

Green Wood

1951 – 1966

Other Names:

- Greenwood
- Dr Barnardos Boys' & Girls' Home
- Normanhurst
- Brothers and Sisters' Home

Details

Green Wood was established in 1951, in Normanhurst, by Dr Barnardo's in Australia to care for siblings who came from England as part of the child migration scheme. Green Wood accommodated 44 boys and 22 girls and comprised a group of homes on an 11 acre site. It closed in 1966 and two Barnardo's family group homes opened on the same site.

Green Wood was named in tribute to the late A.W. Green, a founder of the Barnardos work in New South Wales.

Originally Barnardos had intended for Green Wood to let siblings live in the same building, to create more of a traditional family environment, but due to strict regulations on boys and girls being raised in institutions they were unable to do so. Instead they compromised on boys and girls living in different buildings, but on the same site, and being able to interact at breakfast. The children were sent to a variety of local schools.

Barnardos Australia history of the child migration program (c.2014) stated that 'three cottages cared for children aged 10 upwards who attended local schools and later went on to positions in shops or offices or were apprenticed in the area.'

In 1958 allegations of sexual abuse at another Barnardo's Home, Mowbray Park, became public, and concern was expressed that similar abuse could have occurred at Green Wood as well. An investigation conducted by Barnardo's Australia, the Child Welfare Department, and New South Wales Police resulted in several arrests in connection to Mowbray Park, however no evidence of abuse at Green Wood was uncovered.

Gallery



Greenwood exterior from Miss Butcher's album

Description: This is an image from the Nardy - Old Boys & Girls Reunion Club website Cottage Homes album. It shows the exterior of one of the buildings at Green Wood. This photo is undated, the date included is an estimate.

More info

Related Entries

Run by

- [Dr Barnardo's Homes \(Australia Branch\) \(1883 - 1966\)](#)
Date: 1951 - 1966
- [Dr Barnardos in Australia \(1966 - c. 1995\)](#)
Date: 1966 -

Related Events

- [Fact-Finding Mission on Child Migration \(1956\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Ladd House \(1966 - 1976\)](#)
When Green Wood closed, Ladd House opened on the same Normanhurst site.
- [Fairfax House \(1966 - 1976\)](#)
When Green Wood closed, Fairfax House opened on the same Normanhurst property

Related Concepts

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

Resources

- Community Affairs References Committee, [Lost Innocents: Righting the record - Report on child migration](#), 30 August 2001

Records

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

Records held by other organisations

- [Barnardos Australia, Records \(c. 1883 - current\)](#)
 - [Child Migrants Oral History Project \(2001 - 2006\)](#)
 - [Dr. Barnardo's in Australia, records \(c. 1921 - 1985?\)](#)
 - [Immigration Files \[Child and Youth Migrants, NSW\] \(1946 - 1974\)](#)
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