

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE4822

## Dugdale, Helen Blanche

(1869 - 1952)

<b>Born</b>	18691122, Queensland Australia
<b>Died</b>	19521224, Kalgoorlie Western Australia Australia
<b>Occupation</b>	Inspector for State Children's Department, Matron, Nurse, Policewoman, Prospector

### Details

Helen Blanche Ryrie, nee Stirling married George Dugdale in Perth in 1912.

She was a Registered Nurse who had worked as a matron of a women's institution, and been employed as an Inspector for the State Children's Department prior to her employment with the police force.

Appointed in 1917, she along with Laura Ethel Chipper, was a one of the first two Women's Police constables appointed to work with the Western Australian Police Force.

They began what was primarily welfare work in Perth but also worked in Kalgoorlie. Helen served in Perth and was transferred to Kalgoorlie in 1933. She served there until her retirement on the 10th of April 1939.

Helen died in Kalgoorlie 1952 and is buried in the Kalgoorlie cemetery.

### Published resources

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

#### Resource Section

First Women Police - 1917, Skehan, Peter,  
[http://policewahistory.org.au/HTML\\_Pages/First\\_women.html](http://policewahistory.org.au/HTML_Pages/First_women.html)

#### Site Exhibition

Karlkurla Gold: A History of the Women of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Crienda Fitzgerald and National Foundation for Australian Women, 2012,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/wikb/wikb-home.html>

### Author Details

Crienda Fitzgerald

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## Digital resources



**Title:** Police Force, Roe Street  
**Type:** Image  
**Date:** 3 May, 2023



**Title:** Helen-Dugdale-circa-1917.jpg  
**Type:** Image  
**Date:** 3 May, 2023