

Affiliates Newsletter

2024-05

April 2024

Report on Bolgart Branch Activities for 1959, 1960

3rd April: An excursion and day meeting to inspect and photo-graph old gold diggings at "Blackboy Hill."

29th July: Meeting. Further information re early settlers near or in Bolgart-Guy Thomson, 1856 to June, 1858; Three McPhersons brothers, Donald (Glentromie), Duncan (Carnamah), John (Candle); T. N. Yule of the Byeen.

15th August: Meeting. To look over documents, letters and family papers lent by the Lukin family, relating (1) to their early settlement and subsequent acquiring of Deepdale; (2) to the running of a flock of Dorrien sheep in partnership with Capt. Farrer, their agent hi London; (3) very interesting correspondence with Capt. Willett of "Hobart and formerly of Swan River Colony. (Notes and extracts were made from these.)

4th December: Annual Meeting. Election of officers. Further notes relating to Guy Thomson's sojourn in Bolgart. Screening of colour transparencies of the gold diggings at "Blackboy Hill."

Other members of families and friends attend .meetings usually numbering 12 or more .

BOLGART BRANCH ACTIVITIES - 1960

Our membership is on a family basis and 9 in the district are financial. Our meetings are held at members' homes in turn and we have several visitors on each occasion. This year the four meetings were held at the residences of Messrs. C. J. Martin, J. Parkin, L. Camilleri.

All available issues of the Journals of the W.A. Historical Society have been bought and these are at the disposal of our members. The Librarian is Mrs. Broomhall. There is an active interest in the history of this district and we are gradually collecting a lot of data on life in the Toodyay Valley in the early days.

Three members of our Branch attended the August meeting of the W.A. Historical Society in Perth, to hear the reading of Mrs. Hasluck's paper on Yagan. This was a particularly interesting experience.

In October, Father William of Bindoon Boys Town, was our guest for the day to visit places of historical interest in our area. We travelled down the "Old Plains Road," formerly used by the pioneers, who travelled from the Toodyay to the Victoria Plains. There we visited Mr. Burke, who showed us over the old mud bat cottage, where his grandmother, Mrs. Gavin, entertained travellers (including several Governors) who stayed overnight on their way to visit Bishop Salvado at New Norcia. We then sought out the site of Captain Scully's cottage, the first homestead at Bolgart and built in 1839.

Next Affiliates Committee Meeting will be held on the 21st May 2024

Newsletter feedback

" I am just so blown away by the success of the Affiliates newsletter. For the first time we really see the State body activities in the full context of what the Affiliates are doing. Warmest congratulations to you and all those involved. We all have a lot to learn from this development. "

BOLGART BRANCH ACTIVITIES - 1960 continued ...

It is now only a mound of earth enclosed by a rectangle of stones. We also inspected the historic old well which is now engulfed in a paper-bark bog.

The Branch is very proud of the achievement of Mr. R. Kemp, a past Secretary and foundation member. His thesis on the History of Land Settlement in the Bolgart District gained him a pass mark in his Teachers' Higher Certificate, Optional Subject. It was recommended that a copy be donated to the Battye Library. The thesis also won him the Lee Steere award. Members of our Branch are studying the copy presented to them by Mr. Kemp and all offer him heartfelt congratulations on a fine piece of work.

Mrs. S. Erickson
Hon. Secretary

Taken from the Early Days Being Journal and Proceedings of the Western Australian Historical Society. Vol. V. Part VII. Perth 1961.

Your Committee Members

An Affiliated Societies Committee is elected each year at the Annual State History Conference of Affiliated Societies. This Committee acts in the interests of Affiliated Societies and is represented on the Society's Council of management. Representatives for 2023-24 are below:

- Nick Drew – **Convenor** (RWAHS- Council Rep) - nickdrew@bigpond.com
- Fiona Bush – Minute Secretary (Mundaring & Hills) - fiona.bush@icloud.com
- Ashleigh Murch (Denmark) - ashleigh.murch@gmail.com
- Bruce Baskerville (Irwin & Districts) - mrbbaskerville@gmail.com
- Keith & Suzanne Cundale (Maylands) - maylandshs@gmail.com
- Marilyn Gazeley (Cervantes) - cervantes50th@hotmail.com
- Bev McGuinness (Denmark) - bev@denmarkwa.com
- Lyn O'Hara (South Perth) - lynn@eon.net.au
- Ellen Parrick (York Society) - ellen.parrick@gmail.com
- Diane Pope (Bindoon) - popetwo@gmail.com
- Rosie Stroud (Eastern Goldfields) - eo@kagoorliehistory.org.au
- Richard Offen – ex-officio (President RWAHS) - richard.offen@inet.net.au
- Jacqui Huntley (Wanneroo & Districts) - huntleyjacqui@gmail.com
- Trish Parker (Irwin Districts) - trishpark@bigpond.com
- Denise Cock (City of Cockburn) - dcook@cockburn.wa.gov.au
- Amy Price (City of Cockburn) - aprice@cockburn.wa.gov.au
- Natalie Evans (Collections WA) - natalie.evans@amaga.org.au

