

Reference Number: **1984.0082**

Collection/Series Title: **SCANTLEBURY BROWN, VERA**

Creator	Scantlebury Brown, Vera
Creator's Activity/Occupation	Medical practitioners
Creator's Historical Note	
<p>Vera Scantlebury Brown was born in Linton, Victoria, in 1889, the daughter of George James and Catherine Millington. Her father was a general practitioner with an interest in psychiatry. She was educated at Toorak College and the University of Melbourne Medical School from which she graduated Bachelor of Medicine (MB) in 1914. She worked as a resident at the Melbourne Hospital and Children's Hospital until 1917 when she went to England and served as assistant surgeon in the Royal Army Medical Corps Endell Street Military Hospital. This was the only First World War hospital entirely staffed by women.</p> <p>Back in Melbourne in 1919 she received honorary appointments at the leading women's and children's hospitals as well as the Victorian Baby Health Centres Association and the Free Kindergarten Union of Victoria. In 1924 she was awarded the degree of Doctor of Medicine. In 1926 she became part-time director of the newly-created infant welfare section of the Victorian Health Department. Infant welfare advanced rapidly under her guidance where she pioneered compulsory training for infant welfare nurses and published influential guides to infant feeding and child care. She was equally pioneering in the areas of ante natal and pre-school care.</p> <p>Dr. Vera married University of Melbourne lecturer (later associate professor) Dr. Edward Byam Brown on 18 September 1926, and they had two children.</p> <p>Deeply admired for both her professional abilities and her personal qualities, Vera S Brown was appointed O.B.E. in 1938. She died on 14 July 1946 after a long battle with cancer.</p>	
Date Range of Collection/Series	1917-1939
Size/Extent	5 Units (0.76m)
Access Conditions	Access: Open

Scope and Content of Collection/Series

The collection is in three parts. First is material created by Vera Scantlebury-Brown her diary-letter books and other notebooks. Second are documents compiled by Sister Edith Dawson, a colleague and friend of Doctor Scantlebury-Brown. Third is the material compiled and created by Wendy Kapper as part of a research project undertaken in the Department of Social Studies at the University of Melbourne in 1976-1977. This project was instigated by Dr Scantlebury-Brown's daughter, Cath James. The latter compilation includes index cards to the diary letter books, to Sr Dawson's documents and to Wendy Kapper's own research. Wendy Kapper's numbering system for the diary-letter books has been retained as previous control numbers.

The diary-letter books were written during the period Dr Scantlebury-Brown spent working as an assistant-surgeon in the Royal Army Medical Corps in England during WW1. Carbon copy letter books were used when she was away from home to write long journal-type letters, usually over several days, that she sent to her family and others while retaining the carbon copy. Original numbering of letter books from Wendy Kapper's indexing has been retained.

Collection also includes: Diary letters 1917-1932; Victorian Baby Health Centre Association Book including appointments, balance sheets, notes 1917-1925; Victorian Baby Health Centre Association Report Book of Medical Officer 1920-1925 including letters 1939; photocopied material on Dr Scantlebury Brown and the Baby health Centre Association; biographical notes on Dr Scantlebury Brown prepared by Wendy Kappel 1977; index cards; interview records; "A Guide to the Care of the Young Child" - For students of infant welfare by Dr Scantlebury Brown and Kate Campbell.

Collection Category	Other, individuals
This document dated	5/03/2019

To request access to records on the list below via the University of Melbourne Archives Reading Room, quote the Unit/Box reference in full.

Unit/Box	Item Number	Title	Date Range	Description
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0000 1	Letters to Family. Letters 1-3	3 March 1917 17 April 1917	Previous control number Vol A1.
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0000 2	Letters to Family. Letters 4-9	23 April 1917 24 May 1917	Previous control number Vol A2
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0000 3	Letters to Family. Letters 10-17	29 May 1917 11 July 1917	Previous control number Vol A3
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0000 4	Letters to Family. Letters 18-22	12 July 1917 11 August 1917	Previous control number Vol A4
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0000 5	Letters to Family. Letters 23-27	21 August 1917 10 September 1917	Previous control number Vol A5
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0000 6	Letters to Family. Letters 28-34	11 September 1917 16 October 1917	Previous control number Vol A6
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0000 7	Letters to Family. Letters 35-40	24 October 1917 26 November 1917	Previous control number Vol A7
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0000 8	Letters to Family. Letters 41-48	3 December 1917 29 January 1918	Previous control number Vol A8
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0000 9	Letters to Family. Letters 49-54	2 February 1918 1 March 1918	Previous control number Vol A9
1984.0082 Unit 1	1984.0082.0001 0	Letters to Family. Letters 55-67	5 March 1918 6 May 1918	Previous control number Vol A10
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0001 1	Letters to Family. Letters 68-78	11 May 1918 4 July 1918	Previous control number Vol A11
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0001 2	Letters to Family. Letters 79-86	8 July 1918 26 August 1918	Previous control number Vol A12
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0001 3	Letters to Family. Letters 87-94	2 September 1918 17 October 1918	Previous control number Vol A13
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0001 4	Letters to Family. Letters 95-103	24 October 1918 c. 4 December 1918	Previous control number Vol A14
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0001 5	Letters to Family. Letters 104 on	13 December 1918 17 February 1919	Previous control number Vol A15

