Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0180

Crosio, Janice Ann

(1939 -)

Born	19390103, Granville New South Wales Australia
Occupation	Mayor, Parliamentarian

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. A complete record of her parliamentary service, including links to her first and valedictory speeches, can be found in the Parliamentary Handbook of the Commonwealth of Australia (see below).

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

1971 - 1980
Alderman of the Fairfield City Council, New South Wales

1987 - 1988
Assistant to New South Wales State Minister for Transport

1977 - 1977
Awarded the Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medal

1939 - 1939
Born Janice Ann Gustard

1972 - 1972
Deputy Mayor of the Fairfield City Council, New South Wales

1984 - 1984
First woman elected a Cabinet Minister, New South Wales

1980 - 1980
Knight of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic

1974 - 1975
Mayor of the Fairfield City Council (first woman), New South Wales

1977 - 1980
Mayor, Fairfield City Council, New South Wales

2000 - 2000
Member of the Co-ordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians of Inter-Parliamentary Union

1990 - 1990
Member of the House of Representatives (Australian Labor Party) for Prospect, New South Wales

1981 - 1988
Member of the Legislative Assembly (Australian Labor Party) for Fairfield, New South Wales

1988 - 1990
Member of the Legislative Assembly (Australian Labor Party) for Smithfield, New South Wales

1978 - 1978
Member of the Order of the British Empire (Civil) (MBE)

1986 - 1988
Minister for Local Government, New South Wales

1984 - 1986
Minister for Natural Resources, New South Wales

1986 - 1988
Minister for Water Resources, New South Wales

1993 - 1993
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Arts and Administrative Services, New South Wales

1993 - 1994
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Environment, Sport and Territories, New South Wales

1994 - 1996
Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Social Security, New South Wales

1976 - 1993
President of Meals on Wheels

Published resources

Resource Section
The Hon. Janice Ann Crosio (1939 -), Parliament of New South Wales,
https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/members/Pages/member-details.aspx?pk=1956

Report
Janice Crosio Testimonial Dinner, Whitlam, Gough, 2004,
https://uws.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/fulldisplay?docid=alma9927831167901571&context=L&vid=61UWSTSYD_INST:U

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

Crosio, the Hon. Janice Ann, AM, MBE,
https://handbook.aph.gov.au/parliamentarians/7T4

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]

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