Please feel free to contact anyone on the committee if you have a query or concern.

Committee Meeting News

At the last committee meeting, held on the 19th March 2024. Items for discussion included the upcoming State History Conference being hosted by the Irwin & Districts Historical Society. Lottery West Grant for travel assistance for the affiliates has been submitted and Nick is waiting to hear back. The City of Cockburn and the Historical Society of Cockburn has made a start with the formation of the committee for the 2025 state conference with the theme of the conference the first item on the agenda.



CERVANTES CELEBRATES

SATURDAY 22ND JUNE 2024 6.00PM

To commemorate the 1844 sinking of the
'CERVANTES' the Cervantes Historical Society

presents the Rum Jungle Shanty Singers for entertainment while you enjoy a 3 course meal. BYO drinks. Cervantes Community Recreation Centre, Aragon Street, Cervantes. Tickets available \$55 each on Trybooking or locally from the Museum. cervanteshistoricalsociety@gmail.com cervantes50th@hotmail.com

Did you know the RWAHS Book Shop have more WA History books for sale, than any other Book Shop.

Open Monday to Friday
10am to 4pm, situated at 49
Broadway, Nedlands, WA
6010.

www.histwest.org.au under
services, History West Shop
or for any queries please see
the contact details below.

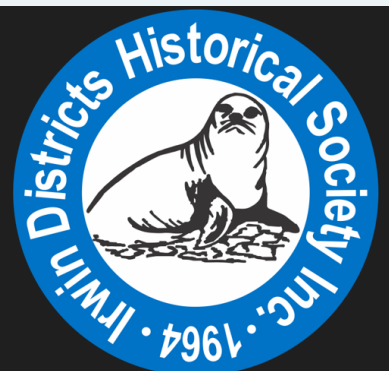
If you have a book or know
of a book that you would
like the Book Shop to stock
please contact the
Book Shop -
bookshop@histwest.org.au
or 9386 3841.

Conference 2024

Irwin District Historical
Society 6, 7, 8th September
2024.

Irwin Historical Society has
made a group booking at the
Dongara Hotel and Priory.
When booking your
accommodating please
specify that you are booking
for State History Conference.

office@dongarahotel.com.au



Affiliates News

AMaGA National Awards

Nominations are now open for the AMaGA Awards. The awards are dedicated to honoring and showcasing excellence within Australia's museum and gallery sector. With a rich history of recognising outstanding achievements through a peer-reviewed process, the awards spotlight excellence in various areas such as publications, branding projects, exhibitions, and public programming. The awards are now unified under a singular banner: The AMaGA Awards (fondly known as 'The AMaGAs'). This consolidation serves to streamline nominations while fostering enhanced accessibility and community engagement for sector-wide recognition. Much like our dynamic museums and galleries, these awards will adapt over time to reflect the evolving priorities of AMaGA, its esteemed members, and the broader sector landscape.

An information session will be held on **Tuesday 9 April 2024 at 2:00pm** via Zoom. [Awards homepage \(amaga.org.au\)](https://www.amaga.org.au)

Can You Help?

The Eastern Goldfields Historical Society has been approached regarding the brooch below. Do you know what the letters W.G.U.E.A. stand for?

eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au



Busselton Historical Society - FROM SADNESS COMES JOY: TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT OF ORAL HISTORY ACTIVITIES TO THE BUSSELTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

At their AGM on March 12 the Busselton Historical Society agreed to a proposal from the Busselton Oral History Group to the transfer of all their physical and financial assets in return for BHS continuing management of oral history activities in Busselton, including the collection of interviews held at the State Library of WA ongoing recording, editing and publishing locals' life stories; and sale of books, including *Busselton Life in Snips and Snaps*, the final publication of BOHG.

