

I was in St.Cuthberts Home For Boys from 1947 to 1956.The years to approx 1949 were tough but fair.Approx 1949 the Rev.J.J. Treadwell took over as Pricipal from the Rev C.C.Cowling.His time at the home was at time of physical and mental abuse of most children in the care of him and his wife.Mrs. Treadwell had a violent temper and would lash out with broom or mop handles at the slightest provocation.Treadwells usual weapon was a length of ½ inch dowling about 4 to 5 foot long.This would impart very painful welts across the arms.buttocks and legs.The savagery of him and his wife with what ever was at hand eventually resulted in severely beaten children escaping the home and reporting the abuse to the Colac Police.The worst of the abused children had split flesh across the backs of his legs.Treadwell and family were removed immediately,almost overnight, and sent back to WA by the church.The Colac Herald of the day had headlines referring to "The Bullock of Colac" and the story of the abuse.I do not recall if Treadwell was formally charged by the Colac Police. As far as I can remember this occurred early 1950's.I am sure Colac Herald,Police or Church of England records can support this claim.

I believe the abuse of this time at St.Cuthberts Boys Home should be made known to the Senate Committee.

Robert Eric Haywood