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**Discovering history at scale
through Trove**
The Australian Women's Register

Helen Morgan
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www.womenaustralia.info [@WomenAus](#) [#wmnhist](#)

Australian Historical Association Annual Conference, 4 July 2018

Discovering History at Scale through Trove: the Australian Women's Register

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The Australian Women's Register and Trove have a long association, going back to the Library's pre-Trove experimental days.

Australian Women's Archives Project

The Australian Women's Register

An initiative of The National Foundation for Australian Women (NFAW) in conjunction with The University of Melbourne

Home About Explore themes Browse Donate Search GO

BROWSE ENTRIES

A B C D E F G H I J K
L M N O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z



Thelma Hunter - portrait photo, 1963, by unknown, courtesy of ANU Archives. Used with permission.

Details

EXHIBITIONS



Use Trove to find more resources by/about this Woman



Hunter, Thelma Anna Carmela (1923 - 2016)

Born	17 July 1923 Glasgow, Scotland
Died	9 January 2016 Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia
Occupation	Academic, Political scientist and Women's liberationist
Alternative Names	Cibelli, Thelma (birth name)

Summary

Dr Thelma Hunter was a feminist political scientist, whose academic career was mostly spent at the Australian National University (ANU). She described herself as a teacher, scholar and writer. As well as teaching university students, she worked in schools, in adult education and in preparatory courses for mature age non-matriculants seeking university entry. Before establishing her academic career, she contributed occasional articles to UK newspapers, and was later a regular contributor to the Canberra Times. A hobby artist, she offered drawing workshops to staff and students at ANU, having earlier studied art in evening classes in Sydney and at Darlington College, Devon.

For Thelma Hunter the personal was political: her academic interests in women's employment, the status of women and the obstacles arising from combining work with marriage and family reflected her own experience. Growing up in an Italian family in Scotland, and later migrating with her family to Australia, Thelma Hunter also identified as a migrant.

Details

Thelma Cibelli was born at home in Glasgow, the fourth child of Italian migrants; her father Gaetano was the owner of a hairdressing shop. The only child not given an Italian first name, she was called after the actress Thelma Ritter, reflecting her mother Assunta's enjoyment of popular films.

In her autobiography she wrote candidly of an unhappy childhood, growing up fearful of an authoritarian, unpredictable, violent father. She took refuge in 'bookish achievements'.

Educated at the Convent of Mercy, she loved languages, finding French and Latin easy. In 1940 she began an Arts degree at Glasgow University, interrupting her studies when she ran away from home as a rebellious teenager. She lived with her hairdresser sister Lydia, initially working at the Coates thread factory as a stock clerk, and later

We have an extensive, highly contextual data set underpinned by a relational informatic model,

Related entries

Related Organisations

- [Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc. \(1922 - \)](#)
- [Australian Political Studies Association Women's Caucus \(2007 - \)](#)
- [National Foundation for Australian Women \(1989 - \)](#)
- [Women's Electoral Lobby \(1972 - \)](#)

Related Women

- [Burgmann, Verity \(1952 - \)](#)
- [Heagney, Muriel Agnes \(1885 - 1974\)](#)
- [Pateman, Carole \(1940 - \)](#)
- [Reid, Elizabeth Anne \(1942 - \)](#)
- [Sawer, Marian](#)
- [Simms, Marian Jane](#)
- [Summers, Anne Fairhurst \(1945 - \)](#)

that separates entities,

Archival resources

Australian National University Archives

- Hunter, T A C, 1963 - 2000, [AU ANUA 19-4526](#) [↗], Australian National University staff files (Series 19); Australian National University Archives.
[» Details](#)
- Sociology Conference, 1980: Women in the Workforce, Dr Thelma Hunter, July 1980, AU ANUA 423-10; Australian National University Archives.
[» Details](#)

National Archives of Australia, Sydney Office

- [Personal papers of Prime Minister E G Whitlam] Correspondence between E G Whitlam and Dr Thelma Hunter (Senior Lecturer in Political Science, School of General Studies) [box 10], 1973, [Series M503; Control Symbol 20842; Item Barcode 6834357](#) [↗], National Archives of Australia, Sydney Office.
[» Details](#)

National Library of Australia

- [Biographical cuttings on Thelma Hunter, containing one or more cuttings from newspapers or journals], [Bib ID 1829932](#) [↗], National Library of Australia.
[» Details](#)

National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection

- Papers of Jocelyne Scutt, 1982-2010 [manuscript], 1982 - 2010, [MS 9396](#) [↗], Scutt, Jocelyne A. (1947 -); National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection.
[» Details](#)
- Papers of Thelma Hunter, 1950-1984 [manuscript], 1950 - 1984, [MS 9353](#) [↗], Hunter, Thelma Anna Carmela (1923 - 2016); National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection.
[» Details](#)

and resources about them,

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Published resources

The Australian Women's Register Exhibitions

- *From Lady Denman to Katy Gallagher: A Century of Women's Contributions to Canberra*, Australian Women's Archives Project, February 2013, <http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/ldkg> 
- >> [Details](#)
- *Women Who Caucus: Feminist Political Scientists*, Australian Women's Archives Project, July 2017, <http://womenaustralia.info/exhib/caucus/> 
- >> [Details](#)

Books

- Hunter, Thelma, *Not a dutiful daughter: the personal story of a migrant academic*, Ginninderra Press, Charmwood, A.C.T., 1999.
- >> [Details](#)

Book Sections

- Hunter, Thelma, 'With and without a partner', in Scutt, Jocelyne A. (ed.), *Glorious age: growing older gloriously*, Artemis, Melbourne, 1993.
- >> [Details](#)

Journal Articles

- Hunter, Thelma, 'The Employment of Women in Australia', *Journal of Industrial Relations*, vol. 3, no. 2, October 1961.
- >> [Details](#)
- Hunter, Thelma, 'Some Factors Affecting the Employment of Women', *Journal of Industrial Relations*, vol. 4, no. 2 (October), 1962.
- >> [Details](#)
- Hunter, Thelma, 'Industrial Court and Women's Wages', *Economic Record*, December, 1962.
- >> [Details](#)
- Hunter, Thelma, 'The Status of Women in Australia', *The Indian Journal of Social Work*, vol. XXVIII, no. 2 (July)

and it has been freely, openly available online since the year 2000. Our data became the first external biographical source harvested into Trove.

