



AUSTRALIAN & NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF THE HISTORY OF MEDICINE

NEW SOUTH WALES INC



The long reach of Cecil Cook's career

Presenter: Mr Barry Leithhead
Saturday 3 September 2011
2.00–4.00 pm

Conference Room (4.5)
Kerry Packer Education Centre
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
Johns Hopkins Drive, Camperdown



Prevention is better than cure, especially in medicine. We know that.
What is the post-war history of preventive medicine in Australia?
Where was the knowledge about what to prevent and how?
Who could do the research and how could it applied?
How were policies and priorities of prevention aligned with
national responsibilities, resources and opportunities?
Who were the front-line troops and who led them?

One man in particular posed these questions and had the answers.
He took the initiative to influence and reorient State and Commonwealth health departments,
Director-General and Ministers, the NHMRC, the British Medical Association and
the Australian College of General Practitioners.

His name was Dr Cecil Cook.

Images from left: Cecil Cook on holidays in London c.1972; Cook as WA Commissioner of Public Health with his colleagues c.1948; Cook as Chief Protector of Aborigines, NT, 1928. All photos via Barry Leithhead.

Please RSVP to the Secretary, Peter Hobbins, at peter_hobbins@bigpond.com or on 02 9569 5561.