

# *This is A Few Forgotten Women Story*



*This story was written in August 2023 as one of a series resulting from the 'A Few Forgotten Women Friday' collaborative research project, investigating the lives of women who enrolled in the first two cohorts [1908 & 1909] of Trainee Teachers at the Cheshire Country Training College, Crewe [CCTCC]*

## **Hilda Wright 's Story**



*Image of CTCC student Hilda Wright, 1910,  
CCTCC Archives, Unpublished data, under the care of the Family History Society of Cheshire, Crewe*

Hilda was born to Richard Wright and Eva Dodd<sup>1</sup> on 15<sup>th</sup> October 1890<sup>2</sup> and was baptised at St Mary's Nantwich on 7<sup>th</sup> December 1890<sup>3</sup>. She appears on the 1891 census<sup>4</sup> with her family and her father Richard is a Clerk in a Clothing Factory and her mum Eve is a Tailoress. By the 1901 census<sup>5</sup> the family had moved, and Hilda had two siblings her sister Mabel and her brother Jack. Hilda went to Crewe County Grammar School<sup>6</sup> and appears in the admission registers in 1905. She was admitted to the Cheshire County Training College, Crewe on 15<sup>th</sup> September 1908<sup>7</sup> and appears in the newspaper to say that she had passed her exam and was eligible for training college, her name was last on the list<sup>8</sup>. Hilda left after her Final Examination in 1910.<sup>9</sup>

As we move through the census records Hilda's father seems to be improving his social standing and in 1911 census<sup>10</sup> he is now an employer and is a Coal, Coke and Builder's Merchant. Hilda is with her family as an Assistant School Teacher Elementary.

She appears next in the paper when her sister Mabel marries in 1916<sup>11</sup> to a Herbert Fyles and Hilda was her bridesmaid.

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<sup>1</sup> *CCTCC Student Registers [1908-1935]: CCTCC Archives, Unpublished data, under the care of the Family History Society of Cheshire, Crewe*

<sup>2</sup> Freebmd index 1890 June Quarter, Nantwich Dist, Volume 8a, Page 515

<sup>3</sup> Family Search scanned copy Parish Register image courtesy of Cheshire Archives

<sup>4</sup> England Census, 1891 RG12, Nantwich, Cheshire 2856 Folio 87 Pg 31

<sup>5</sup> England Census, 1901 RG13 Nantwich, Cheshire 3362 Pg 17 Folio 119

<sup>6</sup> National School Admission Registers & Log-Books 1870-1914 SL236/7 Cheshire Archives and Local Studies.

<sup>7</sup> *CCTCC Student Registers [1908-1935]: CCTCC Archives, Unpublished data, under the care of the Family History Society of Cheshire, Crewe*

<sup>8</sup> British Newspaper Library Crewe Chronicle 12<sup>th</sup> September 1908

<sup>9</sup> *CCTCC Student Registers [1908-1935]: CCTCC Archives, Unpublished data, under the care of the Family History Society of Cheshire, Crewe*

<sup>10</sup> England Census, 1911 RG14, Nantwich Cheshire, Page number 1298

<sup>11</sup> British Newspaper Library Nantwich Guardian 10 March 1916

Hilda appears in the newspaper again in 1918<sup>12</sup> about a concert she organised with a Mrs Brown that was held in the Sound Council School on March 16<sup>th</sup> and how wonderful this was.

She went into teaching straight after passing her exam and She appears on the Teachers Registration Council List in 1920<sup>13</sup> and it says she Registered on 1<sup>st</sup> September 1920 and gives her registration as 49925 and she was he was Assistant Mistress at Borough Road Senior School, Crewe 1910 to when she resigned but unfortunately does not give the date of resignation.

By 1921 the family is still living in Nantwich and her father has his own business premises at Railway Station Wharf in the town. <sup>14</sup>

Hilda married Arthur Fowles in 1924 <sup>15</sup> and appears to have left teaching at this point and on the 1939 register <sup>15</sup> her occupation is Unpaid Domestic Duties and she lived with her husband on Austerson Farm in Nantwich. Her brother in law Herbert Fyles on the 1939 register <sup>16</sup> was a Head Teacher of an Elementary School and whether she helped him it is impossible to say but she may have done.

It seems a shame that Hilda gave this up due to her marriage but her new husband was a farmer and there would have been many jobs that she would have needed to undertake as a farmer's wife.

Arthur died in 1967 <sup>17</sup> and by that time it would appear they had left the farm and she was granted probate in his will. She died in 1989 aged 98 <sup>18</sup> and there

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<sup>12</sup>British Newspaper Library Nantwich Guardian 19<sup>th</sup> April 1918

<sup>13</sup> Teachers' Registration Council Registers 1914-1948

<sup>14</sup> England Census 1921, Nantwich Cheshire RG15 Reg Dist 449 ED13

<sup>15</sup> 1939 Register RG101/4093G/004/39

<sup>16</sup> 1939 Register RG101/4093D/004/15

<sup>17</sup> Nantwich Chronicle 21 September 1967

<sup>18</sup> Nantwich Chronicle 19 July 1989

is an obituary to her in the local paper. She was very active in her later life in the Women's Institute. I am sure she left her imprint on the lives of all she taught and is a real shame that she retired from teaching so young.

***Narrative by Debbie Bradley***

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