

Mabel Emily Flux

Born: 1897 White Horse Inn, Hambrook. **Died** 1966

Lived: Walton Farm, Hambrook

School: Frenchay Village School School, Hambrook

Colston's Girls Secondary School, Bristol

Parents: Alfred William Flux

Emily Flux (sister to Albert Hill)

Brothers: Albert Thomas. 1889 - 1915

Alfred Ernest. 1893 – 1918

Francis Charles. 1895 - 1981

Sister: Kate (Kit). 1891 – 1980

Occupation: Land Girl in the Great War

Mabel went to Frenchay village school, then on to Colston's Girls School as a 'Free Place Holder' at this independent school but was withdrawn after 3 years due to 'serious illness at home'.

In 1914 **Mabel** went to a cheese making course at the Country Dairy School, Bristol. **Mabel** worked in the Women's Land Army in 1914 -18, she delivered milk from her father's dairy by horse and cart.

Here is **Mabel** and her sister **Kit** delivering milk during the Great War.

Tom, their eldest brother stayed at home to run the farm whilst his two brothers and his Hill cousins went off to war.

After being taken ill in the fields at hay making Tom died of peritonitis or blood poisoning in a local hospital on August 10th. 1915 aged 26. This would have left the two girls to run the family farm for most of the war.





At the end of the First World War **Mabel** met an Australian soldier who was working on a farm whilst waiting for a passage home. **Norman Hedditch** and **Mabel** kept up their friendship even when he returned to Australia and in 1921 **Mabel** followed **Norman** and they were married in Melbourne, Australia.



Mabel went on to become involved in local government

'The Melbourne Herald described her as one 'who knows and loves the land, the people who live on it, the things that grow in it'. A 'bigish' woman, 'with a bright, happy face, and wavy, light brown hair', she was 'blessed with abundant energy and very good health'. She served on the Portland Town Council in 1949-64 and was mayor in 1956-60.

In 1954 she was made a justice of the peace and in 1960 she was appointed O.B.E.'

Links

<http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/hedditch-mabel-emily-10475>

<http://www.frenchaymuseumarchives.co.uk/>

http://www.frenchaymuseumarchives.co.uk/arch_parish_mags.htm

Street view

<http://www.southglos.gov.uk/document/s/War%20memorial%20sites.pdf>