

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0697

Jeffreys, Irene Florence

(1913 - 2004)

Born	19130622, London England
Died	20040608, Adelaide South Australia Australia
Occupation	Accountant

Summary

Irene Jeffreys was born in London, England. She migrated to Australia in 1922 with her parents. Determined from the age of 12 to be an accountant, Irene attended Adelaide Technical High school. She went to work at the age of 16 but studied for the Federal Institute of Accountants diploma at night at the School of Mines. In 1942 she was the first South Australian woman to qualify by examination for the Institute of Chartered Accountants. Irene's accountancy practice and personal interests included much involvement in the Church of England, particularly the Church Missionary Society and the General Synod, where she pioneered the involvement of South Australian women. Irene supported the movement for the ordination of women and is herself licensed as a lay preacher. For many years she was involved with the National Council of Women. On 3 June 1978 Irene Jeffreys was appointed an Officer to the Order of the British Empire for service to the church, women, children and the aged.

Published resources

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

State Library of South Australia

[Interview with Irene Jeffreys \[sound recording\]](#) Interviewer: Helen Chryssides

Author Details

Robin Secomb

Created 2 February 2004
Last modified 14 August 2015