



**New Zealand Society of Genealogists  
NELSON BRANCH  
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**WORLD WAR ONE  
COMMEMORATION PROJECT**

**NELSON NURSES of WORLD WAR ONE**

**Biography of Edith Marion O'LOUGHLEN  
NZ Army Nursing Service 22/214**

**Full Name:** Edith Marion O'LOUGHLEN  
**Birth:** 29 April 1885  
**Death:** 04 December 1973  
**Buried:** Kelvin Grove Crematorium rose garden, Palmerston North





**Edith Marion O'Loughlin**

photographic studio Elliott & Fry of 55 Baker Street, London

**Chronology**

29 April 1885	Born Murchison
1899	Won scholarship to Nelson College for Girls
1909	Probationer at Palmerston North Hospital
1912	Became a State Registered Nurse
03 Dec 1915	Commenced Army Service on HMHS <i>Marama</i>
1916	Anglo-American Hospital in Cairo
June 1916	Hospital Ship <i>Nevasa</i>
1917	31 <sup>st</sup> General Hospital <sup>38</sup> in Egypt
3 Dec 1917	A Sister
25 May 1918	No 2 NZ General Hospital in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey
23 June 1919	Arrived in NZ on HMHS <i>Maunganui</i>
01 Feb 1920	Completed Army Service
From 1917	Farmed land in the Omehu settlement
1934	To Otaki
Died	Palmerston North 4 Dec 1973

**Origins**

**Edith O'Loughlin as a young girl.**

Photo courtesy of Helen Harkness, Edith's god daughter

Edith Marion O'Loughlin was born in the Nelson area on 29 April 1885 to Adelaide (nee Ribet) and Henry Matthew (known as Harry) O'Loughlin<sup>1</sup>. Edith's father had a share in a property running 600 sheep in Tutaki (located in the Mangles Valley area near Murchison). Living conditions were tough in the remote bush area. Both financial problems and death were to trouble the family. In April 1884 Harry O'Loughlin began business as a hotelier and storekeeper at the nearby Fern Flat. The business was short-lived and he was bankrupted in early 1886<sup>2</sup>.

Edith's only sibling Leonard James O'Loughlin, born in 1887, was to live only two days, whilst her mother Adelaide was to survive Leonard by only a few years<sup>3</sup>.

Edith had a constant strong family influence in her life despite the early upheavals. She was cared for by members of her extended family<sup>4</sup>, including her great aunt, Sarah Spencer, who had been the first headmistress at Richmond School for more than 30 years. Edith is recorded as attending Richmond School between late 1893 until the end of 1899<sup>5</sup>. However, a few months after her grandmother's death in June 1897<sup>6</sup>, Edith moved to Palmerston North where she attended College Street Palmerston North School for five months<sup>7</sup> from 11 October 1897<sup>8</sup>.

She returned to the Nelson area and in 1899 received one of two scholarships awarded to girls from the Waimea area by Nelson College<sup>9</sup>. The £10 10s scholarship was available for two years and included an allowance for railway fares given by the Board of Education<sup>10</sup>. The scholarship enabled Edith to attend Nelson College for Girls for the next two years.



Edith O'Loughlen (standing) with her gt aunt Sarah Spencer in front of their home located on the corner of Church Street and Gladstone Road, Richmond

After leaving college Edith worked as a clerk for Mr J Glasgow, a Nelson lawyer<sup>11</sup>. She later moved to Auckland and by 1907 was working as a clerk in L P Nathan's mercantile house<sup>12</sup>. Sadly, her great aunt, Sarah Spencer, had died in July 1906 and Edith went on to inherit a share of the estate<sup>13</sup>, (around £250)<sup>14</sup>.



Palmerston North Hospital where Edith O'Loughlen trained

At the beginning of 1909, Edith became one of two probationers taken on by the Palmerston North Hospital in Terrace Street. With its operating theatre contract and consumptive annexe nearly completed a probationer for each area of the Hospital was needed<sup>15</sup>. Whilst working at the hospital Edith contracted diphtheria, but after recovering from the disease she was able to complete her training<sup>16</sup>.

