

**RISCHBIETH, Bessie Mabel, 1874-1967**

Bessie Rischbieth (nee Earle) was born in South Australia in 1874 and came to Western Australia with her husband, Henry Wills Rischbieth in 1900. Dedicated to women's causes, she supported the starting of the Women's Service Guilds of W.A. in 1909. In 1921 she founded the Australia Federation of Women Voters and was its president until 1939. She led several Australian delegations to International Women's Conferences and in 1935 was one of the Australian delegates at the League of Nations Assembly. Her diverse interests included Aboriginal welfare, public and mental health, sex equality, conservation and the environment, as well as a lifetime's involvement with the Theosophical Society. She was a Justice of the Peace and sat on the bench of both the Perth Police Court and the Children's Court. An indefatigable campaigner her last battles were to prevent a swimming pool being built in Kings Park and further reclamation of the Swan River. The latter proposal saw her wade barefoot into the river on a cold, wet day at the age of eighty-nine.

ACC 2552A      Donated: January 1968  
 ACC 3855A      Donated: January 1968  
 ACC 4828A      Donated: November 1984  
 ACC 9303A      Donated: March 2014 (transferred from ACC 9302A)  
 ACC 9304A      Donated: Unknown

PRIVATE ARCHIVES MANUSCRIPT NOTE (MN 634; ACC 2552A, 4828A)

SUMMARY OF CLASSES	
FILES – KINGS PARK FILES - MISCELLANEOUS MINUTES NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS PRINTED MATERIAL PROFILES	

Acc. No.	DESCRIPTION
	FILES
	FILES - KINGS PARK - CORRESPONDENCE
2552A/14	1957.From Miss Talbot re King's Park
2552A/8	1957-1958. Re aquatic pool at King's Park
2552A/9	1958. Re aquatic pool at King's Park
2552A/10	January-June 1959. Re aquatic pool at King's Park
2552A/11	July-December 1959. Re aquatic pool at King's Park
2552A/12	1960-1963. Re preservation of King's Park in its natural state
2552A/13	1964. Re preservation of King's Park in its natural state
	FILES - KINGS PARK - DEPUTATION
2552A/20	1964. Deputation by the Committee to Premier Brand

	FILES - KINGS PARK – NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS
2552A/3	1956-1957. Papers, newspaper cuttings re the construction of an aquatic pool at Kings Park
2552A/4	1958-1959. The construction of an aquatic pool at Kings Park
2552A/17	1958-1962. Development of King’s Park as botanical garden
2552A/5	1959. The construction of an aquatic pool at Kings Park
2552A/6	1961-1964. The construction of an aquatic pool at Kings Park
2552A/18	1964. Mitchell Freeway complex and associated Swan River Reclamation. Volume 1
2552A/19	1964. Mitchell Freeway complex and associated Swan River Reclamation. Volume 1
	FILES - KINGS PARK - PHOTOGRAPHS (transferred to Pictorial Collection)
7560B	1959. Shirley Strickland, Richard Serventy, Mrs. B. Rischbieth, at Lands and Surveys Department, before proceeding to a deputation protesting against Kings Park Olympic Pool
	FILES - KINGS PARK - REPORTS
2552A/7	1958-1959. Reports on policy re an aquatic pool at King’s Park
	FILES - MISCELLANEOUS
9304A	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 1932. Antiques exhibition at Government House. File of correspondence, report of sub-committee meeting, newspaper cuttings, flyers. Includes a letterhead, “Loan Exhibition of Antiques”</li> <li>2. A ‘camera biography’ of Bessie Rischbieth, showing copies of photographs of her between 1880 and 1948</li> </ol>
2552A/16	Miscellaneous collection of material, including press statements, agendas of meetings, receipts from donations etc.
2552A/21	1959. Letters, newspaper cuttings on the proposed new site of Perth Town Hall
2552A/22	1961-1962. Correspondence, newspaper cuttings re the preservation of the Perth Barracks
2552A/23	1964. Newspaper cuttings, letters re the staging of the Empire Games in Perth
	MINUTES
2552A/1	1958-1962. Executive Council and Sub-Committee
2552A/2	1963-1964. Executive Council
	NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS
2552A/24	Late 1950s-early 1960s. Miscellaneous newspaper cuttings collected by Mrs Rischbieth. Includes such topics as the political campaign of secessionist candidate Mrs Cardell-Oliver, 1934, and cuttings on town planning proposals. Includes a photograph of Mrs. Rischbieth
	PRINTED MATERIAL
2552A/15	Pamphlets, notices advertising action taken by the Committee
4828A/1	c.1960. Pamphlet: Assimilation of our Aborigines
4828A/2	n.d. Pamphlet: Post-War and The Aborigines. Professor A P Elkin

4828A/3	1934. The Aborigines. A Commonwealth Problem and Responsibility
4828A/4	n.d. Pamphlet: South Australia State Elections, House of Assembly, Independent Candidate: Leonora Ethel Polkinghorne
3855A/1	c1913-14. A5 printed leaflet, 2pp: The Black Statue. Produced by the Australian Freedom League (formerly located at PR5069/6)
3855A/2	March 1914. Two A5 printed leaflets: Military Persecution Under Compulsory Military Training in Australia. Produced by the Australian Freedom League, Sydney NSW (formerly located at PR5069/8)
3855A/3	July 1914. A5 printed leaflet, 16pp: A Stream of Facts: Typical Cases of Prosecutions Under the Defence Act. Produced by the Australian Freedom League, Perth, WA (formerly located at PR5069/3)
3855A/4	September 193? Printed leaflet advertising: Two Public Addresses on International Issues of Today by Professor Pierre Bovet. Sponsored by the League of Nations Union and the WA Council International Peace Campaign (formerly PR5069/7)
	PROFILES
9303A	1979. Bessie Rischbieth: The Feminist. Westralian Portraits, by Lyall Hunt. Typescript, 3p.

Holdings = 35 cm

**Copyright Restrictions**

*The Commonwealth Copyright Act 1968 regulates copying of unpublished material. It is the user's legal obligation to determine and satisfy copyright.*