

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE1439

## Ficarra, Marie Ann

(1954 - )

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**Born** 19540325, Sydney New South Wales Australia

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**Occupation** Councillor, Parliamentarian, Politician, Scientist

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### Summary

Marie Ficarra has had extensive and successful careers in business and politics. She was a member of the Hurstville City Council from 1980-1995, which included stints as Deputy Mayor (1983-84) and Mayor (1990-1991). As a Liberal Party candidate, Marie was elected to the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for George's River in 1995, but failed to gain re-election in 1999. In March 2007, she was elected to the New South Wales Legislative Council. She became Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Citizenship and was appointed to the Social Issues Standing Committee and General Purpose Committee Number 2. She left Parliament in 2015, after serving as Parliamentary secretary from 2011-2014. In April 2014 she stood down from parliament as she was accused of soliciting donations for the Liberal Party in contravention of NSW election campaign funding laws. She denied the claims. Marie was the first female member of the Liberal Party to serve in both Houses of the New South Wales Parliament.

### Details

Educated at Beverly Hills Girls High School, Marie was awarded her Bachelor of Science (Honours) by the University of Sydney in 1976. She tutored in Histology and Physiology at the University from 1976-1984, before working as the NSW Sales Manager of Hoechst Australia (pharmaceuticals) from 1984-1995. In December 2004 she was General Manager of Cytoc Australia Pty Ltd. Marie is a Patron of many local community organizations and a former President of the Mortdale District Progress Committee (1980-1992).

### Published resources

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

#### Site Exhibition

Putting Skirts on the Sacred Benches: Women Candidates for the New South Wales Parliament, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2006,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/pssb/home.html>

### Author Details

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