



HISTORY WEST™

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October 2022

GENERAL MEETING

The next general meeting at Stirling House is on Wed 19 October at 6pm when Phil Bianchi will present a talk on 'The Canning Stock Route'. Refreshments available from 5.30pm; Bookshop open until 6pm.



Peter Rohan, No 1 Well



Well 10, 1967. Courtesy: Russell Wenholz

The history of the Canning Stock Route is one of greed, hardship, death and expense; many have considered it a white elephant. Yet it also provided goldfields prospectors with access to meat and, in later years, became an access route for scientists, surveyors, geologists, prospectors, recreational four-wheel drivers and for traditional owners returning to country. It is some 1800km long, stretching through inhospitable desert country from Halls Creek to Wiluna.

Why the need for a stock route? The eastern goldfields gold rush was in full swing and WA's population had swollen fivefold to 161,500 by 1901. The government appointed Alf W Canning to conduct an expedition to determine the feasibility of a stock route from the Kimberley. Canning's party set off from Wiluna on 29 May 1906, arriving on 26 October 1906. Canning found that by using natural waters and digging wells at intervals of approximately 15 miles a stock route from Halls Creek to Wiluna would be feasible. He was then appointed to lead the well construction party. Between 1906 and 1910 his party established 51 wells or waters. Wally Dowling was the most prolific drover using the stock route with nine mobs; only 48 mobs came down, the last mob coming down in 1959.

Born in Collie, **Phil Bianchi** is a retired career public servant. He has written or co-written some fourteen books on WA bush history, the Canning Stock Route and goldfields woodlines being his special interests. He is also a keen four-wheel driver and travel writer



following the routes of explorers and bushmen in the field. Phil regularly promotes WA bush history through presentations to community groups and in 2019 was awarded an OAM for services to community history.

Can You Help? Mystery Badge

A photograph of this badge was sent to us from Victoria to see if we could identify it. The Police Historical Society believes that this insignia was used after about 1911 by a number of agencies and organisations. You will see that it is headed with the acronym — OWB. Do you recognise it? Please let us know if you do — 9386 3841 or admin@histwest.org.au



Welcome to new members

John Blackburne, Michael Van Tiel, Lauris Grose, Melissa Stuart, Dianne Steedman, Lauren Pratt, Susan James, Janet Paterson, Cheryl Rogers, Don Poynton, Patricia (Pat) O'Donnell, John Shepherd.
We look forward to meeting you all at some of the many activities the Society organises.

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Auxiliary's August Morning Tea Fundraiser

Thomas Turner's painting of Hardy's Inlet, Augusta

Rachel Roe



Tom Turner's painting of Hardy's Inlet. Courtesy AGWA

Here is just a taste of Emeritus Professor Richard Read's wonderful talk, which was the highlight of a happy morning gathering.

Richard transported us back in time to the 1830s and to Hardy's Inlet at Augusta from where Thomas Turner painted many of his iconic art works. What had the sixteen-year old artist intended when he painted it soon after his arrival in May 1830? While the audience was treated to the visual delights of Turner's work, Richard revealed layer upon layer of different perspectives. Maps and charts also provided context.

Richard's talk followed his progress in understanding the painting from his first sight of it in an art gallery to analysing the reasons for his attraction, then driving to Augusta, talking to locals, working out the topography, checking out secondary documents and visiting the Turner archive to examine primary documents. He also looked at later paintings by Turner now located in the State Library of Victoria.

We were taken on a fascinating journey exploring the difference in methodology between the study of history and the study of art history. Figurative painting has a double history: the history of its subject matter, such as the establishment of a colony, and the history of the art the painter drew on in fashioning a scene. When the painting caught Richard's eye at the Art Gallery of WA in 2016, he lamented the unfortunate title of the exhibition 'Unknown Lands' because the title excluded Indigenous visitors whose ancestors knew the Augusta area for at least 48,000 years.

It was illuminating to see and examine other versions of Turner's painting, such as the oval-shaped ones, which changed its aesthetic qualities. The 'panoramic sketch' was taught in eighteenth century military academies and Turner may have learnt to sketch at Baron Court Academy, Mitcham, near London. Soldiers at Augusta were needed to help with land clearing and to discourage the territorial ambitions of the French in addition to protect the colonists from native Australians, whose campfires were visible on the hillsides all around on their first night.



