



HISTORY WEST

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July 2022

GENERAL MEETING

The next general meeting at Stirling House is on Wednesday 20 July at 6pm when Don Briggs will present a talk on 'Pioneers of the Western Australian timber Industry'. Refreshments available from 5.30pm; Bookshop open until 6pm.

This evening will begin with the launch of *Early Days, 105, 2021* at 5.30pm.



Bringing to life the stories and events of the pioneers of the Western Australian Timber Industry relies upon the history behind it – the exploration of the southwest coastline, identifying native plants and trees, the establishment of settlements King George Sound (Albany), Port Augusta (Flinder's Bay), Leschenault (Bunbury), Vasse (Busselton), the Swan River Colony (Perth), the Indigenous population, immigration from overseas, the infrastructure, entrepreneurs and working people – to make it all possible.

Events taking place during those early days leading up to responsible government were carefully documented and sent by mail back to England. The grounding of HMS *Success* off Carnac Island was repaired with the then unknown Swan River Mahogany (later to be given its native name – Jarrah), and was returned to England to be broken up at Her Majesty's dockyards. The discovery of the timber's condition after some years at sea gave her a reprieve and she operated in another role within the shipyards for a number of years. This discovery gave birth to the WA timber export trade.

Each of the pioneer's accounts is recorded to show when, where and how they commenced trade and export within the timber industry. Trading and establishing an export industry set these pioneers apart from many others; as they made it happen and were chosen to highlight this part of the colony's early history.

Don Briggs grew up in the coalmining town of Collie and became a telephone technician with the Postmaster General's Dept. He went on to take up a number of roles within the industry and retired at management level from Telstra. He wrote and published *John Dearle: a Parkhurst Boy*, who was his wife Ronice's great grandfather. He was a City of Canning Councillor for two terms and, during this period, became interested in WA history and the environment.



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Donate any books you no longer want to a good cause.
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All books, except textbooks and encyclopedias, are wanted.
Many thanks from us all.

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67th East Perth Cemeteries Memorial Service

Chinese Whispers: Revelations from the Beyond

Kaylene Poon

Our annual service was held on Sunday 5 June and commemorated Perth's Chinese Community. Speaker Kaylene Poon presented stories of the Chinese who were laid to rest at the Chinese Cemetery. Below are some excerpts from Kaylene's talk. She highlighted the fragmentary nature of the evidence and the ongoing puzzles that remain to be resolved. Family historians will recognise the challenge of gaps, indeed chasms, and apparent contradictions in surviving evidence; the challenge for researchers of the Chinese community is, however, so much greater than is usual. However, with persistence, fragments do piece together into a story.

Approximately 40 burials, seven of them female, were recorded in the Chinese cemetery which opened in 1888, next to the Presbyterian Cemetery. The establishment of St Andrew's Presbyterian Chinese Mission, and later in the late 1890s a mission school, may have been factors that influenced the location for the Chinese Cemetery.

Who were these Chinese people? Between 1887 and 1891 contracted indentured Chinese workers were mainly employed as servants, labourers, cooks and gardeners. During the population boom that came with the discovery of gold, Chinese people were unable to gain a Miner's Permit and a myth developed that there were no Chinese in Kalgoorlie. However Chinese did arrive from the eastern colonies to set up support industries for the growing population. Stores, laundries, bakeries and market gardeners sprang up – especially in Northbridge. These enterprises guaranteed more money than seeking gold! However, like many records involving the Chinese, details are scant. Often family names were incorrectly recorded because of the Chinese practice of giving the family name first and given names last. In addition, people recording the details wrote the names as they heard them.

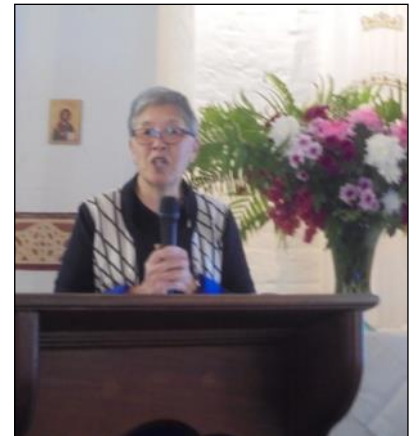
William Ah Mong and his wife Margaret were buried in Congregational Cemetery. William married Margaret Archer in 1858 in York when she was 19 years old. There were no children from the union. Margaret died in 1891 aged 51-52, but the headstone records her as 57 years old. She is recorded as 'Chinese by marriage'. William's Chinese name is currently listed on the East Perth Cemeteries website as ZHU Wang Bo (Mandarin pronunciation). As he was from Guangdong Province, his name should be pronounced as JU Wong Pak. Other documents list his Father as HEW Bing. Records are frequently incomplete or inconsistent. Possibly other Caucasian females married to Chinese were buried in the Chinese section; however, there are currently no other English names I have come across. More research is required.

