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# WESTERN AUSTRALIAN News & Events

## NOVEMBER 2010/JANUARY 2011

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The Curtin Family Home open day attracted a steady stream of visitors to the 24 Jarrad Street residence. G Pickering/National Trust (WA).

### CURTIN FAMILY HOME OPEN TO PUBLIC *Rob McGlynn*

Former Australian Prime Minister John Curtin's family home is finally in safe hands, according to his granddaughter Beverley Lane who grew up in the Jarrad Street house.

Ms Lane applauded the recent conservation and interpretation efforts of the National Trust at the Curtin Family Home open day when it was opened for the first time to the public on 15 August attracting more than 400 people.

Project Manager Conservation Architect Kelly Rippingale said the project was an exciting opportunity to focus on what is an often neglected part of John Curtin's life and something the National Trust wanted to introduce to the public.

"What strikes you instantly about the house is how unassuming it is for the prime minister of Australia. He truly lived very modestly," Ms Rippingale said.

"It reflects the nature of the man and his family and helps explain his political convictions and directions for the nation," she said.

The open day at the Cottesloe residence began with an exclusive National Trust members' event which included 'Morning tea with Mrs Curtin' and a quick visit from 'John' as played by fellow actor Geoff Kelso. Actor Caroline McKenzie played the role of the PM's long-time wife and confidante. From midday 24 Jarrad Street was open to an engrossed public.

In the week leading up to the open day both actors performed a short drama piece at a series of special dinners held at the Curtin home. The pair captivated guests as they reminisced about the house and their lives in it. The play was produced as part of the project's innovative interpretation approach and provided both an informative and poignant exposé of the private life of a very public couple.

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Actors Caroline McKenzie and fellow actor Geoff Kelso played Elsie and John Curtin during a series of limited performances at the house which were part of the National Trust's interpretive approach. National Trust (WA).

IN SAFE HANDS

# CHAIR'S REPORT

## HERITAGE AND THE NATIONAL HISTORY CURRICULUM

PROFESSOR JENNY GREGORY, CHAIR, NATIONAL TRUST (WA)



Background image above: Pemberton Pool, National Trust of Australia (WA)

### WA'S HERITAGE MINISTER HON JOHN CASTRILLI MLA

## A NEW FUTURE FOR OUR PAST

It gave me great pleasure to attend the adaptive re-use breakfast seminar recently. The event was organised by the Heritage Council of Western Australia as one initiative to raise the positive aspects of conservation through use of heritage places.

There is a large inventory of underutilised State registered and other heritage buildings in prime locations that provides unique and exciting opportunities for development. Heritage buildings are a key component in a series of multimillion-dollar developments that are revitalising the Perth central business district. These developments, and those in Midland, Maylands and Fremantle, and even the former grain silos in my electorate of Bunbury, demonstrate how environmental, social and financial benefits can be captured by innovative adaptive re-use projects.

However, finding a new use for heritage places is not always easy. Many are left to decline and become a problem rather than be considered an opportunity. The adaptive re-use breakfast seminar

provided an opportunity for owners, developers, planners, state and local government agencies and conservation professionals to start a conversation about the potential of adaptive re-use. About one hundred people attended the seminar held at the Midland Railway workshops, which itself is an example of adaptive re-use, and the feedback has been excellent.

Keynote speakers Peter Lovell, director of Melbourne-based Lovell Chen Architects and Heritage Consultants, and Dominic Snellgrove, director of Cameron Chisholm and Nicol, provided an overview of adaptive re-use and the commercial benefits it holds. This is the start of a series of seminars that the Heritage Council hopes to conduct. I firmly believe that with a collaborative approach and a partnership between all levels of the community, government and the private sector we can work towards revitalising and rejuvenating our heritage places with projects that we can be proud of now and in the future.



## HERITAGE WATCH

Nominations for Our Heritage at Risk 2010 were announced in October. WA's nominations sought to highlight public places at risk of dereliction through neglect and three heritage places all at risk from this common reason were put forward by WA for the Top Ten as one entry. These places are the South Fremantle Power Station, East Perth Power Station and the Old Treasury Building, Perth.

