

**Entry type:** Organisation

**Entry ID:** AWE3960

## Workers' Educational Association of Queensland

(1913 - 1932)

---

<b>Born</b>	1 January, 1913, Brisbane Queensland Australia
-------------	--

---

<b>Died</b>	31 December, 1932, Brisbane Queensland Australia
-------------	--

---

<b>Occupation</b>	Educational Association, Workers' Association
-------------------	---

---

### Summary

The Workers' Educational Association (W.E.A.) of Queensland was formed in Brisbane in 1913 after the visit of Albert Mansbridge, the founder of the Association in Great Britain. Its aim was to bring extra-mural university education to the working class. Of the first thirty-eight people that enrolled, fourteen of them were women, with feminist and socialist Emma Miller being one of them. Women soon outnumbered men in most of the classes, particularly those that were concerned with leisure activities.

The W.E.A. was disbanded by the state government in 1939 for allegedly supporting subversive activities, although its membership list indicates that most of the members were women who wanted to learn how to enhance their leisure time. Having said that, it did operate as a forum for the discussion and promotion of new ideas. For instance, Marion Piddington delivered a series of her innovative sex education lectures to the association in 1928.

### Published resources

#### Edited Book

Women in Australia : an annotated guide to records, Daniels, Kay, Murnane, Mary, Picot, Anne and National Research Program (Australia), 1977

#### Resource

Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

### Archival resources

#### John Oxley Library, Manuscripts and Business Records Collection

OM64-13 Workers Educational Association of Queensland Records 1913-1932

### Author Details

Nikki Henningham

**Created** 1 December 2008

**Last modified** 1 December 2008