

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE2162

## Gruszka, Meitka

(1938 - )

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**Born** 1 January, 1938, Poland

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**Occupation** Migrant community advocate, Teacher

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### Summary

Meitka Gruszka is a member of the Polish community in Western Australia who has taken an active role in multicultural issues. As well as being a leader in the Polish community, having served as President of the Polish Association of Western Australia, she was involved in a number of multicultural organisations. At various times throughout the 80s and 90s she was a member of the Ethnic Communities Council of Western Australia, the Catholic Migrant Centre and the National Ethnic and Multicultural Broadcasters' Council.

### Details

Meitka Gruszka was born in Poland just before the outbreak of World War 2. As a baby, she was transported with her mother to the USSR where her mother worked in a Siberian forced labour camp. After the war, she and her mother travelled as refugees to Iran and then East Africa. They arrived in Western Australia in 1950.

She completed her education here and became a primary school teacher, working for fifteen years in both the state and catholic school systems. She furthered her education by completing a Bachelor of Education, specialising in teaching English as a Second Language (ESL). In 1979 she was employed by the Catholic Education Office in the area of ESL and Multicultural Education.

### Published resources

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

### Archival resources

#### State Library of Western Australia

[Gruszka Meitka papers](#)

### Author Details

Nikki Henningham

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