Tom Turner, Albion House, 1836. The Turner family's first home at Augusta, an imported prefabricated timber structure erected on the bank of the Blackwood. Courtesy: AGWA

Further insights into Turner's painting were revealed by close examination of trees, boats, people, clouds, water, rocks and other objects. For example, the blackened bark on trunks of trees that had green foliage contrasted with trees with white trunks. Could this represent a change in species of tree or does this painting represent an exotic fantasy that corresponds to no known species whatsoever but rather, just trees? Another intriguing possibility is that they are blackened by fire due to systemic controlled burns during cold weather. Indigenous people knew how to do so in mosaic patterns of small manageable clusters. Perhaps symbolically, as well as literally, the blackened trunks were a sign of Indigenous presence.

Vicariously we travelled with Richard and his kayak to Hardy's Inlet to see if an exact alignment with the painting could be found. Several features in the painting corresponded closely to the view from outside the Colour Patch Café on Albany Terrace in Seine Bay. For example, the embrowned paint above the raft in the water of Turner's painting was not due to a patch of faded paint or misshaped reflection of a cloud – but a sandbank in the shallows which still exists today, as Richard's recent photographs showed. But Turner tilted up the scene to include far more than can be seen so close to the shore. He captured the gist of the scene wonderfully, but was painting what he knew of the area rather than what could be seen from a particular position. He was working as a surveyor as much as an artist.

Although Thomas Turner's painting never left Australia, it was intended for English relatives if seen in the context of James Turner's letter of August 1830 to his brother in London. 'We have a fine prospect down the River and you may well expect at the first opportunity to receive faithful sketches from nature of our new country'.

Having hinted at Turner's familiarity with European conventions in his use of Gilpinesque ovals and Claudian marine perspectives, Richard suggested that Thomas may have learned from his father's architectural drawing skill or his artistically-inclined maternal grandmother of the Rockley family, who was versed in the decorative arts as part of a lady's upbringing. But where would he have learned to draw a face like the classical head in a sketchbook which he began in 1823? The exercise implies a more formal training in the arts, probably received at the expensive boarding school he attended in Thames Ditton between 1821 and 1825 or at Baron Court Academy between 1826 and 1827.

It was wonderful to have members of the Turner family present in the audience for the occasion, many of whom had travelled great distances. Following the talk there was a happy winner of the raffle prize – a gourmet hamper. Many thanks to the Auxiliary team – Jenny Wildy, Shirley Aliagia and photographer Wendy Lugg, technical support from Nick Drew, plus assistance from Val Hutch.

Reference

Tom Turner, *Turners of Augusta*, 1956.



Rachel Roe presenting raffle prize to Carolyn Jupp. Speaker Richard Read on right.

Community Talk

Bishop Hale's garden unearthed

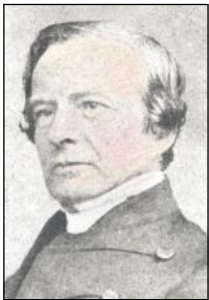


John Viska

John Viska, founding Chair and leader of WA's Garden History Society, gave our August talk; so we were in the hands of an expert. John's presentation was a delight and fascinated his audience. We learnt about Hale's garden, colonial garden plantings and other colonists who were keen gardeners as well as the

nurserymen who found good business in catering to gardeners' needs – for instance, Enoch Barratt, Thomas Mews and John Bancells (Spanish Vine Dresser).

John was set on this research track in 2008 when he purchased a batch of letters concerning Joseph Wylde, a colonial nurseryman. One was part of an 1868 letter of introduction on notepaper headed with a Bishop's mitre but missing the last page. John recognised Bishop Hale's handwriting as identical to that of his anonymous letter writer. He then researched the Bishop's diaries (1857-1875) which have been donated to Hale School's archives by the Hale family in England. This search for the circumstances of Wylde's letter revealed that Hale was a keen gardener and the diaries provided an insight into both his garden and gardening in the colony — a treasure trove of information!

