

Do you or someone in your family have a connection with Parramatta Girls Home?

Parramatta Girls Memorial Home

On 3 November 2014 the NSW Government announced a number of steps it is taking to respond to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

One of these steps is to create a memorial on the site of the former Parramatta Girls Home to recognise and pay tribute to people who were abused as children at the home.

It's important that anyone who has been affected by their time at Parramatta Girls has a say in the type of memorial that is created.

Over the next few months the Department of Family and Community Services would like to talk to former residents of the Parramatta Girls Home and their families about the best way to recognise their experiences there.

How can I have my say?

We will be holding a series of discussion groups and drop-in sessions during December 2014 and January 2015 so we can talk about ideas and review options.

If you don't want to attend one of the sessions you can still have your say by phone, or sending us an email or letter.

The discussion groups will be independently facilitated. You can register for these sessions by calling or emailing us, please see our contact details at the end of this newsletter.

The drop-in sessions will be an informal chat with one of the facilitators. You can turn up to these sessions without registering.

What will I be asked?

During the discussion group or drop-in sessions you will have the opportunity to talk about your memories and experiences of Parramatta Girls and how you think those experiences could be represented in a memorial.

Where will the discussion groups and drop-ins be held?

During the discussion group or drop-in sessions you will have the opportunity to talk about your memories and experiences of Parramatta Girls and how you think those experiences could be represented in a memorial.

The discussion groups and drop-in sessions will be held in Sydney – at Parramatta and Harris Park. If you need financial support in getting to these sessions please let us know when you contact us.

Discussion groups

Parramatta Library, Darug Room – Civic Place Parramatta (off Macquarie Street)

Day	Date	Time
Monday	15 December 2014	10.30am – 12.30pm
Friday	16 January 2015	10.30am – 12.30pm
Wednesday	28 January 2015	10.30am – 12.30pm
Thursday	12 February 2015	10.30am – 12.30pm

Drop-in sessions

Wattle Place – 67 High Street, Harris Park

Day	Date	Time
Wednesday	10 December 2014	10am – 4pm
Thursday	18 December 2014	10am – 4pm
Tuesday	20 January 2015	11am – 5pm
Thursday	29 January 2015	10am – 4pm

Who will be running the discussion groups and drop-in sessions?

Brendan Blakeley – Associate Director, Elton Consulting

Brendan has been facilitating community and stakeholder engagement for Parramatta North Urban Renewal project for UrbanGrowth NSW. He is very experienced in working with a range of people from diverse backgrounds to help them have a say in decisions that are important to them. In addition to his skills as facilitator, Brendan has a background in art and has also worked for many years as a carer with the Homecare Service of NSW.

Petra Fowler – Project Manager, Elton Consulting

Petra is a community development consultant with over 12 years experience and expertise in stakeholder engagement and relationship management. She has also worked in a number of Indigenous organisations including the Native Title Service Corporation and will be running the drop-in sessions at Wattle Place.



Margaret Betteridge – Director, MUSEscape

Margaret is a heritage consultant with over 30 years experience working on projects of social and historical significance in NSW. She specialises in listening to peoples' stories and helping them make choices about how best to pass on information, experiences and feelings about places to a wider audience. She has most recently worked on the Parramatta North Urban Renewal project with UrbanGrowth NSW.

Need more information?

Phone **1800 773 412**(free call) 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

Email **parramattagirlsmemorial@facs.nsw.gov.au**

Post Parramatta Girls Home Memorial
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