A number of other places were put forward by the community including The Cliffe, Peppermint Grove, Maddington Homestead, Gosnells, and Sutton Farm, Mandurah (Halls Head).

The Cliffe, a grand jarrah weatherboard home, built 1894-98, became the first place to be removed from the WA register of Heritage Places in 2008. The Shire of Peppermint Grove issued a demolition licence for the Cliffe in Feb 2009. That licence was renewed in Feb 2010, even though the Shire Council agrees that the house should be retained and restored at its present site. Support for the house to be rehabilitated continues, however no solution is evident and many avenues have been exhausted.

On 6 June 2004 the Maddington Homestead was gutted by fire and on 1 March 2005 another fire destroyed several of the trees at the rear of the buildings, damaged the Pepper trees and charred the dairy. The current owners have a proposal for the Homestead, as part of subdivision and redevelopment of the site, but are not providing appropriate conservation or maintenance for the Homestead. HCWA has placed a conservation order on the Homestead, but it will be listed as a Ruin on the City of Gosnells' Heritage Inventory 2010 (currently in draft). Using the site as public open space with the preserved ruins as the main feature may be an acceptable option.

Sutton Farm comprises three heritage limestone buildings built in the 1850s and green open space. The owner/developer of the buildings and surrounding land is applying to build high-rise units, with no firm proposals for the conservation, or protection, of the Farm buildings. The density of the proposed dwellings, especially the raised four-storey units, is inconsistent with the existing area and may overwhelm and obscure the heritage buildings. It would be a positive development if the proposed development allowed more space to be retained around the Farm buildings.

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NATIONAL TRUST

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Interpretation Services Manager Anne Brake explains to Curtin University Vice Chancellor Jeanette Hackett the finer points of the new audio tour developed for the Curtin Family Home. National Trust (WA).

Dinner guests over the course of the week included Western Australian Opposition leader Eric Ripper, Curtin University Vice Chancellor Jeanette Hackett and current Federal member for Fremantle Melissa Parke.

Curtin granddaughters Beverley Lane and her cousin Barbara Davidson also attended the dinners and spoke to guests about their family memories at the house.

The Curtin Family Home project was made possible through a \$585 400 grant from the Federal Government stimulus package funding initiative. It involved extensive conservation works to the house and gardens. Interpretation included the production of a series of internal panels, a self-guided audio tour, a booklet, website and the dramatic performance season.

The National Trust plans to use the house for residential accommodation while continuing an interpretation program during which guest curators will interpret aspects of the Curtin family story annually. The booklet can be purchased for \$10 from the National Trust, and the website is due to be launched in October 2010.



Curtin family members including Beverley Lane attended a series of dinners at the Curtin Family Home following completion of the conservation works. National Trust (WA).

## VALUING HERITAGE

### NEW JETTY AND RAMP AT WOODBRIDGE

*Philip Palmer, Landscape Architect*



The new path and jetty at Woodbridge provide improved access to Woodbridge and the banks of the Swan River. P Palmer.

A new jetty and access ramp have just been completed by the National Trust of Australia (WA) at Woodbridge on the banks of the Swan River east of Perth. The project was built with support of the Commonwealth Government's Jobs Fund stimulus package for high priority heritage places.

Works included the removal of the dilapidated and unsafe jetty and the steep path up the riverbank, both of which were built in the 1970s, construction of a new jetty and ramp, providing a safe, universally accessible connection between the heritage property and the river. The Trust anticipates these new features will significantly increase visitation of Woodbridge by encouraging access from private boats and commercial river cruise operators.

Due to its culturally and environmentally sensitive location on the Swan River, a lengthy and complex consultation process was successfully negotiated by the National Trust to win approval and support from the Nyoongar community, the Swan River Trust, responsible for the management of the river and its environs, Western Australian Planning Commission, City of Swan, and the Department of Education which owns most of the riverbank land on which the ramp is located.

The new jetty is modeled on the previous one to minimize disturbance to the river bed. The ramp up the steep river bank is a raised, steel-framed boardwalk to allow accessible grades and minimize earthworks changes to the bank. During construction of the ramp, National Trust Conservation Architect Eric Hancock observed that small archaeological items from European occupation had been uncovered. These were carefully collected by Trust volunteer Keith Robertson and have been stored for future investigation.

