

Section 2

HOMES RUN BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Catholic Girls Home, Parkside

Catholic Girls Reformatory, Kapunda

Convent of the Good Shepherd, 'The Pines'

Sacred Heart Orphanage, Crystal Brook

St John's Boys Town

St Joseph's Orphanage, Largs Bay

St Joseph's Refuge, Fullarton

St Stanislaus Home

St Vincent de Paul Orphanage (Goodwood Orphanage)

IMPORTANT NOTE: At the time of research, records relating to homes run by the Catholic Church were archived in various locations. However, at the time of writing, the majority of records were being centralised at the newly established Professional Standards Office Records Service of the Catholic Church. Please contact this service for information about records it now holds.

Other records are held at State Records of South Australia and by the different orders responsible for the running of the homes. Some general historical records previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives may be returned after review by the new Records Service. All access conditions and contact details for each of these collections appear at the end of the section.

Catholic Girls Home Parkside

See also Convent of the Good Shepherd, The Pines

In connection with the detention of girls at Barton Vale, it is recommended that the inmates of that Institution of the Roman Catholic Faith should be removed to a separate Institution. Before this can be done, it would be necessary to proclaim a Reformatory School for girls of the Roman Catholic Religion. I understand that a property in Young Street, Parkside, owned by Roman Catholic authorities (the house which was occupied by Dr Sweetapple) is empty. It contains 12 rooms, and would, with slight renovations, be a suitable place to accommodate the girls in question...I strongly recommend that action be taken to secure this home, and have it proclaimed an Institution under the Maintenance Act, 1926, as a Reformatory School for Girls of the Roman Catholic Religion.

Letter from Chairman of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board to the Honorable, the Chief Secretary, July 1930, previously held by Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives



*St Raphael's Church next to Girls Home Parkside,
Courtesy Kay Goodman-Dodd*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Period of operation: 1930-1943

Also known as: Genazzano Home

Run by: Sisters of St Joseph, under the control of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board

Address: 21 Young Street, Parkside

HISTORY

This home for Catholic girls was opened in August 1930 in a twelve roomed house already owned by the Catholic Church. It was named after a village in Italy where a miraculous picture of the Virgin Mary, is venerated. No explanation for this name is recorded, but it has been suggested that the name was chosen in the hope that the home would be protected by Mary. The establishment of this new reformatory had been encouraged by the chairman of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department. He wished to relocate the ten Roman Catholic girls detained in the Salvation Army managed Barton Vale Probationary Home for Girls to a separate Catholic reformatory. There they would be able to receive religious training in their own faith. These girls had mostly come from the Redruth Girls Reformatory which had closed in 1922. The new home at Parkside operated under the direction of the Archbishop of Adelaide and was managed by the Sisters of St Joseph. The first matron was Sister Francis Clare. The home was also under the control of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board which paid a subsidy to the reformatory to cover the complete cost of the care of the girls. In 1930 this sum was £1 per girl per week. During the Second World War the girls received correspondence school lessons and were given instruction in first aid and air raid precautions. This small home could only house ten girls at one time and was always regarded as temporary. On 21 January 1943 it closed and the girls were transferred to the Convent of the Good Shepherd at Plympton.

Drawn from Marie Therese Foale, 'Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare' (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001), p. 39-40; miscellaneous correspondence relating to Catholic Girls Home, Parkside held by Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives) and 'Annual Report of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board', 1942.

THE RECORDS

- State Records of SA
- Professional Standards Office Records Service
- Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide

ADMISSION RECORDS - State Records of SA

Register of New Committals

- **Archive reference** - GRG 29/161
- **Title** - *Register of New Committals 1931-1968*
- **Date range** - 1931-1968
- **Appearance** - One very thick volume secured with metal rivets.
- **Contents** - Contains general admission information relating to homes under the control of the government. Admissions to the Catholic Girls' Home at Parkside during the period 1/7/1931 until 30/6/1943 appear early in the volume under title *New Committals to Catholic Girls Home Parkside*. Entries include: (1) Number, (2) Name, (3) Age, (4) Date of Admission, (5) Religion, (6) Charge.

OTHER RECORDS – State Records of SA

Minutes of the State Children's Council and Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board

- **Archive reference** – GRG 29/124
- **Title** - *Minutes of the State Children's Council and Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board*
- **Date range** - 1886-1965
- **Appearance** – Large volumes of handwritten and then typed minutes.
- **Contents** - As this home was under the control of the State Children's Council and its successor the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board, some entries in minutes relate to this home. They include discussions of the establishment of the home and arrangements made between the Board and the home. Information about state wards admitted to the home is often given including names and some details.
- **Access** – These files are restricted for 80 years. See Access conditions for further information.

Correspondence

- **Archive reference** – GRG 29/6
- **Title** – *Correspondence files of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department*
- **Date range** – 1927-1977
- **Appearance** – Correspondence docketing comprising files of letters and other documents related to a particular subject, filed chronologically.
- **Contents** – Most of this correspondence is not yet indexed but docketing relate to many different subjects and include correspondence related to homes run by the Catholic Church under the control of the Department. Some docketing relate to the cases of individual children.
- **Access** – These files are restricted for 80 years. See Access conditions for further information.

OTHER RECORDS - Professional Standards Records Office Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives)

Miscellaneous correspondence

- **Archive reference** – None available
- **Title** - *Catholic Girls' Home, Parkside 1924-1938.*
- **Date range** – 1924-1938
- **Contents** – Manila folder containing limited amount of correspondence related to the establishment and closure of this home. No admission information.

OTHER RECORDS - Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide

The Sisters of St Joseph hold some historical and personal records relating to homes run by the order. Although unable to provide *FYOW* with specific details regarding their holdings, the Sisters welcome contact from researchers seeking further information. See Access conditions below for contact information.

REPORTS - State Records of SA

Annual Reports of the State Children's Council and the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department

- **Archive reference** - GRG 29/1
- **Date range** - 1887-1955
- **Appearance** – Six bound volumes of printed reports.
- **Contents** – Yearly reports containing updates on developments at homes under the control of the State Children's Council and its successor, the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board, including the Catholic Girls' Home at Parkside. Numbers of children accommodated in these homes are included but the reports contain no personal information.

BOOKS

Marie Therese Foale, *Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare* (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001)

Catholic Girls Reformatory Kapunda



St John's Church, Kapunda with Girls Reformatory on extreme left, SLSA: B19172, Courtesy State Library of South Australia

See also Redruth Girls Reformatory

The accommodation is strained, rather to provide for nineteen girls. The number would not be so high were it not for the difficulty of obtaining situations for the girls in Roman Catholic homes, for there are several girls who could go out to service if places could be found for them. There has been very little sickness among the girls, who, on the whole, have behaved very well indeed. The institution is kept in splendid order, and the inmates are well cared for and receive good religious, moral and practical training.

Annual report of the State Children's Council 1901, p. 5

GENERAL INFORMATION

Years of operation: 1897-1909

Also known as: St John's Reformatory, Kapunda

Run by: Sisters of St Joseph under the control of the State Children's Council

Address : Kapunda

HISTORY

During the 1870s and early 1880s Sister Mechtilde Woods and a colleague from the St Joseph's convent made regular visits to Catholic children in the Girls Reformatory at Magill. During these visits they became concerned that Catholic girls in the institution were being discouraged from practicing their faith. In addition they learned that several girls had been boarded out with non-Catholic families. Two particular girls had even been compelled to give up their faith. Over the next decade, the Catholic Church lobbied the government to do something about this situation. It was not until 1895 that a new Act was proclaimed allowing the State Children's Council to send State Children of particular religious denominations to private reformatories subsidised by the government. This allowed the Catholic Church to establish a separate reformatory for Catholic girls. The State Children's Council requested that the reformatory be set up away from the City. An old chapel and house, five kilometres from the town of Kapunda, were renovated and the new reformatory was gazetted as an Industrial School under the State Children's Act of 1895. Sister Helena O'Brien was appointed matron and she, along with four other sisters, moved to Kapunda to prepare the residence. The first group of ten girls arrived in June 1897.