Bishop Hale, 1880.
P2013.1275

Matthew Blagden Hale was appointed Bishop of Perth by the Church of England in 1856, a post he held until 1874 when he moved to Brisbane. He married Sabina Molloy in 1848 and their family grew to seven surviving children. Bishop's House at the top of the Terrace was therefore the home of a growing family and perhaps Sabina, oldest daughter of the famous gardener and botanist Georgiana Molloy, encouraged her husband's interest in their garden.

Bishop's House on two acres of land had a permanent spring running through the property that was originally covered in paperbarks, flooded gums and rushes at water's edge. Hale employed five men to develop his garden. A wall was built along the riverfront. Mrs Millett, who spent five years in the colony with her clergyman husband in the 1860s, vividly described the view of Perth from the boat taking them up river in December 1863 —

the eye is at once attracted by a steep bank sloping rapidly down to the river, crowned with many pretty residences covered with luxuriant creepers, whilst the orange trees and bamboos with which the gardens are filled form a rich foreground in front of the houses, the mass of green foliage descending almost as low as the water's edge...

I was much struck by the fig-trees in the bishop's garden close to the river; they were of such great size that I mistook them at first for horse-chestnuts. Everywhere the flowers delighted me. The oleander trees were full of blossom, looking like gigantic bouquets; and the geranium bushes were so common that I saw clothes hung out to dry upon them...

She described the Bishop's garden as containing 'a

mass of cool luxuriant foliage, formed by the glossy leaves of the bananas and bamboos which thrive in the narrow strip of swampy ground which runs along the bottom of the hill-side. On the slope itself the dark green of the orange and lemon trees, mingled with the lighter shades of the apricot, almond, and peach, forms a rich scene of verdure'.



Perth from Mount Street, 1870. Bishop's House is in the foreground showing the side of the house and garden with a sturdy fence and long grape trellis stretching from front gate to backyard. P1999.1853

The orchard described by Mrs Millett included a vineyard on a long trellis stretching from St George's Tee to the front door. Muscatels were grown for fresh and dried fruit as well as jam making. Passionfruit, figs, guava and mulberries were added to the orchard. A profusion of other trees were also planted — conifers and willows, bamboo and wattles as well as grevilleas. Roses (particularly moss roses), camellias, oleanders and geraniums were scattered throughout. The kitchen garden included strawberries, and Hale won first prize in a horticultural show for both his beetroot and geraniums, and second prize for his asparagus.

Like all gardeners Hale battled caterpillars and aphids, and numerous children were tempted to rob the garden when fruit was ripening. However a photograph of the garden taken almost thirty years after the Hale family's departure shows a neglected, overgrown garden — gardens need continuing care!



Remains of garden at Bishop's House and old stone jetty, corner Mounts Bay Rd & Spring St, 1900. P1999.1005



Bishop's House today

Today the site is completely transformed and nothing of Hale's garden remains.

Reference

Mrs Edward Millett, *An Australian Parsonage*, 1872.

IN MEMORY OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

- with admiration and respect

Natalie Richards

For the last three centuries commemorative souvenirs have been a popular way of marking Royal events such as coronations, weddings, deaths and tours, and a recent audit of the Society's ceramics collection uncovered a wide array of Royal memorabilia. Many of these items have never been on display. What better time to research and showcase the vast collection than in Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee year. Here are a few of these treasures presented at Tuesday Treasure's May gathering.

First a miniature reproduction in sterling silver of the ancient anointing spoon used in the coronation of George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The actual spoon, now preserved among the regalia in the Tower of London, has been part of the crowning ceremonies of English monarchs for over seven hundred years.

In 1936 souvenirs went on sale for the coronation of Edward VIII due to take place on 12 May 1937 until he announced his decision to abdicate in December 1936. Thousands of businesses were left with worthless souvenirs with Edwards' face or monogram on them, such as the coronation mug and pin dishes we hold.