I was contacted by the National Trust in July 2020 seeking financial assistance to conserve a 'Chinese' jacket unearthed in the exhumations in 2019/20 in the Presbyterian and Chinese cemeteries. The Chung Wah Association organised a meeting with local Chinese community leaders and National Trust representatives to discuss the project and seek approval from the community for the project to proceed. Rinkse Carr has done an amazing job of conserving and presenting the jacket, vest and singlet. Dr Ian MacLeod applied his skills to the condition of the pieces, and to researching the fabrics and colour of the artefacts. The jacket was believed to be that of a female.

However a photograph of Ah Lun with his wife and two sons, taken in 1902, shows Ah Lun in a jacket that closely resembles the conserved jacket. The correct name for Ah LUN was CHEW Lun. He was a storekeeper in Fremantle. Mrs Lun died in 1919 and the family returned to China in 1920. CHEW Lun did return in 1927 alone. No details have been found about the remainder of his life.

The exhumation of Chinese artefacts by archaeologists and anthropologists has provided some answers to the Chinese story of the late 19th century, but has also created more quandaries. Nine queues or 'hair braids' were found; curiously six were the only remains in the coffins. Samples were taken from seven braids and research on them has provided evidence of the last few months of the deceased's life, including what was eaten and other environmental factors.

Research on the Chinese community was given impetus when Chung Wah Association celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1985 and realised that little had been done to document the Association's history. Historian Anne Atkinson's work on the *WA Asian Dictionary* and Jan Ryan's research encouraged local Chinese to be more pro-active in proclaiming our place in WA's history. From the Chinese viewpoint the community has been very happy to see that Chinese burials have finally been given the respect not received in the past. The opportunity to work with the National Trust and the Metropolitan Cemetery Board means we can continue to build on these ties and acknowledge the cultural diversity of our society.



Speaker Kaylene Poon



Bishop David Murray leads the service



Organiser Lorraine Clarke with Bishop Murray at the Chinese memorial. Its text reads in part - 'This monument is dedicated to Chinese who worked and died in the Colony and helped forge Western Australian history'. It was unveiled by Governor Michael Jeffery and Mrs Edie Hoy Poy (Trustee of the Chung Wah Assn) on 27 September 1994.

Fremantle Walk

Georgina Wrigley

Cool, wet, windy conditions on 13 May did not dampen the enthusiasm of the 25 participants who congregated at the Walyalup Civic Centre for Tours & Events' Fremantle walk. This new Civic Centre is located in historic Kings Square, officially renamed Walyalup Koort, 'Heart of Fremantle', in 2021. The name Walyalup derives from the Nyoongar word for Fremantle.

The impressive Civic Centre was a fitting place to start our tour. As the new building abuts the 135-year-old Fremantle Town Hall the architects were keen to accommodate the triangular shape of the original and to make its limestone walls a feature in the new erection. Our guide Ronald Bodycoat, a conservation and heritage architect, highlighted the blending of old and new. He remarked that we need to embrace change; however planners need a sensitive approach to this task. As we walked in Fremantle's heritage core we were challenged to form our own opinion as to the sensitivity or otherwise of recent changes.

In 1833 the fledgling colony's Surveyor-General, J S Roe, produced a plan for Fremantle which laid the foundation for the town's growth and shape. Its main axis ran west-east along High Street with Kings Square, designated as public open space, at its eastern end. By 1843 the first St John's Anglican Church was built in the middle of the Square in direct line of sight from the Round House, the colony's first jail: an interesting connection.

By 1871 Fremantle was declared a municipality and its councillors wanted a town hall as administrative centre and place for public functions as well as a dignified and majestic building to inspire and reflect civic pride. However discussion stalled until 1876. Perhaps the author Trollope's 1870s perception of Fremantle as 'a hot, white, ugly town, with a very large prison, a lunatic asylum, and a hospital for ancient and worn-out convicts' provided a stimulus?

