

## Olive Edmondstone

Born 15 June 1931 Stanmore NSW

Education Bathurst Public School  
Bathurst High School (Intermediate Certificate)  
Bedford Baptist Business College

Family Married to Rev John Edmondstone for 57 years  
1 Son and 2 Daughters, all married  
Grandchildren



Olive worked as a secretary and later worked for 20 years at Sydney Rescue Work (now Integrecare) as a Pay Mistress and Confidante to staff whilst supporting her husband in pastoral ministry.

Olive's parents were both Christians (Congregational & Baptist involvement). After marriage they attended Stanmore Baptist, and when transferred to Bathurst with work, they were committed to Bathurst Baptist Church. A move, back to Sydney, several years later to Haberfield. Both parents had leadership roles and Olive taught Sunday School, was an officer in the Girls' Brigade, and together with John was the Superintendent of Christian Endeavour.

Olive and John were married when John concluded his Theological Training and they subsequently served in pastoral roles in both NSW and Queensland Churches. Olive always enjoyed working with women which led to her active involvement in Denominational Women's ministry.

She went on to be invited to the council of Baptist Women of NSW & ACT where she was Secretary for a period of time and then elected President in 2000.

Olive was introduced to Australian Church Women by Mrs Glad West, a member of their church at the time, and became a Baptist representative of the ACW NSW Unit in 1979. From that time she has been a loyal member, still reporting back regularly to the Baptist Women NSW & ACT, promoting the work of ACW and recommending new representatives as required.

During the past 36 years Olive has regularly attended meetings, represented ACW on the State World Day of Prayer Committee, been a member of ACWC Committee and Convenor of Pastoral Care – roles which she has carried out in a quiet, efficient manner whilst still supporting John who has served a term as President of Baptist Union of NSW, and one as National President.

Be it in an elected role or as an ACW Council member Olive's ministry has been "pastoral" giving love, care and prayerful support to the women she comes in contact with - having the ability to sense a need and give the appropriate response without a fuss.