Margaret Tickle OAM initiated interest in recording local histories in Busselton in 1985, and Margaret Dawson OAM has been interviewing, editing sound files and transcribing from the outset. Over around 40 years there have been 352 interviews conducted by 57 interviewers amounting to 626 hours of edited recordings transcribed by around 60 other volunteers. These are available online through the SLWA.

The BHS is delighted to have BOHG back in the fold. It strongly supports the continuation of collecting and preserving oral histories and this voluntary work will continue through BHS. Two past BOHG members will join its committee and lead the Oral History Project.

Those interested in ensuring that more local stories can be recorded, edited and transcribed, so they can be made available online, are encouraged to contact BHS at oralhistory@busseltonhistoricalsociety.org.au.

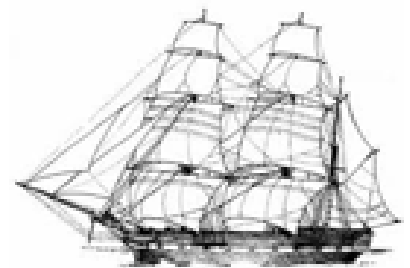


Margaret Tickle OAM and Margaret Dawson OAM, BOHG (Inc) Committee and Life Members alongside Stephanie Piper, BHS President

Cervantes Historical Society

The town of Cervantes is named after an American whaling vessel, which in turn was named after the Spanish writer Miguel de Cervantes.

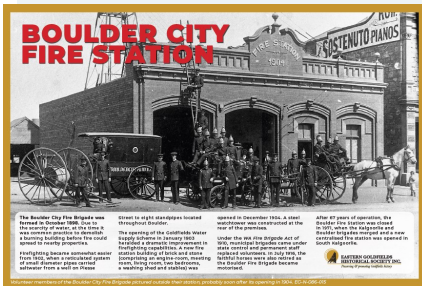
The 'Cervantes' was anchored not far offshore on 26th June 1844. A gale force wind sprang up and she drifted onto a sandbar at the nearby island, breaking her keel. No lives were lost and the crew made it ashore.



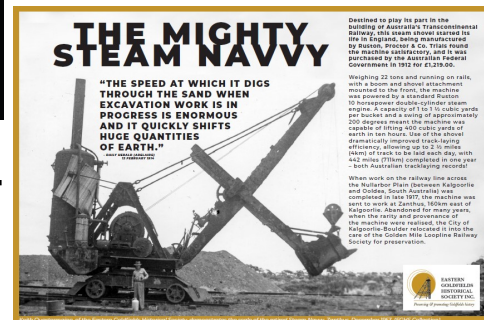
Remains of the 'Cervantes' are still visible on a clear day in the sand. The WA Museum holds artifacts retrieved from the wreck which was discovered in 1969. There are also some items on display at the Cervantes Museum.

To commemorate the 180th anniversary of the 'Cervantes', Cervantes Historical Society is hosting an event Saturday 22nd June 2024.

Affiliates News



Eastern Goldfields Historical Society
As part of the National Trust Heritage Month the EGHS is hosting a month long outdoor exhibition. Featuring moving images and eyewitness accounts from the January 1934 Kalgoorlie-Boulder Riots, also, the Wartime Letters of Private Stephen Grace, the Mighty Steam Navy, the old B.U.F.S and the Old Boulder Fire Station. An event not to be missed.



Eastern Goldfields Historical Society presents...

OUR STORIES

An outdoor exhibition for the Australian Heritage Festival - 18 April to 19 May 2024

FEATURING THESE STORIES:
At Loopline Park (Hamilton St, Boulder, 9am to 5pm daily)
1934: THE KALGOORLIE-BOULDER RIOTS
ALSO **THE MIGHTY STEAM NAVVY**
& **IN HIS OWN WORDS: THE WARTIME LETTERS OF PRIVATE STEPHEN GRACE**
On Burt Street (adjacent to the Boulder Town Hall)
FOREVER B.U.F.S. & BOULDER CITY FIRE STATION

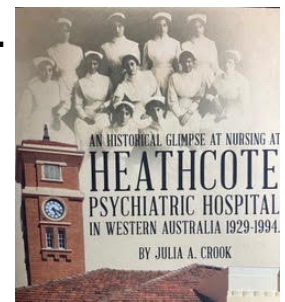


Colonial Bottle & Collector Club - The Littler Bottler from the **Colonial Bottle & Collector Club** adds to its series of articles on the many aerated water manufacturers in WA in the late 19th and early 20th centuries with an account of the Eureka Aerated Water & Cordial Works in Leonora, originally owned by an early Leonora identity, Christian Alfred Andresen.