During the first two years a large number of the girls made escape attempts. Some were successful. In 1899 a second class dormitory and a number of cells were added to accommodate escapees and other girls whose conduct was considered unsatisfactory. A number of girls 'whose behaviour improved' were placed in service with Catholic families. Due to a lack of government funding to keep the reformatory operating, as well as problems associated with the appointment of a resident chaplain, it was closed in 1909 by Archbishop O'Reily. The eleven girls resident at that time were transferred to the Redruth Girls Reformatory at Burra. During the twelve years of its existence a total of 85 girls were accommodated at the Reformatory, 59 of those were readmitted for a second term. After the reformatory closed the buildings were dismantled and the contents sold at auction. Today nothing remains of the reformatory or the chapel, only several original trees still exist.

Drawn from Marie Therese Foale, 'Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare' (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001), p. 33-38; summary history in 'A Piece of the Story, National Directory of Records of Catholic Organisations caring for children separated from families' (Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission and Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, 1999) and 'Annual Report of the State Children's Council,' 1910, p. 1.

THE RECORDS

- State Records of SA
- Professional Standards Office Records Service
- Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide

ADMISSION RECORDS

No admission records have survived.

OTHER RECORDS – State Records of SA

Minutes of the State Children's Council and Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board

- **Archive reference** – GRG 29/124
- **Title** - *Minutes of the State Children's Council and Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board*
- **Date range** - 1886-1965
- **Appearance** – Large volumes of handwritten and then typed minutes.
- **Contents** – As this home was under the control of the State Children's Council, some entries in minutes relate to this home. They include discussions of the establishment of the home and arrangements made between the Board and the home. Information about state children admitted to the home is often given including names and some details.

Correspondence

- **Archive reference**- GRG 27/1
- **Title** – *Correspondence of the State Children's Department*
- **Date range** – 1887-1927
- **Appearance** – Correspondence dockets comprising files of letters and other documents related to a particular subject, filed chronologically.
- **Contents** – Most of this correspondence is not yet indexed but dockets relate to many different subjects and include correspondence related to homes run by the Catholic Church under the control of the Department. Some dockets relate to the cases of individual children.

OTHER RECORDS - Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives)

Miscellaneous correspondence

- **Archive Reference** - None available
- **Title** - *Reformatory, St John's via Kapunda, 1897-1909*
- **Date range** – 1909
- **Contents** – Manila folder containing miscellaneous correspondence relating to closure of the girls reformatory and removal of children to other institutions. No names are mentioned.

OTHER RECORDS - Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide

The Sisters of St Joseph hold some historical and personal records relating to homes run by the order. Although unable to provide FYOW with specific details regarding their holdings, the Sisters welcome contact from researchers seeking further information. See Access conditions below for contact information.

REPORTS - State Records of SA

Annual Reports of the State Children's Council

- **Archive reference** - GRG 29/1
- **Date range** - 1887-1926
- **Appearance** – Bound volumes of printed reports.
- **Contents** – Yearly reports containing updates on developments at homes under the control of the State Children's Council, including the Catholic Girls Reformatory at Kapunda. Numbers of children accommodated in these homes are included but the reports contain no personal information.

BOOKS

Marie Therese Foale, *Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare* (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001)

Convent of the Good Shepherd 'The Pines'

Girls committed to this home are accommodated in good wholesome surroundings, and keen interest is taken in their welfare by the matron and staff. During the week days the girls are fully occupied with various phases of laundry work, and their leisure hours are carefully provided for by means of concerts and other features. A five days 'Retreat' was conducted, the girls receiving instruction in all branches of ethics. New features of the home include an amateur dramatic society, a single sheet news bulletin, to which the girls contribute articles of topical or cultural interest, and the introduction of basketball and educational films. During the year the girls presented an operetta entitle 'Laila'.

Annual report of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board, 1944, p. 4

GENERAL INFORMATION

Years of operation: 1941-1974

Also known as: *The Pines*

Home of the Good Shepherd

Run by: The Catholic Church – Order of the Good Shepherd Sisters under the control of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board and its successors

Address: 336 Marion Road, Plympton

HISTORY

In 1941 the Good Shepherd Sisters were asked by the Archbishop of Adelaide to establish a home in Adelaide for teenage girls with 'behavioural problems'. The convent was established in a large home in Plympton called *The Pines*, originally owned by the John Martin family. Set on nineteen acres of grounds, it was remodelled to accommodate up to eighty children. Many of the girls admitted to the home were under the care of the Children's Welfare Department, although the Good Shepherd sisters did also take in girls who were not wards of the State.

Three sisters originally ran the home. Later they were joined by five more as the number of girls increased. The first seven children to be placed in the home were transferred from the care of the Sisters of St Joseph, when their home for Catholic girls at Parkside closed in January 1943.

In the late 1960s institutional-style dormitory accommodation was replaced by smaller group care. In 1974 a decision was taken to phase out residential care due to the increasing complexity of referrals and the limitations of large institutional buildings.

Drawn from various historical information provided by the Good Shepherd Sisters, Abbotsford, Victoria.



The Pines undated, Courtesy of the Good Shepherd Sisters Archives. The Pines, new dormitory building 1946, The Pines dormitory, 1957 GRG 29/139, Courtesy State Records of South Australia

THE RECORDS

- Good Shepherd Sisters Archives
- State Records of SA

ADMISSION RECORDS – Good Shepherd Sisters Archives, Abbotsford, Victoria

Admission and Discharge registers

- **Archive reference** – None provided
- **Date range** - 1941-1974
- **Appearance** - Bound volumes stored in a secure archival facility with controlled air temperature and humidity.
- **Contents** - Volumes record names, birth dates and dates of arrival and departure. They do not indicate whether girls were Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal.

ADMISSION RECORDS - State Records of SA

Register of New Committals

- **Archive reference** - GRG 29/161
- **Date range** – 1931-1968
- **Title** - *Register of New Committals, 1931-1968*
- **Appearance** - One very thick volume secured by metal rivets.
- **Contents** - General admission information relating to homes under the control of the government. Admissions to the Home of the Good Shepherd appear as follows:
 - (A) Admissions in the period 1943 to 1953 are set out on one page titled *New committals to Home of the Good Shepherd*. Provides: (1) Number, (2) Name, (3) Age, (4) Date of Admission, (5) Religion, (6) Charge;
 - (B) From 1945-1969 brief admission records relating to all government controlled homes are entered into hand-drawn columns across two pages. Each column is headed with name of a home abbreviated, such as HGS for Home of the Good Shepherd;
 - (C) Two further sections contain brief admission information relating to the Home of the Good Shepherd for the periods 1953-1959 and 1958-1965.

Lists of state wards

- **Archive reference** - GRG 29/75
- **Date range** - 1960
- **Title** - *Lists of state wards at the Boys Training School Magill, Home of the Good Shepherd and Vaughan House*
- **Contents** - Not yet known
- **Access** - These lists are restricted for 80 years. See Access conditions for further information.

OTHER RECORDS - Good Shepherd Sisters Archives, Abbotsford, Victoria

Individual files

The Good Shepherd Sisters hold over 560 individual files relating to girls resident in the home. Access is restricted. See Access conditions for further details.

OTHER RECORDS – State Records of SA

Minutes of the State Children's Council and Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board

- **Archive reference** – GRG 29/124
- **Title** - *Minutes of the State Children's Council and Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board*
- **Date range** - 1886-1965
- **Appearance** – Large volumes of handwritten and then typed minutes.
- **Contents** – As this home was under the control of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board, some entries in minutes relate to this home. They include discussions of the establishment of the home and arrangements made between the Board and the home. Information about state wards admitted to the home is often given including names and some details.
- **Access** – These files are restricted for 80 years. See Access conditions for further information.

Correspondence

- **Archive reference** – GRG 29/6
- **Title** – *Correspondence files of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department*
- **Date range** – 1927-1977
- **Appearance** – Correspondence dockets comprising files of letters and other documents related to a particular subject, filed chronologically.
- **Contents** – Most of this correspondence is not yet indexed but dockets relate to many different subjects and include correspondence related to homes run by the Catholic Church under the control of the Department. Some dockets relate to the cases of individual children.
- **Access** – These files are restricted for 80 years. See Access conditions for further information.

REPORTS - State Records of SA

Annual Reports

- **Archive reference** - GRG 29/1
- **Title** - *Annual Reports of the State Children's Council and the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department*
- **Date range** - 1887-1960
- **Appearance** – Bound volumes of printed reports.
- **Contents** – Yearly reports containing updates on developments at homes under the control of the State Children's Council, including *The Pines*. Numbers of children accommodated in these homes are included but reports contain no personal information.

