Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0580

Webb, Jessie Stobo Watson

(1880 - 1944)

Born	18800731, Ellerslie Station, near Tumut New South Wales Australia
Died	19440217, St Kilda Victoria Australia
Occupation	Historian, Lecturer

Summary

Jessie Webb became the first female teacher at the University of Melbourne when she joined the History Department. A prominent figure in women's organisations she was a founding member of the Catalysts, the Lyceum Club, the Victorian Women Graduates Association, and the Women's College. Webb, who completed two major overseas trips, is permanently commemorated in the name of the History Department Library at the University of Melbourne.

Events

1922 - 1923
Accompanied Dr Georgina Sweet on a journey from Cape Town to Cairo

1925 - 1925
Acting professor at the University of Melbourne

1933 - 1934
Acting professor at the University of Melbourne

1942 - 1944
Acting professor at the University of Melbourne

1923 - 1923
Alternate delegate to the League of Nations assembly

1908 - 1908
Appointed by the University of Melbourne Council as an evening lecturer in history, to teach courses on the British Empire and Ancient History

1901 - 1901
Awarded the Wyselaskie Scholarship in English Constitutional History

1923 - 1923
Became a senior lecturer at the University of Melbourne

1936 - 1936
Completed second oversea trip. From England to North Africa, then back to France and by train to Athens, thence to Turkey, down to the Aegean coast and east as far as Cappadocia. She returned to Germany then to Syria and Iraq.

1909 - 1909
Elected president of the Princess Ida Club

1898 - 1898
Enrolled at the University of Melbourne

1912 - 1944
Foundation member of the Lyceum Club

1909 - 1909
Foundation member of the Royal Victorian Historical Society, membership number 30.

1916 - 1916
Gave a paper to the Catalysts on Crete

1914 - 1914
Gave a paper to the Catalysts on the causes of war

1911 - 1911
Gave a paper to the Catalysts titled ‘Pragmatism, or the life and works of Annie Swan’

1902 - 1902
Graduated Batchelor of Arts (BA)

1898 - 1898
Joined the Princess Ida Club. Membership number 222

1910 - 1910
One of the original 19 members who formed the Catalysts

1896 -
Passed matriculation examinations aged 16 years. Obtained honours in English, History and French and passed in German, Geography and Physiology. She obtained the Exhibition in English and History.

1920 - 1922
President of the Melbourne Lyceum Club

1924 - 1925
President of the Victorian Woman Graduates’ Association

1914 - 1921
Principal of Coaching College at 6, The Block, Collins Street, Melbourne

1906 - 1906
Registered as a teacher under the Teachers and Schools Registration Act of 1905

1911 - 1914
Served on the Princess Ida Club committee 1911-1912, 1914 and was delegate to the National Council of Women of Victoria

1901 - 1912
Tutor in history and political economy at Trinity College

1901 - 1901
Winner of the Cobden Club medal

Published resources

Book
Degrees of liberation : a short history of women in the University of Melbourne, Kelly, Farley, 1985

150 years, 150 stories: brief biographies of one hundred and fifty remarkable people associated with the University of Melbourne, Flesch, Juliet and McPhee, Peter, 2003

Jessie Webb, a memoir, Ridley, Ronald T, 1994

A History of the Lyceum Club Melbourne, Gillison, Joan M, 1975

Resource Section
Jessie Webb Scholarship,
http://www.arts.unimelb.edu.au/currentstudents/scholarships/jesweb.html

Jessie Webb Collection, 2006,
http://vm.arts.unimelb.edu.au/report/webb.html

Webb, Jessie Stobo Watson (1880-1944), Fitzpatrick, Kathleen, 2006,
http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A120473b.htm

Book Section
Garden Parties and Politics : The Victorian Women's Graduate Association 1920-1945, Ruljancich, Sally, 2000

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

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

Archival resources

The University of Melbourne Archives
Webb, Jessie Stobo Watson

Churchward, Lloyd Gordon

Haynes, Stanley Goddard

Ridley, Ronald Thomas

Webster, Mona

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Author Details
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