

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE4344

## Brewer, Ilma Mary

(1915 - 2006)

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**Born** 1 January, 1915, North Sydney New South Wales Australia

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**Died** 31 December, 2006

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**Occupation** Academic, Botanist, Educator

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### Summary

Ilma Mary Brewer studied and later taught botany at the University of Sydney. She developed new methods of teaching based on the principle that a student learnt more by working at their own pace and through self-instruction. She outlined her methods in *Learning more and teaching less: a decade of innovation in self-instruction and small group learning*, published in 1985.

As well as working in academia, Brewer also spent time working for the Australian military and in private industry in the United States.

She attended North Sydney Girls' High School before enrolling at the University of Sydney in the 1930s.

### Published resources

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

#### Resource Section

Brewer, Ilma Mary (1915 - 2006), McCarthy, G. J.,  
<http://www.asap.unimelb.edu.au/bsparcs/biogs/P000256b.htm>

#### Book

Learning more and teaching less: a decade of innovation in self-instruction and small group learning, Brewer, Ilma Mary, 1985

### Archival resources

#### University of Sydney, Archives

[Personal archives of BREWER Ilma Mary \[1915-2006\]](#)

### Author Details

Isabelle Barrett Meyering

**Created** 22 July 2024

**Last modified** 22 July 2024