



A web resource for Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants

## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the November edition of the newsletter – our penultimate issue for 2013. It's been a huge year on the web resource, so hardly surprising that it's gone in a bit of a blur. Just to let you know the first issue of the newsletter in 2014 will come out in February – with a bumper Jan/Feb issue.

The web resource team have been out and about running workshops with the support services and government record holders on the new web resource – thanks to Wattle Place, CLAN, Open Place and Lotus Place for hosting the workshops sessions in the last month. They have been lively sessions featuring some great discussions and ideas.

This issue we've got a run down of the Apology anniversary events, a request for feedback (below) regarding hostels and the regular round-ups from our historians across the country.

I hope you enjoy this issue and have a lovely month.

Sal Orpin

Communications and Liaison Officer

## WHAT ABOUT HOSTELS?

Recently, we've been having a few discussions amongst the team of historians about hostels for young women and men, and which ones are relevant to the Find & Connect web resource.

Many children's institutions ran their own hostels, where young people could live when they left the Home and were working or studying. These types of hostels, with a clear connection to children's Homes, were about preparing young people for life after 'care'. Many of these hostels were for young women, and were seen as a way to keep them from being 'led astray'.

With other hostels, the link to the child welfare system is less clear. Some hostels, like the Princess Mary Club in Melbourne, were run by care provider organisations (in this case, Wesley Mission), but weren't connected to the organisation's work with state wards. And then there are hostels like Archibald House in Brisbane. They were established in capital cities, for young women from rural areas – and run by organisations like the YWCA or churches.

Our discussions have been about whether these organisations belong on Find & Connect. We don't want to leave out any place that might have accommodated Forgotten Australians. But we want to focus our energies on Homes



Image courtesy of Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery.

and organisations that are most relevant to our primary audience.

So we wanted to put this question to you, our stakeholders and draw on your knowledge and expertise. Do you know if Forgotten Australians were likely to spend time in these types of hostels when they first made the transition to independent living? Are there any hostels that you are aware of that aren't in our database yet? Do you think these hostels are a part of the story we should be researching, or are they more tangential?

We would love to hear your thoughts! You can send your feedback to me at:

[c.oneill@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:c.oneill@unimelb.edu.au)

Thanks in advance.

Cate O'Neill

National Editor

## APOLOGY ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

The 4th Anniversary of the National Apology to Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants is on Saturday 16th November. There are various events around the country to mark celebrate the anniversary on various different dates.

### Tasmania

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2013 10.30 -11.30am**  
Anniversary morning tea in the gardens Riverview Room, Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, Queens Domain Hobart

### New South Wales

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2013**

Wattle Place is holding an event at the memorial to Forgotten Australians located in the Sydney Botanic Gardens.

### Victoria

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2013 12.30pm**  
National Apology Anniversary lunch  
Open Place, Suite 1 / 8 Bromham Place, Richmond, VIC, 3121.

### Queensland

#### Brisbane

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 12:30pm**  
South Stradbroke Room, Traders Hotel, 159 Roma St, Brisbane

#### Rockhampton

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 12noon**  
The Leichhardt Hotel, Cr Denham & Bolsover Streets, Rockhampton

#### Townsville

Open Day Gathering  
**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November 10am-2pm**  
Lotus Place NQ office, 312 Sturt St, Townsville

### Western Australia

**Friday 15 November**

Lanterns will be putting on a celebratory morning tea and lunch at Botanicals Restaurant in Kings Park.

### Northern Territory

There was a morning tea hosted by Her Honour, the Honourable Sally Thomas AM at government house on Friday 8 November.

For more details visit:

[www.findandconnect.gov.au/news/2013/11/08/national-apology-anniversary-events](http://www.findandconnect.gov.au/news/2013/11/08/national-apology-anniversary-events)

# STATE SNAPSHOTS

News from our historians around the country.

## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Stepping into big researcher's shoes recently vacated by Lydia Connell, I'm coming at the project with enthusiasm and anticipation. My background is as a historian of Commonwealth policy and welfare provision, specifically around ethnic affairs and immigration, and in the development of a Government policy of multiculturalism. More recently I've worked as a policy advisor in Community Services, as a speechwriter and researcher, and I've just completed a Masters in Planning.

Liam Hogan

## NEW SOUTH WALES

It was great to have some of the Melbourne team in Sydney last month and to have the opportunity to show the staff at CLAN and Wattle Place around the new website. We learned a lot more about how people use the site, and the sorts of information they need. I hope past care providers will take a look and let us know what they think about their pages.

The NSW site is still very short of photographs for homes so digital copies would be greatly appreciated - let us know if you have information through the Find & Connect web resource.

Naomi Parry

## NORTHERN TERRITORY

We are very pleased that as a result of the RADP grant, new information about records related to the Our Lady of the Victories Mission at Garden Point on Melville Island will soon be available on the site. Thanks to Archivist Anita Maertens and Sister Elizabeth Little for their hard work. We are busily planning our research trip to Darwin in late November where we will be head down among the records most of the time. We are continuing our review of all entries on the NT site and in the coming months a lot of updated material will appear on the site.

Karen George, Gary George and Megg Kelham

## QUEENSLAND

In October the Find & Connect team forwarded me a question received relating to a Queensland institution. The client

wanted to know where the Rockhampton Lunatic Reception House was situated in 1872. My initial response was to say that it was part of the Rockhampton Hospital, which was the case in regional areas by the early 20th century. However, given the early date I decided to look into this further and discovered that the first Lunatic Reception House in Rockhampton was established in the Old Immigration Depot, Victoria Parade. This exemplifies the importance of feedback and questions from users of the Find & Connect web resource.

Lee Butterworth

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

After the review by the Find & Connect national editor lots of new information for many SA Homes has now gone up live on the new site. Significant changes have been made to a number of Salvation Army, Anglican and Catholic institutions, as well as the Junior Red Cross Homes and Government run Cottage Homes, Community and Assessment Units. The updating of all Home entries continues. We are excited to be meeting with Anglicare in SA next week to find out what records they hold that may be of help to care-leavers and hopefully find more information about later Anglican Cottage Homes.

Gary George and Karen George

## TASMANIA

We had a chance to show off the new Find & Connect website at a workshop held on 10 October at Relationships Australia in Hobart. It was an excellent couple of hours and the team are very grateful for the many wonderful suggestions made by the people who attended. Now that the website has been launched, I have begun putting new material into the website. Among others, there will soon be more extensive entries on Kennerley Boys' Home, Ashley Home for Boys, and Centacare.

Caroline Evans

## VICTORIA

This past month has seen the usual research and digging for new information, but Thursday 31 October was the month's highlight. In the morning, we visited Open Place. It was great to hear feedback on

our new web design from the staff, plus representatives from the Department of Human Services and the Public Record Office Victoria (PROV). That afternoon, we were taken on a tour of the Royal Park precinct, which is so important in Victoria's child welfare history. Historian Donna Jaggs walked us around and explained where Homes such as Turana operated. It reminded us just how much we can learn on a single day in this project!

Sarah Green and Rosemary Francis

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The new-look web resource has kept me busy behind the scenes this month and there will soon be new content for display. In an earlier newsletter I mentioned that the State Library of Western Australia was digitising some Annual Reports of the departments responsible for child welfare. This information will be brought onto the Find & Connect web resource as a publication, but in the meantime, you can see the results of the State Library's work-to-date at <http://catalogue.slwa.wa.gov.au/record=b1410539~S7#.UoGBNJRga99> More to follow. Earlier reports are held on the Find & Connect web resource at <http://www.findandconnect.gov.au/ref/wa/objects/WDO000515.htm> This page also holds digital images of some of the government-run facilities.

Deb Rosser



This newsletter is published by the Find & Connect web resource project team. For enquiries please email the editor: [sorpin@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:sorpin@unimelb.edu.au)



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