Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0563

Flett, Penelope (Penny) Ruth

(1947 - 2025)

Born	19470319
Died	20250306
Occupation	Medical administrator

Summary

Dr Penny Flett, who settled in Australia in 1965, was awarded the Centenary Medal in 2003 for service to the aged and disabled community through the Brightwater Care Group. Prior to becoming the Chief Executive Officer of the Brightwater Care Group on 23 July 1986 Flett worked in a variety of positions including four years with the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF). In 1974 she became the first woman in peacetime to hold a male rank and the first woman doctor to serve in the RAAF. Penny Flett was named Telstra Australian Business Woman of the Year in 1998.

Events

2003 - 2003
Awarded the Centenary Medal

1999 - 2002
Board member of the Positive Ageing Foundation, Western Australia

2001 - 2002
Board member of the State Training Board of Western Australia

1997 - 2000
Chair of the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Board

1986 -
Chief Executive Officer of the Brightwater Care Group (Inc.)

1974 - 1974
First woman in peacetime to hold a male rank and first woman doctor to serve in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF)

1999 -
Member of the Australian Bravery Decorations Council

1999 -
Member St George’s College Council

1965 - 1965
Settled in Australia

1998 - 1998
Telstra Australian Businesswoman of the Year

Published resources

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

Resource
Where are the Women in Australian science?, Australian Science and Technology Heritage Centre, 2003, http://www.austehc.unimelb.edu.au/wisa/wisa.html

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Report
Extended care services in metropolitan Perth : directions for change, Planning and Research Branch, Health Department of Western Australia., 1986

Archival resources

National Library of Australia
[Biographical cuttings on Dr Penny Flett, first woman doctor to serve in peace time as an officer in the medical service, containing one or more cuttings from newspapers or journals]

Author Details
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