- **Archive reference** - GRG 29/153
- **Title** - *Annual Reports of the Department of Social Welfare, 1966-1970*
Annual Reports of the Department of Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs, 1970-1972
Annual Reports of the Department for Community Welfare, 1972-1974
- **Date range** – 1966-1974
- **Appearance** – Bound volumes of printed reports.
- **Contents** - These later reports also contain yearly updates relating to *The Pines* up until its closure in 1974.

PHOTOGRAPHS – Good Shepherd Sisters Archives

Photographs of the building and of the staff of The Pines are held, but no photographs of the girls in care.



BOOKS

A Piece of the Story, National Directory of Records of Catholic Organisations caring for children separated from families (Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission & Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, 1999)

Sacred Heart Orphanage

GENERAL INFORMATION

Years of operation: 1940-1979

Also known as: No other names

Run by: Good Samaritan Sisters – Catholic Church

Address: Eyre Road, Crystal Brook, South Australia

HISTORY

This orphanage was originally established to cater for children in need whose fathers had been killed during World War II. Other than the children's home at the Umeewarra Mission near Port Augusta, it was the only home in the north of the state. In the 1970s an agreement was signed with the Department of Community Welfare and government assistance was provided to the institution. This funding allowed the orphanage to accommodate any boys and girls between the ages of 4 and 15 who needed short or long term care. It normally catered for up to twenty children under the care of three staff members. While living at the orphanage, the children were educated at the Parish School, St Stanislaus.

The orphanage building still exists today and the premises operates as the Sacred Heart Home, a boarding hostel for students.

Drawn from summary history in 'A Piece of the Story, National Directory of Records of Catholic Organisations caring for children separated from families' (Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission & Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, 1999) and miscellaneous documents relating the Sacred Heart Orphanage held by the Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives).

THE RECORDS

- Port Pirie Diocese
- Good Samaritan Sisters Archives
- Professional Standards Office Records Service

ADMISSION RECORDS – Port Pirie Catholic Diocesan Office & Good Samaritan Sisters Archives

Note: The one surviving original register is held at the Port Pirie Catholic Diocesan Office. A photocopy is held at the Good Samaritan Sisters Archives, Glebe Point NSW.



Sacred Heart Orphanage 1940's Courtesy Good Samaritan Sisters. Sacred Heart Home, Sacred Heart Home sign 2004, Courtesy Gary George

Admission Register

- **Archive reference** – None provided
- **Date range** – 1951-1979
- **Contents** - No further details about the contents of the Admission book are available.
- **Notes on contents** - The first admission book for the period 1940-1951 cannot be located.

OTHER RECORDS - Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives)

Miscellaneous correspondence

- **Archive reference** – None available
- **Date range** – 1972-1977
- **Contents** - Correspondence mostly related to the planning and signing of an agreement between the Good Samaritan Sisters, the Minister of Community Welfare and the Catholic Diocese of Port Pirie to transform the Orphanage into a government funded residential home for children.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Good Samaritan Sisters Archives holds a small collection of photographs relating to this institution, including photographs of children and staff.

St John's Boys Town

This institution is a monument of Father Healy's zeal and devotion to his work. He and the lay brothers who assist him spare no pains to benefit the boys or to comply with the wishes of the Council. Their work demands patience, and may sometimes seem slow, but the boys sent from there usually retain their situations and do well.

Annual report of the State Children's Council, 1909, p. 8

GENERAL INFORMATION

Years of operation: 1898-1984

Also known as: St John the Baptist Home for Boys

St John's Home

The Roman Catholic Boys Reformatory

Boys Home, Brooklyn Park Inc

Salesian School

St John's Boys Town Inc

St John's Boys Home

Boys Town

Run by: Brothers of St John the Baptist 1898-1942, under the control of the State Children's Council and its successor, the Children's Relief and Public Welfare Board 1898-1941

Salesians of Don Bosco 1942-1984

Address: Marshall Terrace, Brooklyn Park

HISTORY

Father John Healy of the Thebarton parish founded this reformatory home in 1898 to provide alternative accommodation for Catholic boys committed to the government reformatory at Magill. It was run by a new order, the Brothers of St John the Baptist, established by Healy in 1892 and made official in 1922.

Although numbers of residents were consistent in the early years, by 1941 there were only 4-5 boys in the reformatory. That year too the home ceased to operate as a registered government reformatory and was no longer under the control of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board. The reformatory was renamed *St John's Boys Town* and as part of a rationalisation of the prevailing situation in Adelaide, it was decided that the Brothers of St John the Baptist would look after older boys.

By 1942 the number of boys in care had risen to almost fifty. Internal problems within the order, combined with some behaviour management issues within the home, led to the handing over of control by command of the Archbishop. The Salesians of Don Bosco replaced the Brothers of St John the Baptist. The order of the Brothers of St John the Baptist was suppressed and ceased to operate. Several options were offered to the remaining brothers, which included transfer to another religious congregation. On taking over, the Salesian priests and brothers applied to alter the name and rules of the home to put a new focus on education and training. Around 1953-1954 full authority to accept day-boys for both technical and secondary studies was granted and the name 'Boys Town' was discontinued. A new building was erected so that the number of residents could be increased. The Salesians were particular about the boys they would accommodate, preferring to take boys over the age of ten with at least grade five standard education. The home became known as 'the boarding section of Salesian School' and in the mid 1960s the school was referred to as the 'Salesian College'. St Johns Boys Home closed at the end of 1984. Salesian College finished as a co-educational secondary school at the end of 1996.

Drawn from correspondence, reports and other documents relating to St Johns Boys Town held by the Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives); information provided by the Salesians of Don Bosco, Province Centre Archives and from summary history in 'A Piece of the Story, National Directory of Records of Catholic Organisations caring for children separated from families' (Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission & Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, 1999).

THE RECORDS

- State Records of SA
- Professional Standards Office Records Service
- Salesians of Don Bosco, Province Centre Archives

ADMISSION RECORDS -State Records of SA

- **Archive reference** – GRG 27/12
- **Title** - *Register of Admissions to the Roman Catholic Boys' Reformatory, Brooklyn Park, 1895-1908*
- **Date range** – 1895-1908
- **Appearance** - Large hard cover ledger with title on spine and front, *Register of Admissions to the Boys' Reformatory – Roman Catholic*.
- **Contents** - Title across top *Register of Admissions to the Roman Catholic Boys' Reformatory*. Entries across two pages. Left hand page: (1) Number, (2) Name, (3) Age, (4) Date of birth, (5) Late place of residence, (6) What relatives in the colony, (7) Religion. Right hand page: (8) Court of Committal, (9) Reasons for Admission, (10) Date of Admission, (11) Date of Leaving, (12) Where gone to.
- **Notes on contents** - Volume ends at 1908. Majority of ledger blank. (1) Number: is often number/ date, may relate to docket or case book. (4) Date of birth: includes notation if it was registered. (11) Where gone to: Abscondings, releases etc sometimes include references to a State Children's Council or Chief Secretary's Office docket.

OTHER RECORDS – State Records of SA

Minutes of the State Children's Council and Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board

- **Archive reference** – GRG 29/124
- **Title** - *Minutes of the State Children's Council and Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board*
- **Date range** - 1886-1965
- **Appearance** – Large volumes of handwritten and then typed minutes.
- **Contents** – As this home was under the control of the State Children's Council and its successor the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board, some entries in minutes relate to this home. They include discussions of the establishment of the home and arrangements made between the Board and the home. Information about state wards admitted to the home is often given including names and some details.
- **Access** – These files are restricted for 80 years. See Access conditions for further information.

Correspondence

- **Archive reference** - GRG 27/1
- **Title** – *Correspondence of the State Children's Department*
- **Date range** – 1887-1927
- **Appearance** – Correspondence dockets comprising files of letters and other documents related to a particular subject, filed chronologically.
- **Contents** – Most of this correspondence is not yet indexed but dockets relate to many different subjects and include correspondence related to homes run by the Catholic Church under the control of the Department. Some dockets relate to the cases of individual children.

- **Archive reference** – GRG 29/6
- **Title** – *Correspondence files of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department*
- **Date range** – 1927-1977
- **Appearance** – As above, correspondence dockets comprising files of letters and other documents related to a particular subject, filed chronologically.
- **Contents** – Most of this correspondence is not yet indexed but dockets relate to many different subjects and include correspondence related to homes run by the Catholic Church under the control of the Department. Some dockets relate to the cases of individual children.
- **Access** – These files are restricted for 80 years. See Access conditions for further information.

