

## Vale, Dulcie Stone



### STONE (MBE), Dulcie May

29.05.1924 – 08.06.2019

Beloved wife of David (dec).

Much loved Mum of Paula, Sheri, Kevin and Maria (dec).

A cherished grandmother and great-grandmother.

I laugh, I cry, I feel.

<https://www.tuckers.com.au/funeral-notices/notice/stone-mbe-dulcie-may>

Though few members met Dulcie, she was a longtime member, supporter and benefactor of The Society of Women Writers Victoria.

An educator with vision ahead of the times she lived in, she worked in kindergarten, primary, secondary and special and gifted children education and adult education, and with children and adults with intellectual disability, physical disability, psychiatric impairment and psychological impairment. She also spent 16 years as an honorary probation officer and worked as an educational consultant, facilitator and lecturer. In 1981 she was awarded an MBE for services to the handicapped. A prolific writer, she wrote short and long fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Her works included around 30 books of fiction and non-fiction. Some of her short stories, including award-winning ones, have appeared in SWWV anthologies, including *Sparx*. She also co-edited the Australian Institute on Disability quarterly magazine.

Acknowledged as a leader in her field both nationally and internationally, Dulcie Stone has received various honours, including UNESCO recommending her teaching methods in 1980; a Papal Blessing in 1989 and selection as International Woman of the Year 1996-97 by The International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England. See [https://www.tiki-toki.com/timeline/entry/36346/Dulcie-May-Stone/#vars!date=1921-03-04 11:01:06!](https://www.tiki-toki.com/timeline/entry/36346/Dulcie-May-Stone/#vars!date=1921-03-04%2011:01:06!)

When member Margaret Pearce who hadn't met Dulcie read her Member Profile on the SWWV website, <http://www.swwvic.org.au/members-achievements/dulcie-stone/> she wrote: "Wow!! Wasn't she impressive! Don't recognise her face but definitely do her name. Still sending stuff out I note." As Dulcie sent a flyer about her recently-published crime novel *Cutting Sexual Abuse* to me and other members less than two months before she passed away, we can certainly agree.

In February 2017 the Victorian Advocacy League for Individuals with Disability (VALID) and Writers Victoria launched The Dulcie Stone Writers Competition. In recognition of Dulcie's lifetime

work and contribution to people with intellectual disability and writing, the competition is open to people with intellectual disability and aims to showcase their work.

Vale, Dulcie, and thank you for being the fine person with a vision ahead of your time and the role model you were.

### **Meryl Brown Tobin**

#### **Personal Tribute to Dulcie Stone**

**Veronica Schwarz:** I was honoured to know Dulcie for nearly 30 years. She was a great supporter of *The Dawn* for the ten years I published it throughout the 1990s. It was a tremendous honour for me when she invited me to launch one of her books. She was a great and generous lady who worked tirelessly for the education of people with disabilities. She more than deserved the national recognition she received.