

## **WOMEN OF EMPIRE 1914-1919 CENTENARY OF ARMISTICE**

### **THE HOMECOMING EXHIBITION**

#### **FROM FIELDS OF FRANCE TO FIELDS OF HOME**

The Women of Australia, New Zealand and the Empire rose to the challenge of the First World War. They defied the social barriers of the time to achieve incredible things at the front as well as at home. They served as doctors, nurses and masseuses. They drove ambulances, delivered supplies, rode motor cycles, fed and cared for the men on leave and entertained them. From the mud of Flanders Fields to the dry plains of India the Women of Empire were to be found. On the home front, they waited for their husbands, sons, brothers or sweethearts. They ran businesses, worked in once strictly male employment, raised money for 'comforts' for the boys at the front, looked after the farm, knitted all hours and prayed for the loved one's safe return.

**WOMEN OF EMPIRE EXHIBITION - THE HOMECOMING.....to a 'land fit for heroes'. How were these indomitable women to fit back into the mould of wife, daughter, socialite? How were women who had done and seen unimaginable things to settle back into everyday life? How were the energetic women who'd stepped into the breach on the home front to relinquish their independence once the men came home - IF they came home? How do you pick up a life with a man damaged, physically or mentally, by his experiences? How do you make a life on a god-forsaken soldier settlement block nowhere anyone wants to be? Where do you find a man to marry when they are all lying dead in Flanders Fields? How do you fit into a new country and culture at the other side of the world with a man you scarcely know?**

**WOMEN OF EMPIRE EXHIBITION - THE HOMECOMING brings to life their experiences, representing them in the original fashion of the era - the war bride, the bereaved wife and mother, the soldier settler, the socialite who'd found a new path, the wife whose husband was 'never the same', the nurse determined to make her mark, the campaigner who had to find a new campaign.....**

**A look through fashion and society at the close of the war to end all wars.....for all clothes tell a story.**

**A sequel to 'Women of Empire Exhibition 1914-1918' with even more unique stories to tell of the Women of Empire.....and still the only exhibition in the world solely dedicated to the women of the First World War. For not all heroes wore khaki.**

**TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE FIRST WOMEN OF EMPIRE 1914-1918 EXHIBITION VISIT THE EXHIBITION IN THE KYABRAM TOWN HALL GALLERY**

# WOMEN OF EMPIRE 1914-1919 CENTENARY OF ARMISTICE THE HOMECOMING EXHIBITION



images courtesy of the State Library of South Australia

## *FROM FIELDS OF FRANCE TO FIELDS OF HOME*

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