

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person

Entry ID: AWE4027

Cooper, Lilian Violet

(1861 - 1947)

Born 11 August, 1861, Clapham England

Died 18 August, 1947, Kangaroo Point Brisbane Queensland Australia

Occupation Medical practitioner, Surgeon

Summary

Described as 'a tall, angular, brusque, energetic woman, prone to bad language'. Lilian Cooper completed her medical training, despite opposition from her parents, at the London School of Medicine for Women in 1890. She travelled to Australia in 1891, settling in Brisbane, Queensland, where she became the first female doctor registered in Queensland. Some years later, she travelled back to Europe, via the United States. She received a doctorate of medicine from the University of Durham in June 1912.

Cooper settled again in Brisbane after the end of the Great War and established a large and successful practice. In 1926 she bought a house called Old St Mary's in Main Street, Kangaroo Point, Brisbane and settled there in semi-retirement, becoming a foundation fellow of the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons in 1928. She retired in 1941 and died in her home on 18 August 1947.

Published resources

Resource Section

Cooper, Lilian Violet (1861-1947), Leggett, C. A. C., 2006, <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A080116b.htm>

Lilian Cooper and Josephine Bedford: Lifelong companions who travelled against the tide, State Library of Queensland, 2008, http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/whats-on/exhibit/online/travelling/cooper_bedford

Lesbians in 1900s Brisbane, Carole Ferrier, 2005, http://www.emsah.uq.edu.au/awsr/Act_Centenary/lesbianbrisbane.htm

Lilian Violet Cooper, Cazalar, Lorraine, 2006, http://eresearch.griffith.edu.au/brisbanememories/index.php/Lilian_Violet_Cooper

Lilian Violet Cooper: 1861 -1947 Queensland's First Female Medical Practitioner, Cazalar, Lorraine, 2006, http://eresearch.griffith.edu.au/brisbanememories/index.php/Lilian_Violet_Cooper

Book Section

Lilian Cooper (1861-1947) and Bedford, Josephine (1861-1955), Grant, Heather, 2005, <http://www.women.qld.gov.au/q150/1900/index.html#item-josephine-bedford>

Cooper, Lilian Violet (1861-1947) and Bedford, Mary Josephine (1861-1955), Moore, C. R., 2001

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Author Details

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