So I begin with a caveat! The privilege and excitement of being first aside, I'm not sure how we stack up almost ten years down the track in terms of innovation, but my colleagues and I love Trove and this is how and why we use it.

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Archival resources

Australian National University Archives

- Hunter, T A C, 1963 - 2000, [AU ANUA 19-4526](#) , Australian National University staff files (Series 19); Australian National University Archives.
[» Details](#)
- Sociology Conference, 1980: Women in the Workforce, Dr Thelma Hunter, July 1980, AU ANUA 423-10; Australian National University Archives.
[» Details](#)

National Archives of Australia, Sydney Office

- [Personal papers of Prime Minister E G Whitlam] Correspondence between E G Whitlam and Dr Thelma Hunter (Senior Lecturer in Political Science, School of General Studies) [box 10], 1973, [Series M503](#), [Control Symbol 20842](#); [Item Barcode 6834357](#) , National Archives of Australia, Sydney Office.
[» Details](#)

National Library of Australia

- [Biographical cuttings on Thelma Hunter, containing one or more cuttings from newspapers or journals], [Bib ID 1829932](#) , National Library of Australia.
[» Details](#)

National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection

- Papers of Jocelyne Scutt, 1982-2010 [manuscript], 1982 - 2010, [MS 9396](#) , Scutt, Jocelyne A. (1947 -); National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection.
[» Details](#)
- Papers of Thelma Hunter, 1950-1984 [manuscript], 1950 - 1984, [MS 9353](#) , Hunter, Thelma Anna Carmela (1923 - 2016); National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection.
[» Details](#)

The Register's original remit was to document the location of archives relating to Australian women, and grew out of concerns of second-wave feminists and scholars about at-risk personal and non-government organisational records relating to women's history. The purpose was and is to create and share feminist knowledge through the evidence of records and to create research infrastructure exposing feminist value in archival records for all those interested in the history of women in Australia.

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NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

Trove

All Books Pictures, photos, objects Journals, articles and data sets Digitised newspapers and more Government Gazettes Music, sound and video Maps Diaries, letters, archives Archived websites (1996 - now) People and

Contributors

Australian Women's Register

Hunter, Thelma Anna Carmela (1923-)

Also known as Cibelli, Thelma (1923-2016)
Hunter, Thelma (1923-)
Hunter, Thelma Anna Carmela (1923-2016)

Field of activity Women's Liberationist; Academic; Political Scientist

NLA Persistent Identifier <https://nla.gov.au/nla.party-758057>

[Cite this](#)

Biographies

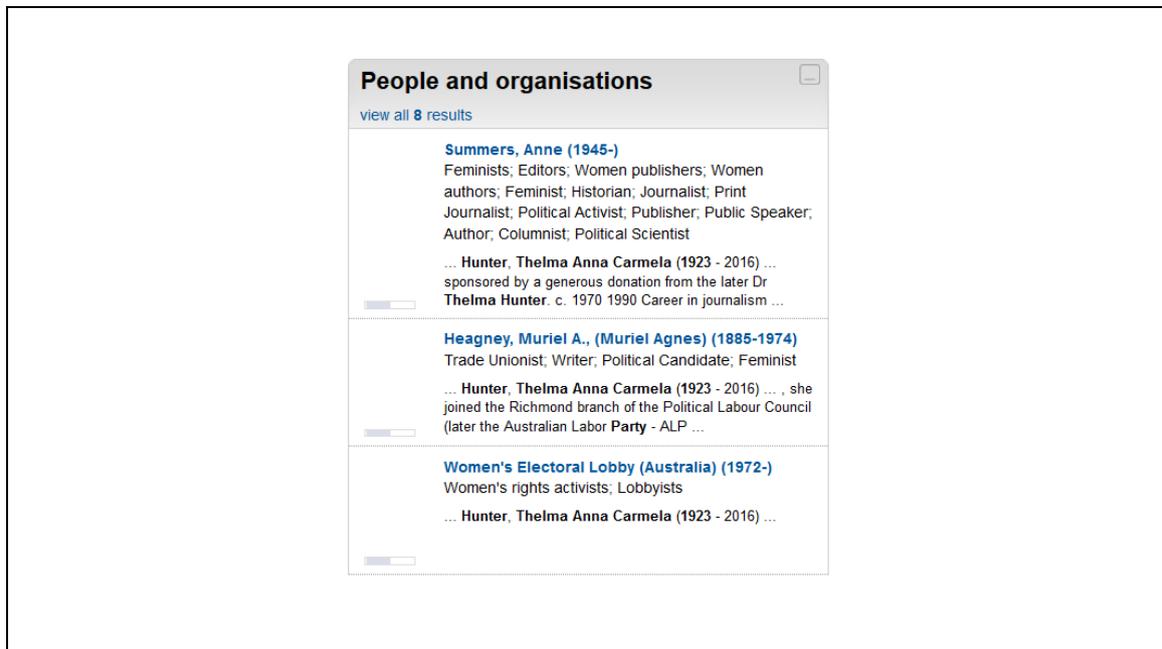
[Australian Women's Register](#)

Related people and organisations

[Australian Women's Register](#)

- (Person) Reid, Elizabeth Anne (1942 -)
- (Person) Burgmann, Verity (1952 -)
- (Person) Sawyer, Marian

As far as our relationship with Trove goes, we provide all our data, including relationship data and full descriptions; Trove harvest it and most of it ends up enriching entities,



in the People and Organisations zone, as well as forming the basis of new Trove entities, which in turn become nodes contextualising existing sources across the range of all the Trove zones.

