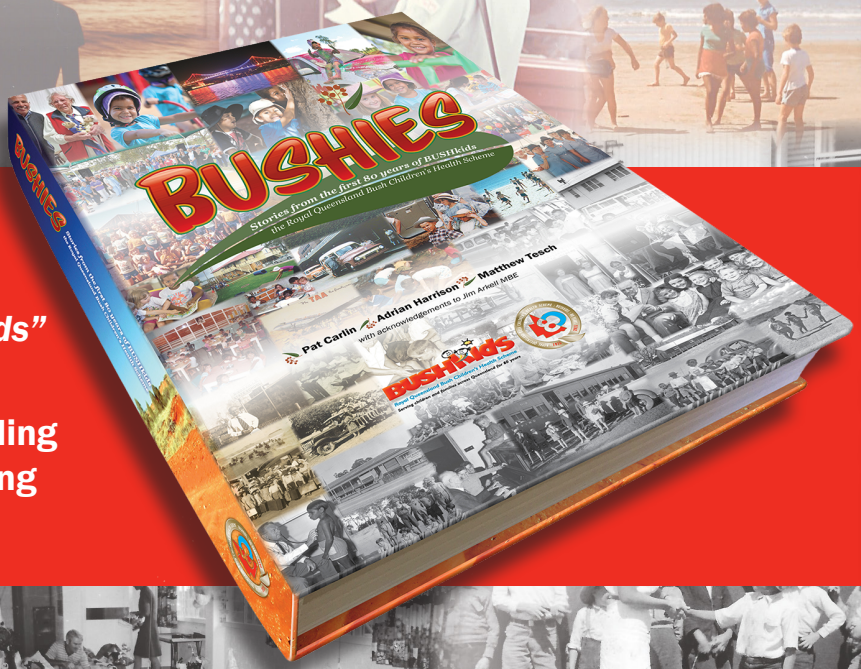
ROYAL QUEENSLAND BUSH CHILDREN'S HEALTH SCHEME : BUSHKIDS : 80 YEARS : 1935 : 2015

BUSHKids

Royal Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme

Serving children and families across Queensland for 80 years

TIMELINE 1935 – 2015



READ THE HISTORY!

"BUSHIES: Stories from the first 80 years of BUSHkids"

Published December 2016!

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1933 1934 **1935** 1936 1937 1938 1939 **1940** 1941 1942 1943 1944 **1945** 1946 1947 1948 1949 **1950** 1951 1952 1953

GOVERNANCE

Queensland politics and Premiers

- **1932–1942** William Forgan Smith
- **1942–1946** Frank Cooper
- **1946–1952** Ned Hanlon

Queensland's Governors (QBCHS President / Patron)

- **Sir Leslie Orme Wilson** GCMG GCS GCIE DSO PC — 13 June **1932** – 23 April **1946**
- **Lieutenant-General Sir John Lavarack** KCMG KCVO — 1 October **1946** – 4 December **1957**

COUNCIL CHAIR

- **Sir Raphael Cilento** — Dec **1935 – 1937**
- **T John Bale** — December **1937 – December 1946**

COUNCIL DEPUTY CHAIR

- **T John Bale** — Dec **1935 – 1937**
- **Dr S F McDonald** — **1937 – 1943**
- **Dr E O Marks** — **1943 – 1959**

HONORARY TREASURER

- **Eric C Fernandez** — December **1935 – 1948**
- **L C (Wallis) Cadell** — **1949 – 1957**

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- **Mrs M Snelling** — Dec **1935 – 1937**
- **Mrs A E Moore** — **1938 – 1943**
- **Miss M Berry** — **1943 – 1948**
- **Miss D Taylor** — **1948 – 1952**
- **Miss K M Kny** — **1952 – 1955**

ADMIN

FIELD SUPERINTENDENTS

- **J J (Jim) McDonald** — 19 July **1949** — 27 Sep 1952 to April 1954

BRISBANE OFFICE

- Primary Producers Co-Op Association, Primary Bldgs, Creek St
- **1942 – 1958** — 1st floor, Inns of Court, 21 Adelaide Street *(supported by Primary Producers Associa*

