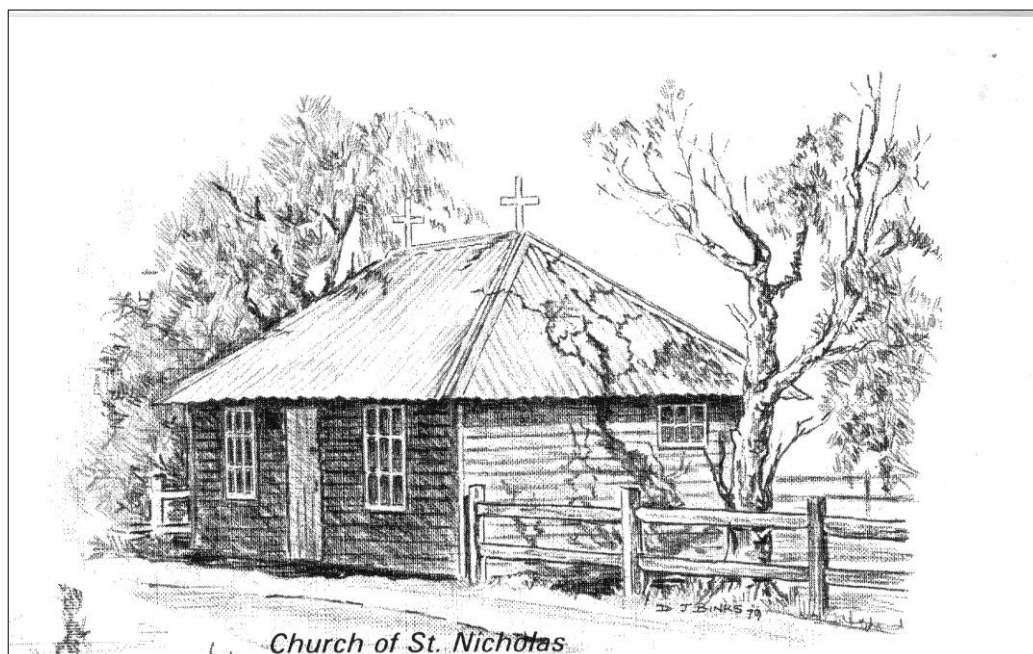


# The Skeleton

THE  
NEWSLETTER OF THE  
AUSTRALIND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY  
(INC.)

Affiliated with WA Genealogical Society (Inc.)



*This is a sketch of one of the first buildings in the Australind settlement, believed to be the smallest church in Western Australia. It is still standing today*

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WE'RE ON THE WEB

[www.australindfhs.org](http://www.australindfhs.org)

## THE AUSTRALIND FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY INC.

### Library and Research Centre

Situated at: Australind Library Complex,  
off Paris Road, Australind WA 6233

All correspondence to:  
The Secretary  
PO Box A279  
Australind WA 6233

**Phone:** (08) 9796 1050

**Email:** [alindfhs@iinet.net.au](mailto:alindfhs@iinet.net.au)

**Website:** [www.australindfhs.org](http://www.australindfhs.org)

### Honorary Office Bearers

President	Chris Shaw	9725 4783
Vice President	Anne Kirkman	9796 0263
Secretary	Glenice Stamp	9725 9667
Treasurer	Chris Riley	9796 0286
Membership Sec.	Marg Smith	9725 1779
Librarian	Pam Ayers	9797 1383
C'tee Members:		
	Carol Sims	9724 1178
	Kate Bullock	9725 9445
	Jayne Denham	9797 1629
	Avalon Donovan	9797 0198

### Annual Subscriptions: 1 Jan 17 - 31 Dec 17

Single Membership                \$35  
Joint Membership                \$45

Single Membership (Senior over 60)    \$25  
Joint Membership (Senior over 60)    \$35

### LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday                10 am - 4 pm  
Wednesday            10 am - 4 pm  
Thursday               10 am - 4 pm

Non-member charges  
Use of library            \$5 per session

A researcher is available to conduct  
research on behalf of the Society

Contact Mr Alan Reynolds via the Library on  
9796 1050 or email: [alindfhs@iinet.net.au](mailto:alindfhs@iinet.net.au)

### Research

Initial Fee                \$10 for 2 hrs  
Additional                \$ 5 per hr  
Photocopying and Postage extra



## Your Contributions . . .

Please email articles for the next newsletter to the Australind website with  
'Newsletter' in the Subject line or leave in the tray at the Family History  
Library: [alindfhs@iinet.net.au](mailto:alindfhs@iinet.net.au)

**Deadline for the receipt of articles for next edition of the *Skeleton*.**

**15th July 2017**



### Disclaimer

*The Society does not hold itself responsible for statements or opinions expressed by authors of papers published in this newsletter. The accuracy of offers, services or goods appearing here cannot be vouched for by the Society. The Editorial Team reserves the right to condense and edit articles to meet the approved size limits of our newsletter.*

### Message from the Editorial Team

Hello everyone

Welcome back to all members. We look forward to assisting you with your research in 2017.

