

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0454

Laidlaw, Annie Ina

(1889 - 1978)

Born	23 January, 1889, Lake Wallace Station, near Edenhope Victoria Australia
Died	13 September, 1978, McKinnon Victoria Australia
Occupation	Matron, Servicewoman

Summary

Annie Laidlaw devoted her life to nursing and served in both world wars. She completed her nursing training at the Children's Hospital (later Royal), Melbourne. In 1917 Laidlaw joined the Australian Army Nursing Service (AANS) and served in military hospitals at Bombay and Poona.

After the war Laidlaw returned to the Children's Hospital as ward sister. In 1925 she was granted a year of leave to complete midwifery training at the Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney. Returning to Melbourne, Annie became assistant lady superintendent (assistant-matron) at the Children's Hospital. In 1930 she was promoted to lady superintendent of the hospital's orthopaedic section at Frankston. She held this position for 12 years.

Selected to head the Royal Australian Naval Nursing Service (RANNS) in 1942 she was in charge of the Flinders Naval Depot hospital as well as being in charge of the RANNS. After her discharge from the navy Laidlaw returned to her position at the Children's Hospital until 1950.

From 1951-52 she worked in London. On her return to Melbourne she took the position of Matron at the Freemason's Homes of Victoria, Prahran until her retirement in 1957. Aged 89, Annie Laidlaw died on 13 September 1978 at McKinnon, Victoria.

Events

1925 - 1925

Midwifery training at the Royal Hospital for Women, Sydney

2026 - 2026

Appointed assistant lady superintendent (assistant-matron) at the Children's Hospital

1970 - 1970

Born: daughter of James Adam and Annie (nee Gilchrist) Laidlaw

1914 - 1917

Trained as a general nurse at the Children's Hospital, Melbourne, Vic.

2017 - 2019

Member of the Australian Army Nursing Service

1919 - 1925

Ward sister at the Children's Hospital, Melbourne, Vic.

1930 - 1942

Promoted to lady superintendent (matron) of the Children's Hospital orthopaedic section at Frankston, Victoria

2042 - 2046

Served with the Royal Australian Naval Nursing Service

1946 - 1950

Worked with the orthopaedic division of the Children's Hospital

1951 - 1952

Home sister at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for Children, London

1953 - 1957

Resident matron at the Freemasons' Homes of Victoria, Prahran

1957 - 1957

Retired and lived in the Returned Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia's home for nurses at RSL House, St Kilda

2043 - 2043

Promoted from superintending sister to matron

Published resources

Resource Section

Laidlaw, Annie Ina (1889-1978), Vines, Patricia C, 2006,
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A150059b.htm>

LAIDLAW, ANNIE INA, Department of Veterans' Affairs, 2002,
<http://www.ww2roll.gov.au/script/veteran.asp?ServiceID=N&VeteranID=1192378>

Edited Book

Who's Who in Australia 1944, Alexander, Joseph A, 1944

Book

Just wanted to be there : Australian Service Nurses 1899-1999, Reid, Richard, 1999

Resource

Where are the Women in Australian science?, Australian Science and Technology Heritage Centre, 2003,
<http://www.austehc.unimelb.edu.au/wisa/wisa.html>

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Book Section

World War II : Nursing Services, Jacobson, Gwendoline

Archival resources

National Archives of Australia, National Office, Canberra

LIDLAW ANNIE INA : Date of birth - 23 Jan 1889 : Place of birth - EDENHOPE VIC : Place of enlistment -
MELBOURNE : Next of Kin - GLASSON P

Author Details

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