Pagewood: A garden suburb
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Introduction

Pagewood is a suburb in southern Sydney and it is 8 kilometres south of Sydney CBD. It is mainly made up of industrial and residential areas. It has one school, a golf club and lots of beautiful gardens. Pagewood consists of 1,087 kilometres$^2$. Most of the notable residents consist of authors, politicians, rugby league players and musicians. A number of sporting teams in Pagewood include a few golf clubs, a soccer club and well known rugby leagues called the South Sydney Rabbitohs and the Botany Rams.
Early History

Pagewood was originally planned as a garden suburb, similar to the neighbouring Daceyville. However, Pagewood was developed to provide sheltering after World War I when there was a shortage of land. The new suburb began developing in 1919 as an estate called the Monash Gardens. The suburb was named Pagewood in 1929 to honour Alderman Fred Page, who the Mayor of Botany Council in 1928.

The National Studios was opened in 1935 for nearly 30 years. Australian and British films were produced here. In 1940, the site was bought by General Motors Holden, which operated a car manufacturing plant until 1981. In 1953, the Pagewood Rex Hotel (which was renamed the Pagewood Hotel in 2017), opened. In 1960, the council considered changing the suburb name to East Botany.
Residents battled to retain the name, particularly since Botany was becoming an industrial area, while Pagewood retained its identity as a mainly residential area.

The Westfield Eastgardens shopping centre in Wentworth Avenue was built in the northern part of the suburb on top of the old Pagewood Bus Depot, part of the former site of the General Motors Holden car manufacturing plant and fully on the old National Film Studios. It then opened in 1987. The remainder of the site was sold to the W.D. & H.O. Wills. The Eastgardens, which covers the area around the shopping centre, was officially declared a separate suburb in 1999.

Astrolabe Park, in the north corner of the suburb, was named after one of the ships commanded by La Perouse, the French explorer who arrived at Botany Bay just days after the First Fleet in 1788.
Notable Residents

Some of the residents in Page wood are pretty famous. That includes Les Cowie who is a rugby league player, Marele Day who writes stories as an author, Harry Finch another rugby league player, Kristina Keneally who is a politician, Ed Rigney who is a rugby league player, Bob Spencer a musician, Matt Thistlethwaite who is a politician and Arnold Traynor who is a rugby league player. Leslie Gordon Cowie was an Australian rugby league footballer, a fine lock forward for the champion South Sydney Rabbitohs teams of the 1950s and an Australian national representative. In 1994 He received an Medal of the Order of Australia For service to Rugby
League Football.

Marele Day (born on 4 May 1947) is an Australian author of mystery novels. She won the Shamus Award for her first Claudia Valentine novel and a Ned Kelly Award for non-fiction work *How to Write Crime*.

Harry Alfred Finch (born 1907, death 1949) was a professional rugby league footballer in Australia's leading competition which is the New South Wales Rugby Football League premiership in the 1920s and 1930s. Finch was also an Australian international who played for both the Eastern Suburbs and South Sydney clubs.

Bob Spencer (born 5 September 1957) is a guitarist who was in two significant Australian rock bands in the 1970s and 1980s, Skyhooks and The Angels.
Matthew James Thistlethwaite (born 6 September 1972) is an Australian politician. He has been an Australian Labor Party member of the Australian House of Representatives since 2013, representing the electorate of Kingsford Smith. He was formerly a member of the Australian Senate from 2011 to 2013. Thistlethwaite served as Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs and Parliamentary Secretary for Multicultural Affairs in the Gillard government from March to July 2013, and as Parliamentary Secretary for Infrastructure and Transport in the Rudd government from July to September 2013. Before entering electoral politics, he was the general secretary of the New South Wales branch of the Australian Labor Party.
Population

In the 2016 census, Pagewood had a population of 3,805 residents. 61% of them were born in Australia. The next most common countries of birth were in China 3.5% and England 2.5. 61.1% of people spoke only English at home. Other languages spoken at home included Greek 8.5% and Mandarin 3.5%. The most common responses for religion were Catholic 33.5%, No Religion 17%, Eastern Orthodox 13% and Anglican 10.5%.
Did you know that Page wood has the population of 3,805 due to the 2016 census?
Did you know that Pagewood was named after Fred Page?
Did you know that the first garden in Pagewood was called Monash Garden?
Did you know that Page wood has at least eight other suburbs around it?
Did you know that Pagewood’s Parent suburb is Matraville?
Did you know that Pagewood is approximately 8.2 kilometres from Sydney?
Did you know that Pagewood is approximately 242 kilometres from Australia’s capital city, Canberra
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