

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE1974

## Ratcliffe, Margaret

(1933 - 2022)

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**Born** 1 January, 1933, Sydney New South Wales Australia

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**Died** 21 April, 2022, Sydney New South Wales Australia

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**Occupation** Physiotherapist

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### Summary

Margaret Ratcliffe was a committed Christian activist. She first stood for election in 1995 as a Call to Australia party candidate in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly elections for Gordon. This was followed by two attempts at obtaining the seat of Bradfield in the House of Representatives in 1996 and 1998. The following year she changed political allegiance and contested the seat of Denison on behalf of the Christian Democrat Party.

### Details

Margaret Ratcliffe was born in Sydney and educated at the Presbyterian Ladies' College and the University of Sydney. She practised her profession of physiotherapy in Lane Cove for 38 years. She married in 1957 and had three sons. She was a member of the Sydney Philharmonic Choir.

Margaret Ratcliffe lived on the North Shore all her life, and although previously a Liberal Party member, by 1995, had joined the Christian Democratic Party because of her concern about youth unemployment and lack of strong moral leadership. Her Christian activities included Sunday School teaching and scripture teaching in public schools.

### Published resources

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

#### Site Exhibition

Putting Skirts on the Sacred Benches: Women Candidates for the New South Wales Parliament, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2006,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/pssb/home.html>

#### Author Details

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