

Gladys Elphick

Gladys Elphick is a proud first nation Australian. Born on the 28 of August 1904, her mother was Gertrude Adams and her father was Fredrick Elphick. She grew up at Point Pearce Aboriginal Reserve. She was made to stay there from a young age all the way up to her death in 1988 she was buried at Daw park in Adelaide.

Her education was average, she went to her local school and she learnt how to ride horses, swim, to play sports and she self taught her self the Organ. She then left school at the age of 9 (that would be year 3) she went to work at the dairy station then trained as a midwife.

After training as a midwife she then joined the Aboriginal advancement league of the South. After her first proper job she became she was appointed founding president of the council of the aboriginal woman of the south in 1964. Later in her life she married Williams Hughes and she had 2 kids Timothy and Alfred Hughes.

She had one very important life achievement by becoming the Australian woman's council and her second historical achievement was becoming a legal aid medical service. She had also established a woman's shelter, a health service, a legal aid service, a kindergarten and an adult education course. Gladys received an MBE (Member Of The Order Of The British Empire) in 1971. She was then named south Australian of the year in 1984.

The most of her life she lived at Point Pearce Aboriginal Reserve until she died on the 19 of January 1988. She was buried in Daw park, Adelaide. Gladys is remembered for her help and how she was a brave leader of her era. Because of her service she got the nick name Aunty Glad and is now remembered of how helpful and caring she was to everyone all the way to the end of her life in 1988.