Affiliates Newsletter

2024-06

May 2024

Pitman and Walsh Rededication - In 2015, a Pitman and Walsh memorial was erected at the Millers Find shaft, contained within a mining lease held by Norton Gold Fields. To aid public accessibility and safety, a new memorial

was constructed about 3.6km from the original position following collaboration between the Western Australia Police Historical Society and Norton Gold Fields.



Photos courtesy of Norton Goldfields.

Saturday the 27th April 2027 a 100-strong crowd attended a ceremony to open the new Pitman and Walsh Memorial on the outskirts of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. The site honours the lives of two police officers who were brutally murdered in the Goldfields almost a century ago.

On April 28, 1926, two officers from the gold stealing detection unit, Insp. John Walsh and Sgt Alexander Pitman, set off south from Kalgoorlie on bicycles to investigate the unlawful processing of gold.

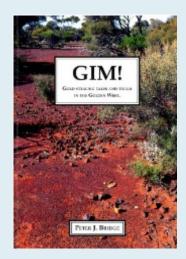
They found two men, Phillip Treffene and William Coulter, illegally processing gold, and were shot dead, the circumstances of the shootings is not clear. In an attempt to dispose of the bodies, they were dismembered and partially burned, before being dumped in a disused mine shaft at Miller's Find.

A search was conducted and 14 days later on May 12 their bodies were found by two civilians. Twelve days later, police officers and Aboriginal trackers located the murder site and found evidence to prove Treffene and Coulter were guilty of the murders.

The pair were hanged at Fremantle Prison later that year.

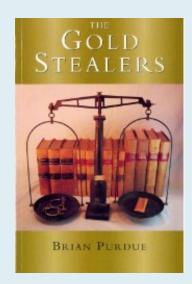


Next Affiliates Committee Meeting will be held on the 21st May 2024



Gim! Gold stealing tales and trials of in the Golden West, Gold stealing was a way of life on the WA goldfields. It still continues in the boardrooms of the corporations in which are ensconced only the 'best' people. In our Darwinian economy only the most brazen and successful thieves survive to rob again. Many Westralian fortunes were and are built on these rorts. But it is usually the small miner who got caught. These latter stories have become part of the folklore of the goldfields.

www.kalgoorliehistory.org.au/ publications/publication.php?id=72



The Gold Stealers - the tale of the murdered police officers Pitman and Walsh by the gold stealers, Coulter and Treffene, in 1926.

www.kalgoorliehistory.org.au/ publications/publication.php?id=79

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 McGuiness (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@kalgoorliehistory.org.au
- •Richard Offen ex-officio (President RWAHS) richard.offen@iinet.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

April meeting was postponed until the 21st of May. If you have anything that you would like raised please contact one of the committee members above.

Please remember if you are travelling to the State History Conference in Dongara to book your accommodation early!

Visit WAnderland - Visit WAnderland commissioned a new documentary series called Such Was Life, showcasing incredible stories and tales from around Western Australia. Season 2 featured on the Goldfields, unearthing fascinating stories from all around the region. These stories will also be premiering on SBS On Demand in June!

The videos, you can see them all on our website here: <u>https://</u><u>visitwanderland.com.au/journal/such-was-life-season-2</u>. You will also find more information and blurbs on each video through the <u>'Journal'</u> page on the website.

https://visitwanderland.com.au/



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.

<u>www.histwest.org.au</u> 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 -

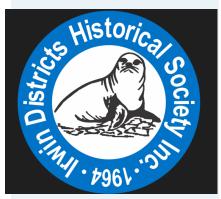
bookshop@histwest.org.au or 9386 3841.

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



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. <u>Awards</u> homepage (amaga.org.au)

Affiliates News

Northampton Historical Society - Wannerenooka workshop presented by the Northampton Historical Society at Chiverton House Museum, Hampton RD, Northhampton. 1st June 2024. 9.30 am.

Come and enjoy a presentation by Sue White on the social history of the village and learn about the first families in the area. James McQuie will be delivering a talk on the mineralogy and profitability of the mine. Special interviews with Mr. Moore, Mr. Harvey and others. The afternoon will be for attendees to share their knowledge of the area. All the little snippets help build a better understanding of the village. Did your relatives live there, did you play there as a child, parties on the hill, you own one of the houses now or before, every little bit helps? Of particular interest is the location of the cemetery. Morning tea and lunch provided. Bookings essential.

RSVP: 20th May to 0438 374271 or norhistorical@bigpond.com.

Thank you to all who have already responded.