HOMES

RED

- **A Huybers** House offer
- **RED : Scarborough** officially opened – Sir Leslie Orme Wilson, 7 November **1936**
- **Closed** polio epidemic
- **Demolished** and rebuilt
- **NEW RE** 18 April 1

Emu Park EMU

- **Stratford House**
- **Emu Park** officially opened 21 June **1938**
- Offered to military; no use Closed **1942**
- **Emu Park** reopened 1 October **1945**
- **Closed** polio epidemic
- **Dilapidated and condemned** – last kids in March **1954**

Torquay TOR

- **TOR** opened November **1938**
- Closed September **1940**
- RAAF camp **1942 – 1944**
- **Torquay** reopened 1 October **1945**
- **Closed** polio epidemic

Rowes Bay TSV

- **Ex-Army by Rotary**
- **TSV** opened 17 December **1946**, Officially opened early June **1947**
- **TSV** initial army h brick building – N

REGIONAL CENTRES

WAR

SECOND WORLD

1951 – POLIO EPIDEMIC

80 years o

1933 1934 **1935** 1936 1937 1938 1939 **1940** 1941 1942 1943 1944 **1945** 1946 1947 1948 1949 **1950** 1951 1952 1953

1954 | **1955** | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | **1960** | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | **1965** | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | **1970** | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | 19

1952–1957
Vince Gair

1957–1968
Francis Nicklin

1968
Jack Pizzey / Gordon Chalk

KBE CB DSO

Colonel Sir Henry Abel Smith KCMG KCVO DSO
18 March **1958** – 18 March **1966**

Sir Alan Mansfield KCMG KCVO
21 March **1966** – 21 March **1972**

Air Marshal Sir Colin Hannah KC
21 March **1972** – 21 Mar

James (Jim) C Arkell MBE
January **1947** – May **1973**

Dr E H F Theile (OBE 1965-66)
1959 – 1968

Alan R Gotterson
1968 – January **1971**

Reginald W Bartels
Jan **1971** – May **1973**

Alan R Gotterson
1957 – 1961

Alan F C Camp
1961–62

John J Magner
1963 – 1975

vett
5

Miss Kathleen S Boyd (Secretary > State Secretary)
1955 – Christmas **1974**

Resigned, ill health
27 September **1961**

Guy March
April **1962**

N
A

tion)

1959 – 1965
5th floor, Dunstan House, 236 Elizabeth Street

1965 – 1975
4th floor, Millaquin House, 30-36 Herschell Street

D : Scarborough officially opened – Sir John Lavarack
1953

J C Arkell Wing officially opened – Sir Henry Abel Smith
October **1962**

Jefferis-Turner Wing officially opened – Joh Bje
18 September **1971**

Closed

Fundraising, donations and new building Yeppoon

NEW YEP : Yeppoon operating from December **1958**
Officially opened 23 May **1959** – HRH Princess Alice

YEP extensions operational from end of **1966**
Officially opened July **1968** – Sir Alan Mansfield

Initial building demolished and replaced

NEW TOR officially opened – Sir Henry Abel Smith
17 December **1960**

uts replaced by
lovember **1955**

J S Wilkinson Wing officially opened
Sir Henry Abel Smith – 10 September **1960**

Abel Smith Wing officially opened
12 January **1963** – Sir Henry Abel Smith

Mansfield Wing officially opened
End February **1967** – Sir Alan Mansfield

J S Love Wing officially opened
8 December **1971** – Sir Arthur Fadde

This timeline charts the history of BUSHkids, and the key people and places in the story of our first 80 years of service to children and families throughout rural, remote and regional Queensland.

Published for the first time in our 80th anniversary year 2015, this chart was designed by Matt Tesch from Masthead Design & Creative, and constructed from meticulous research conducted in BUSHkids archives for our organisation's history book.

10,000

The grouped rows of coloured bars document the principal personalities who have shaped and guided our journey, as well as the evolution of our facilities from the first coastal Homes for Bush children to our transformation into an organisation delivering services from a network of regional Centres.