I remember being queried some years ago by an archivist who wondered why we bothered anymore when so many archival repositories, for example, were now contributing record descriptions directly to Trove. Well, not all archival description is equal. Some is terrific, meaningful and fulsome. Some isn't. Some description is contested. Some archivists are under the pump and think a minimal record is better than nothing and I agree. Most of us do what we can. Users have different views of records. In the Australian Women's Register we can complement archival metadata through fuller description and/or, often the quicker route, by creating relationships between entities and records, entities and entities and so on. It is the power of the contextual and relational nature of our metadata that makes it worth doing, and sharing. Our data model supports an open view of data, and supports multiple viewpoints and relationships.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

Trove

All Books Pictures, photos, objects Journals, articles and data sets Digitised newspapers and more Government Gazettes Music, sound and video Maps Diaries, letters, archives (1996 - now) Archived websites and more

Contributors

Heagney, Muriel A. (Muriel Agnes) (1885-1974)

Also known as
 Heagney, Muriel A. (1885-1974)
 Heagney, Muriel Agnes, (2001 Victorian Honour Roll of Women) (1885-1974)
 Heagney, Muriel Agnes (1885-1974)

Field of activity
 Trade Unionist, Writer, Political Candidate, Feminist

Libraries Australia
<http://nla.gov.au/anbd.aut-an36544825>

NLA Persistent Identifier
<https://nla.gov.au/nla.party-698052>

Biographies

▼ Australian Dictionary of Biography

Muriel Agnes Heagney (1885-1974), trade unionist and feminist, was born on 31 December 1885 in Brisbane, daughter of Patrick Reginald Heagney (1858-1922), publican and later a carpenter, and his wife Annie...

View the full record at Australian Dictionary of Biography

▼ Australian Women's Register

Muriel Heagney worked tirelessly for the labour movement in various capacities during her long life. Her major commitment, however, was to achieve equal pay for women workers. Born into a labour family, she joined the Richmond branch of the Political Labour Council (later the Australian Labor Party - ALP) in 1906, and was a delegate to the Women's Central Organising Committee in 1909. Other positions she held included membership of the Victorian central executive of the Australian Labor Party from 1926-1927, secretary of the Women's Central Organising Committee, and ex officio member of the party's central executive in 1955. She was a founding member of the Council of Action for Equal Pay which was established in Sydney in 1937 under

Muriel Heagney's Trove record is an example containing biographical data from three contributors, including the Australian Women's Register.

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primary vote, with 20.34 per cent of the vote, but on the two-party preferred count she was placed third, with 24.36 per cent of the vote, after the winner Trevor Oldham (United Australia Party) and James Nettleton, another United Australia Party candidate. This was a creditable performance as the ALP had not fielded a candidate for that seat in the 1932 state election. She made her second attempt in 1956 at the age of 70, when she stood unsuccessfully for ALP pre-selection to the Australian Senate.

- Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women
View the full record at Australian Women's Register

Related people and organisations

- Australian Women's Register
 - (Person) Katz, Alicia (1876 - 1964)
 - (Person) Hunter, Thelma Anna Carmela (1923 - 2016)
 - (Person) Leschen, Zuzelle
 - p>Rogers and Heagney worked together as members of the Australian Labor Party.</p>
 - (Person) Daley, Jane (Jean) (1881 - 1948)
 - p>Heagney and Daley were fellow members of the Australian Labor Party.</p>
 - (Corporate Body) Council of Action for Equal Pay (1937 - 1948)

Resources for Muriel A. Heagney

Selected Resources (16) Resources by (0) Resources about (6)

Selected resources (16)

- Australian Women's Register
 - Heagney, Muriel Agnes**
Published: National Foundation for Australian Women
Series: [Is part of The Australian Women's Register](#)
 - The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia**
Smart, Judith and Swan, Shurlee (eds)
[2014]
Published: Australian Women's Archives Project

It also contains 5 relationships harvested from the Register – women and organisations, all of whom in turn have entries in Trove, providing a true exploration point for the user.

This is the basic way the Australian Women's Register contributes to Trove. Not all our data is in there, but at last count we provide links back to Trove to more than two thirds of the 6000+ women and women's organisations in the Register.

Australian Women's Archives Project

The Australian Women's Register

An initiative of The National Foundation for Australian Women (NFAW) in conjunction with The University of Melbourne

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BROWSE ENTRIES

A B C D E F G H I J K
L M N O P Q R S T U
V W X Y Z

EXHIBITIONS

Use Trove to find more resources by/about this Woman

Heagney, Muriel Agnes (1885 - 1974)

Born 31 December 1885
Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Died 14 May 1974
St Kilda, Victoria, Australia

Occupation Political candidate, Trade unionist and Writer

Summary
Muriel Heagney worked tirelessly for the labour movement in various capacities during her long life. Her major commitment, however, was to achieve equal pay for women workers. Born into a labour family, she joined the Richmond branch of the Political Labour Council (later the Australian Labor Party - ALP) in 1906, and was a delegate to the Women's Central Organising Committee in 1909. Other positions she held included: membership of the Victorian central executive of the Australian Labor Party from 1926-1927; secretary of the Women's Central Organising Committee; and ex officio member of the party's central executive in 1955. She was a founding member of the Council of Action for Equal Pay which was established in Sydney in 1937 under the auspices of the New South Wales branch of the Federated Clerks' Union and was secretary for most of its existence. It disbanded in 1948. She returned to Victoria in 1950 and continued to maintain her union and political interests into the 1960s. Her publications include *Are women taking men's jobs?*, (1935), *Equal pay for the sexes*, (1948), *Arbitration at the crossroads*, (1954). She died in poverty in St Kilda in May 1974.