Edith did not forget her Nelson connections and was to make regular visits back, with two known visits in 1911<sup>17</sup> and 1913<sup>18</sup>, holidaying and visiting relations. Edith passed the state examinations in nursing in 1912 and

became a registered nurse in January, 1913<sup>19</sup>. Edith continued to nurse at Palmerston North hospital, but in 1914 resigned her position there as a nursing sister<sup>20</sup> and returned to Auckland where she found nursing work at Mena House, a private nursing hospital<sup>21</sup>.

We are fortunate that Edith, or Ede as she liked to be known<sup>22</sup>, was a passionate letter writer. On her military paperwork she listed her next of kin as Mrs Edith Satchell, who was her widowed aunt. Prior to her marriage to William Morris Satchell, Edith's aunt (also named Edith O'Loughlen) had taught at the Richmond School for Girls with Sarah Spencer. After her husband's death in 1900<sup>23</sup> Edith Satchell, returned from Palmerston North to find work as the Matron at Nelson College for Girls<sup>24</sup>. Edith Satchell's daughter, Sybill Satchell was a student at the same school prior to the war and the prior association undoubtedly ensured that Edith O'Loughlen's news from the war front was regularly printed in the school's magazine, *The Collegian*.

During 1915 Edith, along with her aunt Marian, spent the weekend in Nelson with her Satchell relations. Around November of that year Edith learned that she had been accepted into the New Zealand Army Nursing Service. Edith returned again to stay with the Satchell family before leaving for duty on a New Zealand hospital ship<sup>25</sup>.

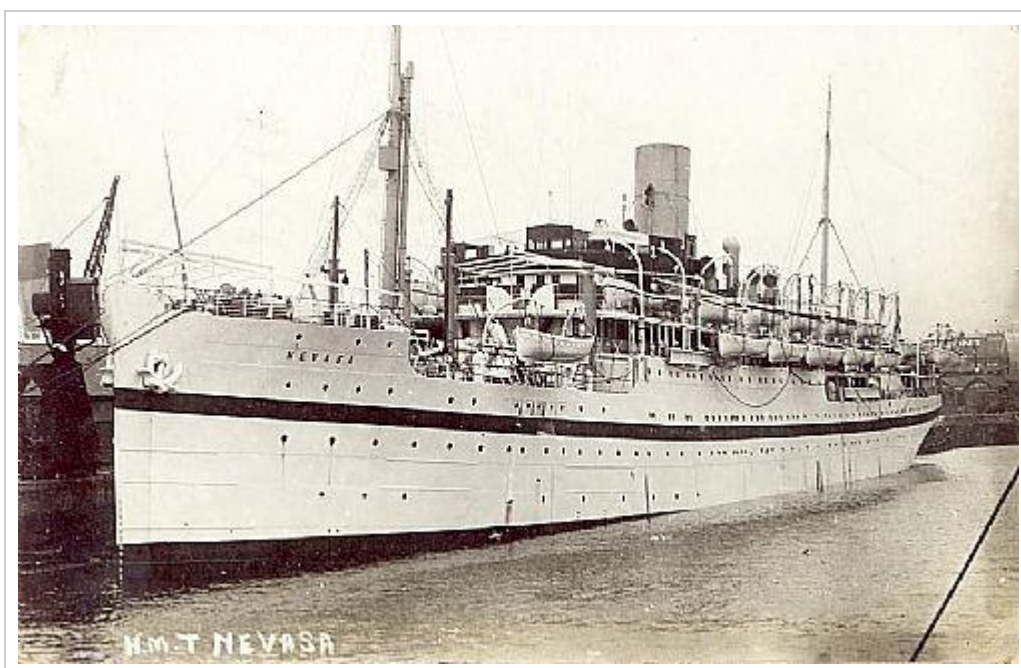


## War Service

Edith's service with the New Zealand Army Nursing Service began on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1915. Edith, along with Isabella and Rhoda McRae (to whom she was distantly related via a series of marriages<sup>26</sup>), left New Zealand aboard the hospital ship, *Marama*<sup>27</sup>. The ship sailed from Wellington on 4 December 1915<sup>28</sup>, calling into Australian and Ceylonese ports before reaching Aden to the east of the Red Sea<sup>29</sup>.

