

# Public Place Names (Whitlam) Determination 2026

**Disallowable instrument DI2026–229**

made under the

**Public Place Names Act 1989, s 3 (Minister to determine names)**

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**1 Name of instrument**

This instrument is the *Public Place Names (Whitlam) Determination 2026*.

**2 Commencement**

This instrument commences on the day after its notification day.

**3 Determination of place names**

I determine the place names as indicated in the schedule.

Dave Peffer

Delegate of the Minister for Planning and Sustainable Development

26 October 2026

## SCHEDULE

(See s 3)

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### Division of Whitlam – Arts and Culture

The location of the public places with the following names is indicated on the associated diagram.

| NAME                    | ORIGIN                                                | SIGNIFICANCE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Ambassadors Lane</b> | Ambassadors Theatre, Perth<br>( <i>fl.</i> 1928–1972) | Theatre<br><br>Seating approximately 2,000 patrons, the former Ambassadors Theatre on Hay Street, Perth, opened in September 1928. Built for the Union Theatres chain, it was based on original designs by American architect John Eberson, which were adapted to the site by the architectural firm Bohringer, Taylor & Johnson. Regarded as one of Perth's grandest entertainment venues, the atmospheric theatre featured Greek- and Italian-inspired styling, elaborate decoration, art treasures, and a ceiling painted to resemble the night sky. Used for stage, music and cinema events, it was taken over by Hoyts Theatres in the 1930s, after which much of its ornamentation was removed. The theatre's original embroidered stage curtain is now held at His Majesty's Theatre in Perth as part of the Museum of Performing Arts collection. The Ambassadors Theatre closed in February 1972 and was subsequently demolished. |

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| <b>Aslanides Crest</b> | Timoshenko John<br>Aslanides<br>(1943–2020) | <p>Poet, Canberra author</p> <p>Timoshenko Aslanides graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Psychology and Music (1967) and with a Bachelor of Economics from the Australian National University (1976). Initially employed in the Public Service in Sydney and then Canberra, <i>The Canberra Times</i> began publishing his poems from 1975. In 1985, he resigned to work full time on writing poetry. His poems sought to “celebrate Australia and Australians”, and received praise for their inventiveness, intelligence and humour. Aslanides published fifteen books of poetry; his first, <i>The Greek Connection</i>, won the British Commonwealth Poetry Prize in 1978 for the best first collection of poetry. His fourth collection, <i>Australian Things</i>, won joint second place in the book length poetry section of the 1988 Bicentennial Literary Awards. He was joint runner-up of the ACT Literary Award in 1992, joint winner of the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria Poetry Award in 1998 and was named 2002 Canberra Times Artist of the Year. Aslanides was co-author of two tourist guidebooks, <i>Goulburn and Environs</i> (1983) and <i>Canberra and the Australian Capital Territory</i> (1988).</p> |
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| <b>Dombrovskis Rise</b> | <p>Peter Herbert Dombrovskis<br/>(Pieter Herberts Dombrovski)<br/>(1946–1996)</p> | <p>Photographer, environmental activist</p> <p>Born to Latvian parents and displaced by World War II, Peter Dombrovskis migrated to Australia with his mother in 1950. After settling in Hobart, he was drawn to Tasmania's natural beauty and bushwalking from a young age. Venturing into remote wilderness areas, Dombrovskis captured powerful images that contributed to a wider appreciation of the island's wild places and highlighted their fragility. Through a combination of his technical skill, artistry and uniquely reflective style, he produced exceptionally clear, intimate and detailed photographs that communicated a sense of place and transformed how Australians viewed the environment. In the early 1980s, his iconic photograph, <i>Morning Mist, Rock Island Bend, Franklin River, Tasmania</i> (1979) featured prominently in the 'No Dams' campaign. The image exerted a profound social, environmental and political impact, proving instrumental in preserving the river. Dombrovskis' work was widely published from 1973, including his books <i>The Quiet Land</i> (1977), <i>Wild Rivers</i> (1983) and <i>On the Mountain</i> (1996), which he co-authored. Internationally recognised, he was posthumously inducted into the International Photography Hall of Fame in 2003, becoming the first Australian to receive this rare honour. His collections are held by several major Australian cultural institutions, including the National Library of Australia.</p> |
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**Gay Davidson  
View**

Gay Davidson  
(Miringa Gay  
Davidson)  
née Yandle  
(1939–2004)

