

# Barnardos House

1964 – 1982

**Other Names:**

- Elizabeth House
- Barnardo Home
- Dr Barnardo's Homes

## Details

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Barnardos House, Downer, opened in Canberra in 1964. It housed 10 to 15 boys and girls of all ages at a time, both temporarily and permanently, and sought to place children in foster homes where possible. In 1982, Barnardos House became the Barnardos Children's Family Centre.

Barnardos House was the first Home to offer permanent residence for children in the ACT. The first four residents were British child migrants and they took up residence on 14 February 1964. However, the home was mainly for local children.

The shelter was run first by the ACT Regional Officer of the Dr Barnardo's Homes organisation.

Barnardos House was originally going to be called Elizabeth House after the Queen Mother who was planned to officially open the Home. The Queen Mother was unable to attend due to illness and it appears the Home was renamed in early 1964.

## Gallery

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**Welfare - First Barnardo Home opened in Canberra 29 February 1964**

**Description:** This image shows the front of Barnardo House upon its opening in 1964.



**Welfare - People at the opening of Barnardo Home Canberra Miss O'Donnell [or] Mrs Kingsland receiving a bouquet**

**Description:** Opening of Barnardo Home 1964

## More info

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# Chronology

- **Barnardos House (1964 – 1982)**
  - Barnardos Children's Family Centre (c. 1983 - current)

## Related Entries

### Run by

- [Dr Barnardo's Homes \(Australia Branch\) \(1883 - 1966\)](#)  
Date: 1964 - 1966
- [Dr Barnardos in Australia \(1966 - c. 1995\)](#)  
Date: 1966 - 1978?

### Related Organisations

- [Berwick House \(1968 - 1983\)](#)  
A second Dr Barnardos Home called Berwick House opened in Curtin in October 1968 to supplement the organisation's established home, Barnardos House in Downer.

## Resources

- Laurent, Nicola, [Do you recognise these Barnardos' Homes?](#), Find & Connect web resource blog, 31 March 2016
- *Sidewalk Supervisor - Dr Barnardo Home ready soon*, The Canberra Times, 17 September 1968

## Records

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For more information and to access your records, follow the links below:

### Records

- [Barnardos Australia, Records \(c. 1883 - current\)](#)
  - [Dr. Barnardo's in Australia, records \(c. 1921 - 1985?\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/barnardos-house/>