Edith's original appointment was as a hospital nurse remaining aboard the *Marama* after the ship had discharged the other passenger nurses and personnel<sup>30</sup>. However Edith was such a poor sailor she resolved to request authorities to allow her to nurse on land rather than on the hospital ship. The authorities appeared to have approved this request as upon arriving at Cairo she lived with over 200 other nurses of different nationalities at the Semiramis Hotel which had been taken over by the military<sup>31</sup>.

Edith spent five months nursing at the small Anglo-American Hospital in Cairo<sup>32</sup>. Edith was not to remain nursing on shore for long as her next posting was as one of the staff of the 660 bed<sup>33</sup> hospital ship *Nevasa* in June 1916. Edith, along with ten sisters from other hospitals, left Cairo by train, bound for Alexandria. They boarded the vessel which wasted no time in sailing with its Indian crew<sup>34</sup>. Edith was to spend around eight months on this ship<sup>35</sup>.



HMHS *Nevasa*

For the first couple of months the ship travelled around the Aegean Sea (off the coast of Turkey), making stops in various Greek ports to pick up patients. The ship sailed for Malta, where the patients disembarked. More patients were taken aboard and the *Nevasa* sailed for Southampton, England. Edith did get four free days which she managed to spend in London enjoying sight-seeing.

Edith re-joined the *Nevasa* which was then to sail east. Because of submarine activity in the area the ship had to return to port for a few hours. It eventually reached Bombay (now Mumbai), staying for two days for coal, and then sailed for the Persian Gulf. The oppressive heat and virtually no wind made for difficult and trying conditions for all on board. The ship was too large to go up to Basra, so remained at the mouth of the Tigris and patients were brought down on a smaller ship. Most of the men were ill from heat, lack of food and water, and they were overjoyed to get to the ship, enjoying the "luxury" of iced water. Unable to disembark at any of the gulf ports, Edith looked forward to getting ashore in Bombay where she was able to explore the area. A fortnight was spent in Pune (a hundred miles from Bombay) as three sisters had contracted cholera. Edith enjoyed the rest and kept herself entertained in the Indian bazaars, watching snake charmers and walking in the cool of the evening<sup>36</sup>.

At the beginning of 1917<sup>37</sup> Edith and Bertha Forrester were transferred from the hospital ship to the 31<sup>st</sup> General Hospital<sup>38</sup> in Egypt where they were stationed for nearly a year. The pair were nervous about working at the large English hospital, but quickly overcame their nerves and settled down to

daily life. The industrial buildings were draughty, letting in sand when the wind blew and in the evenings the cold night air. There were few conveniences and cooking was done on primus stoves. Visiting Port Said meant crossing the Suez Canal in a boat, but Edith did not care for the place which offered her few attractions. The hospital was kept busy, especially during the Palestine campaign as it was the closest hospital to the front line. Patients were transported there by any means, including camels, sand carts and trains. The heat and sand did not help wounds and the medical team were swamped by the large numbers arriving with only the worst of the wounded receiving attention at the dressing stations. Edith remarked on the camaraderie of all involved, with the "Tommies" grateful for a wash, clean clothes and sleeping between sheets.

Edith and Bertha were both promoted to sisters on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1917. Edith then enjoyed a fortnight's holiday along the river Nile in January 1918 and returned to find the whole hospital had moved to Cairo. She nursed there until April 1918 when she boarded a hospital ship at Alexandria with a large number of patients, many of whom were helpless.

The Germans were suspicious that the Allies were carrying able-bodied men to the battleground aboard these hospital ships. Several had been sunk; either by mines or from being torpedoed by German u-boats, and every precaution was taken against disaster<sup>39</sup>. Aboard ship was a Spanish Commissioner who sailed as far as Gibraltar and acted as a guarantee to Germany that the ship only carried staff and patients. The port windows and water tight doors were kept closed whilst en route and its lights were kept continually burning. The ships sailed under escort and never being parted from a life belt Edith was conscious of the needy patients in her care and very thankful indeed to arrive in England. On 10th May 1918 she reported to London Headquarters and by 25<sup>th</sup> May she had been posted to duty at the No 2 New Zealand General Hospital in Walton-on-Thames, Surrey, England<sup>40</sup>. Edith marvelled at the attractive surroundings and convenient hospital. Patients were well cared for by the Red Cross and the War Contingent Association with daily outings and concerts organised for those well enough. Edith was happy to be amongst New Zealanders and remained nursing there for a year until the end of the war<sup>41</sup>.



