



# HISTORY WEST

THE ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

## Community Talk



# Ink to image: Life on the trail with James Sweeney's diary of the 1874 Forrest expedition

## Greg Branson

In the annals of Western Australian exploration, the John Forrest expedition of 1874 stands as a pivotal moment, carving a path through the rugged inland from Geraldton to the Peake Telegraph station in South Australia. At the heart of this historic journey was James Patrick Sweeney, a farrier whose role extended beyond the care of horses to become a chronicler of the expedition's everyday trials and triumphs.

As the great-grandson of James Patrick Sweeney, Greg Branson will detail a unique exhibition that not only pays homage to the remarkable journey undertaken by his ancestor but also sheds light on the often-overlooked perspective of an 'ordinary' man on an extraordinary expedition. The cornerstone of this exhibition is the original diary of James Patrick Sweeney, a document that captures the essence of life on the trail, where the mundane and the extraordinary coalesce.

Greg and his partner Carol Mackay travelled along some of the route to shoot photographs that illustrate the diary entries.

His talk will cover the long journey from his first sighting of the diary to the exhibition at the City of Perth lower Town Hall gallery.

### Tuesday 19 March, 10 for 10.30-11.30am

Venue: RWAHS 49 Broadway Nedlands / Cost \$15

Tel: 9386 3841 Email: [admin@histwest.org.au](mailto:admin@histwest.org.au)

[Click here to book](#) or scan the QR code



Tear off slip here

I/we will be attending the Community Talk *James Sweeney's diary of the 1874 Forrest Expedition* on Tuesday 19 March 2024 at 10 for 10.30am.

Cost \$15

I enclose payment for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide attendees names \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Payment is accepted by Cheque, Mastercard, Visa or by direct deposit to the RWAHS Bank Account: BSB: 016 484 Account No: 2478 76223 Please leave your name when paying directly

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I wish to further support the RWAHS M&L Fund - Building Project (for building project donations) with a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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