Journalist, writer, editor

Studying at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand and completing a journalism cadetship at *The Press*, Christchurch, Gay Davidson migrated to Australia in 1967. Joining *The Canberra Times*, she was employed in subediting, reporting, and parliamentary committee and civic coverage, and became the newspaper's 'Gang Gang' columnist, writing about Canberra and its people. Appointed political correspondent for *The Canberra Times* in 1974, then head of its Federal Parliamentary Press Gallery bureau in 1975, Davidson was the first woman to head a major Australian newspaper's parliamentary press office. After eight years as the *Times*' political correspondent, she continued providing editorials and political commentary for the paper and returned to the 'Gang Gang' column in the mid-1980s. In 1985, Davidson was elected as the first woman president of the National Press Club. From 1987, she worked for Hill and Knowlton in public affairs and as a consultant writer and editor, as well as campaigning for public awareness of the dangers of measles and the need for immunisation. A highly respected journalist and writer, Davidson was inducted posthumously into the Australian Media Hall of Fame in 2018.

**John Meillon  
Street**

John Meillon OBE  
(1934–1989)

Actor

Acting from a young age, John Meillon's early work included the ABC's radio serials *Bush Christmas* (c. 1944) and *Stumpy* (1947), as well as Sydney stage productions of *Whiteoaks* (1946) and *The Winslow Boy* (1948). He later performed with the John Alden Shakespeare Company from 1951 to 1952.

Subsequently, he appeared in productions of *Death of a Salesman* (1953), *Winter Journey* (1955) and *The Reluctant Debutante* (1956). From 1959 to 1964, Meillon worked in theatre, television and film in England. Returning to Australia, he featured in such screen classics as *They're a Weird Mob* (1966), *Walkabout* (1971) and *The Cars That Ate Paris* (1974). He became widely known for playing Wally Stiller in *My Name's McGooley, What's Yours?* (1966–1968). Meillon won the 1977 Australian Film Industry Award for Best Actor for his role in *The Fourth Wish* (1976). He achieved international fame for his portrayal of Walter Reilly in *Crocodile Dundee* (1986) and *Crocodile Dundee II* (1988). For his services to the theatre, Meillon was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1979, and he was posthumously honoured with the Raymond Longford Award in 1989.

**Joy McKean  
Avenue**

Joy McKean OAM  
(Mildred Geraldine  
Joy Kirkpatrick  
née McKean)  
1930–2023

Country music singer and songwriter

Joy McKean began singing on stage with her sister, Heather, in the early 1940s. They later performed together as the McKean Sisters on the 2KY radio show *On the Melody Trail* (1949–1956). A trailblazer in the Australian music industry, McKean was a leading country music singer and songwriter, as well as Slim Dusty's wife and manager. Writing about the lives of people in rural and remote communities, her poetic lyrics gave them a voice. She won the inaugural Tamworth Country Music Festival Golden Guitar award in 1973 for 'Lights on the Hill', performed by Dusty. Other popular ballads written by McKean include 'The Biggest Disappointment' (1974), 'Indian Pacific' (1977) and 'Walk a Country Mile' (1979). Receiving numerous accolades throughout her career, McKean was twice inducted into the Australian Country Music Roll of Renown (1983, 2020). She was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in 1991 for service to the entertainment industry. In 2019, McKean received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Australian Women in Music Awards, and in 2021, she was honoured with the Ted Albert Award for Outstanding Services to Australian Music. Her memoir, *Riding This Road: My life – making music and travelling this wide land with Slim Dusty*, was published in 2014.

|                           |                                     |       |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| <b>June Salter Street</b> | June Marie Salter AM<br>(1932–2001) | Actor |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|

Spanning nearly five decades, June Salter’s acting career began in 1952 when she started performing in radio serials, including the popular program *Blue Hills*. She later performed in revues at Sydney’s Phillip Street Theatre and appeared as a guest on Channel 7’s first television broadcast in 1956. In the 1960s, she featured in the satirical *Mavis Bramston Show*. Becoming one of Australia’s best-known actors, Salter starred in *Certain Women* (1973–1976) and *A Country Practice* (1983–1990). She was an original cast member of *The Restless Years* (1977–1981), playing the central figure of schoolteacher Elizabeth McKenzie. During her television career, she won two Penguin Awards (1976, 1985), a Sammy Award (1977) and a Gold Sammy (1978). Among Salter’s extensive theatre work, her performances in *Crown Matrimonial* (1978–1980, 1985–1986) and *Lettice and Lovage* (1989–1990, 1992), and her one-woman show, *A Legend* (1993), were highly acclaimed. Her strong performances in the musical *The Secret Garden* (1995) and *The Sound of Music* (1999–2000) contributed to both shows’ success. In 1995, she published her autobiography, *A Pinch of Salt*. For her service to the performing arts, Salter was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 1982.

