

Yawarra Training School

1969 – 1979

Other Names: • Kurri Boys Training School, Yawarra

Details

Yawarra Training School was established at Kurri Kurri by the Child Welfare Department in 1969. It was for young men under the age of eighteen years transferred from Corrective Services. The School provided facilities to train the boys in a craft or trade. Yawarra closed in 1979 and was converted to a unit for males aged 18 to 21 for a year. It then became a Coal Training College.

Yawarra was purpose-built by the Child Welfare Department and gazetted on 2 May 1969 under the *Child Welfare Act* as a school for the reception, detention, maintenance, discipline, education and training of children and young persons committed to such institution.

The new home provided accommodation for 200 boys aged 16-18 in four separate homes each of which housed 44 boys. The complex contained a privilege cottage for boys being prepared for return to the community. The program was aimed at vocational education with boys receiving training in semiskilled and technical trades, such as mechanics.

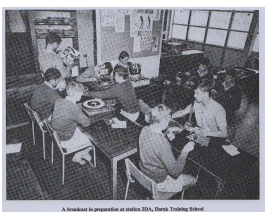
The Child Welfare Department made a point in its 1969 Annual Report of Yawarra being the first training school to be built with a pool, and the first to provide training in radio and television repair and maintenance.

Yawarra had its own radio station, 2YA, and exchanged programs with 2DA the radio station at Daruk Boys' Training School. School education was also available including remedial lessons and boys were prepared for the School Certificate or took technical courses by correspondence. There was also an emphasis on sporting activities.

Gallery

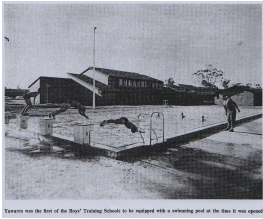


Kurri Boys Training School: Yawarra



A broadcast in preparation at station 2DA, Daruk Training School

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the Child Welfare Department of New South Wales Annual Report of 1961.



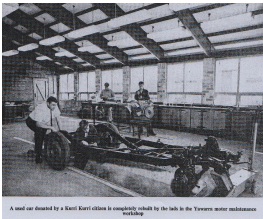
Yawarra was the first of the Boys' Training Schools to be equipped with a swimming pool at the time it was opened

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the Child Welfare Department of New South Wales Annual Report of 1969.



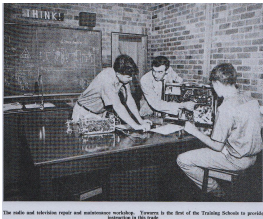
The Assembly Hall at Yawarra can be used for indoor basketball or converted into a well-equipped gymnasium. The stage (at rear) will be used for concerts and dramatic productions

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the Child Welfare Department of New South Wales Annual Report of 1969.



A used car donated by a Kurri Kurri citizen is completely rebuilt by the lads in the Yawarra motor maintenance workshop

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the Child Welfare Department of New South Wales Annual Report of 1969.



The radio and television repair and maintenance workshop. Yawarra is the first of its training schools to provide instruction in this trade

Description: This is a copy of an image that appeared in the Child Welfare Department of New South Wales Annual Report of 1969.

More info

Related Entries

Run by

- [Department of Child Welfare and Social Welfare, State Government of New South Wales \(1970 - 1973\)](#)
- [Department of Youth and Community Services, State Government of New South Wales \(1973 - 1975\)](#)
- [Child Welfare Department, State Government of New South Wales \(1923 - 1970\)](#)
- [Department of Youth and Community Services, State Government of New South Wales \(1976 - 1988\)](#)
- [Department of Youth, Ethnic and Community Affairs, State Government of New South Wales \(1975 - 1976\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Daruk \(1960 - 1985\)](#)

Daruk had its own radio station called 2DA and boys exchanged programs with the boys at Yawarra, which had a radio station called 2DA.

Resources

- Howlett, Christine, [Deaths in Custody Australia: No. 3 Deaths in Juvenile Detention, 1980-1992](#), May 1993
- Boyle, Brian, *The Child Welfare Schools: Recollections of these unique schools and the men and women who taught in them often under considerable difficulty*, 1996

Records

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

Records

- [Departmental Records relating to State Wards, New South Wales \(1918 - current\)](#)
 - [Admission And Discharge Registers \[Yawarra Training School for Boys, Kurri Kurri\] \(30 March 1969 - 14 September 1980\)](#)
 - [Institutional files \(\[I\] "B" files\) \[Yawarra Training School for Boys, Kurri Kurri\] \(1969 - 1981\)](#)
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You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/yawarra-training-school/>