

King Edward Home

c. 1930 – c. 1989

Other Names: • Newcastle Home for Girls

Details

King Edward Home was established at Newcastle by the Child Welfare Department around 1930. It was a home for 28 girls aged from babyhood to 18 years. Some of the girls went on to Lynwood Hall, and some entered foster care. King Edward Home closed after February 1989.

King Edward Home was established by the Child Welfare Department (later known as the Department of Community Services). It was probably established in the period between the two World Wars.

Donald McLean, who reviewed the home in 1955, said that it was for 'girls who have not proved amenable to foster placement or have traits which make them unsuitable for foster placement.' His take on the home was very positive, but made it clear that the home was for girls who were deprived and, sometimes, disturbed by their lives thus far, and that many suffered yearnings for their natural family. McLean noted that many of the girls achieved at high school while others went on to Lynwood Hall, and some went on to stable foster care placements.

We have not been able to pinpoint the closure date of King Edward Home. A former resident of the Home contacted the Find & Connect web resource in May 2014 to advise that she had, at age twelve, lived at the Home from January to December 1974 and that it ran for at least a year after that, with house parents in charge. Another former resident contact Find & Connect web resource in March 2019 to advise that she had lived at the Home from 1982 until 1985. In 2024, we were advised by a record holder that a former resident was transferred from the Home in February 1989.

Gallery



King Edward Home

Description: This photo is undated, the date included is an estimate.



"King Edward" - a home for school-aged girls at Newcastle who are shown here in the lounge of the home

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the Child Welfare Department of New South Wales Annual Report of 1966.



Children at lunch, King Edward Home

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the Child Welfare Department of New South Wales Annual Report of 1960.



Dormitory: Newcastle Home for Girls



Music room, Newcastle Girls Home

Description: This image shows girls in a room at the King Edward Home for Girls, Newcastle. The girls, who are all wearing aprons, are seated and standing around a piano, which is being played by a staff member. The room is decorated with flags, bunting, paper lanterns, and posters.



Dining room: Newcastle Girls Home

Description: This is a photograph of the dining room at the King Edward Home. It shows the girls seated at two tables in the small room, older girls eating at a large table in the middle of the room, and younger children at a small table off to the side.



Child Welfare Home for Girls, Newcastle - the home

Description: This is a photograph of the King Edward Home for Girls at Newcastle. It shows the front of the Home, a large single-storey brick house, with several girls and staff members visible in the gardens to the front and side of the home.

More info

Related Entries

Run by

- [Department of Child Welfare and Social Welfare, State Government of New South Wales \(1970 - 1973\)](#)
- [Child Welfare Department, State Government of New South Wales \(1923 - 1970\)](#)
- [Department of Youth, Ethnic and Community Affairs, State Government of New South Wales \(1975 - 1976\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Lynwood Hall \(1939 - 1993\)](#)
Girls from King Edward Home were sometimes sent to Lynwood Hall.

Resources

- Fraser, Georgina, [Submission no 8 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), 2005
- Carroll, Caroline, [Finally, we Forgotten Australians are believed](#), 16 November 2009
- [Caroline Carroll interviewed by Karen George in the Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants oral history project \[sound recording\]](#), June 2010 - August 2010

Records

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

Records

- [Departmental Records relating to State Wards, New South Wales \(1918 - current\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/king-edward-home-2/>