

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** IMP0098

Bell, Jane

(1873 - 1959)

|                   |  |
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| <b>Born</b>       | 18730316, Dumfriesshire Scotland       |
| <b>Died</b>       | 19590806, Melbourne Victoria Australia |
| <b>Occupation</b> | Hospital Matron, Nurse                 |

## Summary

Jane Bell was lady superintendent of Melbourne Hospital 1910-1934. She was responsible for many innovations, including replacement of male orderlies by sisters in the operating theatres; the appointment of tutor-sisters to instruct trainees and of a house-sister to supervise the nurses' quarters; the introduction of a six-week preliminary course; and pay for trainee-nurses. She was appointed OBE – Officer of The Order of the British Empire (Civil) – 1 January 1944 for her work as president of the Royal Victoria College of Nursing.

## Events

**2013 - 2013**  
Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

## Published resources

### Resource Section

Bell, Jane (1873-1959), Gardiner, Lyndsay, 2006,  
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A070254b.htm>

Bell, Jane (1873 - 1959), Biographical Entry, 2002,  
<http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/biogs/P000970b.htm>

### Book

The Ever open door : a history of the Royal Melbourne Hospital 1848-1998, Gregory, Alan, 1998

Australian nurses since Nightingale 1860-1990, Burchill, Elizabeth, 1992

### Resource

Where are the Women in Australian science?, Australian Science and Technology Heritage Centre, 2003,  
<http://www.austehc.unimelb.edu.au/wisa/wisa.html>

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

### Edited Book

200 Australian Women: A Redress Anthology, Radi, Heather, 1988,  
<https://webarchive.nla.gov.au/awa/20071105022623/http://pandora.nla.gov.au/pan/78644/20071105-1315/www.200australianwomen.com.au/>

### Site Exhibition

Faith, Hope and Charity Australian Women and Imperial Honours: 1901-1989, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2003,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/honours/honours.html>

The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia, Smart, Judith and Swain, Shurlee (eds.), 2014,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders>

## Archival resources

### National Archives of Australia, National Office, Canberra

Bell Jane : SERN P/MATRON : POB N/A : POE Melbourne VIC : NOK S Steindl J M

### Author Details

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