

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE4050

Strang, Marion

(1871 - 1941)

Born	11 December, 1871, Edinburgh Scotland
Died	17 April, 1941, Broken Hill New South Wales Australia
Occupation	Nurse

Summary

Marion Strang established a home for the elderly at Broken Hill, New South Wales, in the 1930s.

Details

Marion Strang (nee Kerr) was born in 1871 in the district of St. Georges, Edinburgh, Scotland and was baptized in that city in St. Georges Church in Charlotte Square. The daughter of Alexander and Ruth Kerr (nee Johnston), Marion married David Strang in July 1897. They had a daughter, Jane.

David Strang migrated to the United States in 1910, to settle in Utah, although it appears that Marion did not follow him there. Instead, she migrated from Scotland to Australia in 1925, arriving in Adelaide aboard the *Hobson's Bay* on November 1 1925, following her daughter, who had migrated one year earlier. (It appears that Jane had no knowledge of her father's movements during this period, only discovering that he was still alive after her mother's death in 1941.)

After arriving in Adelaide, Marion moved to Broken Hill where Marion found work at the Broken Hill and District Hospital. She became head nurse in charge of the section of the hospital for elderly persons. In 1932, when that section was closed by the New South Wales government for economic reasons, Marion rented a home in Wolfram Street to house those who had nowhere to go. With barely any money remaining, she raised a loan on her property back home in Scotland in order to furnish the home. Local businessman Frank Griff, together with the Broken Hill Country Women's Association and many Broken Hill miners, assisted with financial contributions. The Old Folks Home, as it was known, moved to larger premises at Williams Street in 1939. Marion Strang stayed on as night nurse until her death in 1941.

Published resources

Book

Some Outstanding Women of Broken Hill and District, Camilleri, Jenny, 2002

Newspaper Article

Wee hoose for auld folk, 1982

Old Folks' Home: New building is nearly ready, 1939

With the Old Folks in the Wee Hoose, 1937

Death of Matron Strang, 1941

Old Folks Now Living in their New Home, 1939

Site Exhibition

Unbroken Spirit: Women in Broken Hill, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2009,
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/bh/bh-home.html>

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

Outback Archives, Broken Hill City Library

[Strang, Marion](#)

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