



# Biographical Register of Members of the Parliament of Western Australia

## Background

The Biographical Register is the culmination of a significant Parliamentary Library project to create an online database of WA parliamentarians to make their individual histories more widely accessible for the Western Australian public, historians, students, members of Parliament and their staff. Based on information from the two-volume set of *Biographical register of members of the Parliament of Western Australia* by Parliamentary Fellow David Black and historian Geoffrey Bolton, this register includes the details of both elected and nominated members of the Parliament of Western Australia since 1870. Additional information has been sourced from the WA Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, Metropolitan Cemeteries Board, National Archives of Australia, newspapers, shire councils and cemetery boards.

## Aim

This online **Biographical Register of Members of the Parliament of Western Australia** aims to make WA parliamentarians' individual histories more widely accessible for the Western Australian public, historians, students, politicians and their staff.

## Biographical Information

There are a total of 945 members listed in the biographical register; of these 898 were members from 1890 to the current time, and 47 were members from 1870 to 1890.

The biographical information in the Register includes birth date and place, education, family, profession, employment, parliamentary and political party service. The database also includes a bibliography of MPs' books, articles, speeches and oral histories. A significant effort has been made by library and Hansard staff to find inaugural or maiden speeches in Hansard which have now mostly been added. The latest project is the search for members' valedictory speeches.

## Search

To search for a parliamentarian's name type the surname of the MP you are searching for in the **Member Name** box. You can also search by keyword/text, year elected or birth year.

An advanced search is planned for the database so that it will be possible to answer a variety of questions eg the number of women that were MPs in the 1970s. Please contact the Parliamentary Library staff for ideas and improvements to the database.

## Contact us

While every effort has been made to provide correct information, if you consider any information within the database to be incorrect or incomplete, please contact the Parliamentary Library on 9222 7393 or [library@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:library@parliament.wa.gov.au)