Our dedicated Volunteers enjoy the challenge of the search and are always available to help you on your journey to finding your ancestors.

An upcoming event to be held on April 2nd has kept us very busy throughout 2016 and now that the occasion is drawing closer the final preparations are in place. The function is to honour those first settlers of the Australind Settlement and the many descendants who still live within the region.

The E-Team would like to thank the volunteers of our Society who willingly give their time in ensuring our facility runs smoothly. Their time and efforts are much appreciated.

Just a reminder - memberships are now due.

As of this edition we will be publishing the *Skeleton* every three months.- Apr/Aug/Dec

Cheers  
Anne and Jayne  
The E-Team

#### DATES for your DIARY

AGM 2017 to be held on Saturday 6th May  
Morning Tea 9:30, meeting to commence at 10am.

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**Committee meetings:** Last Friday of the month. 10am. AFHS Library.

WAGS Library open Mon 9:30 - 20:00  
Wed-Fri 9:30 - 14:30 Sat 13:00 - 17:00  
[www.wags.org.au](http://www.wags.org.au)

**TIP:** *Don't forget to bring along your USB thumb drive to save files from your web research.*

#### AFHS SERVICES

##### **Library Visit**

Affiliated Societies - no charge (show membership card)  
Non members - \$5 per visit

##### **Membership**

1 Jan 2017 – 31 Dec 2017.

##### **Computer Use**

Internet Access -includes Ancestry.com + Find My Past and many more.

All users	\$2 per hr
Printouts	30c each
Burn CDs	\$1 each

##### **Micro Film/Fiche Readers/ Pro Scan**

All users	\$2 per hr
Printouts	30c each

##### **Photocopying**

A4 B&W single	20c	Double-sided	30c
A4 Colour single	30c	Double-sided	50c
A3 B&W single	30c	Double-sided	60c

##### **Ring Binding**

Up to 50 sheets	\$2
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##### **Laminating**

Please ask at desk

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Another year is upon us and the team at AFHS have been busy organising our upcoming event to be held at *Alverstoke* Farm in April. The occasion is to commemorate the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first settlement of Australind. We expect a large gathering of the descendants of those first settlers. The program will include a welcome speech, the planting of a commemorative tree, and 'lots of chatting'. Morning tea is provided.

Thanks must go out to the Clifton Family at *Alverstoke* for allowing us to hold the event at their property. The farm holds significance to the occasion as the Cliftons' ancestor Marshall Waller Clifton, Chief Commissioner of Australind settlement, was the first owner of the farm all those years ago. He named it after his birthplace in Hampshire England.

New researchers are always welcome here at the library and our passionate volunteers are here to help. Within our premises we have a small kitchen where you can help yourself to a cuppa, and for a small donation you can join us for a toasted sandwich for lunch.

We are pleased to welcome our new young volunteer Jonathon, who is ready, willing and able to assist in the library – AND he is very good with computers.

The Library is open from 10am – 4pm Tues/Wed/Thurs.

Also once a month (usually on the third Wed evening) from 7pm – 10pm.  
(To check Wed dates please contact myself Chris Shaw on 0438254783.)

Enjoy reading the *Skeleton* and we look forward to seeing you all in 2017.

Cheers

Chris Shaw (President)

>>>>>>>>

**"Are you related to Barney O'Brien?" Thomas O'Brien was once asked.**



**"Very distantly," replied Thomas.**

**"I was me mother's first child, Barney was the seventeenth ! "**

>>>>>>>>

## AUSTRALIND - BEGINNINGS



*...Final instalment...*

*---About the middle of 1883 the final distribution of Australind rural lands took place and a few months later came a dispatch from the directors ordering the cessation of sales and discharge of the surveyors. Later still in 1883 the directors determined to wind up the company's affairs and the Chief Commissioner was released from duty. Thus within three years a company of magnitude and importance was projected and formed in London, began work in Western Australia and became extinct leaving officers, settlers and emigrants to their own way.*