HMHS *Maunganui*

Edith was one of only seven nurses to return via the steamship *Maunganui*. Also aboard the *Maunganui* were over 1000 troops destined for the most part to either Canterbury or Otago - only six of these soldiers were described as "cot cases"<sup>42</sup>. The ship left England in mid-May and despite a stop-off at Colon, Panama, where the men were given a "splendid time" good progress was made and they arrived earlier than anticipated in Port Chalmers, Dunedin on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1919<sup>43</sup>.

Upon returning to New Zealand, Edith spent several weeks in Nelson, before travelling to the North Island to work at the Military Hospital in Trentham<sup>44</sup>.

Edith's active service with the New Zealand Army Nursing Service ended on 1 February 1920 when she resigned<sup>45</sup>. Edith had spent a total of 4 years and 61 days in the service of the New Zealand

Army Nursing Service. Of that three years and 202 of those days were served overseas. Edith went on to receive three medals - the 1914 1915 Star Medal, British War Medal and the Victory Medal<sup>46</sup>.

### Post War

Edith O'Loughlin and Bertha Forrester took up the option of training on State Farms. Originally the scheme was only available to soldiers and the official policy of the Department of Labour from 1917 to 1919 was that nurses were not eligible for land settlement assistance. Lobbying by the Returned Services Association resulted in the 1919 Amendment Act including nurses under the legislation. There were seven state farms situated around the country and the government expected that training would take around six months. Training was subsidised and included traditional farm work such as grazing, cropping and dairying. "Light" farm work on a small scale, such as fruit and vegetable growing, bee keeping and poultry raising, was thought to be suitable for those soldiers returning from the war with disabilities<sup>47</sup>.

At the end of 1918 the Tauranga Horticultural Station, a state farm, occupied nearly one hundred acres. It had largely been devoted to apple and stone fruit growing, but had changed focus to experimenting with citrus fruits, passions and grapes. At that time it was planning to expand into rearing queen bees and also poultry farming<sup>48</sup>.

It is interesting to note that whilst researching his 1992 thesis on New Zealand soldier land settlement after World War 1, Ashley Gould found no evidence of any nurses attending training courses apart from Edith O'Loughlin and Bertha Forrester. In their applications for land under section 3 of the 1917 Act the women had to list their experience. Both women stated they had spent five months at the government horticultural station in Tauranga with Edith also having completed a poultry course at the government's experimental farm in Milton, near Dunedin. It would appear that Tauranga Horticultural Station's plans to begin poultry farming did not eventuate.

In his thesis Gould writes:

*"... O'Loughlin and Forrester obtained two adjoining sections on the Omehu settlement in the Bay of Plenty, close to the Edgcumbe railway station. Their applications had been with the Commissioner for six months before they were approved for the sections in March 1922. The Omehu block was purchased under section 3 of the 1917 Amendment Act which meant that the two nurses made application for the purchase of the property in partnership with the other specific male applicants. This suggests that their gender might not have been seen as an impediment by the other soldier settlers. The property was then subdivided after purchase between the group, thus explaining the nurses' ability to get neighbouring sections. They possessed a total of £950 starting capital and received a single £750 government advance. They farmed the two sections as a single dairy farm with a total of 45 acres and are remembered in the district as doing all the work themselves, except some of the heavy work such as hay-making."*

The Omehu settlement suffered severely from flooding during the early years and, in 1925, the settlers asked for a special exemption from rent to recoup some of their losses. The nurses' property was reported to be undamaged as they were on the higher ground. The file shows the nurses still in possession of the property in 1931, and they paid rates on the sections in the 1933-34 year, but sometime during the late 'thirties they sold out, moved to Otaki and took up horticulture"<sup>49</sup>.



