

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person

Entry ID: AWE3966

Lyons, Elvira Marie

(1889 - 1957)

Born 1 January, 1889, Brisbane Queensland Australia

Died 25 December, 1957, Sydney New South Wales Australia

Occupation Businesswoman, Social worker

Summary

Elvira Lyons was a founder of Sydney's Catholic Welfare Bureau in 1941.

Details

The daughter of a schoolteacher, Elvira Lyons was educated at Brisbane Grammar School and embarked upon a business career, working for Nestles until 1928. In 1934, Lyons completed a Certificate in Social Studies at the BSST. She became secretary of the Royal Society for Mothers and Babies (later known as Tresillian), and continued to serve the Society until 1955. Lyons also became a member of the CTSWA and an executive member (later president) of the NSW branch of the Australian Association of Social Workers. She was a founder of Sydney's Catholic Welfare Bureau in 1941. Throughout the 1940s and early 1950s, Lyons and her sister Kathleen offered support to new migrants seeking employment and housing in Sydney.

Published resources

Thesis

The Professionalisation of Australian Catholic Social Welfare, 1920-1985, Gleeson, Damian John, 2006, <http://unsworks.unsw.edu.au/fapi/datastream/unsworks:1178/SOURCE1?view=true>

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Site Exhibition

The Encyclopedia of Women and Leadership in Twentieth-Century Australia, Smart, Judith and Swain, Shurlee (eds.), 2014,

<http://www.womenaustralia.info/leaders>

Author Details

Barbara Lemon

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