

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE2897

Fotheringhame, Pattie

(1853 - 1956)

Born 18530110, Escrick Yorkshire East Riding England

Died 19560719, Dee Why New South Wales Australia

Occupation Editor, Journalist, Newspaper Proprietor, Print journalist

Summary

Pattie Fotheringhame was Sydney's first female journalist and the pioneer of photo-engraving in Sydney. She was 'discovered' by her brother-in-law, W.H Traill, editor of the *Sydney Mail*, in 1878 when he heard her telling a story to a group of children. He learned that the story was her own creation and so employed Fotheringhame to write a weekly piece for the paper. Following Traill to the *Bulletin* she wrote the Woman's Letter as 'Mab' for almost seven years until she married James Fotheringhame.

Fotheringhame bought *Young Australia* from Louisa Lawson and she continued it for thirty years with her sister-in-law Josephine Fotheringhame. She also owned the weekly *Splashes*, and edited the monthly paper *The Sphere* for six years. She also contributed lighter pieces to *The Soldier* and *The Commonwealth Home*. At her busiest, she was writing for six newspapers simultaneously

Events

1880 - 1920

Career in journalism active

Published resources

Site Exhibition

The Women's Pages: Australian Women and Journalism since 1850, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2008, <http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/cal/cal-home.html>

Resource

AustLit: The Australian Literature Resource, 2002, <http://www.austlit.edu.au/>

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

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Created 4 December 2007

Last modified 26 May 2026