Swan Guildford Historical Society - ANZAC Day in Guildford -This year's ANZAC day service at the Guildford war memorial in Stirling Square attracted a large crowd. Warren Harvey, life member at Swan Guildford Historical Society laid the wreath on our behalf. After the service, the Swan Guildford Historical Society hosted the traditional morning tea at St. Matthews Church Hall. Many thanks to volunteers who worked tirelessly to set up, serve tea, donate food and clear up afterwards. It was a mighty effort.



Australian Heritage Festival Events - As part of the Australian Heritage Festival, held in April – May each year, Swan Guildford Historical Society organised two events.



The first on 21st April was a walk tour in Guildford called "Clues in the landscape", conducted by archaeologist Dr. Shane Burke. During the walk Shane pointed out archaeological evidence of indigenous, and colonial settlement in the town. We learned a lot during our walk,

and will be repeating similar walks in the future.

The second planned event was a guided bus tour on 12th May, to historic sites. At All Saints Church in Middle Swan, we learned about the site where Stirling and his party camped during their first exploration of the Swan River. We journeyed on to Yagan's memorial near Great Northern Highway, a highly significant site to the indigenous community. Finally, a stop at Cruse's Mill in Bellhus where the remains of the Belhus farm estate is located. The watermill



was a flour mill on Ellen Brook, built by William Cruse in 1836.







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.

Affiliates News

Eastern Goldfields Historical Society - The EGHS has been working on reviving the Kanowna Heritage Trail. Over the past few years volunteers have been hard at work writing content for story panels and information boards. This month we have seen the start of the installation of the signs with the assistance of the Eastern Goldfields Regional Prison.

The City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder is also supporting the project and will be onsite completing ground works in the next few weeks. The project has been made possible through a grant from the Regional Economic Development Commission.

Follow our Facebook page and the Kanownaheritagetrail.cau webpage to stay up to date on everything Kanowna.



Toodyay Historical Society - housed within the historic Donegan's Cottage within the Toodyay showgrounds. The land on which the cottage stands was purchased by Toodyay farmer James Donegan in 1901, so it is assumed he immediately built this simple mud-brick cottage in which initially his eldest son Bill and family lived, followed by their descendants until 1993, by which time the Toodyay Shire owned the building. Donegan's Cottage was restored in 1994-1998. On 30 October 1980 an informal gathering was held for those interested in forming a society for the preservation and restoration of Toodyay's historic buildings and character, and in

promoting knowledge and practice of old arts and crafts. From this meeting the Toodyay Society Inc. was formed and became the friendly, active organisation it is today, now known

as the Toodyay Historical Society, holding regular monthly meetings together with organised

activities, guest speakers and active participation within town events.

The Society has a substantial library of publications relating to Toodyay and a growing collection of historical photographs. Members have produced a significant body of oral

histories and a number of small publications relating to aspects of the town's history. Experienced members provide assistance to researchers, Toodyay businesses and local organisations in their historical research. We are fortunate to have Drummond House, Toodyay's Environment and History Centre, a shared site on the main street with the Toodyay Friends of the River and the Toodyay Naturalists' Club. We welcome members and visitors to drop in for a chat or share knowledge, weekly every Saturday morning from 10am till noon.

Serpentine Historical Society - Old Bridge School



The Serpentine Sunday of the m is the 3rd Sunda

The Serpentine Historical society volunteers open the school every second Sunday of the month, Feb - Nov. from 10.00 am to 2.00 pm (except May when it is the 3rd Sunday), 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

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Bridgetown Historical Soci-

ety - BHS will be conducting our popular Ghost Walks during the Bridgetown Winter Festival. Winter months, when it's cold and foggy are the best time to experience a Ghost Walk. You will meet up with some of the people of long ago who have stories to tell. The dates are: Friday 5th and Saturday 6th July, Friday 12th and Saturday 13th July. Bookings can be made on TryBooking. https:// www.trybooking.com

Adults \$10pp, Children \$5pp, Family (2 adults, 2 children under 16) \$25 The Walks start at the Bridgetown Police Station Museum at 7pm and go on for about an hour, end back at the Museum where hot drinks and biscuits are available.

Numbers are limited to 50 and 2023 Ghost Walks were a sellout. People came from far and wide. Enquiries: 0487 592 704

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.

Affiliates News

Wongan Pioneer Museum - Wongan Hills Pioneer Museum is a combined museum and historical society which holds many amazing records. Archivist Christine Sadler has been involved with the Museum for 25 years, Amazing! If you are in the area Chris would love for people to call in and see what she has been doing. When the new CRC was built they worked very hard to get a Local Studies/History room , we have old hospital museum displays in lots of rooms. They also have a full archive room at the museum and a full Local Studies History room adjoining the CRC and library.

