

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE0180

## Crosio, Janice Ann

(1939 - )

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**Born** 3 January, 1939, Granville New South Wales Australia

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**Occupation** Mayor, Parliamentarian

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### Summary

Janice Crosio was the first woman Cabinet Minister of New South Wales, and first woman to serve on the executive at all three levels of government – local, state and federal. She was elected to the House of Representatives (ALP) for the seat of Prospect, New South Wales, in 1990 and retired in 2004.

She was appointed a Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) on 30 December 1978 for services to local government.

### Details

#### Parliamentary and Local Government Career

**Local Government:** Fairfield City Council (New South Wales), 1971-80. Elected Mayor in 1974, 1977-1980

**State Government:** MLA Fairfield (New South Wales), 1981, 1984; MLA Smithfield (New South Wales), 1988

**Federal Government:** House of Representatives, Member for Prospect (New South Wales), 1990  
**Retired:** 2004

Janice Crosio served on the Fairfield City Council (NSW) from 1971 to 1980 and became the first female Mayor of that council in 1974. She was re-elected in 1977, 1978, 1979 and 1980. She transferred to the NSW State parliament in 1981 when she was elected to the New South Wales Legislative Assembly for Fairfield. She held that seat from 19 September 1981 to 22 February 1988, moving to Smithfield from 27 April 1988 until she resigned on 17 February 1990.

Crosio was Minister for Natural Resources from 5 April 1984 to 6 February 1986; Minister for Local Government from 6 February 1986 to 25 March 1988; Minister for Water Resources from 4 July 1986 to 25 March 1988 and Assistant Minister for Transport from 26 November 1987 to 25 March 1988.

After entering federal parliament in 1990 she was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment, Sport and Territories from 23 December 1993 to 25 March 1994 and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Social Security from 25 March 1994 to 11 March 1996. In 2001, she was elected Chief Opposition Whip in the House of Representatives.

Crosio was awarded the Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medal in 1977 and the Knight of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic in 1980.

## Events

### **1993 - 1994**

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment, Sport and Territories, New South Wales

### **1993 - 1993**

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Arts and Administrative Services, New South Wales

### **1987 - 1988**

Assistant to New South Wales State Minister for Transport

### **1986 - 1988**

Minister for Water Resources, New South Wales

### **1974 - 1975**

Mayor of the Fairfield City Council (first woman), New South Wales

### **1972 - 1972**

Deputy Mayor of the Fairfield City Council, New South Wales

### **1971 - 1980**

Alderman of the Fairfield City Council, New South Wales

### **2000 - 2000**

Member of the Co-ordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians of Inter-Parliamentary Union

### **1976 - 1993**

President of Meals on Wheels

### **1980 - 1980**

Knight of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic

### **1977 - 1977**

Awarded the Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medal

### **1978 - 1978**

Member of the Order of the British Empire (Civil) (MBE)

### **1990 - 1990**

Member of the House of Representatives (Australian Labor Party) for Prospect, New South Wales

### **2039 - 2039**

Born Janice Ann Gustard

### **1994 - 1996**

Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Social Security, New South Wales

### **1986 - 1988**

Minister for Local Government, New South Wales

### **1984 - 1986**

Minister for Natural Resources, New South Wales

### **1988 - 1990**

Member of the Legislative Assembly (Australian Labor Party) for Smithfield, New South Wales

### **1981 - 1988**

Member of the Legislative Assembly (Australian Labor Party) for Fairfield, New South Wales

### **1984 - 1984**

First woman elected a Cabinet Minister, New South Wales

### **1977 - 1980**

Mayor, Fairfield City Council, New South Wales

## Published resources

### Resource Section

The Hon. Janice Ann Crosio (1939 - ), Parliament of New South Wales,

<http://www.anzacatt.org.au/prod/parlment/members.nsf/6ec131612f24824cca256ce70004b1b2/e70bcc376da233edca256a9400>

### Report

Janice Crosio Testimonial Dinner, Whitlam, Gough, 2004,

[http://www.whitlam.org/collection/bydate\\_index.html](http://www.whitlam.org/collection/bydate_index.html)

### Edited Book

Who's Who in Australia 2002, Herd, Margaret, 2002

### 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>

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>

### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

### Book

No ordinary lives: pioneering women in Australian politics, Jenkins, Cathy, 2008

## Archival resources

### National Library of Australia

[\[Biographical cuttings on Janice Crosio, former suburban mayor and NSW government minister, containing one or more cuttings from newspapers or journals\]](#)

### National Library of Australia, Oral History and Folklore Collection

[Janice Crosio interviewed by Judith Winternitz for the Cultural context of unemployment oral history project \[sound recording\]](#)

### Author Details

Anne Heywood and Nikki Henningham

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