

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person

Entry ID: AWE0365

Beaurepaire, Beryl Edith

(1923 - 2018)

Born	24 September, 1923, Camberwell Victoria Australia
Died	24 October, 2018, 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

1980 - 1980

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

1996 - 1996

Patron of the Peninsula Health Care Network Foundation

1996 - 1996

Patron of the Portsea Children's Camp

1993 - 1996

Chairman of the Australian War Memorial Fund Raising Committee

1985 - 1993

Chairman of the Australian War Memorial Council

1982 - 1993

Member of the Australian War Memorial Council

1988 - 1990

President of the Victorian Association of Most Excellent OBE

1989 - 1992

Member of the Australian Bi-centennial Multicultural Foundation

1982 - 1987

Board member of the Victorian 150th Authority

1982 - 1988

Board member of the Australian Children's Television Foundation Board

1978 - 1982

Convenor of the National Women's Advisory Council

1977 - 1977

Member of the Federal Women's Advisory Committee Working Party

1974 - 1976

Chairman of the Federal Liberal Party Women's Committee

1973 - 1976

Chairman of the Victorian Liberal Party Women's Section

1973 - 1987

Chairman of the Board of Management of Fintona Girls School

1970 - 1986

Vice-President of the Citizens Welfare Service Victoria

1969 - 1977

Member of the National Executive, YWCA Australia

1945 - 1945

Commissioned Assistant Section Officer

1942 - 1945

Served with the Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force

1977 - 1977

Awarded Silver Jubilee Medal

1946 - 1946

Married Ian Francis Beaurepaire

1991 - 1991

Companion Order of Australia (AC)

1975 - 1975

Appointed, Member of the British Empire (MBE)

2000 - 2000

Patron of the Children First Foundation

1999 - 1999

Patron of the Peninsula Hospice Service

1999 - 1999

Patron of the Palliative Care (Vic.)

1999 - 1999

Patron of the Victorian College of the Arts

1999 - 1999

Patron of the Epilepsy Foundation of Victoria Incorporated

1999 - 1999

Patron of the Australian's Against Child Abuse

1976 - 1986

Vice-President of the Victorian Division Liberal Party

2001 - 2001

Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

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.wv2roll.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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