Maylands Historical and Peninsula Association - has enjoyed a busy and successful first few months of 2024. The Monthly Monday Talks at the Old Peninsula Hotel were highly successful and very well-attended. In February, John Ralph talked about the *Music of the Early Settlers* - complete with musical

demonstrations! In March, Bill Cutler reviewed the history of the *Kalgoorlie Pipeline project*, the specific role of C Y O'Connor and of course the strong linkages to Maylands where the Mepham Ferguson Foundry produced 50% of the pipes used. In April, John McLennan gave a talk on *"Maylands at War"* to mark ANZAC Day, and Keith Cundale gave a similar presentation at lunchtime in Maylands Library.

We have our programme for the rest of the year mapped out and we will always welcome visitors from other Societies! Our web-site continues to evolve with new information added whenever we can and the number of followers on Facebook continues to grow.

We applied to Bendigo Bank for one of the Community Grants and on 6th May we presented a 'pitch' in the form of a short skit. I am delighted that we were successful and have been awarded \$3,000 to acquire new signage for the Old Police Station. This will be used to replace old and outof-date signs and to create a secure enclosure for displaying current information, flyers and copies of our newsletters. We believe that these new signs will improve our

connection to the many members of the public that pass by our premises - as well as giving us the reassurance that information on, for example, opening times, website address and Facebook addresses is all correct, accurate and up to date!







Denmark Historical Society's

journal - *Koorabup*, 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.

Check the website for more details. denmarkhistoricalsocietywa.org.au/publications/

Denmark Historical Society Preserving the Heritage of Denmark, Western Australia

Published by Eastern Goldfields Historical Society PO Box 643 Kalgoorlie WA 6430 Tel: 0890933360 Editor: Rosie Stroud

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.

Wilson Academic Bursary 2024

The Eastern Goldfields Historical Society is pleased to offer an academic bursary valued up to \$2000 (including GST for ABN holders) for research into, and the recording of, Goldfields' history.

Purpose -The **Wilson Academic Bursary** aims to encourage new, high quality research which will contribute to the understanding of the history and heritage of the Eastern Goldfields of Western Australia. **Recipient obligations** The successful recipient is expected to undertake research into a previously unexplored aspect of Eastern Goldfields' history or heritage. Conditions of the bursary require the findings are made publicly accessible, including via the EGHS library, on completion. Recognition of support from the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society is required in the final product. The research must result in a high-quality piece of writing, including referencing. The format of the final piece is negotiable, but is expected to take the form of a manuscript of at least 15 000 words. Photographs and/or sketches are encouraged, if they enhance the final product.

The applicant will have **12 months** to complete the project and will be paid in **four, equal, quarterly instalments** with receipt of evidence of work. Bursaries are available up to the value of \$2000 per year, with the total amount payable being at the discretion of the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society Committee.

Eligibility - A wide range of applicants are encouraged to apply. Applications from community members, students, local historians, academics or individuals interested in Goldfields history will be considered.

Selection criteria - Proposals must be focused on new research or a new perspective on past research, intrinsically connected to the Eastern Goldfields. Confirmation is also required that the piece is original, and not published elsewhere, or submitted for another publication.

Applications - Applicants must complete the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society Bursary Application Form. A research proposal of 250 words and Curriculum Vitae must accompany the bursary application form. Applications can be emailed or posted to the attention of the Executive Officer: <u>eo@kalgoorliehistory.org.au</u>; or Eastern Goldfields Historical Society, PO Box 643, Kalgoorlie, 6430 and should be received by the 30th June 2024.

The **Wilson Academic Bursary** has been named after Life Member of the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society, W. Scott Wilson and his wife Maria, who endowed the money for this research. We are thankful for their donation.





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 Transport: Bus or Self Drive	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 <u>Fuel Prices</u> <u>Australia</u> 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 <u>RAC EV Charging Stations Map</u> 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 <u>MyLPG Map</u> 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 <u>Transwa</u> 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!



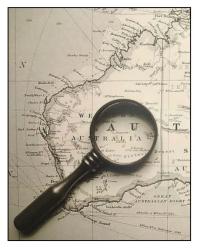






THE ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

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

Tear off slip here



Click here to book or scan the QR code

Card Number 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. Expiry Date: CVC: Cost \$40 (3 digit no. on back of card) in name of I enclose payment for \$ Phone H: Mob: Please provide attendees names 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 Payment is accepted by Cheque, Mastercard, Visa Please return to the Office. or by direct deposit to the RWAHS Bank Account: BSB: 016 484 Account No: 2478 76223

Please leave your name when paying directly

RWAHS, 49 Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009 Phone: 9386 3841 Email:admin@histwest.org.au