

61st AFFILIATED SOCIETIES STATE HISTORY CONFERENCE 2026

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

A Century of Change: Where to Next?

Cost for Conference on Saturday and Sunday \$110

For bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/DMQTP>

Friday Evening - 11 September

5.30pm City of Perth Reception Hosted by Lord Mayor - **Free Event**

Council House 27 St George's Terrace, Perth

Saturday - 12 September

State Library Theatre: Ground Floor, State Library, Perth Cultural Centre, 25 Francis Street, Perth

TIME	EVENT	SPEAKER
8.00am	Registration Opens	
9.00am	Conference Opening: Welcome to Country	Freda Ogilvie
9.15am	Welcome: President RWAHS	Richard Offen
9.20am	Welcome by CEO and State Librarian	Catherine Clark
9.25am	Opening Roll Call; apologies, remembrance; call for nominations for Affiliates Committee	Nick Drew
9.45am	Key Note Speech: Progress, Depression, and Exclusion. Four Views of the Western Australian Centenary: George Pitt Morison, John Kirwan, Edward Shann, and William Harris.	Prof. Jane Lydon
10.30am	Morning Tea	Library Foyer
11.00am	Panel Talk: Challenges for Historians in 21st century	Bruce Baskerville, Shane Burke, Cathy Baron
12.00pm	Don't Let it Happen Again: changing attitudes to demolition of historic buildings	Richard Offen
12.40pm	Lunch	Library 4th Floor
1.40pm	Storytelling: Memory, Place and Belonging	Nonja Peters
2.20pm	Don't Follow Me, Walk with Me	Jeff Murray
3.00pm	Afternoon Tea	Library Foyer

3.30pm	History Slam	Professional Historians Assoc.
4.30pm	Close/housekeeping	
Dinner:	Perth Town Hall 6.00 for 6.30pm	Cost \$90 per person

Sunday 13 September

TIME	EVENT	SPEAKER
8.30am	Registration Opens	
9.00am	History West Business Agenda	Richard Offen: Chair
	Confirmation of Minutes from 2025 Affiliated Societies Conference	
9.05am	President's Report for RWAHS	
9.15am	Promotion for 2027 Conference: Busselton Historical Society	Busselton
9.30am	Call for nominations for 2028 Conference Confirmation for 2029 Conference	
9.35am	Results of Affiliated Societies Committee Election	Nick Drew
9.45am	Affiliated Societies Presentations and Nominated Persons	
10.15am	Balancing Governance and Mission	David Gilchrist
11.00am	Morning Tea: Birthday cake	Library Foyer
11.30am	Using social media to bring people into your museum	Sharyn McCaskey
12.10pm	History West: A Century of Transformation in Collection Practice	Wendy Lugg
12.50pm	History West's 100 Treasures Book and Conference wrap up before afternoon tours	Richard
1.00pm	Lunch	Library 4th Floor
2.00pm	Start of Tours	

Sunday Tours: Cost \$15 each tour

History West Centre: Cost \$15

Tour starts at 2.30pm

Take a tour around History West's new 'home' at 109 Stirling Highway, Nedlands. Attendees will be divided up to tour the library and museum collections. Wendy Lugg will be on hand to further discuss the points raised in her talk on how collections policies have changed.

Our Librarian, Jeanette Longwood will be happy to show you the Library.

Afterwards you can visit our Bookshop.

A simple afternoon tea provided.

Perth Tour: Cost \$15

Tour starts at 2.00pm outside the Library

Specially trained City of Perth guides will lead a tour from the State Library ending with refreshments at the recently renovated, heritage listed Royal Hotel in Wellington Street. You will learn about Perth's history, combining significant heritage buildings and historical landmarks with a touch of the City's Art Deco architecture along with stories of the people who helped shape Perth.

Please bring a bottle of water and wear appropriate attire, such as walking shoes and a hat!

Tour takes approximately 1 - 1.5 hours

Discover King's Park Tour: Cost \$15

Tours starts at 2.30pm at Free Guided Walks sign on the pathway on the southern side of Aspects of Kings Park. Further details will be supplied on Sunday before lunch.

The walk introduces you to many aspects of King's Park, including the very significant botanical collection, the story of the establishment of the Park, its cultural importance and recreational features. Tour takes approximately 1 - 1.5 hours.

Please bring a bottle of water and wear appropriate attire, such as walking shoes and a hat!

City of South Perth Historical Society: Cost \$15

"Nutting About with Mamie"

Tour starts at 2.30pm.

The Society is located 111 Mill Point Road, South Perth. No parking is available at the Society, but paid parking is available at the Windsor Hotel and the Zoo.

1 hour tour from Heritage House that takes in the restored Ferry Tram, the artworks associated with May Gibbs and a talk about her. Meet your guide at the restored Ferry. Limited refreshments and gift will be provided.

ACCOMMODATION

History West is unable to provide any discounted hotel accommodation for our delegates. Costs for hotels vary considerably and it was felt that delegates best options would be to find and investigate accommodation for themselves.

PARKING

Parking is available at a number of car parks in the city. The closest are:

Perth Cultural Centre Car Park, located at 2 Roe Street, Northbridge. Walk across the concourse to the Library. There is a day rate of \$11 for Saturday and Sunday.

State Library Carpark, located at 15 Francis Street, Northbridge (underneath the State Library).

Parking rates are the same as the Perth Cultural Centre.

The below link provides information about other parking stations. However, the rates all appear to be very similar to the ones listed above.

<https://www.cityofperthparking.com.au/>

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Train: All train routes terminate at the Perth station. Alight at this station and walk past the Perth Art Gallery to the State Library.

Bus: Accessing the city is also possible by bus. The Perth Busport is below Wellington Street and provides easy access to the State Library.

See below for information on both train and bush from the Transperth website where you can plan your journey.

<https://www.transperth.wa.gov.au/>

TEA/COFFEE

Unfortunately, tea and coffee cannot be provided by History West prior to the conference. There are a number of cafes/pop-up booths that you will pass on the concourse between the Perth Cultural Centre and the State Library.

Delegates parking in the Library Carpark will find these booths along the concourse between the Art Gallery and Library.