

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE1043

## Cilento, Lady Phyllis Dorothy

(1894 - 1987)

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**Born** 13 March, 1894, Sydney New South Wales

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**Died** 26 July, 1987, Brisbane Queensland

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**Occupation** Broadcaster, Doctor, Journalist, Print journalist, Radio Journalist, Social reformer, Women's rights activist

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### Summary

Lady Phyllis Cilento was born in Sydney on 13th March 1894 and educated in Adelaide, graduating MB, BS from the University of Adelaide. She did postgraduate work at hospitals and clinics in Malaysia, New Guinea, London, Paris and New York. Later moving to Brisbane with her husband, (doctor and medical administrator, Sir Ralph Cilento) she became a prominent member of the Queensland women's movement and highly influential in broader areas of public health. She was a medical columnist, broadcaster, journalist and author of several books. Her interests lay in nutrition, vitamin therapy, family planning and antenatal and childcare. She founded the Queensland Mothercraft Association in 1930; the Queensland branch of the Business and Professional Women's Club and was president of the Queensland Medical Women's Association (1938-1947).

### Events

**1940 - 1960**

### Published resources

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

#### Edited Book

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

#### Site Exhibition

The Women's Pages: Australian Women and Journalism since 1850, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2008, <http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/cal/cal-home.html>

#### Resource Section

Cilento, Phyllis Dorothy (1894 - 1987), Mahoney, Mary D., 2006, <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A170211b.htm>

### Archival resources

#### Fryer Library, The University of Queensland

[Lady Phyllis D. Cilento Papers](#)

### Author Details

Jane Carey

**Created** 4 August 2004

**Last modified** 31 July 2020