

Harelands

c. 1952 – 1977

Other Names: • Blamey House

Details

Harelands was a hostel in Willsmere Road, Kew, established by Melbourne Legacy in around 1952. It was first a hostel for young people in employment, but later housed boys and girls aged 6 to 14, including the children of ex-servicemen and some state wards. In 1977, Harelands was renamed Blamey House.

In May 1952, the *Argus* reported that Melbourne Legacy planned to open a new residence, Harelands, 'to keep pace with the demands upon its guardianship'. (Legacy ran 3 other children's homes at that time.) It was located at 5 Willsmere Road, Kew.

Originally, Harelands was a hostel for Junior Legatees, who were in employment but not quite ready to live independently. According to Jenkinson, Harelands later changed its function to receive boys and girls aged 6 to 14.

Residents of Harelands and other Legacy homes were the children of deceased ex-servicemen. Sometimes residents at Legacy homes were both children of ex-servicemen and wards of state.

Harelands was renamed Blamey House in 1977 (Legacy had previously operated homes also called Blamey House at other locations in Beaumaris and Kew). Blamey House in Willsmere Road, Kew, provided accommodation for boys aged 13 and over from 1977 until it closed in 1980.

Gallery



Harelands

Description: This is an image of Harelands, a large house in Kew from which Melbourne Legacy ran a children's hostel also called Harelands. The hostel was later renamed Blamey House. This photo is undated, the date included is an estimate.



Photo, Blamey House

Description: This is a copy of an image made available on Victorian Collections. Melbourne Legacy have 7 photographs of Blamey House (Kew), on the day it was auctioned in the early 1980s. The property in Willsmere Road, Kew was formerly another Melbourne Legacy children's Home, Harelands 1942-1956).

More info

Chronology

- **Harelands (c. 1952 – 1977)**
 - Blamey House, Kew (1977 - 1980)

Related Entries

Run by

- [Melbourne Legacy \(1923 - current\)](#)

Related Organisations

- [Stanhope \(c. 1945 - 1982\)](#)

Resources

- Symes, Margaret, [Submission no 370 to the Senate Inquiry into Children in Institutional Care](#), 2004
- [Legacy - hostels and homes](#), Finding Records, No date. *Relevance:* See the 'List of records held by the department' section for information about records relating to Harelands

Records

For more information and to access your records, follow the links below:

Records

- [Melbourne Legacy Records \(1942? - 1982?\)](#)
- [Voluntary Children's Homes Files \(1921 - 1989\)](#)
- [Correspondence files, single number series with 'B' \[Child Endowment\] prefix \(1904 - 1974\)](#)

You can view this page online by visiting <https://www.findandconnect.gov.au/entity/harelands-2/>