*Mr P Clifton was appointed the agent for the company after the cessation and he disposed of the bulk of the land at 2s an acre. Numbers of people who purchased rural allotments in England did not take possession of them and in course of time they were seized by people in the colony. By the land laws any person who enjoys twelve and a half years undisturbed occupation of a block can obtain the fee simple of it from the Government. Most of the rich lands on either side of the Brunswick River, which were cut into 100 acre lots, were obtained in this manner.*

*Through misapprehension, lack of vitality, essential experience and liberal assistance the company appeared doomed from the beginning.*

***Land Laws, Exploration; Australind Settlement, History of Western Australia 1839-42, Warren Bert Kimberly***



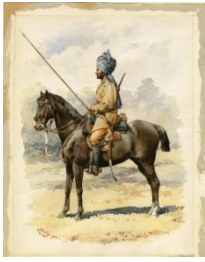
Undeterred by events Mr Marshall Waller Clifton stayed on like the many others who were forced to make a living by whatever means on the outskirts of Australind, a city that was never to be. Some farmed on the foreshore living chiefly by growing potatoes in the rich swamp land parallel with the estuary. Even a vineyard found a ready market in Bunbury.

Mr M W Clifton's property at Alverstoke, named after his birthplace in Hampshire, England, was developing nicely. It was the first farm in the Brunswick district.



Aside from growing crops quite a lucrative cattle trade grew. Dairy cattle could be kept in a good condition by periodically changing them from the coast to the country near the hills. This practice counteracted the effects of soil deficiencies which were so bad that cattle would not grow to maturity on the coast. It is noted in 1860 that Mr Clifton started dairying at Alverstoke, Brunswick. *"He had a fine herd, made a considerable amount of butter and is supplying milk to the people of Perth and sending cream to the factory."*

The introduction of convict labour starting in 1850 addressed the labour shortage in and around the state. Many depots were set up including one in Bunbury. Settlers were able to hire men convicted of lesser charges who on arrival had been granted ticket-of-leave for paid employment conditional on good behaviour. These men not only built public buildings and roads to link settlements, they also worked on pastoral properties. Their efforts contributed to the growth of the economy and perhaps helped those Australind settlers develop their rural lots.



The anticipated breeding of horses for the Indian Cavalry had its beginnings on a strip of land West of the estuary bordering the coastline, named Belvidere.

Establishing a stud and breeding the mounts was an expensive exercise to which returns were not great, therefore the breeders were facing increased debt. There was also the problem of an underdeveloped port facility that discouraged captains to enter the port believing the horses would be put at risk of injury.

The horse trade with India was never to become a significant export compared to timber and wool. Up until 1893 wool was the state's main export earner followed after by gold; timber remaining a small export earner. Unfortunately the absence of capital put an end to the proposed horse breeding enterprise.

Chief Commissioner, Mr Marshall Waller Clifton died 10th April 1861 at his home, Upton House, Australind.

The ultimate abandonment of the plan through no fault of his own does not detract from his valuable contribution to the early development of this state.

#### ***M W CLIFTON 1844***

"Another race will succeed us and if properly encouraged will reap that golden harvest which we might have enjoyed if a combination of untoward circumstances and an absolute departure from the principles on which the land was sold had not put present success beyond all possible reach."

*Location of places of historical significance in and around Australind can be found on our website.*

Alverstoke Farm is still in the hands of Clifton descendants and this is where AFHS is holding a celebration for the descendants of the *Island Queen, Parkfield, Diadem and Trusty* on the 2nd April 2017.

*175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
of the Settlement of Australind  
Alverstoke Historic Farm, Brunswick, WA  
2<sup>nd</sup> April 2017*





### **The Genealogists Psalm**

Genealogy is my pastime, I shall not stray.  
It maketh me to lie down and examine  
half-buried tombstones.  
It leadeth me into still courthouses;  
It restoreth my ancestral knowledge.  
It leadeth me in paths of census records and ship's  
passenger lists for my surname's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the shadows of  
research libraries and microfilm readers,  
I shall fear no discouragement.  
For a strong urge is within me; the curiosity  
and motivation they comforteth me.

It demandeth preparation of storage space  
for the acquisition of countless documents.  
It annointeth my head with burning mid-night oil;  
my family group sheets runneth over.

