

Scarba Welfare House for Women and Children

1917 – 1920

Details

The Scarba Welfare House for Women and Children at Bondi was opened in 1917 by the Benevolent Society of New South Wales as a home for women and babies. In 1920, the Board of the Benevolent Society decided to devote Scarba entirely to the care of young children and the name was changed to Scarba Welfare House for Children.

In 2006 the Benevolent Society published a history of Scarba, as part of its response to the Senate Inquiry into the Forgotten Australians. The report intended to set out the good and the bad, and acknowledge mistakes made in the care of children. The report acknowledges that it is difficult to find out what Scarba was like in the period before 1965, and few individual records of that time survive.

Gallery



Official opening

Description: Official Opening by Mrs Fuller wife of Colonial Secretary, Scarba House, 26 September 1917.

More info

Chronology

- **Scarba Welfare House for Women and Children (1917 – 1920)**
 - Scarba Welfare House for Children (1920 - 1965)

Related Entries

Run by

- [Benevolent Society of New South Wales \(1813 - current\)](#)
Date: 1917 - 1920

Related Organisations

- [Renwick Hospital for Infants, Thomas Street \(1911 - 1920\)](#)
Women and children from Renwick Hospital for Infants were transferred to Scarba in 1917.

- [Post Adoption Resource Centre \(1991 - current\)](#)

The staff of the Post Adoption Resource Centre (PARC) is willing to discuss aspects of the history of Scarba Welfare House for Women and Children with former clients and their relatives. PARC also handles complaints. People do not need to have been adopted to use this service.

Resources

- Bluett, Ros, [Charity and Justice: The early days of the Benevolent Society in Sydney](#), 24 March 2013
- Benevolent Society, *Benevolent Society: 200 year celebration: Last 200*, 2013

Records

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

Records

- [Benevolent Society of New South Wales Collection, 1813-1996 \(1813 - 1996\)](#)
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