Many entries for women and women's organisations only exist in Trove because they have been harvested from the Register, meaning a far broader range of women and women's activities are being represented in the national context than previously.

Like many, we were greatly concerned when Trove and the National Library faced the funding crisis in 2016 that sparked the #fundTrove campaign. I knew we had some issues with the harvesting process and that it was only a matter of time before something went wrong and Trove staff would no longer have the capacity to troubleshoot and get things back on track. It worried me because we share data about living women, and we must be on top of the technology around its publication and sharing in order to be responsive to privacy and other concerns that arise.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the website. At the top, there is a dark banner with the text 'THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF **WOMEN & LEADERSHIP** IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY AUSTRALIA'. Below this is a purple navigation bar with links for HOME, ABOUT, THEMES, WOMEN, OCCUPATIONS, and MORE. The main content area features a purple heading: 'A resource for anyone interested in the **history of women and leadership** in twentieth-century Australia.' Below the heading are three browse options: 'Browse THEMES' with a list of letters A-W and '78 entries'; 'Browse WOMEN' with a list of letters A-Z and '680 entries'; and 'Browse OCCUPATIONS' with a list of letters A-W and a link to '321 descriptors'. At the bottom of the browse section is a search bar labeled 'Site SEARCH' with a text input field containing 'Name or Keyword' and a purple 'search' button. A URL link is provided at the bottom left: <http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders>

The Register survives on a mixture of grant funding, small donations and the goodwill of volunteers and researchers willing to share their data. We have been fortunate to have been involved in several Australian Research Council funded projects along the way, leveraging the authority of the Register and our expertise in online data curation. These include Australian Women and Leadership, led by Patricia Grimshaw, Shurlee Swain and Judy Smart,



The screenshot shows the homepage of the website 'Australian Women Lawyers as ACTIVE CITIZENS'. The header features a collage of four women's faces. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: Home, About, Oral Histories, Auto/Biography, Occupations, Jurisdiction, A - Z, and a search icon. The main content area includes a portrait of Patti Chong, a paragraph of introductory text, a paragraph explaining the term 'citizenship', a paragraph about the exhibition's background, and a paragraph about the oral histories. A URL is provided at the bottom left of the content area.

Australian Women Lawyers as ACTIVE CITIZENS

Home About Oral Histories Auto/Biography Occupations Jurisdiction A - Z 🔍



Patti Chong

Australian Women Lawyers as Active Citizens documents how women with law degrees have used the skills and experiences from their individual broader life experience, together with their law degree and various forms of practice, to have an impact on others in society, as a form of active citizenship in the civic sphere more broadly.

The term 'citizenship' has multiple meanings. It can be used in a legal sense, a political sense, in talking about rights and as a way of marking one's identity.

Read more about the background to the exhibition, including how these women were identified and nominated, on the [About](#) page.

This exhibition evolved from a set of [Oral Histories](#) that were conducted on trailblazing women lawyers. Those oral histories prompted us to ask other women to write and reflect on their own experiences in an essay-like framework and those

<http://www.womenaustralia.info/lawyers>

and, Trailblazing Women and the Law, led by Kim Rubenstein. The completed projects resulted in significant online publications, almost a thousand new biographical entries in the Register, easily as many bibliographical and archival entries, and 88 life history oral interviews undertaken for the National Library.

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<p>Women and leadership in a century of Australian democracy oral history project [sound recording]</p>		<p>Trailblazing women and the law oral history project</p>	
Bib ID	5160563	Bib ID	6247466
Format	Audio [sound recording]	Format	Audio [spoken word]
Access Conditions	Access conditions vary.	Access Conditions	Access conditions vary.
Description	2011- < 36 > interviews.	Description	2013- < 41 > items
Notes	Interviews conducted by: Nicola Henningham and Rosemary Francis. This project provides an analytical portrait of women leaders and their role in the ongoing creation of a democratic Australian society. Recorded from 2 April 2011- [ongoing]. Digital master available National Library of Australia;	Notes	The Trailblazing women and the law project is an ARC (Australian Research Council) linkage partnership undertaken by the Australian National University and the University of Melbourne in collaboration with the National Library of Australia, National Foundation for Australian Women, Federal Court of Australia, Family Court of Australia and the Australian Women Lawyer's Association. Interviews conducted by Kim Rubenstein and Nikki Henningham. Recorded from 20 March 2013- [ongoing]. Digital master available National Library of Australia;
Subjects	Leadership in women -- Australia.	Index/Finding Aid Note	Summaries may be available.
Other authors/contributors	Henningham, Nicola, 1960-, Interviewer Francis, Rosemary, Interviewer	Subjects	Law -- Australia. Leadership in women -- Australia.
Related records	 This is a collection-level record See records in this collection (go down)	Other authors/contributors	Rubenstein, Kim, interviewer Henningham, Nicola, 1960- interviewer
<p>https://nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn5160563</p> <p>https://nla.gov.au/nla.cat-vn6247466</p>		Related records	 This is a collection-level record See records in this collection (go down)

Both projects used the digitised newspapers zone of Trove extensively for similar purpose but with different outputs and evidence of use.

Why Trove digitised newspapers? I can't imagine anyone here needs telling, but nevertheless I think it worth stating in relation to recovering women's history and the stories of everyday people and families. You have to really work at recovering and excavating these histories.

In determining the values of a society, you need only investigate what gets discarded. Our literal and cultural detritus tell us as much about who we are as do our museums and libraries. Dumpster loads from our past would indicate that, in general, we value the new, the aesthetic, the whole, the extraordinary, the masculine, the Anglo, and the fast—not because our dumpsters are filled with these but rather because our textbooks are. On the **historical curb** rest the domestic, the broken, the consumable, the useful, the female, and the ordinary.

