

Dr Phyllis Margaret Rountree

At a conferring of degrees ceremony held in the Great Hall in 1987, the honorary degree of Doctor of Science was conferred upon Phyllis Margaret Rountree, MSc DSc *Melb DipBacteriology School of Hygiene London*.

Profile

Dr Rountree was a leading Australian microbiologist who became an international authority on the typing of bacteriophages, particularly *Staphylococcus aureus* (Golden Staph).

She worked a research assistant with Frank Macfarlane Burnet 1934-35. After further study in London, Rountree worked as Research Bacteriologist at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney (1944-61), Chief Bacteriologist (1961-71) and after her retirement as Consultant Bacteriologist (1971-92).

Her work centered around investigation of the *Staphylococcus aureus* (Golden Staph) bacteria. Her career also included research into soil salination; botulism in the Second World War; trachoma among Central Australian Aborigines; wound infections and antibiotic resistance. From 1971, Rountree held a position as Honorary Research Associate in Medical Microbiology at the University of New South Wales.

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