**Burwood Boys Home**

The Burwood Boys' Home was established in 1895 by Robert Campbell Edwards and run by non-denominational Committee of Management. The Home first housed boys aged between 9 and 15. Girls were accepted to the Home from the early 1970s, when the name changed to the Burwood Children's Home.

The Burwood Boys' Home, at 155 Warrigal Road, Burwood, was established in 1895. Its founder was Robert Campbell Edwards, an Irish-born tea merchant. It was operated by a non-denominational Committee of Management, and was incorporated in 1909.

Burwood Boys' Home was 'an approved institution' under the Children's Welfare Act 1928. It was run as a farming community.

The Home was deregistered in 1936, and boys were transferred to Minton Boys' Home, Frankston, while new buildings were being completed. It was re-registered in 1937/38.

Accommodation at Burwood Boys' Home changed to a 'cottage system' in the 1950s, in line with changing ideas about the care of children. In 1955, it applied to be recognised as an 'approved children's home' under the Children's Welfare Act 1954.

A hostel for boys who had completed schooling, The Palms in Hawthorn, was opened in 1940. This hostel was unpopular however and it was closed and sold in 1959. From 1972, older boys remained on the site of Burwood Boys' Home, in the purpose-built Kemp Lodge.

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The Home began to redirect its operations to the region around Shepparton in the late 1970s. It purchased houses in Shepparton in the early 1980s.

It became known as the Child and Family Care Network in the mid-1980s. The last child left the Burwood home in 1986. That year, the organisation sold the Burwood site and moved to new premises in Glen Waverley.

The Burwood Boys' Home was located at 155 Warrigal Road, Burwood. The organisation changed its operating name to Bestchance Child Family Care in 2006.

**Orana**

Orana, the Peace Memorial Homes for Children, were established in 1953 in Burwood. Formerly, dormitory-style accommodation had been provided to children at the Methodist Homes for Children in Cheltenham.

The 1944 Annual Report for the Homes outlined a proposal to rebuild family style accommodation cottages on the Cheltenham site 'as soon as economic and social conditions permitted'.

At the Annual Methodist Conference in 1945 approval was given to a larger scheme involving the reconstruction of the whole of the buildings on a cottage plan.

The Chaplain General of the Army, Rev T C Rentoul, had plans for the new developments at Cheltenham to be built following the 'garden settlement' model. This model drew more heavily on the environmentalist theories of the Garden City movement than on child development theories. By the early post-war period, this model was giving way to having small homes in a suburban setting.

Committed to a new garden settlement and a peace memorial, Rentoul forged ahead with his plans and took an option on a twenty one acre orchard in Elgar Road. Burwood alongside Wattle Park. This became known as Orana, the Peace Memorial Homes for Children.

The move to Burwood was accompanied by a shift towards smaller, residential-style accommodation in units with 'cottage parents'.

Keith Mathieson (who had been superintendent at the Methodist Homes for Children, Cheltenham) was the Superintendent at Orana from 1953 to 1972.

In November 1955, the Methodist Peace Memorial Homes was declared an approved children's home under the Children's Welfare Act 1954.

On 20 February 1987, there was a ceremony at the Burwood site for the redeveloped 'Orana Homes'. It was stage one of the re-development of the Burwood site. Orana Homes consisted of a mixture of 35 detached houses, town houses and flats, designed for families and the elderly. The Orana administration complex was on the site. It was a base for Orana's non-residential programmes of support for children and families, as well as its well established residential programmes.

Despite this re-development, in 1988 the organisation began the relocation to Coolaroo, in Melbourne's north-west, where it became Orana Family Services.

Orana, the Peace Memorial Homes for Children was mentioned in the Lost Innocents Report (2001) as an institution involved in the migration of children to Australia.