

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE3105

## Powell, Janet Frances

(1942 - 2013)

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**Born** 29 September, 1942, Nhill Victoria Australia

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**Died** 30 September, 2013

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**Occupation** Parliamentarian, Political candidate

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### Summary

Janet Powell stood unsuccessfully as a candidate for the Australian Democrats Party in the Legislative Assembly seat of Rodney at the Victorian state election, which was held on 5 May 1979. She was a candidate again at the 1985 state election, when she stood for the Legislative Council province of Central Highlands.

She was elected to the Senate of the Parliament of Australia in 1986 as a representative for Victoria. A member of the Australian Democrats and leader from 1990-1991, she resigned from the party in 1992. She served as an Independent until 1993.

In 2004 she joined the Australian Greens Party and stood as a candidate in the November 2006 Victorian State election for the Eastern Metropolitan Region in the Legislative Council.

After leaving Parliament, Ms Powell focused on volunteer leadership roles in health, women's issues and services for the disadvantaged.

Powell passed away in September 2013, survived by four children and one grandchild.

### Events

#### 2001 - 2001

Inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women

### Published resources

#### Site Exhibition

Carrying on the Fight: Women Candidates in Victorian Parliamentary Elections, Australian Women's Archives Project, 2008,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/cws/home.html>

The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia, Smart, Judith and Swain, Shurlee (eds.), 2014,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders>

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

#### Article

Former Democrats leader Janet Powell dies, Ireland, Judith, 2013,  
<http://www.smh.com.au/national/former-democrats-leader-janet-powell-dies-20131001-2uqm8.html>

## Archival resources

### **Mitchell and Dixson Libraries Manuscripts Collection**

[Pat Richardson scrapbooks relating to the Women's Electoral Lobby and women's events, 1977-2002](#)

### **National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection**

[Papers of Janet Powell, 1977-1993 \[manuscript\]](#)

### **Author Details**

Rosemary Francis

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