# The Australian Women's Register

**Entry type:** Person **Entry ID:** AWE1088

# Freeman, Catherine (Cathy) Astrid Salome

(1973 - )

Born 19730216, Mackay Queensland Australia

Occupation Commonwealth or Empire Games Gold Medalist, Olympian, Track and Field Athlete

## Summary

Catherine (Cathy) Freeman was born in Mackay in Queensland in 1973. As a very good runner, she won a scholarship to boarding school where she was able to have professional coaching. In 1994 she became the first Aboriginal sprinter to win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games, going on to win a silver medal in the 1996 Olympic Games and then gold at the Sydney Olympics in 2000.

She is very proud of her Aboriginal heritage and has carried the Australian and Aboriginal flags around the track after winning a race, which at times has resulted in public controversy.

She was made Young Australian of the Year in 1990 and Australian of the Year in 1998. She is the first person to receive both awards.

#### **Events**

1994 - 1994

Athletics - 200m and 400m

1990 - 1990

Athletics – 4 X 100m Relay

2002 - 2002

Athletics – 4 x 400m Relay

1996 - 1996

Athletics - 400m event

2000 - 2000

Athletics - 400m Event

1992 - 1992

Competed at Barcelona

2001 - 2001

Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

### Published resources

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Australia at the Games, Australian Olympic Committee, 2006, <a href="http://corporate.olympics.com.au/index.cfm?p=25">http://corporate.olympics.com.au/index.cfm?p=25</a>

#### **Site Exhibition**

She's Game: Women Making Australian Sporting History, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2007, <a href="http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/sg/sport-home.html">http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/sg/sport-home.html</a>

The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia, Smart, Judith and Swain, Shurlee (eds.), 2014,

http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders

#### Archival resources

# John Oxley Library, Manuscripts and Business Records Collection Collection of posters on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Set 1.

#### **Author Details**

Leonarda Kovacic

**Created** 24 September 2004 **Last modified** 6 March 2019

## Digital resources



Title: Mrs Sarah Powell

Type: Image Date: 3 May, 2023



Title: Representatives from the Fathers and Mothers' Sailors' Soldiers an

Type: Image
Date: 3 May, 2023



Title: Acknowledgement of support
Type: Image
Date: 3 May, 2023



Title: AWE0989gd.jpg
Type: Image
Date: 3 May, 2023



Title: AWE0989ge.jpg
Type: Image
Date: 3 May, 2023



Title: AWE1088a.jpg

Type: Image
Date: 3 May, 2023