The coronation velvets are an example of the little treasures in the collection that you don't know exist until you are looking for something else. Tucked in an envelope inside one of our textile storage boxes were three pieces of velvet woven at Braintree, Essex, in 1937. Attached was a newspaper clipping from the *West Australian*, which read, 'Three pieces of velvet ... taken from the lengths from which the Royal Coronation robes were made, are now displayed in Levinson's window, Hay St. The materials were woven by Warners, descendants from the original Flemish weavers who came to England during the reign of Henry VIII. As will be seen from the specimens, light purple was used for the King's robe and dark purple for

the robes of the Queen and princesses, and red for... the peers and peeresses'.

There are many other coronation items in our collection including medals, a Wedgewood mug, handkerchiefs, a cigarette tin and an unfinished embroidery pattern on a calico apron.

Most of the Royal wedding souvenirs we have are from the wedding of Prince Charles to Lady Diana Spencer in 1981, including a mug, thimbles, trinket box, soap container and silk scarf.

Deaths are not something typically associated with commemorative souvenirs but, needless to say, we do have a few items in our collection. Like the coronation velvets, another surprise encountered during research for the talk was a donation of an item that was simply titled 'Remnant of Bed-Hanging'. There was no photograph of it on record but the item description read: 'Bright yellow silk small remnant of bed-hanging. From Queen Victoria's bed in Windsor Castle. After her death in 1901 small pieces of the bed hanging were sold for charity'. Unfortunately the item wasn't found in its stored location so this led to some serious detective work for our museum volunteers. After looking through early donation registers, old donor forms and searching through albums and boxes, we had nearly given up, but one final clue led us to the costume room. Found in a box with many other pieces of fabric that had never been photographed before, was indeed a tiny little remnant of yellow silk. What a thrill! The research on this item will continue and we can now add a photograph of it to the website.

Visits and tours of Australia by the Royal family have taken place since 1867. Elizabeth II is the only reigning monarch of Australia to have set foot on Australian soil; she first did so on 3 February 1954 when she was 27. Ceramics, glassware, medals, badges and coins were all popular souvenirs items produced to commemorate the



Anointing spoon.
MA1987.222



Unrealised Edward VIII
mug. MA2001.53



Coronation Velvets



1954 Royal Tour – Elizabeth Powell's
scrapbook.



1887 Golden Jubilee lace curtain.
MA1986.172

occasions. An extensive range of ephemera is stored in the Library related to the Royal tour of Australia in 1954, including programmes, invitations, tickets and scrapbooks. Children and adults alike kept scrapbooks, filled with newspaper clippings, magazine articles and other collectibles. Elizabeth Powell from Derby made two and another belonged to Agnes Robertson, Senator for WA.

There are many souvenirs in our collection that commemorate the jubilees of Queen Victoria. One that deserves a special mention is the Nottingham Lace Curtain woven for the Golden Jubilee. It is a single curtain with scalloped edges; in each scallop is a crown with VR 1887. The design in the centre depicts the colonies — Australia, Canada, Africa and India with appropriate symbols and animals. There are also Royal crests over '1837 Jubilee 1887' and on the lower section a likeness of Queen Victoria with the Latin *Victoria Dei Gratia*.

On display during the 1897 Diamond Jubilee was a signed photograph of Queen Victoria with a letter (sent from Windsor Castle) to Premier Sir John Forrest dated 6 December 1897, stating that the photograph is his souvenir of the Jubilee. Other items that have been donated include George V's Silver Jubilee commemorative plate, Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee commemorative plate and medals, Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee spoon, a handkerchief from 1877 and Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee plate.

There are some other items that may not be classed as commemorative souvenirs but still have Royal connections, including a small blue and white cream jug. The mystery of this little jug is on the note found tucked inside. It states: 'This jug was given to a female ward by HRH Queen Mary'. Queen Mary managed to gain for herself a rather unflattering reputation. There are stories about the Queen visiting homes of the British well-to-do, admiring family treasures and letting the hosts know she would be 'pleased to receive the item as a gift'. She was well known for her love of figurines and miniatures – could this jug be one of those? And also who was the ward and why was she given the jug?