Returning in April and May with the theme **Connections**, the 2024 festival will celebrate the rich and diverse stories of our nation, strengthen cultural and historical ties and encourage the community to forge new bonds. It acknowledges our link to people, places and the past, and the enduring connections that will shape the future of heritage.

Denmark Historical Society - Koorabup, **Denmark Historical Society's** journal, includes many photographs of the successful exhibition of Bert Saw's photographs held over the new year period. More than 900 people enjoyed the display.

Melville History Society - enjoyed former mental health nurse Julia Crook's talk in March on the subject of her recent book, see photo. She spent 10 years researching her topic and interviewing former nurses, many of whom are now deceased. Her work is a very valuable contribution to WA history from convict days to the recent.



Serpentine Historical Society - Old Bridge School



The Serpentine Historical society volunteers open the school every second Sunday of the month, Feb - Nov. from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm , gold coin donation .

The interior of the building represents an early 1900's schoolroom, we encourage children and adults to write with pen and ink, infants with chalk on slate. We have a display of photos and information relating to the district which includes Serpentine, Keysbrook, Hopeland & Mardella. Also a large wall map of the Shire which includes, mid/late 1800's land allotments and 1920's group settlements.

We also open on request for families, schools and community groups. Phone Trevor 0499977529 or email -serpentine.hs@outlook.com

John Curtin Prime Ministerial Library

Invites you to join us for a guided tour of the Curtin Family Home in Cottesloe on 18-19 April during the [2024 Australian Heritage Festival](#).

This event is a rare opportunity to explore the house built for John and Elsie Curtin in 1923. JCPML archivists Sally Laming and Nathan Hobby will lead small groups through the house where you will hear about John Curtin's home life and its connections to his unlikely path to becoming Australia's much-admired wartime prime minister from 1941 until his death in 1945. <https://events.humanitix.com/a-prime-minister-at-home-connecting-cottesloe-to-canberra-at-the-curtin-family-home>

South32 Worsley Alumina Community Grants

The South32 Worsley Alumina Community Grants Program provides funding for local organisations, projects and programs that provide a benefit to people in South West communities.

Grants of **up to A\$5,000** (GST exclusive) are available for eligible projects that support community initiatives within the Shires of Boddington, Collie, Murray, Wandering and Williams, or in Greater Bunbury and Surrounds.

<https://www.south32.net/what-we-do/our-locations/australia/worsley-alumina/grants>

2024 grant round application periods:

1 February 2024 - 29 February 2024

1 August 2024 - 31 August 2024



HISTORY WEST

THE ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

THE WILLIAMS / LEE STEERE PUBLICATION PRIZE 2023 \$1000

The Society is offering a prize of \$1000 for a publication on Western Australian history, published between June 2022 and June 2023.

Conditions of Entry

- Entries must be in book form and be over 20 000 words in length.
- Topics could be a biography of a West Australian, a family history, a local or community history, or on any aspect of WA history the author chooses.
- Self-published entries are welcome.
- **Non-fiction entries only** are acceptable; works of historical fiction and books for children will not be eligible for this prize.
- Ebook entries are welcomed and while no print out is required for these, two USBs carrying the book must be provided.
- At least **two copies** of each entry must be submitted.

Eligibility criteria

The prize is open to the general public as well as to members of the RWAHS and its affiliates.

Closing date is the last Friday in June and the winner will be announced at the Society's annual general meeting on the third Wednesday of October.

Entries must be submitted to the Society's office at:

49 Broadway
NEDLANDS WA 6009
Email: admin@histwest.org.au

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Postal Address: _____

Telephone number/s: _____

Email address: _____

Topic, title and publication details of entry:



Signature of entrant: _____

Australian Grain Technologies
Sponsored · 🌐

Applications for 2024 AGT Community Donations are now open!

- \$10,000 towards a community project
- Open to all grain-growing communities in Australia

Find out more and apply: <https://bit.ly/agtcommunitydonations>
#growingcommunities #grain #plantbreeding

Apply for your \$10,000 Community Donation now.



Useful Information



Reminder that the National Library of Australia's Community Heritage Grant applications open on the 05th March 2024.

More information can be found at <https://www.nla.gov.au/about/fellowships-scholarships-and-grants/community-heritage-grants>.



CBH's Grass Roots Community Grants provide financial assistance to WA grain growing communities for projects and events which contribute to the health and vitality of their community.