OTHER RECORDS - Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives)

Miscellaneous correspondence and reports

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Date range** – 1893-1962
- **Contents** - Miscellaneous documents including correspondence, reports and news clippings relating to establishment, rules and regulations of home. Many later documents concern transfer of home from Brothers of St John the Baptist to Salesians of Don Bosco. No documents concern individual admissions or provide names of boys.

OTHER RECORDS – Salesian Provincial House, Archives

According to the Archivist, the Province Centre Archives holds no personal records and only limited information regarding the running of the home. Some correspondence records relating to negotiations regarding the Salesian presence at Brooklyn Park are held. These include correspondence from Archbishop Matthew Beovich to the Salesians whose religious leadership was in Victoria; and letters from the Salesian 'higher authorities' in the United States and in Italy. The latter are from the time of the Pacific War when overseas communications were restricted. Some letters are in Italian and some in English. The Archivist regrets that he does not know of the location of personal files relating to former residents.

REPORTS – State Records of SA

Annual Reports

- **Archive reference** - GRG 29/1
- **Title** - *Annual Reports of the State Children's Council and the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department*
- **Date range** - 1887-1955
- **Appearance** – Six bound volumes of printed reports.
- **Contents** – Yearly reports containing updates on developments at homes under the control of the State Children's Council, including the St John's Boy's Town. Numbers of children accommodated in these homes are included. In reports the home is referred to as 'The Reformatory for Roman Catholic Boys at Brooklyn Park'. Reports contain no personal information.
- **Archive reference** - GRG 29/153
- **Title** - *Annual Reports of the Department of Social Welfare, 1966-1970*
- **Date range** – 1966-1970
- **Appearance** – Bound volumes of printed reports.
- **Contents** - These later reports also contain yearly updates relating to The Reformatory for Roman Catholic Boys.

St Joseph's Orphanage Largs Bay

I am only too happy to fall in with any arrangement you will make about the Orphanage. My sympathies were never much with the Sanatorium. Though a good work it seemed to work for the benefit of the rich, and not for the poor who are our special charge. But for the orphans whose loss we felt so deeply to come to us again is a great pleasure.

Letter from Mary McKillop to Archbishop O'Reily, 26 June 1906 as quoted in Marie Therese Foale, 'Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare' (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001), p. 21



Largs Bay Orphanage,
Courtesy Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives

GENERAL INFORMATION

Years of operation: 1906-1980

Also known as: St Joseph's Children's Home

Junior Boys Home of the Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Incorporated

Run by: Sisters of St Joseph

Address: 208 The Esplanade, Largs Bay

HISTORY

Established in 1903, the St Joseph's orphanage was the second orphanage to be managed by the Sisters of St Joseph. It began as a sanatorium or rest home for women and children needing respite and 'the benefits of sea air'. The first building had eight rooms and an ocean view and soon became very popular. Due to the demand for accommodation the institution moved to a larger premises on the Esplanade near the Largs Bay jetty in 1906. Although the home continued for a time to accommodate women, the sisters began to concentrate on its role as an orphanage for boys and girls from infancy to school leaving age. By 1908 even the larger building was becoming overcrowded so a cottage on an adjoining lot was purchased. In 1910 sixty-two children were being cared for in the orphanage and by 1912 the sisters were running out of room for the numbers of children being referred to them. Over the next few years a number of additions were made to the building, including a schoolroom in 1912 and a kitchen and laundry in 1917.

In 1941, after the arrival of Archbishop Matthew Beovich in Adelaide, the focus of the Orphanage changed. The Archbishop arranged for all the older boys from the orphanages at Goodwood and Largs Bay to be placed at Brooklyn Park under the care of the Brothers of St John the Baptist and later the Salesians of Don Bosco. All girls were moved to the St Vincent de Paul orphanage and St Joseph's took charge of boys aged between three and twelve.

During the 1960s the home accommodated up to sixty boys under the care of seven nuns. At that time the institution was also known as the Junior Boys Home. Boys were accommodated in three dormitories, divided by their age. They were educated at a kindergarten and school run by three resident registered school teachers. They also received religious instruction from the resident Chaplain.

From 1969 a small number of girls were admitted and one of the dormitories was set aside for their use. The home then became known as St Joseph's Children's Home. During 1973-1974 the original building was converted into four self-contained group units, each accommodating eight children between the

ages of two and fifteen. Each group was cared for by a house-mother. Three of the units had the capacity to house two extra children in an emergency. During the 1970s children remained in the home for periods ranging between three weeks and three years. While resident they attended local schools. Until its closure at the end of 1980 St Josephs continued to provide unit style accommodation for children from infancy to seventeen years of age.

Drawn from Marie Therese Foale, 'Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare' (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001), p. 21-24; summary history in 'A Piece of the Story, National Directory of Records of Catholic Organisations caring for children separated from families' (Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission & Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, 1999) and administration file, Department for Community Welfare.

THE RECORDS

- Professional Standards Office Records Service
- Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives
- Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide

ADMISSION RECORDS – Professional Standards Office Records Service

Admission Register

- **Title** - *Largs Bay Admission Register, 1906-1980*
- **Date range** - 1906-1980 with gap (1958-1969)
- **Appearance** - Large green/brown ledger with handwritten entries.
- **Contents** - Begins with an alphabetical list of names with page references. A number of pages follow with information on 'first communion', baptisms and confirmations, 1906-1940s. Alphabetical listings of names and details in letter tabbed sections follow. The ledger is then divided into columns over two pages. Left hand page (date at top): (1) Number, (2) Child's name, (3) Age/Date of birth, (4) Male, (5) Female, (6) Date of Admission, (7) Date of Leaving. Right hand page: (8) Parent's name, (9) Address, (10) Religion, (11) Remarks.
- **Notes on contents** - Different handwriting indicates different record keeper. Amount and type of information dependent on record keeper. Date range runs 1906-1958 then gap of missing pages (p. 133-143). Entries begin again 1969. Two loose pages at back titled 'Record of parents and children's ages 1925' give admission date, family name, father's and mother's names, children's names and birth dates, address.
(4&5) Male/Female: In 1943 M and F columns changed to Place of birth and Religion respectively.
(8) Parent's names often absent in earlier years. Later entries have more information.
(10) Religion from 1950s also includes 'Sacraments'.
(11) Remarks include: discharge from home – who with, when and where to; whether parents are alive or dead; baptism; holidays; readmissions and transfers to other homes; character and other information re parents; circumstances of child's admission; adoption or fostering of child; health of child. Only one 1950s entry identified as Aboriginal. Not all entries have remarks.

Admission Register

- **Title** - *Largs Bay Admission Book 1956-1967*
- **Date range** - 1956-1967
- **Appearance** - Foolscap black hardcover index book.
- **Contents** - Inside cover has title, *Admission Book*. Names listed alphabetically in sections with letter tabs. Following pages are divided into hand drawn columns over two pages. Left hand page:
(1) Admission, (2) Child's name, (3) Mother, (4) Father. Right hand page: (5) Address, (6) Birth, (7) Place, (8) Source, (9) Discharge, (10) Destination.

Admission Register

- **Title** - *Largs Bay Admission Book 1966-1970*
- **Date range** - 1966-1970
- **Appearance** - Croxley foolscap index book.
- **Contents** - Title page, *Admission 1967*, then names listed alphabetically and followed by same hand drawn columns and headings as above. Entries are not numbered in contrast to earliest ledger.

OTHER RECORDS – Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives)

Miscellaneous correspondence and documents

- **Archive reference** – None available
- **Date range** - 1923-1970
- **Appearance** - Three folders of miscellaneous documents.
- **Contents** - Most correspondence relates to the land and buildings, maintenance and repairs, staff, fundraising and legacies left to the home. One document dated 1930s-1940s concerns Child Endowment and provides a handwritten list of names of children, noting whether or not a subsidy is claimed for them. Folders contain a small number of letters requesting admission or related to the cases of individual children.

Miscellaneous correspondence and documents

- **Archive reference** – None available
- **Date range** – 1903-1980
- **Appearance** - Manila folder titled, *St Joseph's Orphanage, Largs Bay, 1903-1980*.
- **Contents** - Miscellaneous reports and correspondence mostly related to maintenance, building and in later years, the closure of the home. Also includes news clippings related to history of home and one list of children's names titled, *Children 1930s onwards*.

