Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0365

Beaurepaire, Beryl Edith

(1923 - 2018)

Born	19230924, Camberwell Victoria Australia
Died	20181024, Mt Eliza Victoria Australia
Occupation	Community worker, Feminist, Patron, Women's rights activist

Summary

Following the birth of her children, Beryl Beaurepaire became involved with charity work and the women's organisations of the Liberal Party. She summarises her liberal feminist views as follows: 'If you're a feminist you believe in equal opportunities and rights for women, but you also believe that women accept equal responsibilities.' (As cited by Emma Grahame in *Australian Feminism: A Companion*, OUP, 1998)

Dame Beryl passed away at her home in Mt Eliza, Victoria, on 24 October 2018.

Details

Beryl Edith Bedggood completed her schooling at Fintona Girl's School in Balwyn, Victoria, before becoming a meteorological officer with the Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force in 1942. After marrying Ian Francis Beaurepaire in 1946 she became involved in the community and charity work of Melbourne's society women. During the 1970s she was chairman of the Federal Women's Committee (1974-1976), and later convenor of the first National Women's Advisory Council (1978-1982) as well as being vice-president of the Victorian Division of the Liberal Party from 1976 to 1986.

Beaurepaire was a member of the Australian Children's Television Foundation Board (1982-1988), the Board of Victoria's 150th Authority (1982-1987), and a member of the Australian Bi-centennial Multicultural Foundation (1989-1992). From 1985 to 1993 she was chairman of the Australian War Memorial Council and then chairman of the Australian War Memorial Fund Raising Committee (1993).

She is Patron to a number of community organisations including: Children First Foundation since 2000, Peninsula Hospice Service since 1999, Palliative Care (Vic.) since 1999, Victorian College of the Arts since 1999, Epilepsy Foundation of Victoria since 1999, Australia Against Child Abuse since 1999, Peninsula Health Care Network Foundation since 1996 and the Portsea Children's Camp since 1996.

Events

1975 - 1975
Appointed, Member of the British Empire (MBE)

1977 - 1977
Awarded Silver Jubilee Medal

1982 - 1988
Board member of the Australian Children's Television Foundation Board

1982 - 1987
Board member of the Victorian 150th Authority

1985 - 1993
Chairman of the Australian War Memorial Council

1993 - 1996
Chairman of the Australian War Memorial Fund Raising Committee

1973 - 1987
Chairman of the Board of Management of Fintona Girls School

1974 - 1976
Chairman of the Federal Liberal Party Women's Committee

1973 - 1976
Chairman of the Victorian Liberal Party Women's Section

1945 - 1945
Commissioned Assistant Section Officer

1991 - 1991
Companion Order of Australia (AC)

1978 - 1982
Convenor of the National Women's Advisory Council

2001 - 2001
Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

1946 - 1946
Married Ian Francis Beaurepaire

1989 - 1992
Member of the Australian Bi-centennial Multicultural Foundation

1982 - 1993
Member of the Australian War Memorial Council

1977 - 1977
Member of the Federal Women's Advisory Committee Working Party

1969 - 1977
Member of the National Executive, YWCA Australia

1999 - 1999
Patron of the Australian's Against Child Abuse

2000 - 2000
Patron of the Children First Foundation

1999 - 1999
Patron of the Epilepsy Foundation of Victoria Incorporated

1999 - 1999
Patron of the Palliative Care (Vic.)

1996 - 1996
Patron of the Peninsula Health Care Network Foundation

1999 - 1999
Patron of the Peninsula Hospice Service

1996 - 1996
Patron of the Portsea Children’s Camp

1999 - 1999
Patron of the Victorian College of the Arts

1988 - 1990
President of the Victorian Association of Most Excellent OBE

1942 - 1945
Served with the Women’s Auxiliary Australian Air Force

1980 - 1980
The Order of the British Empire – Dames Commander (DBE)

1970 - 1986
Vice-President of the Citizens Welfare Service Victoria

1976 - 1986
Vice-President of the Victorian Division Liberal Party

Published resources

Resource Section
Australian Women's Honour Roll B, CAPOW,
http://www.capow.org.au/Honourroll/honourroll-b.htm

BEAUREPAIRE, BERYL EDITH, Department of Veterans' Affairs, 2002,
http://www.ww2roll.gov.au/script/veteran.asp?ServiceID=R&VeteranID=1069542

Edited Book
Australian Feminism: A Companion, Caine, Barbara, Gatens, Moira et al., 1998

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

A decade of Mary Owen dinners, Waterfield, Dorothy, 1995

Book
Beryl Beaurepaire, McKernan, Michael, 1999

Getting Equal: the History of Australian Feminism, Lake, Marilyn, 1999

The matriarchs: twelve Australian women talk about their lives to Susan Mitchell., Mitchell, Susan, 1987

The Alexandra Club : A Narrative 1903-1983, Starke, Monica, 1986

The WAAAF in Wartime Australia, Thomson, Joyce A, 1992

So Many Firsts: Liberal Women from Enid Lyons to the Turnbull Era, Fitzherbert, Margaret, 2009

Resource
Women and Politics in South Australia, Cadden, Rosemary,
http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/women_and_politics/index.html

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Newspaper Article
War veterans honoured, 2001

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

Archival resources

State Library of Victoria
Papers, ca. 1970-ca. 1985 [manuscript].

National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection
Heritage 200 entries, 1988 [manuscript]

National Archives of Australia, National Office, Canberra
BEAUREPAIRE BERYL EDITH : Service Number - 90770 : Date of birth - 24 Sep 1923 : Place of birth - CAMBERWELL VIC : Place of enlistment - MELBOURNE : Next of Kin - BEDGGOOD EDWARD

Author Details
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