Surely birth, marriage and death dates shall  
follow me all the days of my life;  
And I shall dwell in the house of family  
history seeker forever

*By Wildamae Brestal*



## MEMORABILIA FOUND IN ROOF



Last year we had a visitor to the Library, who had recently moved to Australind. He is a plumber/gasfitter by trade and he had stumbled across a package wedged in the roof rafters of a house being demolished in Perth. The package was a large Post-pak and addressed to a lady in Australind. When he examined the contents of the package he found a treasure trove of old photos, letters, newspapers and pedigree charts dating back to the early 1900s. He considered the package important enough to find who it belonged to, rather than destroy it or throw it away. He asked us for our help in finding the rightful owner.

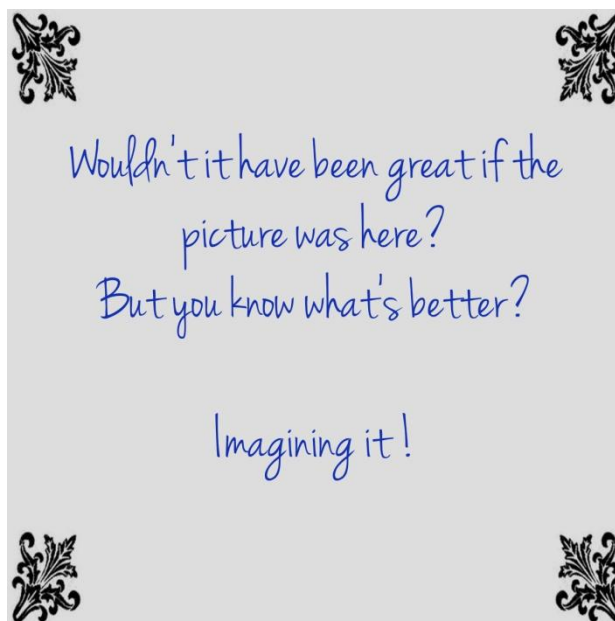
Unfortunately, the lady the package had been addressed to, no longer lived at that address which was date stamped July 1999. We made several enquiries to people with the same surname in the area and also to the sender of the package - a company in Perth. We even tried to trace the person through their family tree information contained in the package – but with no luck!

What to do next?

The only thing we could think of was to put an advert in the ‘Can You Help’ column of *The West Australian* which we placed at the end of last year. Upon returning to the Library after the Christmas break, we had a message with a possible lead. We were able to verify this person was a relative of the lady the package was addressed to and she would be able to pass it onto the daughters of her ex-sister-in-law and late brother

*Moral of this story - If at first you don't succeed, search, search again. That is why we call it 're-search'*

>>>>>>>>>>





## MAY GIBBS' STORY



*Born Cecilia May Gibbs in England on 17 January 1877.*

*Parents: Herbert William Gibbs (1852-1940) and  
Cecilia Gibbs née Rogers (1851-1941)*

May Gibbs was the author and illustrator of some of Australia's iconic children's books which are still enjoyed by young readers today. Her first book, "Gumnut Babies" was published in 1916 and last year marked its hundredth anniversary. In 1918 she followed up with her classic children's book, "Snugglepoot & Cuddlepoot".



May Gibbs was born in Kent, England and in 1881, emigrated to South Australia with her mother and older brother Bertie. She was only four years old and her youngest brother Ivan, was born at sea on the journey over. May's father, Herbert Gibbs had arrived in SA a few months earlier with his brother George to take up farming there.

They had purchased land at Cowell, near Franklin Harbour, but due to the harsh realities of living in a log hut in the middle of the bush during a drought, it soon brought them to live in the city of Adelaide, a 100 kms away.



This photo shows a memorial plaque marking the nearby site of the Gibbs' property. Its location is on the eastern side of the Eyre Peninsula. The settlement was established in 1853 due to its proximity to the Franklin Harbour where wheat and wool were exported.

After the unsuccessful farming venture, Herbert Gibbs worked as a surveyor in Norwood, SA. However, his brother George relocated to Harvey in Western Australia forming the company Harvey, Young & Gibbs with his two business partners.

*To commemorate the creator of **The Gumnut Babies**  
May Gibbs M.B.E. 1877-1969  
Her first Australian home was near this site in 1881*

Later in 1885, Herbert Gibbs joined his brother's company and he, with his family, came to live in Harvey. They made their home at the Harvey Station Homestead situated on the banks of the Harvey River. The homestead was originally built for Governor Sir James Stirling in the early 1800s when he travelled south to survey his estates. The Gibbs family lived there 50 years after it was built. The homestead featured a shingled roof and jarrah walls with hexagonal-shaped paving block flooring.



