THE SUFFRAGETTE'S SECRET

Morton Farrier, Forensic Genealogist Story by Nathan Dylan Goodwin (self published 2017)

By Mim Regan

'Some great grandmothers ran farms for years as widows. Others made medical advances as midwives. Some made the best sponge cakes ever. One of mine made saying the rosary a work of art. This engaging short story investigates the great grandmother of new mother Juliette, wife of the main character of the series, Morton Farrier, forensic genealogist . Her name was Grace Emmerson, remembered by her grand daughter as a quiet, unassuming person.

This is the story of an ordinary woman doing extraordinary things for a cause she believed in. By trying to put more "flesh on the bones" in his research into Grace's life, Morton uncovers the amazing bravery of this woman. She had a tough early life beginning as an orphan at 4, to overcoming her fears of public speaking, verbal and physical abuse, imprisonment and force feeding , to the "Cat and Mouse Act" of being rearrested as soon as she was well again. All for the belief that women deserved the equal right to vote.

Morton investigates through the study of newspapers, both online and in the archives, police and Home Office papers and statements, census , photo albums, keepsakes (WSPU Brooch), and visits to cemeteries as well as family memories. He gives a new perspective to this amazing woman.

Her legacy is not only her limp, her arrest record (1914 amnesty), her ability to survive the" special cells" and close confinement of prison but also instilling in her grand daughter the importance of the right to vote and standing up for what you believe in. Grace survived. 'Deeds not Words" as she worked as a train driver during World War 2. Way to go Grace. You are indeed Amazing Grace...

It is so interesting that this quiet great grandmother had in 1911 assaulted the Prime Minister.....well we've all wanted to do that at times. Everyone should read this story of courage before just throwing cushions at the TV a during Parliamentary Question Time ."