Another of these items is a World War I Soldier's Comfort Box. Better known as 'Princess Mary's Christmas Gift', it was a small brass tin filled with various gifts, such as tobacco, confectionary, spices, pencils, a notebook, postcards, and a picture of the Princess. The idea was the initiative of Princess Mary, the 17-year-old daughter of George V and Queen Mary. Princess Mary was responsible for the public appeal that raised the funds to ensure that 'every Sailor afloat and every Soldier at the front' received a Christmas present. All British, colonial and Indian soldiers and sailors who were serving on Christmas Day 1914 were eligible to receive a gift tin. Over 456,000 tins were distributed. Having used or consumed the contents, soldiers and sailors found the tins useful for carrying other small items. Today many tins are held in public and private collections or by families who have inherited them. Tins which still hold their original contents are rare.

To conclude the presentation Sue Clarke and Val Hutch led our visitors in a moving rendition of 'God Save The Queen', reminiscent of days gone by when the anthem was sung at cinemas, school assemblies and special events. Visitors were able to make a note of their Royal memories to add to our memorabilia file and they were invited to show and talk about the special Royal souvenirs that they had brought along. It was the most wonderful array of items, including Royal-themed embroidery by children — a metal thimble, Coronation hanky, 1977 Silver Jubilee cup, red OXO tin for Coronation, George V Wedgewood plate, Crown Crystal Glass Co. Ltd beer mug, stunning replica of the Queen Elizabeth II Coronation spoon, Prince William mug, Paragon cup & saucer, Queen Elizabeth souvenir coin and necklace, 1980 spoon, 1911 George V Coronation mug, 1937 Edward VIII Coronation mug, Silver Jubilee paperweight and a collection of Royal-themed books and newspapers. Souvenirs do not need to have a high commercial value to be classed as special; it is the meanings and memories we associate with them that make them valuable keepsakes.



Trinket Box, coalport porcelain. MA2012.57a-b



Soldier's comfort box. MA1983.238



Queen Victoria's signed photograph, 1897. A2007.202



Remnant of bed-hanging. C1980.142c



Cream jug. MA1981.169



1954 tour badge MA2017.28

Romance in the Swan River Colony

Jo Pearson

Romance was at play from the beginning in those harsh lives of the early colonists at Swan River. When George Meikleham married Ellen Symmons at St George's Church in 1845, the bridal couple walked home accompanied all the way by cheering townsfolk; another bride and groom sent traditional pieces of wedding cake, tied with ribbon, to those who'd helped in their lives. One settler stitched his girlfriend a pair of white satin shoes to wear to a ball given for a visiting ship; he'd never made shoes before.

MATRIMONY.
—0000—
A YOUNG MAN about 24 years of age, of respectable connections, having an income of about £120. per annum, wishes to obtain an introduction to a Lady about 19 or 20, agreeable in person, and capable of looking after the domestic affairs, (property no object).
Letters addressed to C. B., to be left at the Post Office till called for, will meet with immediate attention.

'Matrimony', *Perth Gazette*, 2 Nov 1833, p. 173. NLA.

But there was one problem regarding romance for the male settlers — a shortage of women. At Captain Dance's party it was noted that 'we have an abundance of sweet flowers but no pretty faces... we could not muster one young lady'. James Henty's indentured servant George Bushby hoped his brother Charles would come to the colony, but warned him to marry first as there was 'not one bachelor with us but who wishes himself married'. Letters were sent to young women saying 'if you want husbands then this is the place'. Some desperados tried advertising in the newspaper for wives.

Despite limitations, romance flourished, including the first elopement. Fisherman George Eyre and shipping heiress Catherine Bamber, reputedly 'one of most beautiful of the Swan's elite', eloped to Fremantle, arranging for Chaplain Wittenoom to celebrate their wedding. Furious father Captain Bamber persuaded the Chaplain not to turn up, but there were other chaplains. Catherine spent the first night in an unknown lady's tent and was married the following morning from Mr Gellibrand's tent next door. Celebrations were held with cake and wine, and the newly weds left for their honeymoon — in the tent next door to Mr Gellibrand.