OTHER RECORDS - Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide

The Sisters of St Joseph hold some historical and personal records relating to homes run by the order. Although unable to provide *FYOW* with specific details regarding their holdings, the Sisters welcome contact from researchers seeking further information. See Access conditions below for contact information.

PHOTOGRAPHS - Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives

The Archives hold a small number of photographs of the orphanage at Largs Bay.

BOOKS

Marie Therese Foale, *Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare* (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001)

St Joseph's Refuge, Fullarton

To the question, 'What is the qualification for admission?' the sister in charge will reply, 'None whatsoever, other than the applicant is in distress'...'We save fully 95 per cent of those who come to us,' the Archbishop remarked. 'One third of them come for protection. They have not fallen, but they wish to be saved from falling. In some cases the parents cannot control them, but the sisters have no trouble with them here. For 36 years the institution has been at work, and we have never had a case of infectious disease, such as diphtheria. In the last 10 years, 300 babies have been born in the institution, but only in one case did the mother die. We do not force an inmate to attend our church services, and ministers of other denominations may visit members of their flock who are inmates.'

'The Fullarton Refuge, Visit by Lady Bosanquet', from 'The Daily Herald', 3 May 1910.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Years of operation: 1868-1975

Also known as: The Fullarton Refuge
St Joseph's Centre, Fullarton
Louise Place

Run by: Sisters of St Joseph 1868-1963
Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul 1963-1992
St Vincent's Trust Endowment Society 1992-2001
Centacare Catholic Family Services 2001-present

Address: Franklin Street, Adelaide 1868-1870
Mitcham 1870-1872
Queen Street, Norwood 1872-1901
88 Wattle Street, Fullarton 1901-1992
5 Randolph Avenue, Fullarton 1992 - Present

HISTORY

St Joseph's Refuge was the second institution established by the Catholic Church in South Australia. Its foundation was inspired by reports by the Sisters of St Joseph about the number of Catholic women they had encountered on visiting the Adelaide Gaol. Many of these women wished to reform themselves but had no support to do so. The sisters believed that given a nurturing, spiritual environment - as well as shelter and care - these young women, some of whom were unmarried mothers, could be given a second chance. A number of women who urgently needed help were accommodated in temporary homes. In October 1867 Archdeacon Patrick Russell called a meeting of leading members of the Catholic community in Adelaide. As a result of this gathering a rented premises was secured in Franklin Street, Adelaide, to be set up as a Catholic Female Refuge. In May 1868 the Sisters of St Joseph took charge of the institution. Initially 24 women were in residence, eleven of whom the sisters had removed from the Gaol. The institution supported itself through laundry work. The refuge cared for women of all denominations for as long as they required shelter and no payment for accommodation was requested.



Fullarton Refuge Infirmery and Fullarton Refuge Wash House undated, Courtesy Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives.

From Franklin Street the Refuge moved to a larger rented house at Mitcham with enough rooms to accommodate twenty women. In 1872 it transferred to an even larger premises near the St Ignatius Church in Queen Street, Norwood. Due to the success of the laundry work the Refuge had a small sum of money saved. This combined with a charitable bequest allowed the church to purchase an eleven-acre property, formerly a Jam Factory, at Fullarton. New buildings were erected including a lying-in home, a children's cottage and a modern laundry which would provide the funding for the running of the refuge for years to come. The Fullarton Refuge was officially opened on 22 September 1901. By 1911 the refuge was home to 86 women, 36 children and 18 sisters. At the turn of the century the emphasis of the refuge changed from sheltering former prisoners from the Adelaide Gaol to caring for unmarried mothers and their children.



*Louise Place 2005,
Courtesy Kay Goodman-Dodd*

The identity of each woman admitted to the refuge was carefully protected. On arriving each was given a name other than her true Christian name and during her stay she was only known by that pseudonym. Her real identity was recorded in a locked register which still survives. While embracing the Catholic faith was not a pre-requisite of residence, all women were expected to work. Mothers were allowed to remain until their child reached three years of age. At that time, if the women wished to remain at the Refuge, the child was transferred to the Orphanage at Largs Bay. By the early 1930s it was reported that some 6000 children and adults had passed through the Refuge since its establishment.

In 1963 control of the Refuge was transferred from the Sisters of St Joseph to the Daughters of Charity. In the 1970s it was not only catering for unmarried mothers but also for other women requiring residential care. These included deserted wives and their children and girls in need of protective care. The Refuge still operates today under the management of Centacare and is known as Louise Place.

Drawn from Marie Therese Foale, 'Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare' (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001), p. 9-16 and historical summaries and other documents relating to the Refuge, Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives).

THE RECORDS

- Professional Standards Office Records Service
- Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide

ADMISSION RECORDS – Professional Standards Office Records Service

Seven registers and four sets of admission cards are held.

Admission Register

- **Title** - *Admission Register, November 1873-August 1956*
- **Date range** - 1873-1956
- **Appearance** - Large landscape hardcover volume with broken metal clasp/lock. Title *Register* on front with dates added, Nov 1873-Aug 1956.
- **Contents** - Begins with index on tabbed letter pages, giving surname, number and page number. Handwritten entries follow under printed columns on one page: (1) Date, (2) Number, (3) Name in full, (4) Age, (5) Where from, (6) When left, (7) Where gone to, (8) Married or Single, (9) Remarks.
- **Notes on contents** - First entry, (no 33) dated 18 November 1873. Last entry is 14 August 1956. (5) Where from: generally unspecified, just 'Adelaide'.

(9) Remarks: Not all entries have remarks. Information more detailed by 1890s. Early remarks only record that inmate 'Left with male [or female] child'. Column sometimes includes comments on character. From 1900 it records whether woman is Protestant or Catholic and gives the birth date and name of child. Information about placement of the child is also given, such as 'with mother', 'with foster mother', 'adopted' (sometimes with names given) or 'to the orphanage'.

Admission Register

- **Title** - *Admission Register, August 1956 – June 1968*
- **Date range** - 1956-1968
- **Appearance** - Large landscape hardcover register with title *Register 16.8.56-22.6.68* on front.
- **Contents** - Index and entries in front as above.
- **Notes on contents** – (9) Remarks: Many entries late 1950s and 1960s record where woman was sent to give birth, for example 'To Queens Home' or 'QVH' [Queen Vic Hospital]. Many entries do not give date of birth, sex or name of child but do mention adoption. Entries from 1960s give more background to each case and include comments on character.

Admission Register

- **Title** - *Admittance and Departures, August 1968-June 1971*
- **Date range** - 1968-1971
- **Appearance** - Small soft cover memo book titled as above.
- **Contents** - Each right hand page records admissions for one calendar month and is hand-drawn into columns with handwritten entries: (1) Number, (2) Date, (3) Name, (4) Left. From Jan 1969 a further column appears between 'Name' and 'Left', titled 'Known as', giving a Christian, or shortened name as a pseudonym, for some women.

Lying-in Home Register

- **Title** - *State Children's Department Lying-in Home Register, August 1901-May 1907*
- **Date range** - 1901-1907
- **Appearance** - Foolscap landscape hardcover volume handwritten name on front, *Mrs O'Shea, Frewville*. Date added *August 12th 1901- May 10th 1907*
- **Contents** - Purpose printed volume produced for State Children's Department. Each page carries title, *Pursuant to "The State Children's Act, 1895" Lying-in Home Register* and has printed columns and headings with handwritten entries: (1) Name and usual residence of woman confined, (2) Date of confinement, (3) Name of Doctor or midwife who attended during confinement, (4) Here state with whom the child leaves the home – if with mother, enter where gone to; if placed with Licensed Foster-mother or near relative, enter name and address; if deceased, enter cause of death, (5) Date when woman left, (6) Date when child left.
- **Notes on contents** - First column also includes reference or admission number and gives the name of the child. Many entries note 'Gone with mother to St Joseph's Refuge, Fullarton'. Entries also record death or adoption of children.

Lying-in Home Register

- **Title** - *Lying-in Home Register, May 1907-May 1912*
- **Date range** - 1907-1912
- **Appearance** - As above foolscap landscape book. No title on front but printed columns inside. Date added on front, *May 16th 1907 – May 30th 1912*.
- **Notes on contents** - Same layout as previous volume. Lists children adopted, sent to Largs Bay orphanage or to a foster mother.

