

Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association

1947? – 1970

Other Names:

- CEMWA
- Catholic Immigration Society
- Episcopal Migration Association

Details

The Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association (CEMWA) in Western Australia was the state-based receiving agency for post-World War II child migrants who were sent to WA under the Catholic child immigration scheme. After 1965, the child migration program to WA ceased and the welfare functions of the CEMWA were taken over by the Catholic Family Welfare Bureau which was established in 1970.

A newspaper article, dated 11 December 1945 from The West Australian, describes the membership of the Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association (CEMWA) that had been recently formed in Western Australia to renew pre-World War Two Imperial [British], Commonwealth and State agreements to facilitate the migration of children from Britain to Catholic institutions in WA. 'Temporary' premises were noted as being in City Mutual Buildings, second floor, 62 St. George's Terrace, Perth.

It is likely that the CEMWA was a 'branch' of the Federal Catholic Migration Committee which was a sub-committee of the Catholic Bishop's Conference.

The CEMWA held the records of children who came to WA under the Catholic child migration scheme and correspondence from a child's family in Britain or Malta usually came to the CEMWA. The Secretary of the CEMWA, Miss Sanderson, also liaised with the institutions and the Child Welfare Department about subsidies paid for the children. In later years, the CEMWA also coordinated the subsidies for children who were Wards and who had been placed in Catholic institutions.

In the early 1990s, the records relating to child migration were located by a social worker and brought into the care of the Catholic Migrant Centre.

More info

Chronology

- **Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association (1947? – 1970)**
 - Catholic Family Welfare Bureau (Perth) (1970 - 1977)
 - Centrecare (1977 - current)

Related Entries

Related Events

- [Inquiry Into Child Migration, Parliament of Australia \(2000 - 2001\)](#)
- [Inquiry into the Welfare of Former British Child Migrants, House of Commons Health Committee, Parliament of the United Kingdom \(July 1997 - 23 July 1998\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Tardun Farm School \(1928 - 2008\)](#)
The Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association [CEMWA] coordinated the placement of child migrants to Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association [CEMWA].
Date: 1947? - 1966
- [Child Welfare Department, State of Western Australia \(22 December 1927 - 15 June 1972\)](#)
- [Catholic Migrant Centre \(1992 - 2008\)](#)
The Catholic Migrant Centre's 'Former Child Migrants' program used the CEMWA records as the basis of its family tracing and records access service.
- [Catholic Archdiocese of Perth \(1913 - current\)](#)
The Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association was the organisation that coordinated the placement of child migrants from Britain and Malta on behalf of the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth.
- [Castledare \(1934 - 1983\)](#)
The Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association was the church agency that 'received' child migrants from Britain and Malta to Castledare.
- [Clontarf \(8 September 1901 - 1983\)](#)
The Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association [CEMWA] coordinated the placement of child migrants to Clontarf.
Date: 1947? - 1966
- [Nazareth House, Geraldton \(1941 - 1979?\)](#)
The Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association [CEMWA] was the organisation that coordinated the placement of child migrants to Nazareth House.
Date: 1947? - 1966
- [Bindoon \(1936 - 1966\)](#)
Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association [CEMWA] coordinated the placement of child migrants to Bindoon.
Date: 1947? - 1966
- [St Joseph's Girls' Orphanage \(1901 - 1971\)](#)
The Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association was responsible for placing British and Maltese child migrants at St Joseph's Orphanage.
Date: 1947 - 1966
- [St Joseph's Preventorium \(1929 - 1976\)](#)
Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association [CEMWA] was responsible for children who were sent as unaccompanied child migrants to St Joseph's Preventorium.
- [St Vincent's Foundling Home \(1914 - 1971\)](#)
The Catholic Episcopal Migration and Welfare Association [CEMWA] coordinated the placement of child migrants at St Vincent's Foundling Home.
Date: 1947? - 1966

Related Concepts

- [Child Migration \(1800s - 1970s\)](#)

Resources

- Independent Inquiry Child Sexual Abuse, [Child Migration Programmes Investigation Report](#), March 2018
- Coldrey, Barry, [Submission No 40 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), 19 April 2003
- [Cosgrove, Oliver Manuscript Note](#), State Library of Western Australia website, 1998
- Langfield, Michele, [More people imperative: immigration to Australia 1901-1939](#), 1999

Other Resources

Title: Moss Report Implementation [Excerpt] - Case Histories

Type: Image

Date: 18 March 1955

[Details](#)

Title: Moss Report [Excerpt] - Pocket Money

Type: Image

Date: 23 February 1955

[Details](#)

Title: Moss Report Implementation [Excerpt] - Health Examinations

Type: Image

Date: 21 April 1955

[Details](#)

Records

Records

- [Catholic Archdiocese of Perth CEMWA and CMC Files \[Former Child Migrants\], Catholic Archdiocese of Perth \(c. 1928 - 2008\)](#)
 - [Correspondence files, multiple number series \(policy matters\) \(1922 - 1968\)](#)
 - [Correspondence files, Class 5 \(British Migrants\) \(1920 - 1957\)](#)
 - [Indentures \(Guardianship\) \(1947 - 1960\)](#)
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