The sensitive nature of the location and restricted access made construction of the jetty and the ramp challenging. The two contractors involved in the project, Southern Cross Jetty Construction and Landscape Development, overcame this by prefabricating their structures which were then taken apart, transported and meticulously re-assembled on site.

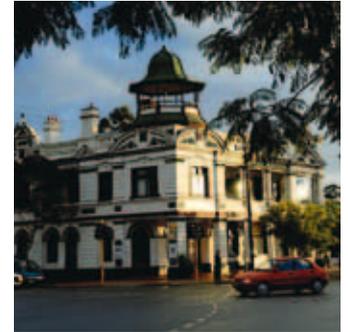
The final result not only provides greatly improved access to Woodbridge but also provides a means for visitors to move through and experience the riverside setting in an environmentally sensitive way.

### RALLY TO SAVE HISTORIC GUILDFORD HOTEL

*Gina Pickering*

More than 1000 people rallied on 14 August to save the Guildford Hotel which was gutted by fire in 2008.

Spokesman for a group of concerned local residents, Ben Allen, said local residents were concerned that the hotel was now coming up to its second anniversary since the fire and little appeared to have been done.



Guildford Hotel.

Sheldon Levis /Dusty Dingo.com

However co-owner of the heritage listed building Luke Martino has hit back saying members of the group were not interested in the facts.

"It was important to make the site safe. We've spent \$500 000 all up on the site including \$200 000 pinning the walls, cleaning up the property and \$50 000 on scaffolding," Mr Martino said.

Mr Martino has been criticized for not acting on an engineering report commissioned by the Heritage Council of Western Australia and undertaken by Wood and Grieve.

The Heritage Council confirmed it had raised the issue of a temporary roof with the owners on a number of occasions.

However, Director of Indian Ocean Advisory Group Pty Ltd, Mr Martino said he'd taken advice from City of Swan engineers to stabilise the 124 year old building.

"We're also working with a number of consultants to deliver plans on the future of the Guildford Hotel to the City of Swan for a viable site by September," Mr Martino said.

"We have a program in place to monitor the structure and we meet with the Heritage Council on the building each month," he said.

According to the Heritage Council Executive Director Graeme Gammie, the Heritage Council is actively working with the owners and their architectural advisors on possible options for the redevelopment of the heritage building.

"The Heritage Council will continue to encourage the owners to progress their plans for redevelopment of the site as quickly as is practicable," Mr Gammie said.

The building was classified by the National Trust in 1984, and listed on the State Register of heritage places in 1991.



Crowds at the rally. Sheldon Levis /Dusty Dingo.com

## VALUING HERITAGE

### GREENS MAKE MAJOR HERITAGE ANNOUNCEMENT IN KALGOORLIE

WA Greens Senator for WA Scott Ludlam chose the backdrop of Mt Charlotte Kalgoorlie Boulder at the site where CY O'Connor's water pipeline ends its 560 km journey from Mundaring Weir to call for a major investment in natural and cultural heritage while creating jobs in a sustainable industry in the run up to the federal election.



Interpretation Services Manager Anne Brake provided Senator Ludlam with a tour of the most recent works undertaken by the National Trust at Mt Charlotte. D Frylinck/National Trust (WA).

Senator Ludlam called for \$25 million annually in grants to be made available from the Federal Government for heritage work across the nation.

"The Australian Greens successfully negotiated for \$60 million to be allocated for job-creating heritage projects in last year's economic stimulus package, and this created more than 2750 new 'green' jobs and new protection for hundreds of properties," Senator Ludlam said.

"The money was allocated for National Heritage-listed places, National Trust properties, community heritage projects of local, state or national significance and natural heritage places, including those of world heritage significance."

"We were extremely pleased with this outcome but given the job-creating potential of heritage work – especially when you consider the flow-on benefits such as tourism, education and conservation – then clearly investing in job-creating heritage deserves to be more than just a one-off funding injection," he said.

"Our package would create around another 1130 jobs in these important areas – every year."

The Greens proposed initiatives included funding State and Territory National Trust organisations annually with a reviewable amount of up to \$1 million each to manage heritage properties of greatest need.