Lying-in Home Register

- **Title** - *Lying in Home Register, June 1912-Nov 1960*
- **Date range** - 1912-1960
- **Appearance** - Large thick foolscap hardcover volume with date and title added on spine, *June 1912-Nov 1960 Lying in Home register.*
- **Contents** - Printed columns and headings as above.
- **Notes on contents** - Name of child given in first column. Children regularly sent to Largs Bay and Goodwood Orphanages or adopted out.

Lying-in Home Register

- **Title** - *Register, April 1914-May 1923*
- **Date range** - 1914-1923
- **Appearance** - Smaller hardback landscape volume with date added on front, *April 1914 – May 1923.*
- **Contents** - Printed columns and headings across two pages with title on top of each page, *Register Private Hospitals and Maternity Homes.* Entries handwritten. Left hand page: (1) Number, (2) Full name of patient, (3) Age, (4) Residence, (5) Admitted, (6) Medical attendant, (7) Discharged, (8) Died. Right hand page: (9) Midwife or nurse, (10) Date of delivery, (11) If born alive, (12) Remarks.
- **Notes on contents** - Entries are patchy and little is recorded in the remarks column.

Admission cards

- **Title** - *St Joseph's Girls' Refuge, Fullarton Admission cards 1942-1956*
- **Date range** - 1942-1956
- **Appearance** - Two bundles of large printed file cards (A-M and M-Z) held together with elastic and titled, *St Joseph's Girls' Refuge, Fullarton* across top of card.
- **Contents** - Cards record information on front and back. Front: (1) Date, (2) Name in full, (3) Married/single, (4) Admitted, (5) Religion, (6) Nationality, (7) Date of birth, (8) Where from, (9) Father's name, (10) Mother's maiden name, (11) Address of parent or guardian, (12) Baptised, (13) Confirmed, (14) Married, (15) Left, (16) Remarks.
Back: *Information re child* (17) Date of birth, (18) Male/female, (19) Place of birth, (20) Legitimate/Illegitimate, (21) Name of father, (22) Mother's maiden name, (23) Baptised, (24) Place, (25) Illness, (26) Left.
- **Notes on contents** - (12) Left and (16) Remarks entries often give details of where mother has gone and to whom child has gone. Adoptions are recorded.

Admission cards

- **Title** - *St Joseph's Girls' Refuge, Fullarton, Permanent Residents*
- **Date range** - 1940s-1970s
- **Appearance** - Small set of file cards attached to M-Z bundle. Labelled on top, *Perms - Permanent residents, long term.*
- **Notes on contents** - Typed cards with same layout as above. Other documents often attached. More detail recorded under (4) Admitted and (16) Remarks.

Admission cards

- **Title** - *Admission Cards, August 1968-May 1971*
- **Date range** - 1968-1971
- **Appearance** - Wooden box with small key containing small cards, filed alphabetically. Paper at front gives dates *Aug 1968-May 1971*.
- **Contents** - Printed cards with: (1) Name, (2) Where from, (3) Occupation, (4) Next of kin, (5) Address of next of kin, (6) Admitted, (7) Left, (8) Age, (9) Place of birth, (10) Religion, (11) Nationality, (12) Marital status, (13) EDC, (14) Hospital, (15) Putative father, (16) Address of putative father, (17) Does he know of pregnancy? (18) Do next of kin know? (19) Referred by. Back of card: (20) Remarks.
- **Notes on contents** – (12) Marital status usually includes '1st pregnancy' or similar notation. (20) Remarks entries are comprehensive, giving information about woman's background, character and contact details as well as details about child.

OTHER RECORDS - Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held at the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives)

Miscellaneous correspondence, reports and other documents

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Date range** - 1897-1970
- **Contents** - Miscellaneous records in manila folders, including historical summaries and news clippings about Refuge. Correspondence and reports relate to health, redevelopments and additions, financial matters, legal issues, staff salaries and the transfer of the home to the Daughters of Charity. Very little correspondence concerns individual women and/or their children.

OTHER RECORDS - Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide

The Sisters of St Joseph hold some historical and personal records relating to homes run by the order. Although unable to provide FYOW with specific details regarding their holdings, the Sisters welcome contact from researchers seeking further information. See Access conditions below for contact information.

BOOKS

Marie Therese Foale, *Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare* (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001)

St Stanislaus House

GENERAL INFORMATION

Years of operation: 1956-1978

Also known as: The Polish Orphanage,
St Stanislaus Children's Home

Run by: Resurrection Sisters

Address: 30 George Street, Royal Park

HISTORY

Opened in 1956 this home was named for its patron, a young Jesuit, Stanislaus Kostka. Its establishment was inspired and sponsored by Polish migrants who had recently immigrated to Australia and settled in Adelaide. With the help of the Polish community, Polish American nuns were brought out to Australia to work in the home. St Stanislaus House provided accommodation for up to fifty children. It housed orphans, children from broken homes and children whose mothers were ill or forced to go out to work. A pre-school and kindergarten were run within the home while older children attended the local Catholic primary school. In 1970 childcare policies changed and there was a move towards cottage-style accommodation. Due to lack of staff to care for children under this new system, the home was closed. The Resurrection sisters still reside at the home and run a day care centre for children.

Drawn from 'Directory of Social Agencies, South Australia 1961' (SA Council of Social Service & The Department of Public Health) p. 51 and information provided by the Resurrection Sisters.

THE RECORDS

- St Stanislaus House
- Professional Standards Office Records Service

ADMISSION RECORDS – St Stanislaus House

Admission cards

- **Date range** - Most admissions 1950s-1960s
- **Appearance** - System cards filed alphabetically in a large metal file box titled in Polish, *DZIECI W INTERNACIE*.
- **Contents** - Typed cards with: (1) Surname, (2) Admission date, (3) Christian name, (4) Born, (5) Father, (6) Mother, (7) Address and Telephone number, (8) Discharged.
- **Notes on contents** - Some cards include other details such as place of birth of child, nationality and religion of parents, parents' occupations, whether parents are separated or divorced, baptism information, health information, where discharged to. Very occasionally related correspondence is attached. File box also includes some immunisation certificates. Most children are of European background, admitted in the 1950s and 1960s. Some Australian children, none identified as Aboriginal.



*Foundation Stone, St Stanislaus House
Courtesy Kay Goodman-Dodd*

**OTHER RECORDS - Professional Standards Office Records Service
(previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives)**

Miscellaneous documents

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Contents** – One manila folder titled *Polish Orphanage 1955*, containing one document, a quote for maintenance/building.

St Vincent De Paul Orphanage

Yes I thoroughly enjoyed polishing the floors of the dormitory, especially on a Saturday. It was great because the beds would all be moved aside and we — Not having any polishers you had a pile of girls in rows. It might have been about a dozen girls up there, and so many would be waxers and they'd get down on their hands and knees, knee pads on them, or something laid out you kneel on, and then you'd just go down all in a row polishing. I liked being the shiner and putting these rags all around our feet and slipping up and down. Everything was done in a foot movement sort of thing. Of course when the nun's back was turned we were sliding on our backsides and ripping our pants and tearing dresses. You know anything for a bit of fun. I think a lot of children did it and that. They moaned about having to wax but we enjoyed it.

Interview with Monica Whitman, JD Somerville Oral History Collection, State Library of SA, OH 201/1. Quoted with permission from Monica Whitman.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Years of operation: 1866-1975

Also known as: Goodwood Orphanage

Run by: Sisters of St Joseph 1868-1889

Sisters of Mercy 1890-1975

Addresses: King William Street, Adelaide 1866-1867

Cnr Walkerville and Park Terraces, Walkerville (Gilberton) 1867-1868

Boston Cottages, King William Street South, Adelaide 1867-1868

Franklin Street, Adelaide 1868-1875

Former premises of the Refuge, Mitcham 1872-1875

Knightsbridge House, Burnside 1875-1888

Holyrood House, Mitchell Street, Goodwood (181 Goodwood Road, Millswood) 1888-1975

HISTORY

In the mid 1800s some members of the Catholic Church became concerned that orphans of the faith under government care were often placed with non-Catholic families. They believed that these children's spiritual welfare needed to be protected through the establishment of a Catholic orphanage. The orphanage was funded via a statewide appeal and initially opened in 1866 in a rented house in King William Street, Adelaide. The institution was managed by a board which included Catholic priests and laymen. The first premises were soon found to be too small and the children were moved to a new, larger, building in Walkerville on the corner of Walkerville and Park Terraces. At Walkerville a lay matron took charge of the thirty children in the home.