The columns identify pivotal times in our path, including the aggregated numbers of Bush children who have received care over the years.

1973 — ROYAL ASSENT

of BUSHkids

Royal Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme

Serving children and families across Queensland for 80 years

ROYAL QUEENSLAND BUSH CHILDREN'S HEALTH SCHEME : BUSHKIDS : 80 YEARS : 2015 : 1935

1954 | **1955** | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | **1960** | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | **1965** | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | **1970** | 1971 | 1972 | 1973 | 1974 | 19

74 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995

1968–1987 Joh Bjelke-Petersen

1987–1989 Mike Ahern
1989 Russell Cooper

1989–1996 Wayne Goss

Hannah KCMG KCVO KBE CV
2 – 21 March **1977**

Commodore Sir James Ramsay KCMG KCVO CBE DSC
22 April **1977** – 21 July **1985**

Sir Walter Campbell AC QC
22 July **1985** – 29 July **1992**

Leneen Forde
29 July **1992** – 29 Ju

Reginald W Bartels OAM
May **1973 –** March **1991** (Dec'd 31 May)

Captain Geoffrey J Hitchcock OAM
April **1991 – 1994**

Captain Geoffrey J Hitchcock
May **1973 –** April **1991**

Dr Graham I Alexander
April **1991 – 1994**

Mr J F Dudgeon
1975 – 1988

W Roy Atkinson
1988 – November **1991**

R John Lever (SS)
1975 – 1978

Mrs Glenda J Keeshan (State Secretary > Executive Officer from 199
June **1978 – 2006**

CHANGE

Retired
January **1979**

Neville Ditchmen (Rockhampton > Brisbane from 1977)
April **1975**

Dec'd
31 July **1985**

Leigh Shenfield
January **1979**

Retired, ill health
1992

Geoff Redington (Townsville)
1970s –

Retired August **1987**

Mrs Jeanne Millers (Townsville)
1988-89

1993

1976 – 1978
2nd floor, Centaur House,
Wickham Terrace

1979 – 1987
Ampol House, 44-46 Herschell Street

1988 – 1994
BP House, 193 North Quay

– Joh Bjelke-Petersen

Adjacent property (Fison House) acquired
1978

Fison House officially opened – Sir Walter Campbell
15 November **1989**

Scarborough residential / families or

YEP family houses officially opened
HRH Duchess of Kent – 29 February **1992**

YEPPOON closed
December **1994**

E

Change to long-term disabled residential care
September **1985**

Al

pened
thur Fadden

Refurbished Abel Smith Wing
dedicated November **1990**

TSV first Home to close
June **1994**

TSV

ISA Mount Isa new 'family home' established
1985

20,000

30,000

REGIONAL CENTRES

Mount Isa **ISA**

ISA change to Allied Healt
services from **199**

Inglewood **IWD**

IWD Inglewood new Family Support service
May **1990**

Miles **MLS**

Miles Family support svc
March **1990** to **1992**

Clermont **CMT**

Clermont Family support service
April **1990** to **1993**

BIG

1988-89 – FUNDING CHANGES
Commonwealth > Queensland

Longreach **LRE**

Longreach establishe
1993 *(YEP catchmen*

St George **SGE**

St George new Family support se
1992

Emerald **EM**

THE

Warwick **WCK**

Family Support service
1990 –1992

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This timeline chart of the history of BUSHkids – the Royal Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme – was prepared for the organisation's 80th anniversary Annual Report in 2015. Where exact dates are not noted in the text bars, and when the Scheme's Annual General Meetings – and, thus, changes in its Council's executive ranks – varied according to changes in the reporting period over the years, some 'rounding' in the depiction of start and transition dates may occur in this presentation; limitations of space and data proximity may also prevent more precise representation of dates.

