

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Organisation

Entry ID: AWE1056

National Council of Jewish Women, New South Wales Section

(1923 -)

Born 1 January, 1923

Occupation Lobby group, Membership organisation, Philanthropic organisation, Religious organisation, Women's Rights Organ

Summary

The National Council of Jewish Women, New South Wales Division was established in 1923. Originally called the Council of Jewish Women, in 1927 a national body (The National Council of Jewish Women of Australia) was formed and a separate New South Division of this organisation established.

Fanny Reading, the first president, immediately set about implementing service programs for the local Jewish community. An immigrant welfare committee was established, which was the first to provide any assistance for Jewish immigration in Sydney. Funds were raised for the relief of Polish Jewry. Other work included teaching Sunday Schools, visiting people in hospital, and assisting with other fundraising projects, both Jewish and non-Jewish, as well as social events particularly for Juniors. The Council in Sydney was particularly involved in supporting the Zionist cause and then with support for Israel. By the 1960s, it had several groups operating across Sydney and one in Newcastle.

Over its long history, the Council has been involved in an enormous array of issues, as well as charitable, educational and social activities. The Council continues today as a non-profit, voluntary, organisation for Jewish women, acting for their advancement and for social justice generally.

Published resources

Conference Proceedings

First Jewish Women's Conference, May 21st to 27th, 1929, 1929

Newsletter

The Council bulletin / National Council of Jewish Women, 1926-

Book

Making a Difference: A History of the National Council of Jewish Women of Australia, Newton, Marlo Leigh, 2000

Journal Article

Perspectives from the Australian Jewish community, Rutland, Suzanne, 2002

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Archival resources

National Library of Australia, Oral History and Folklore Collection

[Queenie Symonds interviewed by Brenda Factor in the NSW Bicentennial oral history collection \[sound recording\]](#)

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