

1966, and these also include adult, family, single women and juvenile migrants. For what it is worth, the total recorded for those years is £4,561,390. We do not recollect anywhere seeing the cost of a child migrant passage to Australia. Initially, post-war, the UK Government and the Australian Government agreed to share equally in the subsidies which reduced the cost of passages for adults to £10 (hence the sobriquet 'Ten Pound Poms' attached in Australia to these migrants), but from 1950 the maximum UK Government subsidy to reduce an adult fare was fixed at £25. Then, from 1951, the total annual UK contribution to subsidising passages to Australia was fixed at £500,000, and this was lowered in 1952 to £150,000, and so it remained. The effect of this, of course, was to increase the cost to the Australian Government of subsidising Assisted Passages. It followed that whatever was the passage cost of a child sent to Australia it almost certainly fell largely and then ultimately entirely upon the Australian Government, probably post-war from the beginning, more certainly from 1951, and we would suggest definitely from 1952. We have therefore made no attempt to factor in any such costs into our calculations.

1.11 The cost to the UK Government of post-war child migration schemes on this basis therefore probably amounted to

- (1) a reasonably certain **£445,211** for outfitting and maintenance for child migrants going to Australia, Canada and Southern Rhodesia; and
- (2) a seemingly precise **£8880** for subsidising Assisted Passages for children going to Canada and Southern Rhodesia; plus
- (3) possibly real but unknown costs of Assisted Passages for children going to Australia; but those costs were probably picked up largely by the Australian Government (and taxpayer) and have therefore been here disregarded.

In sum, the dispatch post-war of child migrants to Canada, to Southern Rhodesia, and to Australia cost the UK Government around **£454,000** from 1947 until the last child migrants, who all went to Australia, became 16.

1.12 We should add that the British Government also seems to have provided interest-free loans to meet the capital costs of some receiving homes, certainly in Australia and therefore possibly elsewhere, certainly in 1944 and possibly later. These were probably for extensions and improvements in facilities. A report of October 1944 refers to the British government providing £25,000 to Pinjarra, £34,000 to Northcote, £15,000 to Molong, and £7,500 to Dr Barnardo's at Picton. These were not inconsiderable sums: translated into 2016 values using an RPI calculation they amount, respectively, to £1,011,000, £1,374,000, £606,300 and £303,200. There is in addition a reference to paying an unspecified amount as a contribution to interest on the capital cost of extensions at Tardun to accommodate children from UK.² It is worth bearing this in mind, but the information about the costed transactions is limited. Moreover, as loans only and interest-free, the cost to the UK is indeterminate, and in our calculations they are set aside.

1.13 And now to the even more complex business of figuring out real costs at today's prices on outfitting and maintenance and Assisted Passages, therefore taking account of inflation not only since 1970 (or 1978) but over the entire period since 1947. There is no agreed way of doing this, but we have opted to use an RPI calculator since the costs we are considering are

² PRT000217, and also Hill, Doc 77, 6 Oct 1944, W. Garnett, Official Secretary to the High Commissioner for the UK in Australia, *Report on Farm Schools in Australia*, with added running commentary by Gordon Green.