

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person

Entry ID: AWE0063

Macnamara, Annie Jean

(1899 - 1968)

Born 18990401, Beechworth Victoria Australia

Died 19681016, Melbourne Victoria Australia

Occupation Medical scientist

Summary

Jean Macnamara, born in 1899 at Beechworth, Victoria, and a graduate of the University of Melbourne, was a physician at the Children's Hospital Melbourne in 1922 and 1923, a consultant and medical officer to the Poliomyelitis Committee of Victoria 1925-1931, and medical officer, Yooralla Hospital School for Crippled Children 1928-1951. During 1931-1933 she held the Rockefeller Foundation travelling scholarship, furthering her studies on poliomyelitis. While in America she learnt about the virus myxomatosis and it was largely due to her efforts that the Australian Government held field trials testing the virus as a means to eradicating Australia's rabbit problem. She was on the part-time staff of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research 1933-1937. As Mrs Annie Jean Connor (she married Dr Ivan Connor in 1934), she was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for her services to the welfare of children in 1935, and was known as Dame Jean Macnamara.

In 2016 a suburb in Canberra was named after her and in 2019 a new federal electoral division in metropolitan Melbourne was named Macnamara, covering most of the former Melbourne Ports division.

Events

2001 - 2001

Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

Published resources

Article

No Standing Back: Dame Jean Macnamara, Sherratt, Tim, 1993,
http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/exhib/journal/as_macna.htm

Resource

Technology in Australia 1788-1988, Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, 2000,
<http://www.austehc.unimelb.edu.au/tia/>

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

Resource Section

Macnamara, Dame Annie Jean (1899-1968), Smith, Ann G., 2006,
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A100337b.htm>

Macnamara, Annie Jean (1899 - 1968), Biographical Entry, 2002,
<http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/biogs/P001288b.htm>

List of Electoral Divisions Named After Women, Australian Electoral Commission,
<https://www.aec.gov.au/redistributions/division-names/women.html>

Journal Article

Obituary - Annie Jean Macnamara, Upjohn, William, 1970

Book

150 years, 150 stories: brief biographies of one hundred and fifty remarkable people associated with the University of Melbourne, Flesch, Juliet and McPhee, Peter, 2003

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.200australianwo>

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>

Archival resources

National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection

[Papers of Jean Macnamara, \[ca. 1920\]-1968 \[manuscript\]](#)

Author Details

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