

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE0494

## Best, Amelia Martha

(1900 - 1979)

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**Born** 29 April, 1900, Lower Barrington Tasmania Australia

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**Died** 14 November, 1979, Launceston Tasmania Australia

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**Occupation** Parliamentarian

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### Summary

Millie Best was one of the first two women elected to the Tasmanian House of Assembly. Throughout her life she was a dedicated community and voluntary worker including being a commandant in the Voluntary Aid Detachment Canteen Services during World War II.

On 2 January 1956 Amelia Best was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire for services to social welfare.

### Details

Besides being the Member of the Tasmanian House of Assembly for Wilmont from 1955-1956 and 1958-1959, Best was active within the Liberal party as well as being a community worker. She was a foundation member of the Women Show Judges Association and foundation president of the Business and Professional Women's Club. A member of the Board of Governors for the Launceston Girl's Home, Best also was treasurer to the Auxiliary Cosgrove Park Home and an executive member of the United Nations Association. Other memberships included the Red Cross Meals on Wheels, the Good Neighbour Council and the National Council of Women.

Amelia Best died in Launceston in November 1979.

### Published resources

#### 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>

#### Edited Book

Who's Who in Australia, 1971, Legge, J S, 1971

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

#### Author Details

Anne Heywood

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