Kings Square was mooted as the site for the Hall, but first St John's Church needed to be demolished and High Street extended to cater for Fremantle's growing population. The second and current St John's Church was built on the northern side of the Square and consecrated in 1882. Church personnel warmly welcomed our group to explore the present-day church. This beautiful limestone-and-jarrah building is considered an excellent example of Victorian Gothic Revival style and within its walls the keen historian can gain insights into life during Fremantle's pioneering days.

Governor Sir Frederick Broome laid the Town Hall's foundation stone in September 1885, the occasion followed by a banquet featuring 'roast swan, pigeon pie and good wines'. After considerable community debate over cost, architectural design and amenities the Governor opened the Hall on 22 June 1887, its final cost £10,792. Unfortunately the tour group could not view the interior because of renovation work. However, with assistance from Fremantle's local history librarian, human-interest stories about this building were uncovered.

The Town Hall's opening was timed to celebrate Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. The program included community sports, a ball and children's fancy dress ball. At this event Councillor Snook refused entry to an inebriated publican, William Conroy, who returned with a gun and shot the councillor. The *Western Mail* reported, 'the scene that ensued was most painful, several of the ladies fainting, and others expressing the excitement of their feelings by hysterical shrieks'. Conroy has the distinction of being the last person hanged at the old Perth Gaol.

For decades the stately triangular Town Hall, built in Victorian Free Classical style, dominated Fremantle's urban landscape. It was both an administrative centre and entertainment hub. Jugglers, operas, vaudeville, trapeze artists, choirs, plays, moving pictures, lions, tigers and Chinese magicians kept audiences enthralled and the auditorium packed. Over time there have been modifications, however its basic plan has remained as it was. Let's hope the current renovation rejuvenates the civic pride this beautiful building once inspired.

Our final stop was in Henderson Street at the old Pensioner Guards cottages built by convicts in the 1850s to house warders and their families. Today these cottages are being restored. The work is historically sensitive; however the gaudy paintwork on the Henderson Street car park is not.

In the warmth of Culley's Tea Rooms animated tour participants expressed a desire to learn more about the rich history of Fremantle – especially its West End.

References

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Community Talk

International leather fashion designer: Anne Somoff

We were treated to a wonderful morning with Anne Somoff who entertained the audience with a visual tour of her leather design career that began in the early 1970s and continues in a subdued way even today. Many thanks to Janelle Hauser who managed the technical support, ably assisted by Anne's grandson Jason; also to Val Hutch who did morning tea. Anne's is the fascinating story of one postwar immigrant's life and of what can be achieved from Perth on the world stage.

Annegret Sieglinde Brigitta Dreske was born in 1939 in Schweinfurt, Germany. The Dreske family had been footwear designers and makers for generations but they saw their postwar opportunities in East Germany as bleak and decided on migration to Australia — the farthest they could move from the horrors of war in Europe and its aftermath.

Anne was 14 years old when the family arrived in Fremantle in 1953 and spent their first months here in the Holden Immigration Camp at Northam. However her father's skills took them quickly to Perth where Anne joined him in his newly established footwear business. With an eye for fashion, she began making clothing garments with scraps of leather. One day by chance, a Dept of Industrial Development staff member was visiting her father and saw one of her garments and asked her to display a range at Perth airport. Myer Stores saw the airport display and contracted her. Her label — Dreske-Somoff — began in 1971 with a Myer fashion parade and window display. From there the label went national when she was given her own section at Myer Bourke St in Melbourne, and David Jones bought stock for 16 stores. She was on her way to becoming an international leather fashion designer and garment manufacturer.

Anne bought her skins from England except, of course, for kangaroo skin, and her busy life included flying to Europe to select materials. She was married by this time with three children, so a housekeeper became a necessity. She told us of her particular enjoyment of some of the special exhibitions in which she was invited to participate — the opening of the Sydney Opera House was one. Another was at Wiluna arranged by Wiluna Emu Products. She used emu skins for some of the garments, creating designs relating to Aboriginal art while being careful not to copy. Aboriginal models wore the clothing. She also worked with the merino wool industry to be the first to use merino sheepskins at a New York exhibition in 1988. Kangaroo, sheep, emu, washable suede, chamois, gabardine and suede — Anne used them all in collections. She was the first Australian fashion label to show her designs in New York.

Anne had the idea of expanding to manufacture in Korea and thus achieve a cost structure that would enable her to lower prices and increase sales volume; but she was ahead of her time in this regard and her idea met with resistance and came to nothing. At the peak of her business she employed 40 staff. With the COVID pandemic she had to close her business in Fremantle; however she still enjoys making bags by hand from her workshop at home. These she sells at the Fremantle Markets. While people still appreciate what she makes she has no plans to retire!

