

ABORIGINAL BREAKFAST PROGRAMME

Anyone who might think that the "Aboriginal Breakfast Programme" is some sort of special radio session heard around 7 a.m. can think again. It is in fact an exciting new project that may well have far-reaching results.

It began when young Sydney Aboriginal Paul Coe approached the Wayside Chapel early this year. Like many other people, he was concerned that Aboriginal children from lower income homes in the city were not receiving an adequate diet, and he asked the Wayside Chapel to help in establishing a programme to provide a nourishing breakfast for these children.

After discussion with Aboriginal mothers in the Redfern-Newtown area, the Wayside Chapel agreed. It already had a mobile unit with a built-in kitchen. It was decided to run a pilot project, starting early in February. The site chosen was Hollis Park, below Georgina Street in Newtown—a central spot for many of the Aboriginal families.

Each morning the mobile unit leaves the Wayside Chapel at 6.30, drives to Hollis Park, and sets up tables and chairs so that breakfast can be served from 7 a.m. Pure orange juice, cereals and egg dishes are combating vitamin deficiency found in some of the children. When cooler weather comes, porridge and hot dishes such as meat, cheese or baked beans will be on the menu.

