

“The Board has allocated funds to buy the four homes required from the Housing Commission. The aboriginal families who move into them will pay the normal economic rental fixed by the Commission.

“Prospective families are now being interviewed by the Board’s officers.

“When the selected four come to live in their new homes, they will be given careful welfare guidance by trained welfare officers of the Board”, said Mr. Kelly.

In an editorial headed “Aborigines and Life in the City” the Sydney Morning Herald said:—

“The Chief Secretary’s announcement that four aboriginal families will soon be brought to live and work amidst the white community in Sydney, as distinct from what is presumably their normal country environment has caused widespread interest.

“This is another aspect of the Australia-wide policy of assimilating or integrating Aborigines into the community at large. As far as New South Wales is concerned it is a novel, but none the less welcome, proposal—novel in that it involves what might be called a radical transplanting of Aborigines.”

The Newcastle Sun said: “The experiment presents two challenges and the statement made by the Chief Secretary, Mr. Kelly, in announcing the plan, indicates that these are recognised by the Government.

- The Aborigines themselves must strive hard to ensure the success of the scheme and encourage its extension.
- The white community in which the Aboriginal families are to live must provide an example of goodwill by making them welcome.

“The latter consideration, of course presupposes a similar goodwill on the part of the Aborigines themselves, who will be required to demonstrate their willingness to accept the normal responsibilities of good citizenship.

“The experiment will be watched anxiously throughout Australia and doubtless, with keen interest abroad.”



CUBS FROM WRECK BAY

The Jervis Bay 1st Cub Pack under the leadership of Chaplain Were, of the Jervis Bay Naval College, recently won the district shield in open competition against all cub packs in the Shoalhaven district. The Jervis Bay pack includes 10 cubs from Wreck Bay Aboriginal station.

Efforts are at present being made to form a scout pack at Jervis Bay and Wreck Bay looks like providing many scouts.

The cubs in our picture, from left to right, are:— Cubmaster, Chaplain Were; David Steel (Jervis Bay), Tom Brown (Wreck Bay), Russell Sharp (Jervis Bay), Graham Staley (Jervis Bay), Ricki Walker (Jervis Bay) Roderick Benson (Jervis Bay), Robert Chapman (Wreck Bay), John Wolstenholme (Jervis Bay), James McKenzie (Wreck Bay), George Brown (Wreck Bay) and Kevin McLeod (Wreck Bay).