Anne is one of the great number of talented people who settled in WA from Europe after 1945. It is difficult to exaggerate the skills, new ideas and energy this generation brought with them and WA was enriched by their migration!



Anne with Joslyn Summerhayes in classic Dreske Somoff jacket she has owned for decades

Wearing a Dreske-Somoff coat with pride

Anne with Jill Munroe, ex-model

Anne with grandson Jackson

Library News

Photographs available on-line

Mike Taylor

The Society holds a very large collection of photographs, some of which are big prints, larger than A4 size. As the Society's scanning equipment is limited to A4 size, many of these large prints have never been scanned or only partially.

In 2021 arrangements were made for these large prints to be scanned to archival standard on equipment that was available at COMPU-STOR in Belmont. After processing by library volunteer Mike Taylor, suitably cropped and downsized versions of these scans have been loaded to the Society's systems and are now available through 'Photograph Archive' on the Society's website at <https://www.histwest.org.au/services/photograph-archive>

In total 360 large prints have been scanned, some of which have not been previously available; some are striking photographs. Below is a taster of the variety newly available.

Do look through the Photograph Archive online when you have a moment. History West will feature more of these photographs in subsequent issues.



Lord and Lady Forrest in court dress. Note the ostrich feather headdress – a tribute to the Prince of Wales, later Edward VII. P1999.1712



Laying of foundation stone for Supreme Court building, Perth 1901. P1999.1474



Karri timber cutting, 1890s. P2010.358



Miners Institute Bulong, recital group 1900s. P2015.957



Reception at Kings Park for Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York, 1901. P1999.3996



Barry Cable, Sandover Medalist 1964. P2012.291



Guildford Hotel 1941. P2004.98



Hale School prize giving, 1905. P1999.4446

Tuesday Treasures

Illuminated Addresses

Bruce Hoar

The Society holds a number of illuminated addresses in the collection and these were the subject of a fascinating show-and-tell recently presented by museum volunteer Bruce Hoar. We are delighted to feature them for your enjoyment.

What are illuminated addresses? Not something you switch on and off! They are formal and highly decorative documents with fine calligraphy and many embellishments that celebrated achievement, recognising the valued contribution made by the recipient to the organisation making the presentation. Most are beautiful artifacts. They evolved from mediaeval-early modern hand-written decorated manuscripts described as 'illuminated' because they were embellished with gold or silver. They reached their height of popularity in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and were presented as a fine gift, often framed for display.

The stories behind the addresses tell of the contributions these recipients made to WA society.



Revd George Bostock
1867. Photographer:
Alfred Chopin.
P1999.6557

Revd George Bostock (1833-1881)

The Young Women's Society of St John's Church, Fremantle, where the Revd Bostock served as minister from 1860 to 1875, presented him with this illuminated address to express members' appreciation of his material and spiritual guidance — 'in the pursuit of true wisdom, to assist them in their efforts to resist temptation, and to walk in the way that leads unto life everlasting'.

The address was the work of William Miller, engraver, of William St, Perth.

Revd Bostock graduated from Cambridge University with honours in classics and mathematics and was encouraged by Bishop Hale (first Bishop of Perth) to come to the Colony and take up work in the Diocese of Perth. His first appointment was as rector of Gingin and the Toodyay District before moving to St

John's Fremantle. In 1861 he married Grace Lukin, daughter of Henry Lukin and granddaughter of first Colonial Secretary Peter Broun.

He became heavily involved in Fremantle life and was prominent as an educationalist, including a time as Chairman of the Local Board of Education. Besides founding the Young Women's Society he also established the Church of England Young Men's Society and a Men's Literary Club.

Sadly he suffered poor health and the community twice raised money for him and his family to travel to the eastern states and then to England to seek medical help. Unfortunately because of continuing ill-health, he wasn't able to return to WA; instead serving as a vicar in Yorkshire until his death in 1881.



To the Revd G D Bostock, Chaplain
St Johns Church Fremantle

John Goldsmith Meares (1856-1916)

The residents of Roebourne and surrounding districts presented John Meares with this illuminated address on his relocation to Perth in 1904. The address thanked him for his kindness and hospitality, and his public and private service in the district for over 25 years, and wished him and his family well. It was prepared by the headmaster of the Roebourne State School and signed, amongst others, by the Mayors of Roebourne and Cossack, Chairman of the Roebourne Roads Board, Manager of the Union Bank and a number of local graziers.