Edith O'Loughlin

Around 1934, Edith and Bertha shifted to a property in Mill Road, Otaki. On their land ("Tuamanako"<sup>50</sup>) they grew strawberries and then later flowers<sup>51</sup>. In later life Bertha suffered ill health and Edith cared for her<sup>52</sup>. After Bertha's death in 1969, Edith continued to live alone at the Mill Road house. Edith's life ended where she had started her nursing career. She died at the hospital in Palmerston North on 4 December 1973 at the age of 88. Her funeral service was held two days later in Palmerston North and she was later cremated<sup>53</sup>. Her ashes were scattered at the Kelvin Grove Crematorium rose garden, Palmerston North<sup>54</sup>.

Edith was remembered by her friends as "a very fine person, who was kind and capable, well-read and cultured"<sup>55</sup>.

#### Sources:

(<https://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home>) Births, Deaths & Marriages Online,  
 (<http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/>) New Zealand Defence Force Personnel Records, Archives New Zealand  
 (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>) Papers Past,  
 (<http://natlib.govt.nz/collections/a-z/alexander-turnbull-library-collections>) Alexander Turnbull Library

E M O'Loughlin obituary, The News, Levin, 19 December 1973

Aker, Molly J, "McRaes to New Zealand" (Privately printed, Palmerston North, 1994)  
 Chappell, Beverley, "Uncovering the life journeys of the first New Zealand Registered Nurses", in "They Came in Waves, Conference Proceedings 2003", Richard J Hollier & Jackie Walles, editors, (New Zealand Society of Genealogists, Auckland, 2003)  
 Gould, Ashley Nevil, "Proof of Gratitude? Soldier Land Settlement in New Zealand after World War 1" (Thesis, Massey University, 1992)  
 Gould, Ashley Nevil, "Two Soldier Settlers in Otaki", Otaki Historical Society, number 18, page 77, 1995  
 Lewis, Edith Mary, "Joy in the Caring", foreword by W.P.P. Gordon., Christchurch, N.M. Peryer Ltd, 1963  
 Nelson College for Girls, "The Nelson Girls Collegian Magazine", vols 1911-1920  
 Rogers, Anna, "While You're Away – New Zealand Nurses at War 1899-1948", Auckland, Auckland University Press, 2003  
 Harris, Kirsty. "Red Reflections on the Sea: Australian Army Nurses serving at Sea in World War 1", Journal of Australian Naval History, Volume 6 No 2, pages 51-73, September 2009. Assessed pdf copy online through the University of Melbourne Digital Repository (<http://unimelb.edu.au/>)

Please note no further information regarding Edith O'Loughlin is held by the writer.  
 Background research material used in the preparation of this biography is held at Ancestors Attic, 67 Trafalgar Street, Nelson. There are several additional resources held at Alexander Turnbull Library,



none of which was able to be examined due to time and cost constraints. Further material and photographs can be located there.

## Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> Harkness, Helen, unpublished Edith Marion O'Loughlin biography, prepared January 2013, held at Ancestors Attic, Nelson
- <sup>2</sup> Bankruptcy Proceedings, Colonist, Volume XVIII, Issue 4870, 9 February 1886, Page 3, (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>), viewed 13 March 2013
- <sup>3</sup> Births, Deaths & Marriages Online - Historical records. Entries for Leonard James O'Loughlin (birth reg 1887/1310, son of Adelaide and Henry Matthew O'Loughlin; death reg 1887/1165, aged 2 days) and Adelaide O'Loughlin (death reg #1890/5274, aged 30 years) (<https://www.bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz/Home>), viewed 6 March 2013
- <sup>4</sup> There is a discrepancy regarding who raised Edith O'Loughlin. Her obituary, printed in The News on 19 December 1973 notes O'Loughlin as being brought up by "her father and his sister-in-law who was in charge of the Richmond School for girls". The biography supplied by Helen Harkness notes "Edith was taken into the care of her grandmother, Emma O'Loughlin, and her great aunt, Sarah Spencer in Richmond"
- <sup>5</sup> Details of school records for Edith O'Loughlin, at Richmond School, as supplied by Helen Harkness, January 2013
- <sup>6</sup> Page 2 Advertisements Column 3, Nelson Evening Mail, Volume XXXI, Issue 139, 14 June 1897, Page 2, (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>), viewed 6 March 2013
- <sup>7</sup> From information provided by Helen Harkness who quoted as her source Sandra Gately, Librarian at Richmond School. "Edith O'Loughlin remained on the roll of Richmond School but was marked absent between 1 October 1897 and 9 March 1898"
- <sup>8</sup> School Admission, Progress, Withdrawal Registers, New Zealand Society of Genealogists, NZSG Kiwi Index, version 1, "Name: Edith O'Loughlin; School: College Street Palmerston North; Register number: 1099; admission date: 11 Oct 1907; Parent/Guardian: Mrs Spencer; Address: Cook St; last school: Richmond; comment: Std 5"
- <sup>9</sup> Waimea Both, Nelson Evening Mail, Volume XXXIII, Issue 202, 28 December 1899, Page 2 (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>), viewed 6 March 2013
- <sup>10</sup> Report of the Governors of Nelson College for the year ended 31 December, 1900, Nelson Evening Mail, Volume XXXV, Issue 48, 28 February 1901, Page 4, (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>), viewed 20 March 2013
- <sup>11</sup> Nelson Girls Collegian 1904 Volume V No 1, page 24. ("E O'Loughlin is a clerk in Mr J Glasgow's office, Nelson"). Note this contrasts with Edith O'Loughlin's published obituary which states, "She was educated at Nelson Girls' College and at the age of 17, she took employment in a solicitor's office in New Plymouth. She moved to Auckland and continued office work there until she was 22, when she commenced her nursing training at the Palmerston North Hospital."
- <sup>12</sup> Nelson Girls Collegian 1907 Volume XIII No 2, page 24
- <sup>13</sup> New Zealand, Probate Records, 1860-1962, index and images, Sarah Spencer, 1906, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/pal:MM9.1.1/KDR1-RK7>) viewed 12 Mar 2013
- <sup>14</sup> Details of stamp duty paid, Page 4 Advertisements Column 6, Evening Post, Volume LXXII, Issue 80, 2 October 1906, Page 4, (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>), viewed 6 March 2013
- <sup>15</sup> Hospital Board. Manawatu Standard, Volume XLI, Issue 8802, 18 February 1909, Page 5 (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>), viewed 6 March 2013
- <sup>16</sup> E M O'Loughlin obituary, The News, Levin, 19 December 1973, email from Frances Milne, research officer for Otaki Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists; <[keycottageotaki@gmail.com](mailto:keycottageotaki@gmail.com)>, 27 April 2013
- <sup>17</sup> Nelson Girls Collegian 1911 Volume XII No 1, page 24
- <sup>18</sup> Nelson Girls Collegian 1913 Volume XIV No 1, page 34
- <sup>19</sup> Register of Nurses, New Zealand Gazette, 1915, volume 1, page 434, Edith O'Loughlin. (Date of registration: 1913, Jan; Name: O'Loughlin, Edith; Qualifications and training: Palmerston North Hospital certificate. State examination, 1912; Address: <not listed>)
- <sup>20</sup> Nelson Girls Collegian 1914 Volume XV No 2, page 34
- <sup>21</sup> E M O'Loughlin obituary, The News, Levin, 19 December 1973, email from Frances Milne, research officer for Otaki Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists; <[keycottageotaki@gmail.com](mailto:keycottageotaki@gmail.com)>, 27 April 2013. Note that the obituary states "Mina House, registered nurses' club" but a search of Papers Past repeatedly refers to "Mena House, private hospital, Upper Symonds Street, <Auckland>" and this is presumed to be a more appropriate description
- <sup>22</sup> Interview with Helen Harkness, 25 Koromiko Avenue, Stoke, Nelson on 22 May 2012
- <sup>23</sup> Births, Deaths & Marriages Online - Historical records. <https://bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz> search date: 31 August 2013. (Entry for William Morris Satchell. 1900 Death registration: #5262, aged 46 years)
- <sup>24</sup> Births, Deaths & Marriages Online - Historical records. <https://bdmhistoricalrecords.dia.govt.nz> search date: 31 August 2013. (Entry for William Morris Satchell. 1900 Death registration: #5262, aged 46 years)
- <sup>25</sup> Summary of war letters held at Alexander Turnbull Library, excel spreadsheet, [robertcameron.files.wordpress.com/2012/05/atl-docs-1211125.xls](http://robertcameron.files.wordpress.com/2012/05/atl-docs-1211125.xls), downloaded 24 February 2013 (SACHELL, Sybil Morris: letters dated 28/1/1915 "Aunt Marian and Edith O'Loughlin are with us for the weekend"; 7/11/1915 "cousin Edith O'Loughlin has been chosen to go in the 'Marama' she is coming over here soon"; 3/1/1916 "Received a letter from Edith aboard the 'Marama' anchored outside Adelaide")
- <sup>26</sup> MacRaes to New Zealand (Genealogies of CLAN MACRAE families in New Zealand up to 1990), compiled by Molly J Akers and recorded by Eileen A McMillan, published by Akers/McMillan, Palmerston North, 1994, pages 122, 131-133 and 156. (Descendants of

