

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE0301

## Tipping, Marjorie Jean

(1917 - 2009)

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<b>Born</b>	20 March, 1917, Melbourne Victoria Australia
<b>Died</b>	28 September, 2009, Melbourne Victoria Australia
<b>Occupation</b>	Art historian, Author, Consultant

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### Summary

Marjorie Tipping was a prolific writer and historian of art and colonial Australia. In 1990, based on her many published scholarly works, she became the first woman to earn the degree of Doctor of Letters by examination from the University of Melbourne. Tipping's books include *Eugene von Guerard's Australian Landscapes* (1975) *Ludwig Becker: Artist & Naturalist with the Burke & Wills Expedition* (1978), *Melbourne on the Yarra* (1978) and *Convicts Unbound: The Story of the Calcutta Convicts and Their Settlement in Australia* (1988).

Tipping was the first woman president (1972-1975) and fellow (1968) of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria. She was a member of the Victorian Council of the Arts and numerous other committees and community organizations, often in a voluntary capacity. Tipping was appointed as a Member of the Order of the British Empire (13 June 1981), for her contribution to the Arts.

Tipping was the patron of and one of the founders of the E W Tipping Foundation for Mentally Retarded Children and Adults, established in 1970. Tipping travelled on six continents; her interests included music, theatre, archaeology, Australiana, and Chinese art.

Source(s): Personal Communication (2002), *Who's Who of Australian Women*, *Who's Who 2002*.

### Events

#### 1975 - 1978

Government nominee Council of Adult Education Committee

#### 1975 - 1987

Government nominee Victorian Government Placenames Committee

#### 1970 - 1970

Patron and Foundation Member E W Tipping Foundation for Intellectually Handicapped

#### 1965 - 1979

Member Council International Social Service

#### 1996 - 1996

Member Foundation Committee La Trobe and Baillieu Libraries

#### 1972 - 1975

First woman President of the Royal Historical Society Victoria

#### 1963 - 1963

Founder Affiliated Historical Societies

#### 1958 - 1958

Organising Chairman four biennial conferences and the Australiana Festival

**1981 - 1981**

Doctor C H Currey Fellow

**1973 - 1973**

Member Literature Board awards Australia Council

**1977 - 1977**

Member Literature Board awards Australia Council

**1992 - 1992**

History Consultant Grundy Television for Convicts Unbound (TV Series)

**1982 - 1990**

Member Board of Directors Victorian State Opera

**1974 - 1974**

Vice-Chairperson, Matthew Flinders Bicentenary Committee

**1968 - 1968**

First woman Fellow Royal Historical Society Victoria

**1990 - 1990**

First woman to receive Doctor of Letters by examination from the University of Melbourne

**1942 - 1942**

Married Edmond William Tipping (dec. 1970)

**1917 - 1917**

Born: daughter of John Alexandra and Florence Amelia (nee Paterson) McCredie

**1999 - 1999**

Contributor to University Melbourne, Oral History Project

**1999 - 1999**

Contributor to Encyclopedia of Melbourne project Monash University

**1978 - 1991**

Foundation Member Science and Humanities Committee Museum Victoria

**1974 - 1981**

Member Victorian Ministry Arts Advisory Council

**1979 - 1980**

Member Victorian Theatre Policy Committee Victorian Arts Centre

**1976 - 1984**

Foundation Chairman Victorian Publications and Literature Committee

## Published resources

### **Edited Book**

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

Who's Who of Australian Women, Lofthouse, Andrea, 1982

Double Time: Women in Victoria - 150 Years, Lake, Marilyn and Kelly, Farley, 1985

### **Newspaper Article**

Historian makes history with Doctor of letters Degree, Dunstan, Keith, 1990

Rare honour crowns life of scholarship, Wilson, Steven, 1990

Queen's birthday honours, 1981

Queen's birthday honours, 1981

### **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>

### **Resource**

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

## Archival resources

### **State Library of Victoria**

Papers, 1975-1985. [manuscript].

[Conversation with Marjorie Tipping] [interviewer: Hazel de Berg]. 1971 Oct. 10. [sound recording]

Papers relating to a book about Ludwig Becker, ca. 1970-ca. 1979. [manuscript].

### **National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection**

Papers of Marjorie Tipping, 1940-1971 [manuscript]

Essay 1974 [manuscript]

### **Private hands (These records may not be readily available)**

Marjorie Tipping Papers

### **Author Details**

Anne Heywood

**Created** 20 February 2002

**Last modified** 28 January 2025

## Digital resources



**Title:** Marjorie Tipping

**Type:** Image

**Date:** 3 May, 2023