*May Gibbs painting of the  
homestead in 1897*

May Gibbs is said to have spent two of her happiest years here, and it was here that she gained inspiration for her stories and illustrations.

*"Of the glorious two years on the Harvey River Station which followed, of the old convict-built homestead, the exciting encounters with snakes that infested the cool river banks, of the river, of the flowers and the maidenhair fern, strange birds, insects, and wild life that was teeming round us; of the little fat red pony that was my own, of the days spent camping and tramping by ourselves out in the hills, my brother, aged 12, shooting and plucking and roasting the lunch, while I went about the more serious business of gathering flowers and information about the affairs of the bush – of these things I hope to make a book some day." (The Mail (Adelaide, SA) 12 December 1925)*

A replica of the Harvey Station Homestead was built by the Harvey Shire Council and, 'Stirling's Cottage' as it is now known, was opened to the public on 9 October 1994, located in the Harvey Tourist Precinct. 'Stirling's Cottage' was modelled on the original building with the addition of a viewing platform overlooking the river. It is surrounded by lovely gardens consisting of fruit trees. Adjacent to the cottage is the Visitor Centre where there is a painting display of May Gibbs' book characters done by local artists.



In 1887, May Gibbs' family relocated to South Perth close to the Swan River. Her Uncle George decided to stay in Harvey and May visited often, spending time with her young cousins wandering through the bush.

At the age of 15, May won the first prize at the inaugural Perth Wildflower Show for her oil painting. This is what was reported:-

*"For a study of Western Australian wildflowers in oils was won by Miss May Gibbs." (The West Australian, 6 October 1883)*

Later, May attended art classes at the Art Gallery of Western Australia and her first work was published in the Christmas edition of the WA Bulletin. She also did some illustrations and cartoons for the Western Mail, Perth in 1907.

May Gibbs made three trips to England to study art. The first trip was in 1900. During her time there, May studied art at some of London's Art Colleges, and completed illustrations and cartoons for various companies, including the women's Suffrage movement's journal, 'The Common Cause'.

May Gibbs finally returned to live in Australia in 1913 and settled in Sydney. Here, she was commissioned to produce a hand-painted bookmark. Due to its popularity further copies were machine-produced and her illustrated postcards were also admired and sent to soldiers overseas during WWI. May's images and wonderful fairytales she created set in the Australian bush were much appreciated by our nation during the First World War.

May Gibbs married Bertram James Ossoli Kelly in 1919 whom she had met in Perth – they had no children. In 1925 they built a home in Sydney called 'Nutcote' and May lived there until her death in 1969. The house was opened to the public in 1994 and turned into a museum and research centre for children's literature.

In 1955, May Gibbs was appointed Member of the British Empire (MBE) in acknowledgement of her important contribution to children's literature.

>>>>>>>>>>

[www.metasploit.com](http://www.metasploit.com)

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graph TD
    self[self] --> father[father]
    self --> mother[mother]
    self --> brother[brother or sister]
    self --> son[son or daughter]
    self --> nephew[nephew or niece]
    father --> grandson[grandson or granddaughter]
    mother --> grandnephew[grand-nephew or grand-niece]
    brother --> firstcousin1[first cousin]
    son --> firstcousin2[first cousin once removed]
    nephew --> firstcousin3[first cousin twice removed]
    firstcousin1 --> granduncle1[grand-uncle or grand-aunt]
    firstcousin2 --> firstcousin4[first cousin once removed]
    firstcousin3 --> secondcousin1[second cousin]
    granduncle1 --> firstcousin5[first cousin once removed]
    firstcousin4 --> secondcousin2[second cousin once removed]
    secondcousin1 --> secondcousin3[second cousin twice removed]
    firstcousin5 --> greatuncle1[great-uncle or aunt]
    secondcousin2 --> firstcousin6[first cousin twice removed]
    secondcousin3 --> secondcousin4[second cousin twice removed]
    greatuncle1 --> greatgranduncle1[great-grand-uncle or aunt]
    firstcousin6 --> firstcousin7[first cousin twice removed]
    secondcousin4 --> thirdcousin1[third cousin]
    firstcousin7 --> thirdcousin2[third cousin once removed]
    thirdcousin1 --> thirdcousin3[third cousin twice removed]
    
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*Sent in by member, Pat Herrmann.*