**Mokotow Street**

Fay Mokotow  
(1945–1984)

Actor, theatre director

Fay Mokotow migrated with her family to Australia from post-war Europe in 1951. Closely associated with Melbourne's experimental theatre movement, she began working with the performance troupe 'Tribe' at La Mama Theatre in Carlton circa 1969. Mokotow subsequently became an important and influential member of the Australian Performing Group. She formed a strong connection with Carlton's Pram Factory Theatre, performing in *Dimboola* (1973), *Bedfellows* (1975) and *The Hills Family Show* (1975–1977), and directing *Voices* (1978). In 1980, she relocated to Sydney to perform in *The Bride of Gospel Place* and *The Dybbuk*, produced by the National Institute of Dramatic Art. Mokotow then directed *Roses in Due Season* at Sydney's Nimrod Theatre Downstairs (1981) and *Ron Raygun in the Antipodes* (1983) at the New Theatre. Her television credits include appearances in *Prisoner* (1979–1980) and *I Can Jump Puddles* (1981). Alongside this work, Mokotow promoted Yiddish theatre, directing *The Megillah* (1970), *A Little Pleasure* (1982) and *In Duty Bound* (1983), and was active in developing Melbourne's Yiddish Youth Theatre. Highly regarded as a performer and director, Mokotow's contributions were honoured by a memorial scholarship in her name.

## Muncaster Way

Ronald Joseph  
Muncaster  
(1936–2017)

Arts, costume designer, activist

Ron Muncaster migrated to Australia from Oldham, Lancashire, England, in 1963. A talented, self-taught costume designer, he became widely known as 'the Queen of the Mardi Gras' and 'the Master of Sequins'. Contributing to the parade from the early 1980s, he created numerous extravagant, spectacular handmade costumes. His ambitious works of performance art have been described as resembling "kinetic sculpture activated by the body".

Muncaster's costumes played a central role in promoting Sydney's Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade, helping transform the original protest march into a grand celebration. While affirming the parade's message in the fight for gay rights, his imaginative artistry helped build vital bridges between the LGBTQIA+ and wider communities. Two of his most outstanding works, *Arabesque* (1992) and *Cotton Blossom* (1994), are held by Sydney's Powerhouse Museum, with the latter winning the 1994 Mardi Gras judges' prize for excellence. Another notable work, *Lucille Balls* (1994), is preserved by the National Museum of Australia. In 2014, Muncaster received the Mardi Gras Lifetime Achievement Award. The annual Parade costume award was subsequently renamed the Ron Muncaster Award for Best Costume in his honour.

**Oriel Gray  
Terrace**

Oriel Holland Gray  
née Bennett  
(1920–2003)

Playwright, author, screenwriter

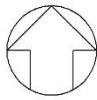
Oriel Gray joined the New Theatre movement in Sydney in the late 1930s. Her first major stage play, *Lawson* (1943), based on a selection of Henry Lawson's short stories, was widely successful and restaged over many years. The Playwrights' Advisory Board awarded Gray first prize for the Wagga One-Act Play Competition in 1946 for *My Life is My Affair*. Her play *The Torrents* was joint winner of the Board's 1955 competition and in 1959 she won first prize in the Little Theatre Guild – JC Williamson play competition for *Burst of Summer*. Other notable plays by Gray include *Western Limit* (1946), *Had We But World Enough* (1950) and *Sky Without Birds* (1952). Ahead of her time, Gray's work addressed issues of social injustice and environmental concerns, highlighting racial prejudice, class conflict, the rights of women, and land degradation. Gray produced original scripts and adaptations of her plays for radio, and scripts for television programmes including *Bellbird*, *Rush* and *The Sullivans*. Her autobiography, *Exit Left: Memoirs of a Scarlet Woman* was published in 1985, and her novel, *The Animal Shop* in 1990.