Research and timeline design by Matthew Tesch for BUSHkids

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74 | 1975 | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 | 1981 | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 | 1987 | 1988 | 1989 | 1990 | 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995

1996 1997 1998 1999 **2000** 2001 2002 2003 2004 **2005** 2006 2007 2008 2009 **2010** 2011 2012 2013 2014 **2015** 2016

Queensland politics and Premiers

- **1996–1998** Rob Borbidge
- **1998–2007** Peter Beattie
- **2007–2012** Anna Bligh
- **2012–2015** Campbell Newman
- **2015 –** Palaszczuk

Queensland's Governors (RQBCHS President / Patron)

- AC ly **1997**
- **Major-General Peter Arnison** AC CVO, 29 July **1997** – 29 July **2003**
- **Dame Quentin Bryce** AC, 29 July **2003** – 29 July **2008**
- **Penelope Wensley** AC, 29 July **2008** – 29 July **2014**
- **Paul de Jersey** AC QC, 29 July **2014 –**

COUNCIL CHAIR

- **Dr Graham I Alexander** AO, **1994 – 2007**
- **Dr Neil J Bartels**, **2007 –**

COUNCIL DEPUTY CHAIR

- **Mrs J B Carroll**, **1994 – 1998**
- **Dr Neil J Bartels**, **1999 – 2007**
- **Ian Robinson**, **2007 – 2014**
- **Gloria Ryan**, **2014 –**

HONORARY TREASURER

- **David J Tanner**, November **1991 –** November **2006**
- **Allison McLean**, December **2006 –**

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

- 1)
- **Mrs Cheryl Miller (CEO)**, **2006 – 2010**
- **Carlton Meyn (GM)**, July **2011 –**

ADMIN

(1994) 1995 –
16 Morley Street, Toowong

HOMES

- ly — Property sold, September **1999**
- **Clontarf** family programs only, May **2000 – 2005**
- **RED** Scarborough > Clontarf
- **EMU > YEP** Emu Park > Yeppoon
- l services cease **1997**
- **TOR / HVB** Torquay / Hervey Bay
- / Rowes Bay

AS BUSHKIDS

- **ISA** New Centre officially opened – Bob Katter MP and Tony McGrady MLA, 31 August **1996**
- Mount Isa **ISA**
- Inglewood **IWD**
- ed Relocated to School of Distance Education, January **1995**
- Office closed, January **2003**
- **LRE** visiting service only, From **2003**
- ervice — Closed **1998-99** (Staff member dec'd)
- L **EML Emerald** new Centre est. *(YEP catchment)* **1996** **1997** relocated
- **EML** Centre relocated to current premises, January **2001**
- Emerald **EML**
- Dalby **DBY**
- **DBY** new Centre, Jan–May **2000**
- **2001–2003 Dalby** Centre expanded *(support from RED decreasing)*
- Dalby **DBY**
- New Early Intervention services **Kingaroy & Nanango** — **KRY / NGO** from **2015**
- New Early Intervention services **Stanthorpe** — **SPE** from **2015**
- **WCK Warwick** supported from Inglewood / Redcliffe, **1992 –**
- New premises purchased, Septermber **2005**
- **Warwick** Centre operational, January **2006**
- Officially opened – Penelope Wensley, **2009**
- Relocated 191 Wood St, September **2015**
- **WCK NEW**
- Bundaberg **BDB**
- **BDB Bundaberg** new Centre operational **2006** **2007** Officially opened – Dame Quentin Bryce
- Bundaberg **BDB**
- New Early Intervention services **Agnes Water & Miriamvale** — **AGW / MVL** from **2015**

2011 – REBRANDED

40,000

1996 1997 1998 1999 **2000** 2001 2002 2003 2004 **2005** 2006 2007 2008 2009 **2010** 2011 2012 2013 2014 **2015** 2016

In the early 1930s life was grim for many people across Australia's second-largest State; in the Bush the situation was dire. Gripped by drought, wracked by the economic misery of the Great Depression, communities struggled.

The desperate plight of Outback families anguished many, including Queensland's 15th Governor, Sir Leslie Orme Wilson who, in his frequent travel around the State, was dismayed by the widespread health problems, malnutrition and medical conditions of children he met.