St Vincent de Paul Orphanage Goodwood, Courtesy Adelaide Archdiocesan Archives; St Vincent de Paul Orphanage, now Tabor Adelaide 2005, Courtesy Kay Goodman-Dodd

During 1867 the government approached the Catholic church and pressured them to give shelter to Catholic children from the badly overcrowded state orphanage situated at that time in the Grace Darling Hotel at Brighton. That year the St Vincent de Paul Orphanage was gazetted as an industrial school so that the government could pay a subsidy for each child admitted. In the first half of 1867 thirty-eight children moved from Brighton to Walkerville. As the government sent more children to the Walkerville home, it too was found to be too small for the demand. A building known as Boston Cottages on King William Street South was leased and opened as a branch orphanage for the girls. Children accommodated there, although under the direct care of a lay matron, were supervised by of the Sisters of St Joseph. In June 1868 the girls moved again to a row of cottages on the corner of Franklin and Grey Streets in the City. At this time a number of the Sisters moved in to care for them. The boys were also moved to these premises in August 1868.

During this period government sponsorship became intermittent and in 1872 ceased completely. However, the orphanage continued to run supported entirely by the church. In 1872 the children were moved from the City to a premises in Mitcham, recently vacated by the Refuge, which provided grounds as well as a building. Three years later a larger house was secured in Burnside and the children moved once again. They remained there until 1889 when they made their final move to a 12-13 acre (5 hectares) property secured by the Adelaide Archbishop in Mitchell Street, Goodwood. The residence was renovated and new buildings added. One year later the Sisters of Mercy took over the running of the orphanage by the order of Archbishop Reynolds. During the early 1900s further additions were made so that the home could accommodate up to 120 children. Another new wing was opened in 1924. By 1960 ninety-nine children were resident in the orphanage. This number dropped to 52 in 1970 and at its closure in 1975, only 20 children were in residence.

Drawn from Marie Therese Foale, 'Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare' (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001) p. 17-21; articles in 'The Southern Cross,' 7 April 1898, p. 219 & 6 September 1888, p. 71 and summary history of the Orphanage held by Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives).

THE RECORDS

- Professional Standards Office Records Service
- State Records of SA
- State Library of SA
- Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide
- Sisters of Mercy Archives, Adelaide
- Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives

ADMISSION RECORDS – Professional Standards Office Records Service

Admission Register

- **Title** – *St Vincent de Paul Admission Register, Book 1*
- **Date range** – 1875-1929
- **Appearance** - Large landscape ledger, green with brown spine.
- **Contents** - Handwritten entries in ledger divided into columns crossing two pages. Year in top left hand corner. Left hand page: (1) Date, (2) Name in full, (3) Age, (4) Where from, (5) Parents or guardians. Right hand page: (6) Address, (7) Date of leaving, (8) Where gone to, (9) Remarks.
- **Notes on contents** - (5) Parents/Guardians until 1950 merely states 'mother' or 'father', without giving names. (6) Address column often blank. (9) Remarks: Few entries in early years. Later entries can include birth date, whether parents are alive or dead, comments on family/child's situation, religion and baptism information.

Admission Register

- **Title** – *St Vincent de Paul Admission Register, Book 2*
- **Date range** – 1929-1949 plus pasted in section 1920-1940.
- **Contents** - Same columns as previous volume.
- **Notes on contents** – (5) Parents/guardians includes notes on parent's circumstances and reason for admission. Rarely include name of parent in earlier years. (9) Remarks mainly records baptism and health notes.
- **Additional material** - Typed pages inserted, dated 1942. Titled *List of boys transferred to Largs Bay Orphanage 2 Feb 1942 and List of girls transferred to Largs Bay Orphanage 2 Feb 1942* with columns: (1) Name, (2) Date of birth, (3) Date of admission, (4) Father's full name, (5) Mother's full name, (6) Address.

At page 40, after entries for 28 September 1949, a number of handwritten pages starting 28 May 1920 are pasted into book. Columns include: (1) Date of leaving, (2) Name, (3) Where gone to. Rest of book blank.

Admission Register

- **Title** – *St Vincent de Paul Admission Register, Book 3 (labelled 3B)*
- **Date range** - 1875-1899, then 1954-1975.
- **Contents** - Loose title page with *Saint Vincent de Pauls' Orphanage, Burnside 1884*. Volume alphabetically arranged in 1950-1960s period. From 1965 recorded by year, ie 1965 *Admissions*. Pages 1-22 cover 1875-1899 then records date from 1954-1975. Same columns as previous volumes: Left hand page: (1) Date, (2) Name in full, (3) Age, (4) Where from, (5) Parents or guardians. Right hand page: (6) Address, (7) Date of leaving, (8) Where gone to, (9) Remarks.
- **Notes on contents** - (9) Remarks include baptism, immunisation, whether parents are alive or dead, whether parents are Catholic, re-admissions, comments on family/child situation and reasons for admission, medical and hospital admissions. Later entries in remarks column include more information on family circumstances.

Individual files

An index of names from these registers has been developed. Some of the children listed in the admission registers also have personal social work files that are also indexed. These are all post 1948.

ADMISSION RECORDS –Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives)

Admission Register

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Date range** – 1866-1890
- **Appearance** - Small hardback lined notebook with title on inside cover *January 1st 1890, Dates of children leaving the orphanage and to whom they have gone*, inside manila folder titled *St Vincent de Paul's Orphanage Pre Goodwood, 1866-1889 Minutes etc.*
- **Contents** - Entries span two pages giving (1) Date, (2) Name of child and where went to.
- **Notes on contents** - Entries state to whom and/or where child was discharged. First entry is dated 6/1/1890 and last 2/4/1920. Last page of book is a list titled *Children returned 1903* with names and dates.

Admission Register

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Title** - *St Vincent de Paul Orphanage, Burnside*
- **Date range** – 1872-1889
- **Appearance** - Quarto sized hardcover notebook with title on cover. Inside cover has title *Srs of St Joseph's Book*.
- **Contents** - Entries handwritten in hand drawn columns: (1) Number, (2) Name, (3) Age, (4) Entry, (5) Departure, (6) Where gone, (7) Gone, (8) Particulars.
- **Notes on contents** - (8) Particulars includes information about who sent the child, reasons for admission, who recommended admission and parents circumstances.

Admission Register

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Title** - *St Vincent de Paul Orphanage Burnside 1872-1882*
- **Date range** – 1872-1883
- **Appearance** - Foolscap sized hardcover folder.
- **Contents** - Entries handwritten in columns across two pages: (1) Number, (2) Name, (3) Age, (4) Admitted, (5) By order of, (6) Left, (7) Where to, (8) Particulars, by order of.
- **Notes on Contents** - (7) Where to gives person and/or place. (8) Particulars gives parental details, whether dead or alive and sometimes comments on character.

Admission forms

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Date range** – 1893-1895
- **Contents** - Manila folder titled *St. Vincent de Paul Orphanage, Goodwood 1889-1980* containing plastic sleeve with five original admission forms dated 1895, and seven handwritten agreements dated 1893 and signed by parents admitting their children to the home.

Admission list

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Date range** – 1941
- **Contents** - Manila folder titled *Goodwood Orphanage, 1927-1947* containing letter dated 26/5/1941 with attached list of names of children in the Orphanage with dates of birth, addresses and information about parents, their names and whether they are alive or dead.

ADMISSION RECORDS – State Records of SA

Admission Register

- **Archive reference** - GRG 28/33
- **Title** - *Children forwarded to the Roman Catholic Orphanage 1867-1869 (index)*
- **Date range** – 1867-1869
- **Appearance** – Microfilm.
- **Contents** - Entries on one page including: (1) Number, (2) Name, (3) Age, (4) Nationality, (5) When Forwarded, (6) Where gone to and when left.

OTHER RECORDS – Professional Standards Office Records Service (previously held by the Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives)

Minute Books

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Title** - *Minutes 1887-1890.*
- **Date range** - 1887-1890
- **Appearance** - Small hardback notebook inside manila folder titled *St Vincent de Paul's Orphanage Pre Goodwood, 1866-1889 Minutes etc.*
- **Contents** - Handwritten minutes of meetings including names of children and information about admissions.

