

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE0484

Ball, Betty Elva

(1922 - 2016)

Born 22 August, 1922, Manly New South Wales Australia

Died 30 December, 2016

Occupation Community worker, Servicewoman

Summary

Betty Ball, the daughter of Frederick (Australian Infantry Force World War 1) and Emily Newlyn, was educated at Manly West Public and *Manly Domestic Science* Schools. She joined the Brownies and later became a member of the Girl Guides. Ball was employed as a clerk with H V Leckie & Wilkinson, Insurance Supervisors until she joined the services.

In 1938 Ball joined the Australian Women's Flying Club and had her first flight in a Gypsy Moth with pilot Gwen Stark, who later became Wing Officer with the Women's Auxiliary Australian Air Force (WAAAF). At the beginning of World War II the clubs lectures were centred on air raid precautions, first aid, Morse code etc. In the early 1940s the club amalgamated with the Women's Australian National Service.

On the 16 January 1942, Ball enlisted in the WAAAF and served as a stores clerk. After completing a photographic course at Fairbairn Canberra, in 1943, she was promoted to the rank of Corporal. She was stationed at Bankstown, Waterloo, Mildura, Canberra, East Sale and Brisbane before being discharged from the Central Photo School at Bradfield Park on 29 November 1945. Betty Ball served a total of 3 years 11 months.

In 1947 she married ex-serviceman Reginald Arthur Ball and they had two sons (one deceased) and two daughters. The family moved from Sydney to Perth (1950), to Brisbane (1963) and back to Sydney in 1967. While in Brisbane Betty Ball became a member of the local branch of the WAAAF Branch of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Association.

Betty Ball joined the New South Wales Division of the WAAAF of the RAAF Association in 1982 and was editor of the WAAAF Chat magazine for 9 years. Ball was a delegate on numerous occasions to RAAF Association Assemblies, held the position of vice-president of the WAAAF Branch and was a member of the State Council of RAAF Association. Ball was also on the committee for the Seniors Club of St Johns Church, Sutherland. In November 2002 Betty Ball became a participant in the Australian Women in War Project.

Events

1989 - 1989

Received Good Sportmanship Award from Branch

1943 - 1943

Promoted to the rank of Corporal

1947 - 1947

Married: Reginald Arthur Ball, Signaller 5th Machine Gun Battallion and Sergeant Food Inspector with the 2nd Australian Infantry Force (deceased 2000)

1950 - 1950

Moved from Sydney to Perth

1963 - 1963

Moved from Perth to Brisbane

1967 - 1967

Moved from Brisbane to Sydney

1966 - 1966

Joined the WAAAF Branch of the Royal Australian Air Force Association Brisbane Branch

1982 - 1982

Joined the WAAAF Branch of the Royal Australian Air Force Association NSW Division

1988 - 1988

Received Certificate of Merit from Association

1922 - 1922

Born: daughter of Frederick Arthur and Emily Cecilia Newlyn

1938 - 1938

Joined Australian Womens' Flying Club

1942 - 1945

Served with the Womens' Auxiliary Australian Air Force

Published resources

Resource Section

NEWLYN, BETTY ELVA, Department of Veterans' Affairs, 2002,
<http://www.wv2roll.gov.au/script/veteran.asp?ServiceID=R&VeteranID=935483>

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Author Details

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Digital resources



Title: Servicewoman Betty Newlyn (later Ball)

Type: Image

Date: 3 May, 2023



Title: Betty Ball at the 60th National Reunion of the WAAF

Type: Image

Date: 3 May, 2023



Title: AWE0484gc.jpg

Type: Image

Date: 3 May, 2023



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