

Australian Red Cross

1914 –

URL: <https://www.redcross.org.au/privacy/childrens-homes>

Details

The Australian Red Cross was formed on the outbreak of the first World War in 1914 as a branch of the British Red Cross Society. The Australian Junior Red Cross, a subsidiary organisation to the Australian Red Cross, was formally established in New South Wales in 1918. The Junior Red Cross carried out a range of roles and services, including running children's Homes in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, and Western Australia.

In South Australia, a number of Junior Red Cross Homes operated between 1933 and 1968.

In New South Wales, the Junior Red Cross ran a number of children's homes: Cudgelo Junior Red Cross Home at Ramsgate, the Eleanor McKinnon Memorial Junior Red Cross Home at Ramsgate, the Eleanor Mackinnon Memorial Home at Cronulla and the Glen Mervyn Junior Red Cross Home at Randwick. From 1925, it ran convalescent homes in the Blue Mountains for children from tuberculosis affected families, particularly those of ex-servicemen (Juong and Shuna homes). It also ran Kippilaw in Leura, Berida Junior Red Cross Home in Bowral and Wongala, located in Turramurra.

In Western Australia, the Australian Red Cross took over management of Lady Lawley Cottage by the Sea in Cottesloe, in 1945. It continues to operate in 2020 as a respite care service for children with disabilities.

In Victoria, the Red Cross operated a number of convalescent Homes that housed children in Melbourne: Welfare House in St Kilda, Lady Dugan Home in Malvern and Edgecliff in Hampton.

In Queensland, the Red Cross ran the Margate Children's Home, which provided holiday care for the children of ex-service personnel, emergency care for children whose parents were receiving medical treatment, and also acted as a convalescent home for children from the Mater and Brisbane Hospitals. In 1945 the Queensland Division of Australian Red Cross proposed using the Walter T Robertson Convalescent Home as an additional holiday home for children of ex-service personnel if the number of applications exceeded Margate's capacity, however it does not appear that this home was ever required.

Gallery



Many Neighbours

Description: Many Neighbours is a video from the Red Cross Red Crescent historic film collection. It is a short promotional film about the Australian Red Cross Society released in 1949. It was made for the Victorian Division of the Red Cross and depicts various services in repatriation hospitals, convalescent homes, civilian hospitals and in homes of outpatients ([The Sun News-Pictorial, 1949](#)). It includes footage of Welfare House in St Kilda, Victoria, a convalescent home for mothers and children.

More info

Related Entries

Ran

- [Eleanor MacKinnon Memorial Home \(1951 - 1997\)](#)
- [Glen Mervyn Junior Red Cross Home \(c. 1973 - c. 1992\)](#)
- [Juong Red Cross Home \(1925 - 1945\)](#)
- [Shuna Red Cross Home \(1925 - c. 1951\)](#)
- [Kippilaw \(1945 - 1950\)](#)
- [Berida Junior Red Cross Home \(c. 1950 - 1974\)](#)
- [Cudgelo Junior Red Cross Home \(1923 - 1951\)](#)
- [Wongala Junior Red Cross Home \(25 October 1947 - 1952\)](#)
- [Eleanor MacKinnon Memorial Junior Red Cross Home \(February 15 1938 - 1951\)](#)
- [Lady Dugan Red Cross Home \(1946 - 1970\)](#)
- [Welfare House \(c. 1946 - c. 1953\)](#)
- [Edgecliffe, Red Cross Convalescent Home \(c. 1944 - c. 1951\)](#)
- [Red Cross Home, Margate \(1945 - 1975\)](#)
- [Junior Red Cross Home, Glenelg \(1959 - 1968\)](#)
- [Junior Red Cross Home, Henley Beach \(1933 - 1946\)](#)
- [Lady Hore-Ruthven Junior Red Cross Home \(1946 - 1959\)](#)
- [Lady Norrie Junior Red Cross Children's Home \(1947 - 1959\)](#)
- [Dunant House \(1970? - c. 1995\)](#)
- [Joyce Shultz House \(1980s\)](#)
- [Lady Lawley Cottage by the Sea \(1903 - 2020\)](#)

Date: 1945 - 2020

Related Events

- [Wattle Day Appeal \(1910 - current\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Junior Red Cross Society \(1918 - 1995?\)](#)

Holds

- [Records of Red Cross Children's Homes \(1918? - 1990s\)](#)
- [Lady Lawley Cottage by the Sea, Records \(1940s - 2000s\)](#)

Resources

- [Red Cross Home: Donor Resents Use by Servicewomen](#), The Sydney Morning Herald, 23 March 1943
- [Berida Red Cross Home Bowral](#), The Clanicle, August 2013
- [Berida Manor](#), The Southern Highlands Online, No date
- [Five Hundred Miles...for Health!](#), Australian Women's Weekly, 2 December 1933
- [Junior Fun - "Cudgelo" Seaside Home - The House that the Children Built...](#), The Sydney Morning Herald, 25 January 1934
- [Sick Children's Holiday](#), Barrier Miner, 7 December 1928
- [Tree-Planting at Cudgelo](#), The Sydney Morning Herald, 9 May 1931
- Oppenheimer, Melanie, *The historian activist and the Gift to the Nation project: preserving the records of the Australian Red Cross*, Archives & Manuscripts, 2020
- Wishart, Alison & Carney, Michael, *An archive of humanity: the NSW Division of the Australian Red Cross, 1914-2014*, Archives & Manuscripts, 2019
- University of Melbourne Archives and Special Collections, [Guide for Care Leavers to Records of Australian Red Cross](#), 2020
- [No complaints about Red Cross home aid](#), Courier Mail, 23 March 1949
- [Red Cross care of children](#), Morning Bulletin, 14 January 1954

Records

Records held by other organisations

- [Archives of the Australian Red Cross Society, New South Wales Division, 1914-2014 \(1914 - 2014\)](#)
- [Australian Red Cross Collection, University of Melbourne Archives \(1914 - 2014\)](#)
- [Records of the Australian Red Cross Society, South Australian Division \(1925 - 1984\)](#)

You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/australian-red-cross/>