Miscellaneous records

- **Archive reference** - None available
- **Date range** – 1890s-1970s
- **Contents** - Miscellaneous correspondence and other documents, including news clippings, general and historical information and copies of early annual reports. Correspondence and other documents deal with many subjects, including building maintenance, fundraising, legacies and closure of the home. Virtually no documents provide information about children or give names.

OTHER RECORDS - Sisters of St Joseph Archives, Adelaide

The Sisters of St Joseph hold some historical and personal records relating to homes run by the order. Although unable to provide FYOW with specific details regarding their holdings, the Sisters welcome contact from researchers seeking further information. See Access conditions below for contact information.

OTHER RECORDS - Sisters of Mercy Archives, Adelaide

The Sisters of Mercy Archives holds some historical information about the Orphanage but no personal files on former residents. See Access Conditions below for contact information.

ORAL HISTORY – JD Somerville Collection, State Library of SA

- **Archive reference** – OH201
- **Title** – *Goodwood Orphanage Oral History*
- **Date range** – recorded 1993-1994, information covers years 1922 -1975
- **Contents** – Seventeen interviews (25 hours and 10 minutes) commissioned by the Libraries Board of SA concerning the experiences of children, nuns and priests living and working at the orphanage. Tapes and full transcripts are available for research. Some restrictions apply to individual interviews. Three further interviews held in the JD Somerville collection, OH199, OH73 and OH138 also concern the Orphanage.

PHOTOGRAPHS - State Library of SA

Goodwood Orphanage Oral History OH201 includes an associated series of 72 photographs.

PHOTOGRAPHS - Adelaide Catholic Archdiocesan Archives

The Catholic Archives holds a number of photographs of the orphanage building.

BOOKS/ARTICLES

Marie Therese Foale, *Think of the Ravens: The Sisters of St Joseph in Social Welfare* (Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart Inc, Kent Town, 2001)

Anne McLay, *Women on the Move: Mercy's triple spiral: a history of the Adelaide Sisters of Mercy, Ireland to Argentina 1856-1880 to South Australia 1880* (Sisters of Mercy, Adelaide, 1996)

Beth M. Robertson (1995) 'Orphaned in South Australia: Oral histories about growing up at Goodwood Orphanage' in *Oral History Association of Australia Journal*, No. 17, 1995, p. 86-97

ACCESS TO RECORDS OF HOMES RUN BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS OFFICE RECORDS SERVICE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Access conditions

Please contact the Professional Standards office on Freecall 1800 839 211 for application form and information regarding procedure and conditions with regard to accessing information from records held by this office.

Contact: Professional Standards Office, Catholic Diocesan Centre

GPO Box 1364, Adelaide 5001

Telephone: Free call 1800 839 211 **Fax:** (08) 8223 5890

Email: receptionprofstandards@adelaide.catholic.au

Location: Adelaide Catholic Diocesan Centre

39 Wakefield Street, Adelaide SA 5000

ADELAIDE CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESAN ARCHIVES

Access conditions

Persons wishing to access records held in the Archives must first apply in writing to the Archbishop of Adelaide for permission. Application for Access to the Archives forms for this purpose may be obtained from the Archivist.

Contact: The Archivist, Catholic Diocesan Centre

GPO Box 1364, Adelaide SA 5001

Telephone: (08) 82108115 **Fax:** (08) 8223 2307

Email: archives@adelaide.catholic.org.au

Location: First Floor, Catholic Diocesan Centre

39 Wakefield Street, Adelaide SA 5000

Website: www.adelaide.catholic.org.au

Opening hours: By appointment only.

Fees: Research fees: Half day (unassisted) \$16.50, Half day (assisted) \$27.50, Research by Archivist on behalf of client \$44 per request. Photocopying 25 cents per A4 page, 50 cents per A3.

STATE RECORDS OF SA

Access conditions

Although some early records relating to institutions for children in South Australia are open access, many later records are subject to restrictions. Records which contain personal information about individuals are usually restricted for at least sixty years from the date of their creation. More sensitive records, such as adoption files, are restricted for up to eighty years. Written permission must be obtained from the government agency which created the record in order to access restricted material. In the case of records relating to children, the agency responsible is the Adoption and Family Information Service of the Department for Families and Communities.

A Research Centre Members card, obtainable at the Archives, is required to research records held at State Records. State Records has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with SA Link-Up.

Contact: State Records of South Australia

GPO Box 1072, Adelaide SA 5001

Telephone: 8226 7750

Email: srsageneralenquiries@saugov.sa.gov.au

Location: *Gepps Cross Research Centre*

115 Cavan Road, Gepps Cross SA 5094

City Research Centre, Bickford North Building

26-28 Leigh Street, Adelaide SA 5000

Website: www.archives.sa.gov.au

Opening hours: Closed on public holidays.

Gepps Cross: Tuesday-Friday 9.30 am-3.30 pm, 1st Sunday each month 11 am – 5 pm.

City: Tuesday-Friday 9.30 am – 3.30 pm.

Fees: Photocopying 50 cents per A4, \$1.05 per A3. Researchers may take digital photographs of records subject to approval from staff.

GOOD SHEPHERD SISTERS (FOR CONVENT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, THE PINES)

Access conditions

The Good Shepherd Sisters Archives is a private facility that does not cater to visits by the public. The Archivist, Fraser Faithfull, works part-time at the facility. Persons formerly in care, or their relatives and descendants, may write requesting information from the records. In response to privacy legislation, there is a 90 year restriction on all personal information. Relatives of persons formerly in care must obtain that person's permission to access the records or provide evidence of their death.

Contact: The Archivist

Good Shepherd Sisters

PO Box 182, Abbotsford Victoria 3067

Telephone: (03) 9419 7581 **Fax:** (03) 9419 4472

Website: www.goodshepherd.com.au

Fees: No access charges. Provide a self addressed stamped envelop with enquiry.

GOOD SAMARITAN SISTERS (FOR SACRED HEART ORPHANAGE)

Access conditions

Information is open to former residents or family members who can prove their relationship to the resident.

Contact: The Archivist, Good Samaritan Archives

2 Avenue Road, Glebe Point NSW 2037

Telephone: (02) 9566 2188 **Fax:** (02) 96928701

PORT PIRIE CATHOLIC DIOCESAN OFFICE

Access conditions

Please contact the Diocesan Office for details.

Contact: Port Pirie Catholic Diocesan Office

PO Box 1206, Port Pirie SA 5540

Telephone: (08) 8633 4485

Email: diocoffice@bigpond.com

SISTERS OF ST JOSEPH ARCHIVES, ADELAIDE

Access conditions

The Sisters of St Joseph welcome contact from previous residents of homes run by the order. Please contact Sisters of St Joseph for details of how to access records held by the Archives.

Contact: The Province Leader, Sisters of St Joseph

4 High Street Kensington SA 5068

Telephone: (08) 8130 5900 **Fax:** (08) 8130 5933

SISTER OF MERCY ARCHIVES, ADELAIDE

Access conditions

The Sisters of Mercy Archives is a private facility with definite protocols for accessing material. Please contact the Congregation Leader for further details.

Contact: Congregation Leader, Sisters of Mercy

4 Victoria Street, Mile End SA 5031

Telephone: (08) 8150 4900 **Fax:** (08) 8150 4999

SALESIAN PROVINCIAL HOUSE ARCHIVES (FOR ST JOHN'S BOYS TOWN)

Access conditions

Please contact the Salesians of Don Bosco Province Centre Archives

Contact: The Archivist, Salesians of Don Bosco

Province Centre, PO Box 264 Ascot Vale Victoria 3032

Telephone: (03) 9377 6000

ST STANISLAUS HOUSE

Access conditions

Please contact St Stanislaus House for details.

Contact: St Stanislaus House

30 George Street, Royal Park SA 5014

Telephone: (08) 8345 5410

STATE LIBRARY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Access conditions

Researchers can have access to documents and photographs held at the State Library on presenting their Readers Ticket. The ticket is available from the Somerville Reading Room. Records must be read in the Reading Room at the Library. Some records are restricted and require permission from the donor for access.

Contact: Research Services, State Library of SA

GPO Box 419, Adelaide SA 5001

Telephone: (08) 8207 7200 **Country callers:** 1800 182 013

Fax: (08) 8207 7247

Location: North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000

Website: www.slsa.sa.gov.au