Unit/Box	Item Number	Title	Date Range	Description
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0001 6	Letters to F.K. Norris	29 June 1917-16 September 1917	Previous control number Vol AN1
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0001 7	Letters to F.K. Norris	17 September 1917-13May 1917	Previous control number Vol AN2
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0001 8	Letters to F.K. Norris	16 June 1918-3 November 1918	Previous control number Vol AN3
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0001 9	Letters to Dorothy Stevenson	2 May 1917-25 January 1918	Previous control number ADS
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0002 0	Letters to Mother	14 September 1918-22 October 1921	To Mother 18 March-14 December 1919; To family from Tasmania 5 October-22 October 1921; to Mother from Toorak, Melbourne, 14 September-25 September 1918. Previous control number Vol B1
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0002 1	Letters to family from journey to NZ and USA	10 January 1924-16 March 1924	Previous control number Vol B2
1984.0082 Unit 2	1984.0082.0002 2	Letters to Mother	29 October 1928-5 December 1928	Previous control number Vol B3
1984.0082 Unit 3	1984.0082.0002 3	Letters to Mother	10 December 1928-29 March 1929	Contains loose letter: 29 March 1929. Previous control number Vol B4
1984.0082 Unit 3	1984.0082.0002 4	Letters to Mother	22 March 1929-10 June 1929	Previous control number Vol B5
1984.0082 Unit 3	1984.0082.0002 5	Letters to Mother	3 September 1929-14 October 1929	Previous control number Vol B6
1984.0082 Unit 3	1984.0082.0002 6	Letters to Mother	21 October 1929-20 November 1929	Previous control number Vol B7
1984.0082 Unit 3	1984.0082.0002 7	Letters to Mother	28 November 1929-18 December 1929	Previous control number Vol B8
1984.0082 Unit 3	1984.0082.0002 8	Letters to Mother	2 January 1930-8 February 1930	Previous control number Vol B9

Unit/Box	Item Number	Title	Date Range	Description
1984.0082 Unit 3	1984.0082.0002 9	Letters to Mother	18 February 1930-2 April 1930	Previous control number Vol B10
1984.0082 Unit 3	1984.0082.0003 0	Letters to Dottie (sister)	25 September 1931-23 February 1932	Previous control number Vol B11
1984.0082 Unit 3	1984.0082.0003 1	Victorian Baby Health Centres Association: Report Book of Medical Officer (VSB)	1920-1924	Includes Special Reports and letters to Pritch (childrens nurse), 1939. Previous control number Vol C
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0003 2	Draft history of Baby Health Centres Association Marking notes for Mothercraft Nurses Exam, 1932	c.1932	Previous control number Vol D
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0003 3	Notes made on visit to NZ and USA	1924	Previous control number Vol E
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0003 4	Blank notebook	Undated	Previous control number Vol F
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0003 5	Case notes	Undated	Includes loose case notes made of hospital patients apparently WW1 wounded soldiers. [8 pp]; two newscuttings removed from diaries of items relating to VSB. Items very fragile. Previous control number Folder 1
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0003 6	A Guide to the Care of the Young Child by Vera Scantlebury Brown and Kate Campbell (Department of Health, Victoria, 1947).	1947	One copy

Unit/Box	Item Number	Title	Date Range	Description
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0003 7	Material compiled by Sister Edith Dawson	Undated	Includes photocopies of news items about Dr Scantlebury-Brown, published during and after her life (including obituaries), conference reports and broadcast-transcripts honouring VSB, a transcript of talk given by VSB, and other items relating to infant and child welfare. 2 copies of each. Previous control number Folder 2
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0003 8	Biographical notes on Dr Vera Scantlebury Brown. [Written by Wendy Kapper. 43 pp.]	1976-1977	Research and indexes compiled by Wendy Kapper in the course of a research project of the Department of Social Studies at the University of Melbourne, supervised by the daughter of VSB, Cath James. Previous control number Folder 3
1984.0082 Unit 5	1984.0082.0003 9	Index cards to diary/letter books	c.1977	Index to names, alphabetically arranged by Wendy Kapper. Previous control number IC 1.
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0004 0	Index to volumes of diary/letter books	c.1977	Index to date range covered in each volume. Previous control number IC 2
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0004 1	Interview records	c.1977	Index cards of notes made by Wendy Kapper when interviewing family and colleagues about VSB. Interviewees include: Eileen Lester (sister); Cath James (daughter); Dame Kate Campbell; Sister Edith Dawson; Dame Mary Herring; Darrell Wardle (nephew); Mrs S. Martin (cousin); Miss Thea Wilkinson; Miss Dorothy Ross; Miss M. Davis; Dr Lena Thomas; Dr A.E. Wilmot. Previous control number IC 3

Unit/Box	Item Number	Title	Date Range	Description
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0004 2	Index to interviews	c.1977	Previous control number IC 4
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0004 3	Index to Royal Commission on Health	Undated	Previous control number IC 5
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0004 4	Index to Sister Dawsons material	Undated	Index cards to material described at item at Folder 2: 1984.0082.00037. Previous control number IC 6
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0004 5	Index to Department of Health Victoria documents	c.1977	Bibliographical index cards of reports written by VSB and published by the Victorian Department of Health. The reports themselves are not held in this collection. Previous control number IC 7
1984.0082 Unit 4	1984.0082.0004 6	Index to sections of Truby Kings biography	c.1977	Sections indexed refer to infant and child welfare. The biography itself not held in this collection. Previous control number IC 8

End of List