

Application to Name/Rename Shire Owned or Administered Buildings, Structures, and other Assets

Applications to name or rename are to be made with reference to **Council Policy – Naming of Shire Owned or Administered Buildings, Structures and other Assets**.

Applications to name topographic features are to be consistent with **Landgate’s Policies and Standards for Geographical Naming in Western Australia**.

Please ensure your application contains reasons and supporting information.

Type of Naming Request

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Shire Owned or Administered Facility | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bridge |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Parks, Reserves and other open space | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sporting Complex |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sporting Field | <input type="checkbox"/> | Waterway |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other topographic feature | Specify: | |

Applicant Details

Name: MIKE MULLER

Address:

Email: [REDACTED]

Contact Phone: [REDACTED]

Location of facility or feature to be named. Please include map and address details.

289 Hopeland Road, Hopeland

Reasons for naming. Please attach additional pages if required.

Contact Us

Enquiries

Call: (08) 9526 1111

Fax: (08) 9525 5441

Email: info@sjshire.wa.gov.au

In Person

Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale

6 Paterson Street, Mundijong WA 6123

Open Monday to Friday 8.30am-5pm (closed public holidays)



www.sjshire.wa.gov.au

**Ivy May Muller**

Ivy May Muller (Nee Gibbs) was born in the Fergeson Valley on the 10th of July 1900.

Ivy completed her education at the age of 14 at Ferguson School. She was immediately asked to return to the school in the capacity of a Monitor which for all intents and purposes is what a Teacher's Aide does today.

Probably in her late teenage years or possibly in her early twenties she enrolled at the Claremont Teacher's Training College to complete her Teacher's Training. This in itself was such an achievement as her family were all manual workers with limited formal education, her own father was semi-illiterate when he married his wife who set about teaching him to read and write.

Eric (her 2nd son) believes her first posting was at Loudon (Approx. 1924) which supported the vast timber industry, so possibly this was a larger school.

It is unsure of her conditions of employment but somewhere here Eric believes there are papers showing her annual wage which he suspects was something like 24 pounds per year (Approx. \$48.00), probably not paid for holidays.

Busselton was possibly her next posting. This would have been a promotion. It was here she met Mervyn (her future husband) who was employed by the Forrest Department. As soon as she married, she had to resign from the Education Department as under the Act at the time no married women allowed!!

In and around this time, Mervyn contracted the Spanish Flu, and on recovery started to show signs of Parkinson Disease, which is now believed to be linked together.

During the Second World War the Department had to change their stance on this as there was a big shortage of teachers. Ivy was appointed to East Broome Hill, a one teacher school. As far as we can work out Eric had not started school but would have been 4 going on 5 years of age. Ivy found herself pregnant with Athol (3rd Son) and would have had to ceased working. The family moved to Bunbury to live with Sam her father. Eric commenced school at Rathmines primary school.

The following year Ivy was posted to Jarrahwood. Rhoda, Ivy's younger sister moved with them in the role of Nanny. Ivy's meagre wage had to support the family by this time as Mervyn was too ill to work and no social benefits were available. They lived here about 6 months and then they moved to Sussex Mill which was close to Jarrahwood where she completed her year of teaching.

This time was followed by a period of unemployment, so they moved to Australind to live with Sam and Rhoda. There would have been no income other than Child Endowment which was a pittance.

In 1941 Ivy was appointed to Hopeland. She rented a house, which was located virtually opposite the school. Eric & Lindsey (1st Son) were sent to Donnybrook to live with sister Evangeline (Aunty Van) and Uncle Randel Trigwell. They returned to Hopeland in 1942 and completed their primary education under their mother.

In 1948 Ivy was appointed to Keysbrook School where she taught for a short time until the Department sent her back to Hopeland. The appointed teacher at Hopeland couldn't find accommodation. She remained at Hopeland until the end of 1964.



