

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0580

Webb, Jessie Stobo Watson

(1880 - 1944)

Born	18800731, Ellerslie station, near Tumut New South Wales Australia
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Died	19440217, Linden Private Hospital St Kilda Victoria Australia
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Occupation	Historian, Lecturer
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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 overseas 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 Bachelor 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](#)

[Webb, Jessie Stobo Watson](#)

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Author Details

Anne Heywood

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