

GLADYS ANNIE WHITTEN - 1903-1987

Glad, Gladdy or Whit - the names were varied, but all applied lovingly by friends and relatives.

Born 31st July 1903 at Tamworth N.S.W., she suffered the loss of her mother Florence Annie at the age of two weeks whose marriage had only take place 12 months earlier - Gladys' ashes will later be interred in her mother's grave at Tamworth.

Subsequently, she was cared for by Aunts and spent her early years with cousins then joined her father who had re-married and so shared her early years with brothers and sisters-no, she never ever considered them as step brothers and sisters, but as true ones - some of them are here to-day.

At the age of nineteen she gained her cap & gown for piano and that set a pattern for her later years as a music teacher, however prior to that, she had to go wherever she could get work as a cook/ housekeeper where she was able to have her son live with her. A lot of this type of work took place at Bathurst for a number of years and her final position before moving to 90 Crown Rd., was as cook and housekeeper to Mr. & Mrs. A. Hudson - timber merchant and builder.

Around 1938 our aunt Beatrice "found" a little house up in Queenscliffe which she offered to finance the cost of £300 which we could pay off to her interest free (I think) but due to very small incomes it took a long time to payoff which was finally completed with the help of her son's military allotment - a few years ago she was offered \$45,000 for the house as well as a free apartment in the housing units but preferred to stay in her little place with her freedom and independence.

Her home subsequently became the dwelling place of many friends and relatives who had to travel from the country for medical and other matters and also became the centre for her caring activities for many old people who lived in the vicinity as well as on some occasions providing a meal and bed for some of the neighbours' children who may have incurred the wrath of parents who may have been unreasonable through the effects of alcohol.

She was very family minded and some years ago completed her history of both the Whitten and Newcombe families which has been the basis of all subsequent family research and at the time of her passing was the oldest remaining member of both families - she was also very proud of her immediate family of one son, four grandchildren and three great grand-children.

She will be missed by us all and we know that she had many friends who also loved her who will also miss her.