

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE4006

## Southcott, Heather

(1928 - 2014)

<b>Nationality</b>	Australian
<b>Born</b>	1 January, 1928, Adelaide South Australia Australia
<b>Died</b>	31 December, 2014, Adelaide South Australia Adelaide
<b>Occupation</b>	Parliamentarian

### Summary

A member of the Australian Democrats, Heather Southcott was the first female member of that party to be elected to the South Australian Parliament. She was elected as Member for the district of Mitcham in the House of Assembly at the by-election, which was held in early 1982. Unfortunately she was defeated later in the year at the general election, which was held in November.

Heather Southcott passed away in November, 2014. For more information about her important life, please see her entry in The Encyclopedia Women and Leadership in Twentieth Century Australia that is linked to this page.

### Published resources

#### 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>

#### Article

Vale Heather Southcott AM: First woman to lead a political party in Australia, 2104,  
<http://australian-democrats.org.au/vale-heather-southcott-am-first-woman-to-lead-a-political-party-in-australia.php#.VI4w3BD4Kp>

### Archival resources

#### State Library of South Australia

[Women in Politics: A Forum in the Centenary Year of Women's Suffrage \[sound recording\]](#)

#### Author Details

Rosemary Francis

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