

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** IMP0184

## Plumb, Gwendoline Jean (Gwen)

(1912 - 2002)

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**Born** 1 January, 1912, Sydney New South Wales Australia

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**Died** 5 June, 2002

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**Occupation** Actor

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### Summary

Gwendoline (commonly known as Gwen) Plumb was awarded an Order of Australia (AM) on 13 June 1993 for services to the entertainment industry [1]. On 1 January 1973 she was appointed Order of the British Empire (Civil) for service to the community and charities.

### Details

During a career that spanned six decades, Gwen Plumb featured in radio, television and stage productions. She played Emmie in the ABC radio serial *Blue Hills* and also was a radio presenter for Radio 2GB. She played Ada Simmonds in the television series *The Young Doctors*, and featured in *Richmond Hill* and *Harp in the South*.

During World War II, Plumb joined the Australian Women's Land Army and worked in cherry-picking as part of the war effort when many men were called to service [2]. One of the founding members of the Belvoir Street Theatre (Sydney), she starred in the first Australian production of *Steaming* in 1983.

In 1993 Plumb announced her retirement at a reunion of the Independent Theatre. She passed away at her home at Kirribilli on 5 June 2002.

### Published resources

#### Book

The golden age of Australian radio drama 1923-1960 : a history through biography, Lane, Richard, 1994

#### Newspaper Article

Vivid vaudevillian, Fisher, Rodney, 2002

Plumb Crazy all these years, 2002

Plumb lines of excellence, 2002

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

### Author Details

Anne Heywood

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