For more information - www.cbh.com.au/community/grass-roots-community-grants



Community Heritage Grants 2024 Round – Now Open

What are the Community Heritage Grants?

The Community Heritage Grants (CHG) program supports community-based organisations to identify and care for Australian cultural heritage collections which are publicly accessible, locally held and nationally significant. The CHG program commenced in 1994, and we are delighted to be marking our 30th anniversary this year.

DISCLAIMER

Accuracy of facts or the opinions expressed in any of the articles of this newsletter, are not necessarily those of the Royal Western Australian Historical Society and the Society cannot accept responsibility of any action taken as a result of statements contained within.

The Eastern Goldfields Historical Society acknowledges the support of the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder.





Community Giving Fund grant applications now open.



At Aurizon we consider ourselves part of our local communities, with over 85% of our employees living and working in regional Australia.

Since 2011 the Aurizon Community Giving Fund has been giving back to our local communities and has supported over 600 charities and community groups in the areas of Health & Wellbeing, Community Safety, Environment, and Education.

Apply now for a grant of up to \$20,000 to support your charity or community group. Applications are now open and will close on Friday 26 April 2024 at 5pm AEST.

		<p>Irwin Districts Historical Society Inc <i>Maintaining the identity of the Irwin District</i></p>
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2024 State History Conference

Conference Registration and Companion Event Bookings

Conference registration includes the Welcome Event, all conference sessions, two morning teas and two lunches. Delegates may bring a partner to the Welcome Event. Companion events are the conference dinner and the tours, which are ticketed separately from the Conference Registration.

Welcome Event - Friday 6 September 2024			
Welcome Event	5.00-7.00pm		Free
Conference Saturday 7 September and Sunday 8 September (morning sessions, morning teas, lunches)			
Saturday & Sunday		Delegate Registration – two days	\$100.00
One day only (either day)		Delegate Registration – one day	\$50.00
Optional Tours – Saturday afternoon			
Sikh Tour of Dongara - bus tour	2.00-4.00pm	Bus tour of significant Sikh sites	\$15
Walking tour of the Old Port Road	2.00-4.00pm	From Russ Cottage, includes afternoon tea and art exhibition at Denison House	\$10
Conference Dinner, Priory Hotel			
Conference Dinner	6.00-9.00pm	Two course dinner, table wine to share, drinks for sale, talk by local raconteur	\$70
Optional Tours – Sunday afternoon			
James Drummond Wildflower Walk <i>Transport: Bus or Self Drive</i>	2.00-4.30pm	The 'Lost Road' 20km East of Dongara	Bus to site \$20 Drive to site \$5
Visit Packout Room/ Museum of Fishing and the Sea	2.00-3.30pm	Includes talk by boat restorer John Fitzhardinge	\$5
Walking Tour of Priory Hotel	2.00-3.30pm	Led by former students of Dominican Ladies College	\$5

Registrations to open on 1 May 2024 through Try Booking on the Irwin Districts Historical Society website. Cut off for conference registration is 24 August 2024, and for companion event bookings 24 August 2024 (or when respective dinner or tour is full). No "early bird registration" discounts.

Cancellation Policy:

Cancellation one week to 24 hours - 75% refund

Cancellation within 24 hours of Welcome Event - no refund



RWAHS State History Conference, 2024

Waves of Change - Dongara & Port Denison

How to Get There, and then Get Around

DRIVE

South from Geraldton, **Brand Highway** - National Route 1, and Tourist Drive 354, 'Batavia Coast Way', via Greenough and Bookara, 64 kms.

West from Kalgoorlie, **Great Eastern Highway** – National Route 94 to Southern Cross then via Bullfinch, Kondut, Morawa (limited route numbering) and Mingenew, 817 kms.

North from Perth - three main routes

- **Brand Highway**, National Route 1, via Midland, Muchea, Badgingarra and Eneabba, 342kms
- **Midlands Road/Great Northern Highway** – State Route 116 and Tourist Drive 360 'Midlands Way', via Midland, New Norcia, Three Springs and Mingenew, 326 kms.
- **Indian Ocean Drive**, State Route 60 - via West Perth, Wanneroo, Cervantes, Jurien Bay and Leeman, 320 kms – but note, the northern end from Leeman to Arrowsmith will be closed for roadworks between April and November, so just north of Leeman detour via Eneabba-Coolimba Road to Brand Highway and then on to Dongara via Arrowsmith.

