

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: IMP0010

Blaxland, Helen Frances

(1907 - 1989)

Nationality Australian

Born 21 June, 1907, Neutral Bay, Sydney New South Wales Australia

Died 17 December, 1989, Camden New South Wales Australia

Occupation Charity worker

Summary

Helen Blaxland spent much of her life working for charitable institutions, particularly the Australian Red Cross Society, for which she was appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1967. Her other interests included flower arrangement, on which she published two books. She was appointed as a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire on 14 June 1975 for service to the community in recognition of her contribution to the National Trust (New South Wales) and the Parramatta Properties Committee.

Details

Helen Blaxland was the daughter of the late Brigadier General Sir R M McCheyne Anderson. She was educated at Bedales in England and later at Frensham in Mittagong, New South Wales. She married Gregory Blaxland on 10 November 1927, and had one daughter, Antonia, who became a photographer.

She worked in several charitable organisations, including the Australian Red Cross Society. She was appointed OBE in 1967 for her contribution to the Society and awarded the Order of the Red Cross Society in the same year. She was foundation chairman of the Women's Committee of the National Trust (New South Wales), the Lindesay Committee and the Parramatta Properties Committee, which was concerned with the restoration of Experiment Farm Cottage and Old Government House, Paramatta.

She published two books on flower arrangement, entitled *Flower pieces* (1946) and *Collected Flower pieces: on the arrangement of flowers* (1949), for which her daughter Antonia took the photos.

Published resources

Book

Flower pieces, Blaxland, Helen and Haxton, Elaine (decorated by), 1946

Collected flower pieces: on the arrangement of flowers, Blaxland, Helen, 1949

Book Section

Blaxland, Dame Helen Frances, DBE, 1988

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Site Exhibition

Faith, Hope and Charity Australian Women and Imperial Honours: 1901-1989, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2003,
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/honours/honours.html>

Author Details

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