**Ruth Cracknell  
View**

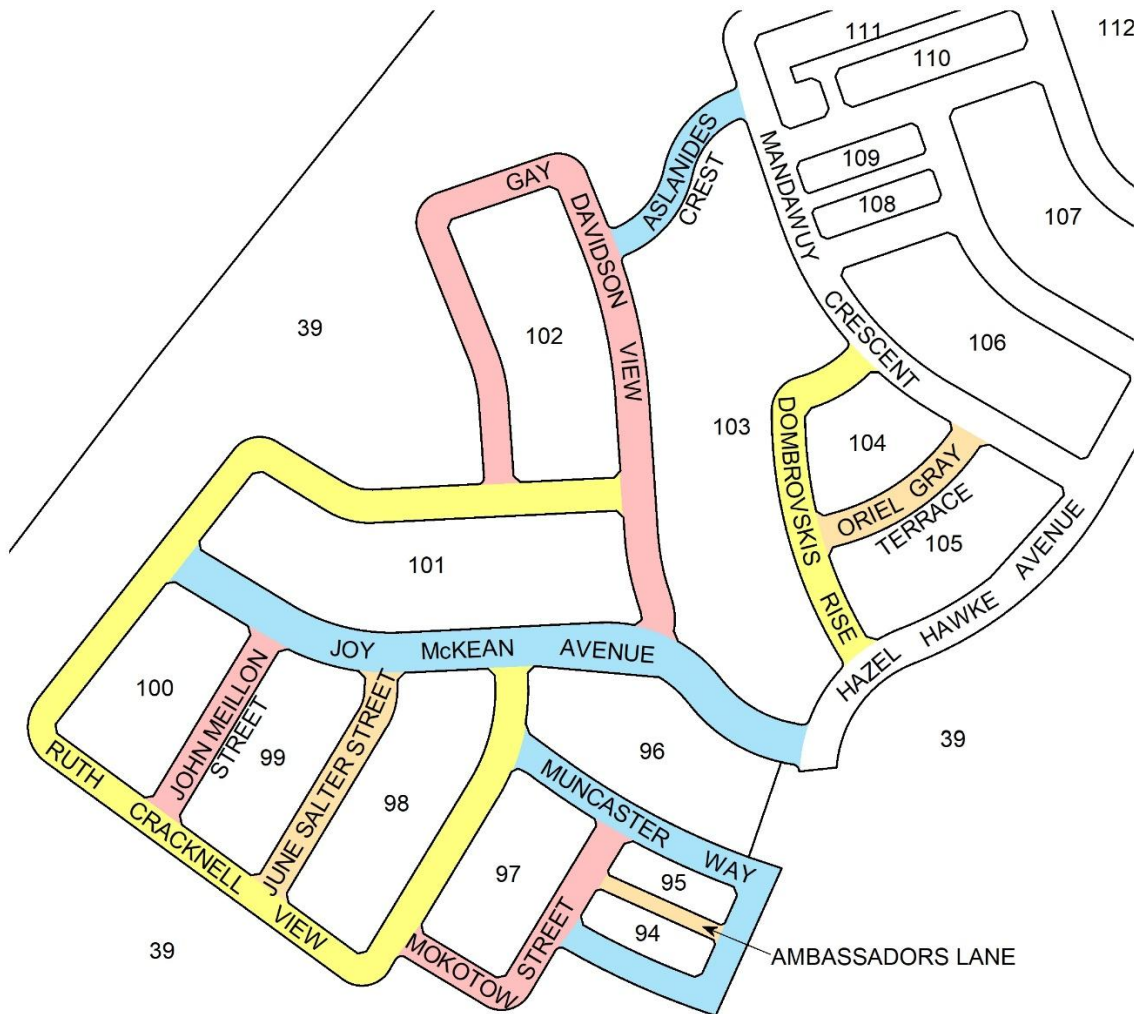
Ruth Winifred  
Cracknell AM  
(Ruth Phillips)  
(1925–2002)

**Actor**

Beginning in 1945, Ruth Cracknell's career as an actor on radio and in theatre, film and television spanned more than 50 years. Working for a period in England (1952–1954), upon returning to Australia she performed in numerous theatre productions, and in major roles for the Sydney and Melbourne Theatre Companies. Notable performances include *King Oedipus* (1970), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1988), *Lettice and Lovage* (1989), and *Vita and Virginia* (1997). For Cracknell, the connection to her audience was paramount. Her endearing characterisation of 'Maggie Beare' in the ABC television comedy *Mother and Son* (1984–1994) made her a household name. Cracknell was a member of the Sydney Theatre Company Board of Directors (1980–1994). Appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 1980 in recognition of service to the performing arts, she was named by the National Trust of Australia in 1997 as one of 100 National Living Treasures. In 2001 she became the first woman inducted into the Australian Logie Hall of Fame and received a JC Williamson lifetime achievement award. Cracknell was awarded honorary doctorates by the University of Sydney, Queensland University of Technology and the University of Western Sydney.



**Schedule**  
(see section 3)



## DIVISION OF WHITLAM

Diagram