

The Australian Women's Register

Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE3968

Cuthbertson, Margaret

(1864 - 1944)

Born 6 September, 1864, Bacchus March Victoria Australia

Died 17 November, 1944, Melbourne Victoria Australia

Occupation Child welfare worker, Factory inspector, Public servant, Women's rights activist

Summary

In March 1894 Margaret Cuthbertson was appointed to a three month trial as the first Female Inspector of Factories in Victoria. Having joined the public service six years earlier (she was employed as a Telephone Switch Operator in the Department of Postmaster-General on 25 July 1888) she was the successful applicant for a position that required someone capable of reporting on the sanitary arrangements, hours of labour, remuneration etc of all places where women were employed. She was also expected to visit the premises of outworkers and make occasional visit to rural and regional centres. She was the main conduit of information between women workers and the Chief Inspector of Factories.

Published resources

Book

Woman's Work, Cuthbertson, Margaret and McGowan, Henrietta, 1913

Resource Section

Ten Victorian Women: Caroline Chisholm, Public Record Office Victoria, 2005,
<http://womenustralia.info/exhib/fl/flten01.htm>

Cuthbertson, Margaret Gardiner (1864 - 1944), Hyslop, Anthea, 2006,
<http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A080206b.htm>

Book Section

Margaret Cuthbertson, factory inspection and the political lives of working women, 1890-1914, Damousi, Joy, 2001

Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Author Details

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