

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0301

Tipping, Marjorie Jean

(1917 - 2009)

Born 19170320, Melbourne Victoria Australia

Died 20090928, Melbourne Victoria Australia

Occupation Art historian, Author, Consultant

Summary

Marjorie Tipping was a prolific writer and historian of art and colonial Australia. In 1990, based on her many published scholarly works, she became the first woman to earn the degree of Doctor of Letters by examination from the University of Melbourne. Tipping's books include *Eugene von Guerard's Australian Landscapes* (1975) *Ludwig Becker: Artist & Naturalist with the Burke & Wills Expedition* (1978), *Melbourne on the Yarra* (1978) and *Convicts Unbound: The Story of the Calcutta Convicts and Their Settlement in Australia* (1988).

Tipping was the first woman president (1972-1975) and fellow (1968) of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. She was a member of the Victorian Council of the Arts and numerous other committees and community organizations, often in a voluntary capacity. Tipping was appointed as a Member of the Order of the British Empire (13 June 1981), for her contribution to the Arts.

Tipping was the patron of and one of the founders of the E W Tipping Foundation for Mentally Retarded Children and Adults, established in 1970. Tipping travelled on six continents; her interests included music, theatre, archaeology, Australiana, and Chinese art.

Source(s): Personal Communication (2002), *Who's Who of Australian Women*, *Who's Who 2002*.

Events

1917 - 1917

Born: daughter of John Alexandra and Florence Amelia (nee Paterson) McCredie

1999 - 1999

Contributor to Encyclopedia of Melbourne project Monash University

1999 - 1999

Contributor to University Melbourne, Oral History Project

1981 - 1981

Doctor C H Currey Fellow

1968 - 1968

First woman Fellow Royal Historical Society Victoria

1972 - 1975

First woman President of the Royal Historical Society Victoria

1990 - 1990

First woman to receive Doctor of Letters by examination from the University of Melbourne

1976 - 1984

Foundation Chairman Victorian Publications and Literature Committee

1978 - 1991

Foundation Member Science and Humanities Committee Museum Victoria

1963 - 1963

Founder Affiliated Historical Societies

1975 - 1978

Government nominee Council of Adult Education Committee

1975 - 1987

Government nominee Victorian Government Placenames Committee

1992 - 1992

History Consultant Grundy Television for Convicts Unbound (TV Series)

1942 - 1942

married Edmond William Tipping (dec. 1970)

1982 - 1990

Member Board of Directors Victorian State Opera

1965 - 1979

Member Council International Social Service

1996 - 1996

Member Foundation Committee La Trobe and Baillieu Libraries

1973 - 1973

Member Literature Board awards Australia Council

1977 - 1977

Member Literature Board awards Australia Council

1974 - 1981

Member Victorian Ministry Arts Advisory Council

1979 - 1980

Member Victorian Theatre Policy Committee Victorian Arts Centre

1958 - 1958

Organising Chairman four biennial conferences and the Australiana Festival

1970 - 1970

Patron and Foundation Member E W Tipping Foundation for Intellectually Handicapped

1974 - 1974

Vice-Chairperson, Matthew Flinders Bicentenary Committee

Published resources

Edited Book

Who's Who in Australia 2002, Herd, Margaret, 2002

Who's Who of Australian Women, Lofthouse, Andrea, 1982

Double Time: Women in Victoria - 150 Years, Lake, Marilyn and Kelly, Farley, 1985

Newspaper Article

Historian makes history with Doctor of letters Degree, Dunstan, Keith, 1990

Rare honour crowns life of scholarship, Wilson, Steven, 1990

Queen's birthday honours, 1981

Queen's birthday honours, 1981

Site Exhibition

Faith, Hope and Charity Australian Women and Imperial Honours: 1901-1989, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2003,
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/honours/honours.html>

The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia, Smart, Judith and Swain, Shurlee (eds.), 2014,
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders>

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

State Library of Victoria

Papers, 1975-1985. [manuscript].

[Conversation with Marjorie Tipping] [interviewer: Hazel de Berg]. 1971 Oct. 10. [sound recording]

Papers relating to a book about Ludwig Becker, ca. 1970-ca. 1979. [manuscript].

National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection

Papers of Marjorie Tipping, 1940-1971 [manuscript]

Essay 1974 [manuscript]

Private hands (These records may not be readily available)

Marjorie Tipping Papers

Author Details

Anne Heywood

Created 20 February 2002

Last modified 25 April 2026

Digital resources



Title: Marjorie Tipping

Type: Image

Date: 3 May, 2023