one branch of the McRae family, siblings William Dickson Harkness and Sarah Harkness married Edith's aunt and uncle, siblings Mary Ann/Marian Hariett O'Loughlen and Leonard Spencer O'Loughlen. The McRae sisters, Isabella and Rhoda, were descended from another branch of the McRae family)

<sup>27</sup> Nelson Girls Collegian 1915 Volume XV1 No 2, page 22

<sup>28</sup> NZ Defence Force Personnel Records, Archives New Zealand; Edith Marion O'LOUGHLIN, reference: AABK 18805 W5549 0088354 (<http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/>), downloaded 24 February 2013

<sup>29</sup> Lewis, Edith Mary, "Joy in the Caring", foreword by W.P.P. Gordon., Christchurch, N.M. Peryer Ltd, 1963, pages 32 and 33

<sup>30</sup> NZ Defence Force Personnel Records, Archives New Zealand; Edith Marion O'LOUGHLIN, reference: AABK 18805 W5549 0088354 (<http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/>), downloaded 24 February 2013

<sup>31</sup> There is a discrepancy of two months between the information given in the Nelson Girls Collegian 1919 Volume XX No 2, page 32 (five months) and Nelson Girls Collegian 1915 Volume XV1 No 2, page 22 (three months). Five months seems more likely as this ties in with Edith O'Loughlen's official military records

<sup>32</sup> "Experiences of a War Nurse", Nelson Girls Collegian 1916 Volume XVII No 1, page 33, author not stated, but thought to be Edith O'Loughlen

<sup>33</sup> Roll of Honour, Ships, HM Troopship *Nevasa*, detail and image (<http://www.roll-of-honour.com/Ships/HMTroopshipNevasa.html>), viewed 20 March 2013 <sup>34</sup> "Experiences of a War Nurse", Nelson Girls Collegian 1916 Volume XVII No 1, page 33, author not stated, but thought to be Edith O'Loughlen

<sup>34</sup> "Experiences of a War Nurse", Nelson Girls Collegian 1916 Volume XVII No 1, page 33, author not stated, but thought to be Edith O'Loughlen

<sup>35</sup> NZ Defence Force Personnel Records, Archives New Zealand; Edith Marion O'LOUGHLIN, reference: AABK 18805 W5549 0088354 (<http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/>), downloaded 24 February 2013

<sup>36</sup> "Experiences of a War Nurse", Nelson Girls Collegian 1916 Volume XVII No 1, page 34, author not stated, but thought to be Edith O'Loughlen

<sup>37</sup> There is a discrepancy between what is reported in the Nelson Girls Collegian 1917 Volume XVIII No 2, page 27 (noted as January 1917) and Edith O'Loughlen's New Zealand Defence Force personnel record (recorded as 7 February 1917)

<sup>38</sup> Nelson Girls Collegian 1917 Volume XVIII No 1, page 27. From "Experiences of a War Nurse", Nelson Girls Collegian 1916 Volume XVII No 1, page 34, author not stated, but thought to be Edith O'Loughlen, Edith notes her and her friend were the only two stationed there. From NZ Defence Force Personnel Records, Archives New Zealand; Bertha Louise FORRESTER, reference: AABK 18805 W5537 0041380 (<http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/>), downloaded 23 March 2013 the friend has been identified as Bertha Louise Forrester

<sup>39</sup> List of hospital ships sunk in World War I, ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_hospital\\_ships\\_sunk\\_in\\_World\\_War\\_I](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_hospital_ships_sunk_in_World_War_I)), viewed 23 March 2013