Meares was born in York in 1856 and moved to the northwest to work when just sixteen years old. A few years later he bought Yule Station and then Sherlock Station. He contributed to the community as a Justice of the Peace, Chairman of the Roads Board, Chairman of the Nor-West Jockey Club and a prominent Freemason. He was also a renowned and enthusiastic racehorse owner and breeder and, after moving to Perth, became a committee member of the WA Turf Club.

After he left the northwest in 1904 he sold Sherlock Station but, over the following years, bought and sold a number of other stations for his sons, including Pyramid, Woolbrook, Mt Fisher, Warrambie and Croydon.

The Meares family home in Perth for a number of years in the early 20th century was 'Niana' (formerly 'Balmoral') in Cannington which was later bought by the Catholic Church and became Castledare Children's Home.



To J G Meares Esq. JP

Edmond Power Dowley (1854-1934)

Edmond Dowley was presented with an illuminated address in 1900 by the people of the Murchison Goldfield for his seven years of service as Warden and Chief Magistrate and to wish him well in his new post as Warden of the Coolgardie Goldfield. It was signed by the Mayor of Cue, a number of prominent Councillors, local public servants and businessmen.

E P Dowley was born in Tipperary, Ireland, in 1854 and graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering from the University of Dublin. In 1886 he joined the WA public service, his first appointment as an engineer with the Public Works in Derby. He subsequently transferred to the Crown Law Dept in Perth before being appointed Warden and Chief Magistrate in Cue on the Murchison goldfields in 1893. He held a similar position in Coolgardie (succeeding Warden Finnerty) until he was appointed to the bench in Fremantle as the Resident Magistrate. He retired in 1920.

Dowley was a big man in physique and inclined towards gruffness, but below the surface he was good-hearted and kindly. He had an excellent knowledge of the law and was highly regarded for his fair-mindedness and sound judgement. Whilst on the goldfields he was keenly interested in the volunteer movement and attained the rank of major. He was a skilful billiard and bridge player and an ardent golfer. On his retirement, he was awarded an Imperial Services Order (awarded to members of the civil service in the British Empire for long and meritorious service).



To Edmond Power Dowley Esq.

Farewell to Hon Life Member Mrs Win Cann



We say a sad farewell to long-term member, volunteer and good friend Mrs Win Cann. Win was an active member and was president of the Auxiliary for fifteen years from 1999 to 2014. She became involved when the Auxiliary was still the Women's Auxiliary running monthly 'at homes' as well as other events. Meetings moved in 1991 to the Railway Concourse at Perth Railway Station (Citiplace), a central venue that proved popular and was open to all, with easily accessible public transport. 'History in the City' became the banner for

these meetings in 2007. Talks covered a broad mix of subjects all with an historical theme, reaching out to delve into every topic of potential interest to the community. All sorts of speakers were invited and audiences were entertained before being treated to substantial afternoon teas. Win enjoyed it all and was a popular leader. The Auxiliary also organised annual fundraising morning teas with an interesting speaker and raffle at Stirling House. Win served on Council to represent the Auxiliary and was made an Honorary Life Member for her long and valuable contribution to the life of the Society. After retirement from active volunteering she maintained her interest in the Auxiliary and in the Society, attending many talks and events with her daughter Barbara — always a cheerful and welcome presence. Win was 96 years old — hers was a life well lived and she will be greatly missed.

Affiliates & Other News

Congratulations to the **Albany Historical Society** which celebrates its 60th anniversary this month. Good wishes for many more decades of history sleuthing and promotion! A popular Albany pursuit, described in the magazine, is a visit to the Wyatts' Locomotion Miniature Railway, a kilometre-long ride around their Lower Kalgan property. Plans for an extension are underway.

Eastern Goldfields Historical Society is promoting the sale of Nora Curle Smith's book *Thermo-electrical cooking made easy: proved recipes for guidance in the use of the rational electric cooking stove (D. Curle Smith's patent)*, 1st published 1907, Hesperian Press, 2011. Nora's husband, electrical engineer for the Municipality of Kalgoorlie, designed an 'improved electric cooking stove' and his wife wrote a cook book to accompany it. Other news from the fields — the Society has a new donation of photographs from Big Bell on the Murchison Goldfields, c1937.

A date for your diary: **Fremantle History Society** will host a tour of the new Civic Centre followed by the launch of *Fremantle Studies*, Vol.11 together with its AGM on Tuesday 26 July at 5.30pm at Fremantle Library, Walyalup Civic Centre, SEP 151 High Street.