All of these routes are scenic, with fuel stops, lookouts, layby/picnic areas, cafés and bakeries, hotels, camping/caravan parks, and of course local museums, along the way for more leisurely travelling around the Batavia Coast and North Midlands regions.

DRIVING - FUEL STOPS

Petrol and Diesel – Liberty and BP roadhouses on Brand Highway Dongara, Ampol service station at junction of Moreton Terrace and Point Leander Drive in Dongara. See [Fuel Prices Australia](#) for locations and current (daily) fuel prices in Dongara and regionally.

Electric – EV charging stations at Jurien Bay (AC/DC, Bashford Street, x 3), Dongara (AC, Dongara Hotel, x 4), Geraldton (DC, Foreshore Drive x 4, and others), Northampton (AC/DC, x 3, Visitor Centre). See [RAC EV Charging Stations Map](#) for other regional stations.

LPG – Liberty and BP roadhouses on Brand Highway Dongara, 4 stations in Geraldton, and stations in Cataby, Jurien Bay, Kalbarri. See [MyLPG Map](#) for stations and details.

Continued...





PUBLIC BUS

Transwa bus services operate on all three drive routes from East Perth via Midland or Joondalup, and from Kalbarri via Geraldton - services daily with route variations, all the usual concession rates apply, pick up/set down stops in Waldeck Street, Dongara (opposite Old Police Station museum) and Point Leander Drive, Port Denison (opposite Marine Rescue Hall). Check with [Transwa](#) for up-to-date timetables and fares.

FLY, then drive or transfer

Qantas, Perth (Terminal 2) – Geraldton, daily return (1 hour flight time), and **Nexus**, Perth (Terminal 2) – Geraldton (daily), and 'Northern Route' regional cities (6 days/week).

Hire cars (Hertz, Budget, Thrifty, Avis) – at Geraldton Airport, advance bookings recommended.

Geraldton Taxis, 13 2227, 24 hours, available from Geraldton Airport.

New Leaf Connect - Tours & Transport, 0474 922 552, private bus transfers from Geraldton Airport to Dongara and return, best for groups of 4 or more people.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT AROUND DONGARA and PORT DENISON

Dongara Taxis, phone 08 9927 1555, closed after midnight Fri/Sat, after 10.30pm other nights.

Walking – most footpaths well paved and lit, several scenic walking tracks around the towns.

No local scooter, bicycle or car hire available. No local public bus service available.

HISTORICAL SERVICES, DISCONTINUED

Passenger shipping services to Port Denison ceased in 1905 (Adelaide SS Co)

Passenger shipping services to Geraldton ceased in 1973 (State Shipping Service)

Passenger train services to Dongara ceased in 1975 (WAGR/Westrail, ex Midland Rail Co)

Wishing you a safe journey to and from the conference!

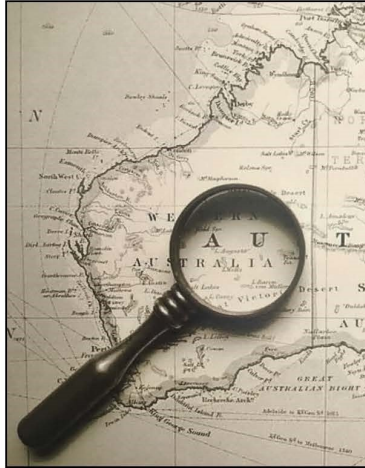




HISTORY WEST

THE ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

Annual Lecture



HISTORY WEST ANNUAL LECTURE

UWA Club Auditorium

People's stories making Australian history

Chaired by **Professor Jane Lydon**, a panel of three speakers will explore the three epic stories which shape Australia today — our ancient heritage, British inheritance and multicultural transformation

Panelists

Steve Kinnane – family history and Miriwoong story making,

Mike Lefroy – British heritage in family stories

Susanna Iuliano – the Italian multicultural strand in Australia's story

Thursday 6 June 2024, 5.30 for 6pm

Cost \$40 Bookings essential

Tel: 9386 3841 Email: admin@histwest.org.au

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



Tear off slip here

I/we will be attending the History West Annual Lecture at the UWA Club Auditorium on Thursday 6 June 2024 at 5.30 for 6pm.

Cost \$40

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

Card Number:

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Expiry Date: □□ / □□ CVC: □□□

(3 digit no. on back of card)

in name of _____

Phone H: _____ Mob: _____

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

Please tick box if a Donor Tax deductible receipt is required

Please return to the Office,
RWAHS, 49 Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009
Phone: 9386 3841 Email: admin@histwest.org.au