Jennifer Sinor, *The Extraordinary Work of Ordinary Writing: Annie Ray's Diary*, 2002, p.3

I'm going to quote a passage from Jennifer Sinor's book *The Extraordinary Work of Ordinary Writing* here, because she says it so beautifully (above).

In these terms I think of Trove's digitised newspaper zone as Australia's historical curb. Historical newspapers were used extensively by researchers in the Women and Leadership project. Around 13% of the sources used to create biographical entries on women leaders were digitised newspaper articles and advertisements found in Trove, which may not sound significant but is much more than in the Register overall or in other individual Register projects. This reflects the editors' decision to focus on women not already well documented, embrace broader definitions of leadership and to cover a wide variety of professional and other spheres of paid work, voluntary activities and different types of community engagement. The historical curb proved a good place to find them.

Archival Resources

National Film and Sound Archive

- The Woman Suffers: [Reconstruction: NFSA Product], 29 October 1991, [274544](#); National Film and Sound Archive. [Details](#)
- The Woman Suffers; Original Release, 1918, [4112](#); National Film and Sound Archive. [Details](#)

Published Resources

Books

- Dooley, Marilyn, *Photo-play Artiste: Miss Lottie Lyell 1890-1925*, ScreenSound Australia, Chisholm, Australian Capital Territory, 2000. [Details](#)
- Wright, Andrée, *Brilliant Careers, Women in Australian Cinema*, Pan Books, Sydney, New South Wales, 1986. [Details](#)

Book Sections

- Speed, Sally, 'Voices from the Silent Era', in Annette Blonski, Barbara Creed and Freda Freiberg (eds), *Don't Shoot Darling! : Women's Independent Filmmaking in Australia*, Greenhouse Publications, Richmond, Victoria, 1987. [Details](#)

We entered the citations into our system and what you get in a typical entry alongside relationship data is biographical and bibliographical data. We fully cite the article with the url so users can go straight to the source.

The screenshot shows a website page with a dark header containing the title 'THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WOMEN & LEADERSHIP IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY AUSTRALIA'. Below the header is a purple navigation bar with links for HOME, ABOUT, THEMES, WOMEN, OCCUPATIONS, and MORE. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has two sections: 'Related Themes' with a link to 'Visual Culture (Film)', and 'Look for Similar' with links to 'Actor', 'Art director', 'Director', 'Editor', 'Film writer', and 'Producer'. The right column features a profile for 'Lyell, Lottie Edith (1890 - 1925)' with biographical details: Born (1890, Balmain, New South Wales, Australia), Died (21 December 1925, New South Wales, Australia), Occupation (Actor, Art director, Director, Editor, Film writer and Producer), and Alternative Names (Cox, Lottie Edith (birth name)). A small attribution line at the bottom reads 'Written by Bronwyn Coupe, National Film and Sound Archive'.

THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF
WOMEN & LEADERSHIP
IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY AUSTRALIA

HOME ABOUT THEMES **WOMEN** OCCUPATIONS MORE

Related Themes

- [Visual Culture \(Film\)](#)

Look for Similar

- [Actor](#)
- [Art director](#)
- [Director](#)
- [Editor](#)
- [Film writer](#)
- [Producer](#)

Lyell, Lottie Edith (1890 - 1925)

Born 1890
Balmain, New South Wales, Australia

Died 21 December 1925
New South Wales, Australia

Occupation Actor, Art director, Director, Editor, Film writer and Producer

Alternative Names Cox, Lottie Edith (birth name)

Written by Bronwyn Coupe, National Film and Sound Archive

Here is Lottie Lyell, an early Australian actor and director

Online Resources

- 'Lyell, Lottie Edith', *The Australian Women's Register*, National Foundation for Australian Women, <http://www.womenaustralia.info/biogs/AWE3716b.htm>. [Details](#)
- 'Advertising', *The Recorder: Port Pirie News*, 11 April 1918, p. 2, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article95429328>. [Details](#)
- Byrnes, Paul, 'Curator's notes: 'The Woman Suffers' (1918)', in *Australian Screen*, National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA), <http://aso.gov.au/titles/features/the-woman-suffers/notes/>. [Details](#)
- Byrnes, Paul, 'Curator's notes: 'The Sentimental Bloke' (1919)', in *Australian Screen*, National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA), <http://aso.gov.au/titles/features/sentimental-bloke/notes/>. [Details](#)
- Coupe, Bronwyn, 'Women in Film - Lyell, Lottie', in *Women and Leadership in a Century of Australian Democracy*, 2014, <http://www.nfsa.gov.au/research/papers/2014/02/28/women-and-leadership-century-australian-democracy/#lyell>. [Details](#)
- Shirley, Graham, 'Restoring and re-releasing 'The Sentimental Bloke'', National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA), <http://nfsa.gov.au/collection/film/sentimental-bloke>. [Details](#)
- Wasson, Mervyn J., 'Lyell, Lottie Edith (1890-1925)', in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University (ANU), c.2006, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/lyell-lottie-edith-7266/text12591>. [Details](#)

and the sources used to write her entry,

CASINO - To-night - CASINO

THE STRONGEST DRAMATIC LOVE STORY EVER SHOWN IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
THE UNPARALLELED SUCCESS—

The Woman Suffers

A Vivid Problem Play, truthfully and fearlessly depicted in all its phases. Full of Pathos, Passion and Fire, in which the Woman Suffers while the Man goes Free. What would you do if you were in Philip Masters' position? Philip Masters: "It is men of your type, Ralph Mantion, who consider, with the exception of their own sisters, women are mere playthings, to be used as you will and then cast aside. Remember—an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth."

THE WOMAN SUFFERS.

Should Ralph Mantion be punished? The law of the land punishes the wrongdoer, from the petty thief to the murderer. But men like Ralph Mantion go free. Is it just? What is your opinion? See this remarkable production.

The Woman Suffers

The Greatest Problem Play ever screened, featuring LOTTIE LYELL, BOYD IRWIN, ROLAND CONWAY, CONNIE MARTYN, produced in Australia by Australians for Australians.

See the Beauty of Our Own Country.
See the Acting of the Local Children.
See the Murray in Flood.
See Station Life Up-Country.

See the Wonderful Fire Scene.
See the Race for the Cup.
See the Wonders of the Bush.
See the Greatest Problem Play.

To-Night : : Casino : : To-Night

'Advertising', *The Recorder: Port Pirie News*, 11 April 1918, p. 2, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article95429328>

including an advertisement for the film she starred in, *The Woman Suffers*, claimed to be Australia's first feminist film.

<p>Related Themes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Nursing <p>Look for Similar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Nurse■ Private hospital owner■ Trade unionist <p>Other Resources</p> <p>Read the entry on Lyons, Margaret Anne (Gretta) (1869 - 1923) in the Australian Women's Register (AWR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Lyons, Margaret Anne (Gretta)	<h2>Lyons, Margaret Anne (Gretta) (1869 - 1923)</h2> <p>Born 1869 Kyneton, Victoria, Australia</p> <p>Died November 1923 East Melbourne, Victoria, Australia</p> <p>Occupation Nurse, Private hospital owner and Trade unionist</p> <p><i>Written by Madonna Grehan, The University of Melbourne</i></p> <p>Active in nursing's professional and political sphere for twenty-five years, Gretta Lyons' advocacy for rank and file nurses challenged Victorian nursing's establishment: the Royal Victorian Trained Nurses Association (RVTNA), an organisation run by senior nurses, doctors and businessmen. Lyons' untimely death meant that the aspirations she held for nursing took time to eventuate. But her resolute leadership forced lasting change, culminating in the foundation of the Australian Nursing Federation, a new national organisation established specifically to deal with nursing's industrial concerns.</p>
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This entry on nurse and trade unionist Gretta Lyons highlights many useful contemporary sources,

Online Resources

- 'Mia-Mia', *The Mclvor Times and Rodney Advertiser*, 14 June 1985, p. 2, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article90151866>. [Details](#)
- 'Last Saturdays Storm', *The Williamstown Chronicle*, 6 January 1906, p. 2, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article69696285>. [Details](#)
- 'His Strength Was His Death', *The Broader Morning Mail and Riverina Times* (Albury, New South Wales), 12 June 1911, p. 4, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article108941403>. [Details](#)
- 'Baby Welfare', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Victoria), 21 December 1920, p. 8, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article4564811>. [Details](#)
- 'Women's Views and News', *The Argus*, 13 October 1922, p. 12, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1848783>. [Details](#)
- 'Women's Melbourne Letter', *The Western Mail* (Perth, Western Australia), 23 March 1922, p. 34, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article38873911>. [Details](#)
- 'Classified Advertising', *The Argus*, 17 November 1923, p. 18, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1989704>. [Details](#)
- 'Alfred Hospital Nurses League', *The Argus*, 3 February 1925, p. 14, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article2036001>. [Details](#)
- 'Women Citizens' Movement', *The Argus*, 15 June 1934, p. 10, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article10946763>. [Details](#)

found on the historical curb, including one titled 'Last Saturday's Storm'. I was intrigued by that, although it turns out to be the title only of the first item in a column of numerous untitled snippets.

The committee of the Williamstown Hospital are experiencing a great deal of trouble in connection with their matrons. Only recently they lost the services of Miss Greta Lyons, a highly skilled matron, and at a meeting of the committee, held last week, Miss A. Wilson was elected from a number of others to succeed Miss Lyons, and was accordingly notified of the appointment. But on Thursday Mr Jas. Reid, the secretary of the institution, received a notification from Miss Wilson to the effect that she would not take up the duties on account of the smallness of the salary. The salary that is paid to the matron is £52 for the first six months, at the end of which term it is raised to £60.

The Williamstown Chronicle, 6 January 1906, p. 2, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article69696285>

Further in we find a notice that Williamstown Hospital was having trouble with its matrons, Greta Lyons having resigned and her successor deciding that the pay was simply too poor to proceed. This was in 1906. The beauty – and it’s a simple beauty – of sending the reader away from our entry to the article in Trove is that word, context. We don’t have to spell it all out. In this case, directly preceding the observation about the matrons, which passes no judgement about the nurse who believed the pay wasn’t good enough,

thickness of his skull." The various other illustrations are also very good, especially the comic page, which is a "take-off" against the Victorian cricketers for making such a poor display against New South Wales. **Females** are shown in readiness to come to the rescue and take the place of the men.

The Williamstown Chronicle, 6 January 1906, p. 2, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article69696285>

we're treated to a description of a Punch cartoon illustrating how crap Victorian cricketers were. 'Females are shown in readiness to come to the rescue and take the place of the men.' Hilarious.



And here's that cartoon.

There were many more articles we could have given a curatorial imprimatur to, but entering data in the manual way that we were proved time consuming and beyond costly. We couldn't keep it up, so, in the Register entries at least, ended up providing a link to the Trove person record, and letting Trove do the rest.



The screenshot shows a website header with the title "Australian Women Lawyers as ACTIVE CITIZENS" in white text on a dark background. Below the title is a navigation menu with links: Home, About, Oral Histories, Auto/Biography, Occupations, Jurisdiction, A - Z, and a search icon. The main content area features a portrait of Honourable Justice Diana Bryant AO on the left. To the right of the portrait is a text block that reads: "Australian Women Lawyers as Active Citizens documents how women with law degrees have used the skills and experiences from their individual broader life experience, together with their law degree and various forms of practice, to have an impact on others in society, as a form of active citizenship in the civic sphere more broadly. The term 'citizenship' has multiple meanings. It can be used in a legal sense, a political sense, in talking about rights and as a way of marking one's identity. Read more about the background to the exhibition, including how these women were identified and nominated, on the [About](#) page. This exhibition evolved from a set of [Oral Histories](#) that were conducted on trailblazing women lawyers. Those oral histories prompted us to ask other women to write and reflect on their own experiences in an essay-like framework and those

We took a different approach in the Trailblazing Women and the Law project, which was partly cost-cutting in terms of data entry.



