

# The Australian Women's Register

---

**Entry type:** Organisation

**Entry ID:** AWE1073

## Society of Women Writers (Australia)

(1980 - 2000)

---

<b>Born</b>	1 January, 1980
-------------	-----------------

---

<b>Died</b>	31 December, 2000
-------------	-------------------

---

<b>Occupation</b>	Arts organisation
-------------------	-------------------

---

### Summary

The Society of Women Writers (Australia), was formed in 1980 with the five existing state Societies (in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania) becoming branches of this new national organisation. The Society's main aim was to draw together women writers (including poets, journalists, playwrights, fiction and non-fiction writers) to support each other in their writing endeavours. It is also aimed to maintain the status of the writing profession, promote a knowledge of literature, and strengthen ties between Australian and visiting writers.

Australia's first Society of Women Writers had been founded in New South Wales in 1925. During the 1960's and 1970's branches were established in all Australian states. The new national body was intended to coordinate activities across the country. It organised numerous seminars, conferences and writing competitions. In 2000 the Society was disbanded, and its branches reformed as independent, incorporated societies (the New South Wales branch having already done this in 1987).

### Details

During its existence, each state for two years in turn had the responsibility of managing federal business. By 1999, it became clear that volunteers were no longer available to carry out this considerable task. It was agreed that the federal body be wound up, and that each branch would become an independent incorporated association, with similar aims and rules.

An enormous number of books have been published under the auspices of the Society and its state bodies. Only a few of these have been listed in this database.

### Published resources

#### Newsletter

Woman Writer/Society of Women Writers (Aust.), 1975-200

#### Report

Annual report / the Society of Women Writers (Australia), 1925-

Federal president's report / Society of Women Writers, 1974-

#### Conference Proceedings

Minutes of the ... biennial conference of the Society of Women Writers (Australia), 1978-1988

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

## Archival resources

### **National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection**

[Records of the Society of Women Writers \(Australia\), 1925-1998, \(bulk 1970-1998\) \[manuscript\]](#)

[Papers of Joy Lindum Gillan, 1977-1990 \[manuscript\]](#)

### **Mitchell and Dixson Libraries Manuscripts Collection**

[Joy Lindrum Gillan - papers, 1976-1992](#)

[Joy Lindrum Gillan - sound recordings, 1984](#)

### **Author Details**

Jane Carey

**Created** 22 September 2004

**Last modified** 16 November 2010