

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE0413

## Douglas, Mary Stewart (May)

(1904 - 1999)

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**Born** 20 January, 1904, Victor Harbour South Australia Australia

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**Died** 6 May, 1999

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**Occupation** Servicewoman

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### Summary

On 1 June 1953 May Douglas was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire, in recognition for her service as Commissioner of Girl Guides in South Australia. She was also awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia on 26 January 1997 for service to veterans, particularly through the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps Association, and the Australia Remembers 1945-1995 Celebrations.

### Events

#### 1958 - 1958

Life member of the South Australian Council of Girl Guides

#### 1952 - 1958

State Commissioner of the South Australian Girl Guides

#### 1961 - 1966

Honorary Colonel of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps

#### 1923 - 1941

Captain and Commissioner of the Girl Guides Association

#### 1941 - 1943

Assistant Controller of the Australian Women's Army Service

#### 1943 - 1946

Controller of the Australian Army Medical Womens' Service

#### 1946 - 1948

District Commissioner of the Girl Guides

#### 1949 - 1952

Deputy South Australian Commissioner of the Girl Guides

#### 1997 - 1997

Awarded Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM)

#### 1953 - 1953

Appointed an Officer of the British Empire (OBE)

## Published resources

### Resource Section

DOUGLAS, MARY STEWART, Department of Veterans' Affairs, 2002,  
<http://www.wv2roll.gov.au/script/veteran.asp?ServiceID=A&VeteranID=693236>

### Book

Soldiers of the Queen : women in the Australian Army, Bomford, Janette, 2001

Notable lives : profiles of 21 South Australians, Cockburn, Stewart, 1997

Colonel Best and her soldiers: The Story of the 33 years of the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps, Ollif, Lorna, 1985

From blue to khaki: The enlisted voluntary aids and others who became members of the Australian Army Medical Women's Service and served from 1941-1951, Mount-Batten, Betty J, 1995

A Stroll down memory lane, WRAAC Association, 2001

### Edited Book

Who's Who in Australia 1962, Alexander, Joseph A, 1962

### Book Section

Women in wartime - May Douglas, who played a prominent part in the Australian Women's Army Service raised in August, 1941, contributes some of her memories, Douglas, May

### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

## Archival resources

### National Archives of Australia, National Office, Canberra

[DOUGLAS MARY STEWART : Service Number - SFX30364 : Date of birth - 20 Jan 1904 : Place of birth - VICTOR HARBOUR SA : Place of enlistment - WAYVILLE SA : Next of Kin - DOUGLAS F](#)

### National Library of Australia

[\[Biographical cuttings on Mary Stewart Douglas, O.B.E., containing one or more cuttings from newspapers or journals\]](#)

### Australian War Memorial, Research Centre

[Major Mary Douglas \(seated\) formerly of the Australian Women's Army Service \(AWAS\)](#)

[End of War Awards - submissions by \[Quartermaster-General and Director-General of Medical Services\]](#)

[A pre-dinner chat for Women's Royal Australian Army Corps \(WRAAC\) officers](#)

[Officers at the Conference of Assistant and Deputy Assistant Controllers, Australian Army Medical Women's Service.](#)

[Officers at the conference of Assistant and Deputy Assistant Controllers, Australian Army Medical Women's Service](#)

[Lieutenant-Colonel May Douglas](#)

[Members of the Girl Guides Association \(South Australia\) working in the depot during their thrift campaign to raise funds for organisations such as the Red Cross](#)

### Author Details

Anne Heywood

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## Digital resources



**Title:** Women's Royal Australian Army Corps (WRAAC) officers

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