Professor Megan Davis, 2015, courtesy of UNSW.

More on Megan Davis in the Australian Women's Register and Trove

See more

- [Academic](#)
- [Lawyer](#)

Jurisdiction

- [NSW - State](#)

Megan Davis

Occupation Academic and Lawyer

Jurisdiction NSW - State

Megan Davis is a Cobble Cobble woman from Queensland. She was educated at the University of Queensland and the Australian National University. In 2008, she became the Director of the Indigenous Law Centre at the University of New South Wales. In 2010, she became the first Indigenous Australian woman to be elected to a United Nations body when she was appointed to the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Megan Davis was interviewed by Kim Rubenstein for the Trailblazing Women and the Law Pilot Oral History Project. For details of the interview see the National Library of Australia [CATALOGUE RECORD](#).

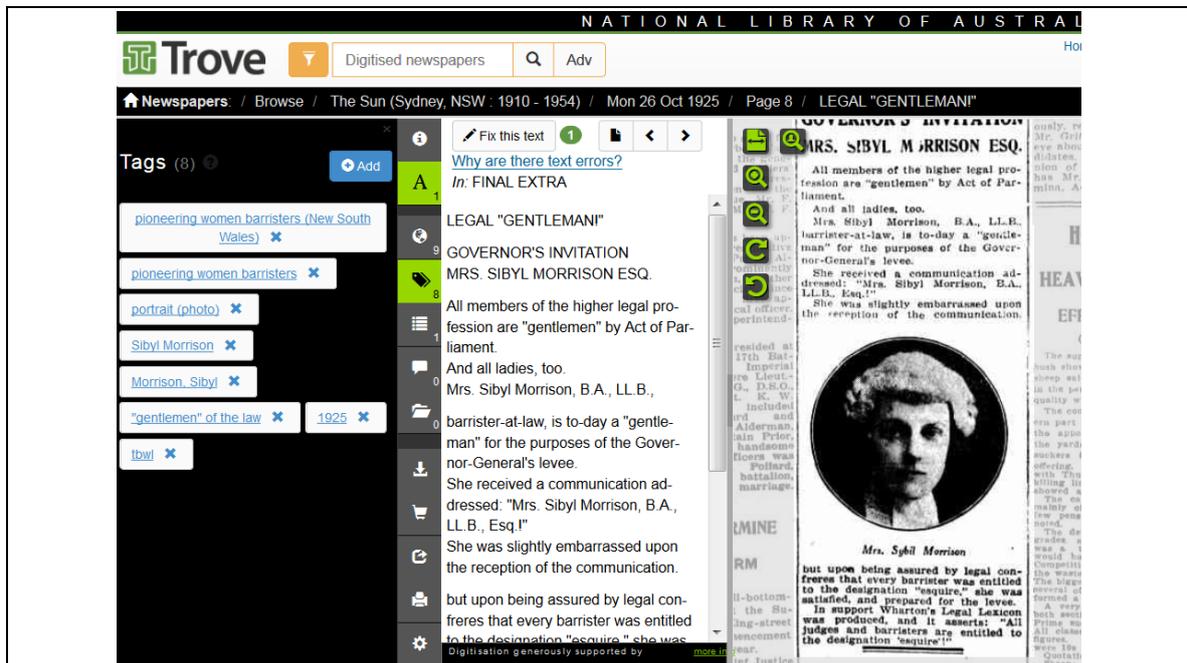
Sources used to compile this entry: Megan Davis interviewed by Kim Rubenstein in the Trailblazing Women and the Law pilot oral history project, 2010, [4977921](#); National Library of Australia, Oral History and Folklore Collection; Smart, Judith and Swain, Shurlee (eds), 'Davis, Megan', *The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia*, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2 May 2014, <http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders/blogs/WLE0355b.htm>; <http://www.law.unsw.edu.au/profile/megan-davis>.

Prepared by TBWL project team
CREATED: 23 APRIL 2014. LAST MODIFIED: 29 SEPTEMBER 2016

Again, why not simply provide a link to the relevant person entry in Trove (which we know will have reasonable metadata because it has been harvested from us). This works well if indeed there is good metadata, but it can be hit and miss, especially around the issue of alternate forms of names.



So we decided, finally, to investigate tagging and harness the power of our dedicated casual researchers, who did way more work than we were able to pay them for. Much of this tagging work was done voluntarily, and I'd like to acknowledge Juliette Brodsky, who did the bulk of this work. We set up a project-specific login that all project members had the login credentials for. I don't think this is innovative, but it hadn't occurred to us in the course of the Women and Leadership project, which I think was a shame and an opportunity missed. The idea was to game the Trove relevance and influence what results were returned first in the digitised newspaper zone.



We tagged articles with our internal project code and the woman’s name, sometimes multiple forms of the name but especially the fullest, as that appeared to reflect the logic of how Trove results were returned in relation to person records. All of these were public tags. Incidentally the project team corrected almost 23,000 lines of text during, and well beyond, the life of the project, at which point I must stop using ‘we’ and give that credit again to Juliette. Moving on from the project code and women’s name we tagged concepts, such as pioneering women lawyers, admitted to articles and early Jewish woman barrister.

Ultimately, to support the research and writing of biographical articles we identified many interesting and relevant newspaper articles that are now easier for everybody to find, because via the public tagging they are privileged for anyone searching Trove for information on women lawyers. That is as far as we got with the tagging. We were aiming to write some scripts to pull out articles based on our tagging for the online exhibition, but needs must as other exigencies took precedence, my coding skills were unpolished and it didn’t happen. The work wasn’t wasted though, as our main purpose of making public our research sources through influencing the results returned in Trove searches.