In Guildford, excitement reached fever pitch among the gentlemen when Captain Richard Goldsmith Meares, veteran of the Peninsular Wars and Waterloo, arrived in town with heiress wife Ellen, and their eight children, including four daughters of marriageable age. Despite their description as 'ladylike girls, rather small than large, good figures but not at all handsome', there was a buzz of male activity around Meares cottage. Fletcher Moore helped move their grand piano, walked across to dine with them at Christmas and formed an attraction for Georgiana, later admitting he liked her but not her supercilious attitude toward him. Henry de Burgh regularly visited the Meares, using the excuse of playing their piano, but really fancying one of their daughters. On one visit he found only Georgiana at home, not the girl he liked; but she fancied him — passionately — and declared her love for him. Henry tried to back out of the door but Georgiana decided to faint in his arms. Hurriedly calling a maid he 'was very glad to make my escape'.

Two teenagers, a cowman and a nurse Sally, employed by Mr Brockman, were in a romance that quickly turned into drama. The cowman loved Sally so possessively she found the pressure too great and took a dose of poison. Overcome with guilt, he unsuccessfully tried to find someone to shoot him — and also took poison. The doctor was called, prescribed strong doses of castor oil and senna pods, relieving both their stomachs and troubled minds. After a night suffering from unsparing emetics, the lovers were sacked.



Euphemia McIntosh, taffeta crinoline afternoon dress c1856. C1979.210

A sacking was probably what the Drummond brothers felt like giving their shepherd Ewan McIntosh, except that his labour was essential to their land. Ewan and their sister Euphemia were in love and planned to marry. The brothers, incensed by their sister 'marrying down' to a farm worker, burnt her wedding dress on the eve of her wedding day. Romance won the day, the pair married, but no one attended their wedding. They eventually had eleven children.

In-laws like the Drummonds could sour romance between newly-weds. William Lavington suffered non-stop bullying and humiliation from his new father-in-law, jealous of him for marrying his daughter. Worst of all, it always took place at the pub in front of his mates. William was driven to borrow a loaded shotgun from Mr Habgood. He returned to the pub, aimed and fired at his tormentor — but missed his head by inches.



Catherine's wedding dress, c1892. C2005.55

Catherine McAuley Mackay and William Cusack's romance was a story from which films are made. An heiress, born on Mundabullangana, a massive and successful pastoral station near Roebourne, Catherine fell in love with William, a jackeroo and blacksmith. They married in 1892. Catherine was given Tambrey Station as a dowry, but it had no homestead. So, before the birth of their first baby, William single-handedly built Tambrey homestead for Catherine using mud bricks made from anthills and

spinifex, bound with sheep dags.

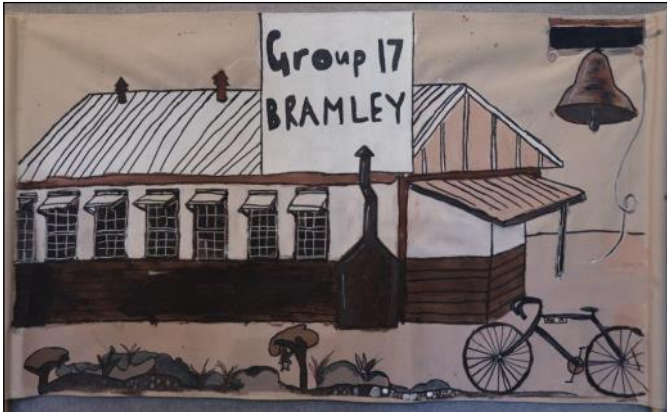
Unlike William Cusack, another husband from Bunbury was so depressed at the little romance left in his life, he sold his wife to another man for £10 — £1 down and £9 owed on a promissory note. He was convicted, but local magistrate Eliot quashed his six-month prison sentence. He considered the wife was of such bad character 'it was hardly surprising he should be glad to get rid of her on any terms'.

Affiliates & Other News

Eastern Goldfields Historical Society is launching *Around the Blue Laminex Table*, Wayne Lamotte's memoir of Kalgoorlie-Boulder in the 1950s and 1960s. The book centres on his father's unforgettable stories of life as a woodchopper, gambler and contractor who supplied the sheep stations northeast of Kalgoorlie. Its price is \$35.

Kalamunda & Districts Historical Society is promoting a multi-media performance of songs and images entitled 'Tall Timber Tales' on 8 November at 2pm at the Jack Healy Centre.