<sup>40</sup> NZ Defence Force Personnel Records, Archives New Zealand; Edith Marion O'LOUGHLIN, reference: AABK 18805 W5549 0088354 (<http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/>), downloaded 24 February 2013

<sup>41</sup> "Experiences of a War Nurse", Nelson Girls Collegian 1916 Volume XVII No 1, page 35, author not stated, but thought to be Edith O'Loughlen

<sup>42</sup> LOCAL AND GENERAL. Wanganui Chronicle, Volume LXVI, Issue 17586, 2 June 1919, Page 4, (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>), viewed 20 March 2013

<sup>43</sup> TROOPSHIP MAUNGANUI AT DUNEDIN, Evening Post, Volume XCVII, Issue 146, 23 June 1919, Page 8, (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>), viewed 20 March 2013

<sup>44</sup> Nelson Girls Collegian 1919 Volume XX No2, page 26

<sup>45</sup> Nelson Girls Collegian 1920 Volume XX1 No 2, page 56, ("Edith O'Loughlen has resigned her position in the Trentham Military Hospital")

<sup>46</sup> NZ Defence Force Personnel Records, Archives New Zealand; Edith Marion O'LOUGHLIN, reference: AABK 18805 W5549 0088354 (<http://www.archway.archives.govt.nz/>), downloaded 24 February 2013. (However, note that in Edith O'Loughlen's obituary printed in The News, Levin on 19 December 1973, mention is made of only two medals – the British War medal and the Victory medal)

<sup>47</sup> Discharged Soldiers (Report to Parliament) reprinted in Marlborough Express, Volume L, Issue 119, 22 May 1916, Page 3, (<http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast>), viewed 6 March 2013

<sup>48</sup> Tauranga Horticultural Station. Bay Of Plenty Times, Volume XLVII, Issue 7086, 4 November 1918, Page 4

<sup>49</sup> Ashley Nevil Gould, "Proof of Gratitude? Soldier Land Settlement in New Zealand after World War 1" (Thesis, Massey University, 1992), ([mro.massey.ac.nz/bitstream/handle/10179/.../02\\_whole.pdf](http://mro.massey.ac.nz/bitstream/handle/10179/.../02_whole.pdf)), pdf downloaded 24 February 2013

<sup>50</sup> Personal Items, The Nelson Evening Mail, 8 July 1938, page 4, microfilmed edition held at Elma Turner Library, Halifax Street, Nelson, accessed on 19 June 2013 ("Miss Edith M O'Loughlen, of "Tuamanako", Otaki has been visiting Nelson ...) Notes from Helen Harkness suggest spelling should be Tumamako.

<sup>51</sup> E M O'Loughlen obituary, The News, Levin, 19 December 1973, email from Frances Milne, research officer for Otaki Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists; <[keycottageotaki@gmail.com](mailto:keycottageotaki@gmail.com)>, 27 April 2013

<sup>52</sup> or Otaki Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists; <[keycottageotaki@gmail.com](mailto:keycottageotaki@gmail.com)>, 27 April 2013

<sup>52</sup> Note there is conflicting information about what Bertha suffered from in later life. An interview with

Helen Harkness, 25a Koromiko Avenue, Stoke, Nelson on 22 May 2012 denotes multiple sclerosis, ("Miss Forrester has creeping paralysis"); however an e-mail from Nonie Donovan <[donovan.family@xtra.co.nz](mailto:donovan.family@xtra.co.nz)> to author, 18 June 2013 suggests Parkinson disease, ("With Auntie Berthas health- she did have a tremor and we were told that she had Parkinsons")

<sup>53</sup> Funeral instructions & newspaper death notice for Edith Marion O'Loughlen, Harvey's Funeral Service, Levin, pdf copies e-mailed to author by Harvey Bowler Funeral Services <Admin.hb@xtra.co.nz>, 2 April 2013

<sup>54</sup> E-mail from Harvey Bowler Funeral Services <Admin.hb@xtra.co.nz> to author, 2 April 2013

<sup>55</sup> E M O'Loughlen obituary, The News, Levin, 19 December 1973, email from Frances Milne, research officer for Otaki Branch of the NZ Society of Genealogists; <[keycottageotaki@gmail.com](mailto:keycottageotaki@gmail.com)>, 27 April 2013