<http://purl.org/au-research/grants/arc/LP120200367>

We also decided to apply the PURL for our ARC project as a tag in order to create a public, reproducible, reportable data set of our research outcomes. At first we did this only to journal articles,

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Trove

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Logged in as: tbwi.anu - Vie

All **Books** Pictures, photos, objects Journals, articles and data sets Digitised newspapers and more Government Gazettes Music, sound and video Maps Diaries, letters, archives Archived websites (1996 – now) People and organisations Lists

Search limited to: [clear all](#)

Tagged by you: /purl.org/au-research/grants/art/LP120200367

Available online Australian content In my libraries [Advanced search](#) [Search tips](#)

Search

Refine your results:

- ▼ **Format**
 - Article (127)
 - Journal or magazine article (2)
 - Other article (1)
 - Sound (29)
 - Interview, lecture, talk (29)
 - Photograph (4)
 - List (0)
- ▼ **Availability**
 - Online (141)
 - Access conditions (2)
 - Freely available (139)
- **Decade**
- **Language**

Books

No results

Journals, articles and data sets

view all 3 results

Alive in the telling: Trailblazing women lawyers' lives, lived with law
Rubenstein, Kim
Law Text Culture
[Article : 2 versions : 2016-2017]
Keywords: Oral history -- Methods; Oral history -- Usage; Oral history -- Social aspects
[View online \(access conditions\)](#)

Catch-22 for women lawyers
[Article : 2002]
[View online](#)
At APO

Pictures, photos, objects

view all 4 results

The 'Pictures, photos, objects' section displays four portrait photographs of women. The first three are individual portraits, and the fourth is a group photograph.

,published by the project team, and for the oral history interviews conducted for the Library's Oral History and Folklore collection.

The screenshot displays a digital archive interface with two main sections. The left section, titled "Music, sound and video", shows four search results for audio files. Each result includes a title, author, date, and keywords, and is linked to the "AI National Library". The right section, titled "Government Gazettes", shows search results for historical newspaper articles. Each result includes a title, publication details, an abstract, and tagging information. The tagging information includes project codes and PURLs.

Music, sound and video
view all 29 results

Trailblazing women and the law pilot oral history project
Rubenstein, Kim
[Sound : 2010]
Keywords: Law - Australia ; Leadership in women - Australia
AI National Library

Irene Watson interviewed by Nikki Henningham in the Trailblazing women and the law oral history project
Watson, Irene
[Sound : 2014]
Keywords: Watson, Irene; Women lawyers - Northern Territory - Interviews.; Lawyers
AI National Library

Megan Davis interviewed by Kim Rubenstein in the Trailblazing women and the law pilot oral history project
Davis, Megan, 1975-
[Sound : 2010]
Keywords: Davis, Megan, 1975-; Aboriginal Australian lawyers - Interviews.; Academics
AI National Library

Susan Kenny interviewed by Kim Rubenstein in the Trailblazing women and the law oral history project
Kenny, Susan, 1953-
[Sound : 2014]
Keywords: Kenny, Susan, 1953-; Women judges - Australia - Interviews.; Judges
AI National Library

Diaries, letters, archives
No results

Government Gazettes
view all 12 results

APPOINTMENTS. Colonial Treasurer's Department.
Government Gazette of the State of New South Wales (Sydney, NSW : 1901 - 2007) Friday 17 March 1950 [Issue No.48] p 726
Government Gazette Appointments And Employment
Extract: f APPOINTMENTS. Colonial Treasurer's Department. His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has approved of the appointment of ... 781 words
Tagged as: tbwl, Kinsella, Marie, <http://purl.org/au-research/grants/arc/LP120200367>, Kinsella Marie Patricia Germaine ...
Text last corrected on 10 March 2016 by tbwl:anu

WOMAN BARRISTER. PREFERS HOME TO LAW.
Cairns Post (Qld. : 1909 - 1954) Friday 7 August 1942 p 3 Article
Abstract: Mrs. Tom Bateman, who was admitted to the Bar in the Supreme Court recently, is the first mother in New South Wales to win the right to 233 words
Tagged as: early women barristers, Beatrice Bateman, McGirr, Beatrice Mary, Mrs Tom Bateman ...
Text last corrected on 7 September 2016 by tbwl:anu

BARRISTER WOMAN MARRIES
The Canberra Times (ACT : 1926 - 1995) Monday 14 December 1959 p 5 Article
Abstract: Canberra's only woman barrister, Miss Juliet Elizabeth Baxter, married Mr. John Shields, of Canberra, at 276 words
Tagged as: Australian Capital Territory, Baxter Juliet Shields, Shields Juliet Elizabeth, Shields, Juliet ...
Text last corrected on 19 January 2016 by tbwl:anu

We wondered about the historic newspaper articles and I consulted Trove staff about this. Consensus was that it would be appropriate because it identifies our research data set. Everything we identified or used is tagged with the project code but the PURL was applied only to items of our own authorship and the historic newspaper articles we identified as relevant (that is, for example, not to oral history interviews with women lawyers conducted by other projects, which we tagged with only with the generic project code).

Nikki Henningham and Helen Morgan, 'The Australian Women's Register and the case of the missing apostrophe; or, how we learnt to stop worrying and love librarians', *The Australian Library Journal*, vol.65, no.3, 2016, pp.167-180

I finish with a plug for an article written by me and Australian Women's Register co-editor Nikki Henningham, which has a strong focus on the relationship between the Register and Trove.

And back to my caveat – when you're in research and the online space for the long haul you learn that not everything is achievable in that first flush of excited discovery, but the choices you make about sustainability and value mean you can future-proof to a certain extent and can scale up, with a nod to the conference theme, when the time is right!

The Australian Women's Register

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www.womenaustralia.info [@WomenAus](#) [#wmnhist](#)



Thank you

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