



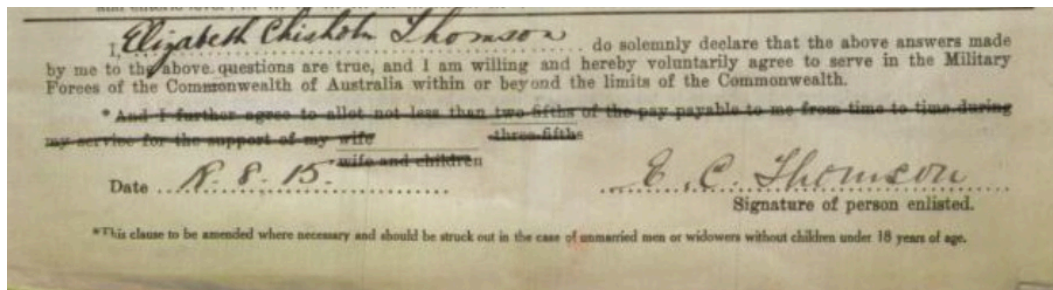
Burwood & District
Historical Society Inc.

Sister Thomson Australian Army Nursing Service



Elizabeth Chisholm Thomson's service in World War I is commemorated on the War Memorial in Burwood Park [above]. She joined the Australian Army Nursing Service on 21 August 1915, the same day on which she embarked on R.M.S. 'Morea'. She was 40 years of age and her next of kin is recorded as her mother, Mrs Catherine Elizabeth Thomson, 'Kelvin', 16 Gordon Street, Burwood. Her religion was Presbyterian.

Sister Thomson joined the 10th Australian General Hospital [below] as a staff nurse and served in the 2nd Australian General Hospital from 22 September 1915. She undertook nursing duties on board H.M.A.T 'Ulysses' as it returned to Australia on 3 January 1916. Her service next took her to Heliopolis from 18 May 1916. She fell ill in June 1916 and was hospitalised in Cairo and Abbassia in July 1916. She was later in London until 10 February 1917 when she left for Australia on the 'Ulysses', which arrived back on 14 April 1917. She was discharged as medically unfit on 24 May 1917.



The Australian Army Nursing Service, which was actually a reserve, was established on 1 July 1902. The Service was staffed by volunteer civilian nurses who would be available for duty during times of national emergency. Members of the Service served in both the World Wars, staffing medical facilities in Australia and overseas. In 1949 the Service became part of the Australian Regular Army and is now known as the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps (RAANC).

Elizabeth Chisholm Thomson was awarded the following medals:

