



Sir Adrian Curlewis

Adrian Curlewis was born in 1901 of distinguished parents. His father became a District Court judge and his mother was Ethel Turner, a celebrated Australian author. He attended Shore from 1913 to 1919 where he was Senior Prefect, Captain of Swimming, a Cadet Lieutenant and played in the First XV. After studying law at Sydney University he practised as a barrister until the Second World War. As an officer in the 8th Division AIF, he was a prisoner of war in Changi and later worked on the Burma railway.

After the war he resumed legal practice and was appointed judge of the NSW District Court in 1949. He became a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in 1962, created Knight Bachelor in 1967 and made a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order (CVO) in 1974.

Sir Adrian had an impressive record of service to the community. He was President of the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia for over 30 years, Chairman of the National Fitness Council and the Red Cross Appeals Committee and founder of the Outward Bound Movement. Other voluntary organisations with which he was connected included Sydney Rotary, the National Association for Prevention of Tuberculosis, the Youth Policy Advisory Committee to the NSW Government and the Royal Humane Society. At the instigation of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh and with the aid of the Governor-General, Lord De L'Isle, Sir Adrian Curlewis undertook to introduce the Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Australia in the early 1960s through the National Fitness Council of Australia.