

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person

**Entry ID:** AWE0627

## Ellis, Constance

(1872 - 1942)

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**Born** 2 November, 1872, Carlton Victoria Australia

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**Died** 10 September, 1942, South Yarra Victoria Australia

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**Occupation** Medical practitioner

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### Summary

Constance Ellis became the first woman graduate of the University of Melbourne to obtain the degree of Doctor of Medicine (MD) in March 1903. She joined the pathology department of the Queen Victoria Hospital in 1902 and was honorary pathologist from 1908 until 1919. Ellis was the first woman to become a demonstrator and lecturer of Pathology at the University of Melbourne.

A foundation member of the Lyceum Club, Ellis was also a member of the Medical Women's Society, the Australian Association for Fighting Venereal Diseases, the Victorian branch of the British Medical Association, the National Council of Women of Victoria, the Victorian Baby Health Centre Association and the Emily McPherson College.

## Events

### **1970 - 1970**

Educated at Presbyterian Ladies' College (PLC)

### **1970 - 1970**

Enrolled for the medical course at the University of Melbourne

### **1970 - 1970**

Attended Janet Clarke hostel, Trinity College, as a non-resident

### **1970 - 1970**

At the final examinations Ellis came second in surgery and third in medicine

### **2003 - 2003**

Obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine (by examination)

### **1902 - 1902**

Joined the honorary staff of the Queen Victoria Hospital

### **1908 - 1919**

Honorary pathologist at the Queen Victoria Hospital

### **1920 - 1942**

Vice-president of the Victorian Baby Health Centres Association

### **1911 - 1911**

President of the Old Collegians' Association (PLC)

### **1925 - 1925**

Took part in PLC's jubilee congress, a two-day discussion on social and welfare matters

### **1912 - 1912**

Vice-president and one of the founders of the Lyceum Club (Melb.)

### **1918 - 1919**

President of the Lyceum Club

### **2025 - 2025**

Became a member of the first committee of the Melbourne Business and Professional Women's Club

### **1911 - 1942**

Council member of the College of Domestic Economy (later Emily McPherson College)

### **1932 - 1934**

Council president of the Emily McPherson College

## Published resources

### Book

The Emily Mac : the story of the Emily McPherson College, 1906-1979, Docherty, James, 1981

A History of the Lyceum Club Melbourne, Gillison, Joan M, 1975

### Book Section

Constance Ellis, Radi, Heather, 1988

### Resource Section

Ellis, Constance (1872-1942), Ellis, A S, 2006,  
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A080456b.htm>

Ellis, Constance (1872 - 1942), Westmore, Ann, 2003,  
<http://www.cshs.unimelb.edu.au/umfm/biogs/FM00126b.htm>

### Resource

Where are the Women in Australian science?, Australian Science and Technology Heritage Centre, 2003,  
<http://www.austehc.unimelb.edu.au/wisa/wisa.html>

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

### Edited Book

200 Australian Women: A Redress Anthology, Radi, Heather, 1988

## Archival resources

### State Library of Victoria

[Records, 1910-2013. \[manuscript\].](#)

[National Council of Women of Victoria](#)

[History of the Lyceum Club, and papers, 1970-1975. \[manuscript\].](#)

### National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection

[Minutes \[1904-1960\] \[microform\]](#)

### Author Details

Anne Heywood

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