



Enfield Olympic Pool



*A student executes a swallow-dive from the tower at Enfield Olympic Pool during Belmore Central School's second swimming carnival in 1935.
[Acknowledgement: State Library of NSW/hood-01689]*

The foundation stone was laid by Mrs Lloyd, Mayoress of Enfield, in September 1933 and the pool was opened in November 1933 by the Premier, Mr Stevens.

The Sydney Morning Herald reported on 20 November 1933, "The new baths are built to the latest Olympic standards, and are fully equipped. The water is constantly filtered and circulated, and the whole of the walls and bottom are tiled. Two springboards, one one metre and the other three metres above the water level have been installed. The racing course is 50 metres in length."

It was an instant success and the manager reported to council that from December 8 1933 to January 4 1934, 45,691 persons had been admitted to the baths.

Tragedy struck the following December when a 14 years old boy drowned. It was reported, "He was seen to dive into the water. As soon as he came to the surface he began struggling and clutched at a girl swimming beside him. The girl made an attempt to hold the boy, but he sank quickly. The body was recovered, but all efforts at resuscitation proved unavailing."

Enfield Aquatic Centre, as it is now known, celebrates 80 years of service to the community in 2013.