Margaret River Historical Society's Group Settlement Centennial event featured primary school banners, including the Airdale Group 84, Bramley Group 17 and Courtney Group 75. Next time you are visiting do call in and have a look, as all 30 banners are on display in the Blacksmith shed at the Old Settlement grounds.



Maritime Heritage Assn journal contains an interesting piece by Peter Worsley reminiscing of seventy years ago when he was a boy fishing for mullet in the Swan using homemade kylie — two pieces of galvanised steel riveted together. Does anyone share his memory?

York Society is currently focusing on York's women in history. A new walk has been developed titled *Women of York*, looking particularly at the amazing buildings in York that were built for the women who owned them. The York Festival will also include a one-act play presented by Sarah McNeill called *Mrs Millett: Life in Barladong*. The play comprises extracts from Janet Millett's book *An Australian Parsonage*, edited by Rob Garton Smith and Sarah McNeill. It will be performed at Holy Trinity Church on 30 September and 1 October at 7 pm.

Friends of Battye Library newsletter always contains a trove of good reading, the July issue featuring (among others) a fascinating article by John Dowson on — The Wooden Streets of Fremantle. '...the streets of Fremantle may not have been paved with gold, but some were paved with valuable timbers like jarrah and karri'.



Call for books for the 2023 Giant Second Hand Book Sale 1/2 April 2023

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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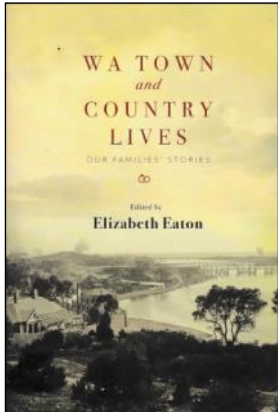


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Book Reviews

Elizabeth Eaton (ed.), *WA Town and Country Lives: our families' stories*, Linellen Press, 2021. In Library.

Reviewer: Heather Campbell



This is a voluminous book of 370 pages, crammed full of the history of this large family, which includes the Buckeridge, Hawkins, Vernon, Eaton and Cooper families. As editor and author Elizabeth Eaton must have had a daunting task organising and collating the material. Several chapters are attributed solely to Eaton, some to Eaton and a family member jointly, and a few

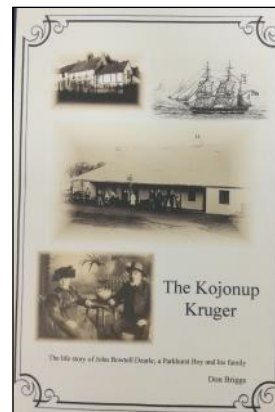
solely to a family member from the branch of the family discussed in that chapter.

The book deals with branches of the family, under four sections. A table shows arrival dates of family members in Australia. There is an overall family tree at the beginning of the book and smaller family trees at the beginning of each chapter indicating the content of that chapter. Numerous family photographs and other related images, for example of buildings, are interspersed throughout, in black and white and colour, and there are also coloured images of artworks, postcards and artefacts.

For the general reader, beyond the families concerned, this book is challenging because the numerous names, relationships between people and anecdotes, together with attendant dates can confuse. However its focus on this particular family, family members, their relationships, activities and lives will make the book of great interest to all family members as well as a useful reference for genealogists and those interested in family research.

Don Briggs, *The Kojonup Kruger. The life story of John Bowtell Dearle, a Parkhurst Boy and his family*, 2022. In Library.

Reviewer: Jeanette Longwood



This book details the history of the Dearle and Bowtell families in England, including information about Parkhurst Prison and the use of Parkhurst Boys in Western Australian farming communities. John Bowtell Dearle's life after his arrival in WA in 1849 is closely traced. There is an account of his life in Moodiarrup and business interests in Kojonup, with extensive use made of

transcribed letters and police records. The phrase 'Kojonup Kruger' alludes to Kruger of South Africa, according to one of John Bowtell Dearle's granddaughters, as they were both involved in everything.

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

Opinions expressed in *History West* are not necessarily those of the Royal WA Historical Society (Inc.).

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