Midland & Districts Historical Society is celebrating a book publication — Jennifer Durrant & Cheryl Rogers' *Finding Marjorie King: a daughter's journey to discover her mother's identity*. The Society is planning a talk by the authors later in the year.

Like all of us, **Rockingham District Historical Society** is emerging cautiously from COVID lockdown and currently has a wedding dress exhibition for visitors to admire. The oldest gown on display is that worn by Ada Tomlinson in 1907. Ada was a talented artist and two of her wildflower paintings hang in the museum.

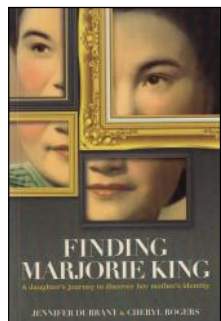
Swan Guildford Historical Society's meeting in May heard Shane Burke, archaeologist, lecturer at Notre Dame Uni and vice president of the Society, speak on 'Innovation and adaptability — the British coming to grips with a foreign environment, Swan district 1830-1850'. The Society is promoting a new book by Laura Nolan titled *Treasured Island: 175 years of growing up in Guildford*. To secure your copy: sghistsoc@bigpond.com or 9379 1829.

New Norcia Chimes advertises a Franz Liszt recital by Fr Robert Nixon on 27 August at New Norcia Hostel. The recital will present a varied selection of Liszt's music, including his most popular pieces, and also recount the amazing story of his life. The evening will commence at 6.30pm. A light supper and drinks will be served. Tickets are \$90, all inclusive. To book, please visit www.newnorcia.wa.edu.au

Book Review

Jennifer Durrant & Cheryl Rogers, *Finding Marjorie King: a daughter's journey to discover her mother's identity*, Big Sky Publishing, Newport NSW, 2022. In Library.

Reviewer: Heather Campbell



Sixty years ago a little girl called Jennifer used to look at a portrait of her mother, 'a softly spoken, gentle woman who never spoke about her past', and wonder where her mother came from. In her search for her mother's origins and early life, Jennifer Durrant was ably assisted by her friend, Cheryl Rogers, a writer who fortuitously loved a mystery. Research over years was interwoven with the demands of family, work and all that is involved in a busy life. In this book Jennifer and Cheryl share authorship and the writing – identified by their initials at the commencement of each chapter.



Marjorie married Henry York and Jennifer is the youngest of their four children. Early chapters set the scene, covering family life in West Swan and, in doing so, provide a fascinating glimpse of life in the Swan Valley in the 1960s. In 1981 Jennifer began noting anything discovered about Marjorie's life and continued to do so whenever time permitted.

This book traces the friends' journey through the genealogical sources, the use of DNA showing

connections with the Quan Sing family and to many apparently dead ends. In fact chapter 6 is titled 'Red Herrings, Hard Facts' – as Jennifer and Cheryl battle with seemingly promising leads, conflicting information and contradictions. Marjorie died in 2007 but the search continued, including into the lives of her old friends and acquaintances.

Surnames, correctly spelt, are a vital aspect of genealogical research. Jennifer and Cheryl discovered that Marjorie, though born in 1924 to Annie D'Antoine of Sunday Island and (allegedly) 'Lanky' Quan Sing, used the surname 'King' given to her by A O Neville, Chief Protector of Aborigines, in 1938, after King Sound 'from whence she came'. Then in 2016 research into one old friend, Una Ulrich, revealed a strong connection and the focus turned to the State Records Office and the discovery in 2018 of the Marjorie King file, dating from 1937. This file which had originated from the Dept of Native Welfare was passed to the Aboriginal Research Services at SLWA in 2017. A caseworker, acting on behalf of Marjorie's Aboriginal family (who had also been seeking her), made contact and confirmed that Marjorie was, in fact, one of the Stolen Generation. Subsequently Jennifer returned her mother to country, taking Marjorie's ashes to One Arm Point for a funeral and also visiting Derby, where Marjorie had been born. Jennifer writes of the moving experience of visiting her mother's country and meeting her Indigenous relatives for the first time.

Jennifer's and Cheryl's sleuthing skills and their persistence solved a compelling family mystery and brought the family closure. It also highlighted many hidden aspects of multiculturalism and for readers with an interest in genealogy and history – and indeed detective stories - it is also the fascinating story of the life of 'saltwater girl,' Marjorie D'Antoine King York.

Community Officer:	Lesley Burnett
Editor <i>History West</i>:	Dr Lenore Layman

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