



Embroideries of the Gawler Civic Collection



Detail from work by Gawler Branch of the Embroiderers' Guild of South Australia (Town of Gawler, Gawler Heritage Collection)

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The Town of Gawler frequently receives gifts from visiting dignitaries, community groups, and individuals. These items become part of the Gawler Civic Collection, one of the three collections that form the Town of Gawler Heritage Collection. The embroideries in this publication are part of the Civic Collection and can be viewed at the

Gawler Crest

A gift from the Gawler Branch of the Embroiderers' Guild of South Australia, this embroidery was made to commemorate the 1986 Sesquicentenary of South Australia. Members who worked on the Crest were: Pat Barkley, Ruth Brown, Dorothy Butler, Natalie Chapman, Erica George, Melva Graetz, Betty Gregor, Elsie Hayward, Helen Hennessy, Judy Heuzenroeder, Lorna Hosking, Eileen Holmes, Sue Hutchinson, Rhonda Inwood, Theresa O'Callaghan, Barbara Page, Glad Page, Loris Schmidt, Fran Taplin.



Gawler Crest
(Town of Gawler, Gawler Heritage Collection)

Gawler Sesquicentenary Wall-hanging

Presented to the Town of Gawler to celebrate one hundred and fifty years of white settlement, 1839 to 1989, this wall-hanging was designed by Alex Behen and embroidered and constructed by members of the Gawler Branch of the Embroiderers' Guild of South Australia: Erica George, Rhonda Inwood, Betty Gregor, Eileen Holmes, Elsie Haywood, Daphne Moss, Pat Barkley, Loris Schmidt, Lorna Hosking, Ruth Brown, Fran Taplin, and Melva Graetz.



The frame was made by Peter Modra in 2006.

Detail from Gawler Sesquicentenary Wallhanging
(Town of Gawler, Gawler Heritage Collection)



Elizabethan Embroidery
(Town of Gawler, Gawler Heritage)

Elizabethan Embroidery

Embroidered by members of the Gawler Branch of the Embroiderers' Guild of South Australia, this beautiful work was presented to Gawler Public Library in December 2006 in appreciation of being permitted to use the Reading Room for display during the biennial Gawler Textile Arts Weekend.

Members who worked on the embroidery were Frankie Bills, Shirley Drumm, Eileen Holmes, Betty Lock, Janet Porter, Raylee Stevens, Helen Walker, Lynette Clayson, Margaret Galbreath, Rhonda Inwood, Mabs Perry, Rosemarie Stacey and Vi Stevens. It was framed by Tony Bills.



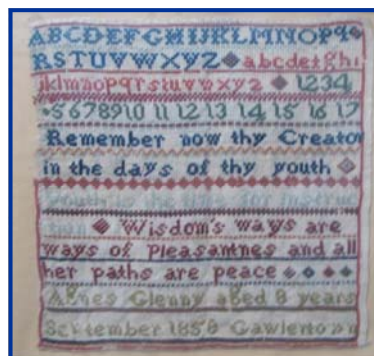
Sampler by Agnes Glenny

Agnes, only child of Isaac and Eliza Glenny of Gawler, was just eight years old when she worked this sampler and dated it September 1858. Agnes' parents were married in Ireland on 11 January 1849 before emigrating to South Australia on the *Florentina* some time during that same year. It is not clear if Agnes arrived with them or was born shortly after their arrival in South Australia.

Agnes was a music teacher and seems to have lived all of her life in Gawler. She never married and died at the age of 75 years at the Hutchinson Hospital on 15 August, 1925. She was buried with her mother (who died on 2 February, 1915, aged 90 years) at Willaston Cemetery.

The report of her death in *The Bunyip* (21 August, 1925) stated:

Miss Glenny's end was expected, as like many she had reached that stage when Nature called on the physical frame, to give over. She was well known in Gawler, being a resident of many years' standing.



Sampler by Agnes Glenny
(Town of Gawler, Gawler Heritage Collection)



Embroidered
Cushion Cover by
Beatrice
McConnell
(Town of Gawler,
Gawler Heritage
Collection)

Embroidered Cushion Cover by Beatrice (Trix) McConnell

Trix was taught embroidery by her Aunt Carrie, who closely supervised her and always insisted that mistakes be unpicked and corrected. This cushion cover, which took two years to complete, was entered in the 1908 Gawler Agricultural, Horticultural, and Floricultural Society Inc Show. It was awarded First Prize in the Juvenile Competition, ahead of embroideries submitted by girls twice Trix's age. As a reward for winning First Prize, Trix's father mounted and framed the work for display.

Trix lived all of her life in Gawler. She was just three months old when her mother died. She was raised by her grandmother and later lived with her aunt in a brick and stone house at 9 Twelfth Street, Gawler. Trix never married; she spent her last few years at the James Martin Retirement Village. She died at the ripe old age of 100 in 2001.

References

Biographical Index of South Australians 1836-1885

The Bunyip

Coombe, E.H. *History of Gawler 1837-1908*

Index of Registrations, South Australian Deaths

Willaston Cemetery Records

Researched and written by Anne Richards, Librarian, Reference and Reference Services

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