with troops. Nursing uniform requirements were strictly enforced at all times. At one stage while serving in the Middle East, Elizabeth was threatened with return to Australia when one of her hemlines was found to be more than one foot from the ground. The red cape was compulsory for all formal occasions.

When they finally arrived at a temporary staging camp near Suez and the already established 2/1 AGH, Elizabeth (p. 134) writes that "We were comfortably accommodated three nurses to a tent. The tents were of Indian manufacture, lined and insulated, and furnished with floor covering, bedsteads, wardrobe and chest, the quartermaster's store supplying personal issue of linen, blankets, towels and mosquito nets."

While they waited for their hospital to be constructed, many nurses worked with the nurses of the 2/1 AGH but others were stationed with British hospitals in Palestine and Egypt. Goodman (p. 136) reports that "they were able to reassemble at the new hospital site, El Kantara, a desolate sandy place which was close to the Suez Canal. On 29th December 1940, they were able to receive their first patients. As the war intensified, they found themselves in the

centre of enemy air raids on the Suez Canal Zone, so blackouts had to be strictly enforced. Then they suffered the inconvenience of the khamseen, as the desert winds brought the blinding, choking dust that forced the cessation of many medical and surgical procedures."

Elizabeth Burchill (p. 165) writes that when they arrived at the 2/2 AGH site, they encountered the familiar sight of rows of white tents and unfinished buildings. The huge marques which were to serve as the temporary wards had black tarpaulin floors. Long timber wards came later.

Soon the convoys began arriving with large numbers of sick and wounded from the battle fronts. Elizabeth writes (p. 167) that "*when (a convoy) arrived, long queues of 'walking wounded' waited patiently to be to be allotted beds in a particular ward, and in the days that followed, we cared for men, far from home, who had survived death by bombing and enemy fire. Many were anxious to return to their units as quickly as possible; in some cases convalescence was officially shortened to allow the men to do so. At times like these, when the total hospital quota could number 1000 patients, every available bed was required for hospital use and we slept on canvas stretchers in our lines"*.

While on the wards, Elizabeth saw the remarkable power of new drugs such as sulphanilamide which saved servicemen who would have died from the same diseases in World War 1.

We do not know the full story of Ruby's war service. However, from Goodman pp. 145-146, we know that some AANS nurses were sent to England to assist in the care of wounded Australian soldiers. Goodman (p. 145) reports that Ruby was one of a contingent which served in the 2/3 AGH at Godalming, in the County of Surrey, about 50 km southwest of London. This hospital had opened on 1st August 1940. Goodman (p. 146) shows Ruby in a group of six nurses being watched by soldiers while they planted vegetables as part of Britain's 'Digging for Victory' program introduced to supplement scarce food supplies when rationing was in force.

References

1. Our Contribution (birtwistlewiki.com.au) viewed 19 Jan 2021.
2. Battle for Australia Association, 'A nurse in the battle for Australia', <https://www.battleforaustralia.asn.au/Nurse.php>
3. Goodwin, R. D., 'Queensland Nurses—Boer War to Vietnam', Boolarong Publications, 1985.
4. Burchill, Elizabeth, 'The Paths I've Trod', Spectrum, 1981.

A diverse student intake to the Rockhampton Hospital nursing program in January 1970



This photograph shows the student intake at the Rockhampton Hospital in January 1970. The hospital offered a regional training program, so some of the nurses were from country hospitals. This was also the first intake of nurses from Malaysia and the Philippines. The result was a very diverse student intake.

Front Row (L to R): Sr Sandra Kingston (Tutor Sister), Dorothy Stagg, Isobelle Gonzales (Malaysia), Cynthia Mirasol (Philippines), Erica Schwedt, Elva Uchoco (Philippines), Jennifer Kennedy, Narelle Groundwater, Vicki Milne, Jenny Au Yeong (Malaysia), Sr Judy Walker (Tutor Sister); Second Row: Anne Carter, Helen McKinlay (Emerald), Gail Lynham, Rosaleia Bernal (Philippines), Glen Mary Martin, Kathleen Keynes, Morna Gilbert, Shirley Bunt, Carol Dern (Barcaldine, Longreach?); Back Row: Penny Yeu (Malaysia), Desley Groves (Emerald?), Carol West, Sandra Black, Bronwyn Campbell, Wendy Hammerton, Lynnette Butterworth, Lesley Pellows (Barcaldine), Carleen Clark, Jot Yeo (Malaysia).

Association Membership

The Association welcomes your support for our activities. If you wish to join our Association, application forms are available from Committee members, from the Contact us page of our website www.achha.org.au or by emailing secretary@achha.org.au. Please make cheques payable to Australian Country Hospital Heritage Association Inc. and post to ACHHA Inc, Box 4035, Rockhampton Qld 4700 or pay by direct deposit to our Westpac Membership Account BSB 034-210 Account No. 23-3836. To enable us to identify you, please use your family name plus Mem (for membership). Any of the Committee members listed on the final page will be pleased to assist you.

Membership Fees

Annual membership is \$20.00 for an individual and \$30.00 for a family. Life membership is \$200.00 for an individual and \$300.00 for a family.

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