## **LIBRARY – LATEST ACQUISITIONS**

*Many thanks to the generous people who have donated books to the Library.*

A Garden on the Margaret. Old Bridge House	Alison Januey
Daurie Creek	Marie Duncan
Tea and Milk...and no Sugar	
Jarvis Family History 1746-1981	Elizabeth Swan
Mincham Family History	Elizabeth Swan

### **\*\* WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS \*\***

693	Cheryl McQueen	Australind
694	Syd Hall	Dalyellup
695	Don Forrest	Australind
696	Melanie Thomson	Eaton
697	Sharon Colgaret	Eaton

## **WEB CORNER**

### **Tracing your Military Ancestors**

Australian War memorial	<a href="http://www.awm.gov.au">www.awm.gov.au</a>
National Archives	<a href="http://www.naa.gov.au">www.naa.gov.au</a>
Mapping our Anzacs	<a href="http://lostheroes.gravesecrets.net">http://lostheroes.gravesecrets.net</a>
The AIF project: ANZACS in the Great War 1914-1918	<a href="http://www.aif.adfa.edu.au">www.aif.adfa.edu.au</a>
WWII Nominal Roll	<a href="http://www.ww2roll.gov.au">www.ww2roll.gov.au</a>
ANZACS online	<a href="http://anzacsonline.net.au">http://anzacsonline.net.au</a>
WWI Pictorial honour rolls	<a href="http://www.ww1sa.gravesecrets.net">www.ww1sa.gravesecrets.net</a>
Lost heroes of the great war	<a href="http://lostheroes.gravesecrets.net">http://lostheroes.gravesecrets.net</a>
South Australian War Memorials	<a href="http://www.tributesofhonour.info">www.tributesofhonour.info</a>
Vietnam War nominal roll	<a href="http://www.vietnamroll.gov.au">www.vietnamroll.gov.au</a>
Korean War nominal roll	<a href="http://www.koreanroll.gov.au">www.koreanroll.gov.au</a>
The National Archives of UK	<a href="http://www.nationarchives.gov.uk">www.nationarchives.gov.uk</a>
Commonwealth War Graves Commission	<a href="http://www.cwgc.org">www.cwgc.org</a>
The Army Children's Archive	<a href="http://www.archhistory.co.uk">www.archhistory.co.uk</a>
British Military history	<a href="http://www.britishmilitaryhistory.co.uk">www.britishmilitaryhistory.co.uk</a>
Roll of honour	<a href="http://www.roll-of-honour.com">www.roll-of-honour.com</a>
Irish war memorials	<a href="http://www.irishwarmemorials.ie">www.irishwarmemorials.ie</a>
The Long trail British army in the Great War	<a href="http://www.1914-1918.net">www.1914-1918.net</a>
UK Inventory of War Memorials	<a href="http://www.ukniwm.org.uk">www.ukniwm.org.uk</a>
The Western Front Association	<a href="http://www.westernfrontassociation.com">www.westernfrontassociation.com</a>
Naval History UK	<a href="http://www.naval-history.net">www.naval-history.net</a>
WW2 Museums	<a href="http://WW2Museums.com">WW2Museums.com</a>
Canadian War Memorial	<a href="http://www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/collections/virtualmem">www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/collections/virtualmem</a>

\*\*\* Remember to visit our own AFHS Website administered by Chris Riley\*\*\*  
[www.australindfhs.org](http://www.australindfhs.org)



## EDITH CAVELL BRIDGE *(Construction between 1917-1919)*

*By Kiwi member Anne*

The Shotover River in Queenstown New Zealand is a popular destination for jet-boat enthusiasts and a place I have been to several times, but on this occasion I had my history hat on. *Who was Edith Cavell?*



Edith was a British WW1 nurse who was executed for assisting Allied Soldiers escape into the Netherlands from German occupied Belgium. Her death caused world-wide outrage and the Allies claimed her to be a martyr. At the end of the war her remains were returned to Britain for a state funeral at Westminster Abbey.

A local miner living on the rugged cliffs of the Shotover River, overlooking the bridge, requested to have the bridge named in her honour. Jack's attempts were unheeded, but he persisted and on opening day 1919 Jack painted on the bridge in big red letters 'Edith Cavell Bridge'. By the time the paint had dried the name had stuck and over time the council relented.

A notable story of persistence in having a lasting memorial of Edith Louisa Cavell 1865-1915.



--- and YES I have been on the jet-boat ride, AWESOME!

>>>>>>>>

"To forget one's ancestors is to be a brook without a source, a tree without a root."  
Chinese proverb