At community meetings, like-minded citizens began devising ways and means to bring Outback children to the coast for sorely-needed medical care. After months of groundwork, on 6 December 1935 Sir Leslie and Brisbane's Lord Mayor convened a well-attended public meeting in City Hall: a Scheme funded entirely by public donations would identify and gather children and bring them to the coast for medical attention and recuperation. The Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme was born.

"Trust in one thing only – hard work," was Sir Leslie's catchcry and public pledges and commitments came swiftly, a broad spectrum of community groups galvanised into action. No sooner had things begun to move forward than the dark clouds of the Second World War gathered to engulf Australia. It would be just the first of many setbacks which would be successfully overcome by the organisation fondly known as 'BUSHIES.'

By the 1950s, four coastal Homes were operating, at Redcliffe, Torquay (Hervey Bay), Emu Park (later Yeppoon) and Townsville. A vast network of community representatives, district branches and committees had been established, to support the Homes and manage the logistics of safely gathering and transporting groups of 30 kids at a time for six-week stays at the Homes, many times each year.

Doctors, dentists and surgeons volunteered their time and skills, with the more serious cases flown to southern capitals for specialist surgery, returning to complete their rehabilitation at one of the Homes before heading home to their families.

Other organisations such as Toc H, the Country Women's Association and the Flying Doctor Service provided additional resources, and the volunteer ladies of the Red Cross undertook the long and arduous train journeys with the children entrusted to their care. It was an epic statewide effort, driven by entire communities inspired by Sir Leslie's vision.

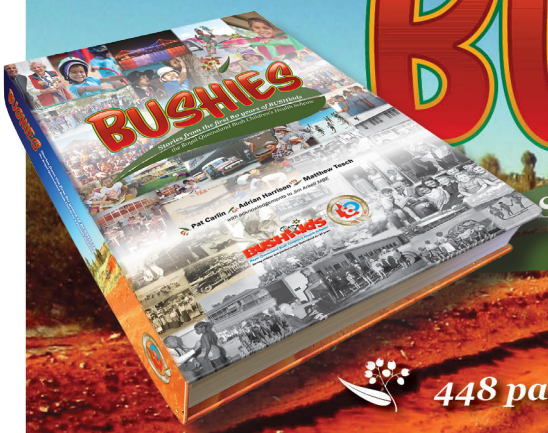
The postwar years were an exciting, expansionary time for BUSHIES and in 1975 little Cathy from Hughenden became the 20,000th child to receive care. But times were changing and the organisation continued to respond and adapt. The expansion of medical services across regional Queensland meant there was less need to bring kids to the coast or the capital for treatment, but emerging needs were quickly identified — behavioural and developmental issues, speech and learning disorders, the first diagnoses on the autism spectrum — and new research and strategies developed.

The coastal Homes were progressively closed and resources transferred direct to the Bush with new family support services established. What came to be called 'the big change' would be a hard-won, 20-year transition process in which BUSHIES literally reinvented and reorientated itself from the inside out: essential services would now be delivered to the children in their family environment and their home communities. This courageous transformation ensured the Scheme stayed true to its founding values.

Throughout its history, the organisation held fast to Sir Leslie's vision that no Queensland child's health needs should be disadvantaged simply by the postcode in which they are born or live. By its 80th birthday in December 2015, three generations of Queenslanders — more than 42,000 children and their families — had received medical care and health services from the organisation now known as 'BUSHkids.'

This book records just some of their stories, lively insights, memories and recollections.

Rich in detail and lavishly illustrated with many unique or rare images, this monumental work captures a vital piece of Queensland's social history and celebrates the achievements of its people and their Outback communities — and the living legacy of Sir Leslie Orme Wilson.



BUSHIES

Stories from the first 80 years of BUSHkids

the Royal Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme

- *448 pages, including 32 in full colour*
- *More than 180,000 words of text and captions plus 10 informative appendices*
- *Almost 80 sidebox profiles, interviews and essays*
- *More than 850 photos, maps, diagrams, graphics and tables – over 160 in full colour*

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