

Dreadnought Trust

1909 – 1930?

Details

The Dreadnought Trust was one of the first organisations to be involved in child migration in New South Wales. It raised funds to bring British child and youth migrant boys to Australia. The first Dreadnought Boys arrived in 1911. The scheme ended around the time of the Great Depression, in 1930.

The Dreadnought Trust was established in 1909 when a meeting at Sydney Town Hall resolved to raise money to purchase a battleship for the British Navy. However the Australian Government decided in 1910 to establish an Australian navy, rendering the subscription irrelevant.

A large part of the £90,000 raised was instead placed in a fund to bring British child migrant boys to Australia for training and assignment as rural workers. The first Dreadnought boys arrived in New South Wales in 1911, although the scheme was halted in 1914. It resumed in 1921, stopping again in 1930 because of the Depression.

On arrival in Sydney the Dreadnought Boys were sent to government run farms at Yanco, Cowra, Arrawatta, Glen Innes, Grafton, and Wollongbar. More than half the migrants went to Scheyville near Pitt Town.

More info

Related Entries

Related Organisations

- [Government Agricultural Farm, Scheyville \(1905 - 1940\)](#)
- [Big Brother Movement \(1925 - current\)](#)

In the early years of the Big Brother Movement, many of the 'Little Brothers' were recruited via the Dreadnought Scheme.

Related Concepts

- [Youth Migration \(1850s - 1980s\)](#)

Resources

- NSW Migration Heritage Centre, [Fields of Memories: The Scheyville Training Farm and Migrant Accommodation Centre 1911-1964](#), 2006
- Coldrey, Barry, [Good British stock: child and youth migration to Australia](#), 1999
- [On their own: Britain's child migrants](#), Australian National Maritime Museum website, 2010
- Langfield, Michele, [More people imperative: immigration to Australia 1901-1939](#), 1999

Records

Records held by other organisations

- [Dreadnought Association - records, 1890-1997 \(1890 - 1997\)](#)
 - [Commonwealth Records relating to Child and Youth Migration \(c. 1911 - 1983?\)](#)
 - [Dreadnought Contribution Register \[Migration Branch: Industrial Relations, NSW\] \(1922 - 1925\)](#)
 - [Card Indexes \[NSW Immigration Division\] \(1919 - 1949\)](#)
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