<https://archive.sro.wa.gov.au/index.php/muller-nee-gibbs-ivy-may-muller-i-m>
<https://archive.sro.wa.gov.au/index.php/muller-nee-gibbs-ivy-may-muller-i-m-2>
<https://archive.sro.wa.gov.au/index.php/muller-nee-gibbs-ivy-may-muller-i-m-3>

Both Ivy May Muller and Mervyn William Henery Muller are buried in the Serpentine Cemetery:

Deaths

MULLER , Ivy May. 21 July 1980. Aged 79 years
MULLER , Mervyn William Henry . 21 May 1981. Aged 79 years

Students of Eminence and Notoriety:

Isabelle McKay (NEE Green) won a scholarship to Bunbury High School. (Resided at Eton Farm, and married to Frank Senior McKay)

Richardson Girls (Lowlands Estate)

Keith Keily

George Elliott, Stan Elliot.

Roland (Rolly) White

Paul Chapman

Challenges

Teaching all levels. Years 1 – 7.

When older children did not leave home to go to High School it was her responsibility to oversee their Correspondence Course. Legal age to leave school was 14. They continued to attend Hopeland School until they either become of age or when a bus was finally provided to run the children to Armadale High. Coral Elliot, Stan Elliot were 2 such people.

Doing Administrative work required by the Department.

Being open to intensive scrutiny with Inspectors visiting at least every year.

Upkeep of the school grounds.

Ordering supplies e.g. books etc. plus firewood, garden equipment.

Footnote:

Because Ivy was female, she was never offered a permanent position and received a lower wage than her male counterparts. This was despite her being the breadwinner given her husband Mervyn was unable to work due to the Parkinsons disease (contracted we understand as a result of The Spanish Flu pandemic post WW1). To supplement the family income, she purchased a 100 acre



farm (also along Hopeland Road) – which contained an old group settlement house, of which produced Butterfat Milk and Eggs for Markets

The Photo supplied shows that it has recently been restored and our old Dad (Eric) (90) believe the house to be approx. 85 – 90 years old. (Issue aside Ivy had to borrow the money to purchase the farm, from her brother-in-law because at the time, females weren't allowed to borrow money from a bank).

Ivy (along with the three young boys (Lindsay, Eric and Athol) would milk the cows along with calves, and feed up the laying hens in the morning before school. Ivy would then teach all day at Hopeland school (driving an old soft top Morris 8), then come home in the evening to milk the cows and associated tasks, collect and package eggs along with feed the animals. She then would prepare the evening meals for all within the house. Despite these hardships, Ivy had a love of teaching, and her gentle and nurturing approach went beyond the classroom and extended to the wider Hopeland/Serpentine community where she was well loved and respected. Ivy and Mervyn celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary at Hopeland School.

On request, Our family would be able to supply photos and any other information to support the process. In addition to the multiple volunteer organisations that the Muller family has contributed to the Shire over many years, Margaret Muller (Eric's wife, Ivy's daughter in law) worked at both the Hopeland and the Serpentine School for over 20 years as the Bursar, and Senior Administrator, and the Mullers still has ongoing connections with the district given Bruce (cc'd herein) lives in the area.

Ivy had a major contribution to education within the Hopeland District for over 25 years, Ivy and Mervyn also had 3 sons, of which have also been involved throughout the district during the years from 1941 - until 2014. They have serviced on multiple Volunteer organisations throughout the Shire over many years.

1 was a Shire Councillor Served multiple years as Hopeland Community President, and sitting committee member

1 was a recipient of the Clem Kentish Award Also served Multiple years as President and Office Bearing of the Hopeland Community Association, Serpentine Primary School President and Committee member, SJ Lions Club, Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade

1 Grandson was also a recipient of the Clem Kentish Award, Past Captain and FCO of the Serpentine Bush Fire Brigade, Serpentine Indoor Cricket Club President and Committee member, Serpentine Primary School P&C President and Committee member

If the name being requested is that of a person, the applicant must have family representative's written permission, or if unavailable, written community support.

As a direct descendant of Ivy May Muller, being the 1st born Grandchild, I, Michael John Muller authorize the use of the Name Ivy May Muller to name the reserve located at 289 Hopeland Road Hopeland 6125.



Additional supporting information including Indigenous connections and consultation.