"In addition, the Greens are calling for the development and administration of a national heritage strategy through the Australian Heritage Council which we believe should have a stronger advisory and advocacy role than it does currently and we also believe Australia should seek to host the 18th General Assembly of the International Council of Monuments and Sites in 2014, which will be a great way to re-energise the heritage agenda in Australia".

### SWAN AND CANNING RIVERS ICONIC TRAILS PROJECT - NYOONGAR VALUES *Gina Pickering*



Swan River Foreshore near Guildford. G Pickering/National Trust (WA).

More than 100 Nyoongar community members have been consulted during the Swan and Canning Rivers Iconic Trails Project which is currently in Stage 1 of development.

Five workshops have been undertaken including a special women's workshop.

A number of oral histories have been recorded on camera and a DVD which will be used for educational purposes is in production. One of the key aims of the project is better protection for the cultural sites along the River and for the River as a whole.

The project is a partnership between the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC) and Perth Region Natural Resource Management (PRNRM) funded by Lotterywest. Stage 1 is focused on research and documentation of Nyoongar values involving the rivers. It particularly focuses on facilitating respectful engagement with Nyoongar families and building relationships between Nyoongar families and wider stakeholders in river management (including Local Councils, State Government and community based natural resource management groups).

Stage 1 will also seek advice and confirmation from Nyoongar families on how Nyoongar values associated with the Swan and Canning rivers should be interpreted. Stage 2 will develop a plan for interpretation of the Nyoongar, European and natural heritage values of the rivers and will seek approval of that plan from all stakeholders- including Nyoongar communities, landholders, community groups, State Government, Local Councils and other relevant bodies. Stage 3 will carry out the physical works to develop the trails.

For more information on the project please contact Perth Region NRM or SWALSC.

## VALUING HERITAGE

# THE COOLBAROO CLUB AND THE COFFEE POT

*Gina Pickering*

The 1950s was a decade of change in Perth, and for the Nyoongar population an important time to break through long standing social and political barriers.

A new exhibition called *The Coolbaroo Club and the Coffee Pot* explores some of the shifts in access and denial in the City of Perth during this period. It considers the recent contemporary history of Aboriginal people at a time of restriction and change and touches on the experience of immigrants, artists and the gay community in the city landscape too.

There are elements to this exhibition which are reminiscent of media depictions of South Africa's apartheid regime during the 80s and 90s. These include a plan that defines the Perth Prohibited Area – a 'no go' zone for Aboriginal people from 1927 through to 1954.

A second powerful component is an example of a 1939 'Native Pass' which determined permission for an Aboriginal person to be in the metropolitan area. The political context was one of control determined by the 1905 Aborigines Act and the powerful position of AO Neville who was appointed Chief Protector of Aborigines from 1915 – a position he held for 25 years.

On 18 March 1927 the City of Perth was declared a prohibited area for natives not in lawful employment.



Bill and Jack Poland at Glendower St, Perth c. 1945. Both were instrumental in founding the Coolbaroo Club. Kinnane Archives.



The visual depiction of Perth's Prohibited Area is confronting and a vital component of the The Coolbaroo Club and the Coffee Pot exhibition. City of Perth.

A 1939 Native Pass issued by the Commissioner of Native Affairs, South West Land and Sea Council.

The Commissioner of Police at the time claimed the regulation would provide a better check on Aborigines in the city area. According to City of Perth exhibition curator Jo Darbyshire the prohibited area of Perth has impacted the way the city has grown and contributed to a lack of respect for Aboriginal people in Perth up until 1957.

"I think a lot of people will be surprised to hear about the prohibited area. Most people don't know that Aboriginal people were restricted and couldn't come into their own city," Ms Darbyshire said.

"I wanted to draw attention to the lack of historical material about the Aboriginal people in contemporary Perth. Aboriginal people couldn't participate because the prohibited area laws limited their ability to use the city," she said.

Excluded from white venues and clubs after the Second World War, the Aboriginal community began organising its own dances. Starting at a modest hall in East Perth in 1947 and then at other venues throughout the 1950s, the popular Coolbaroo Club dances were attended by Aboriginal people from all over the state. The founding members included two brothers Bill and Jack Poland, Yamatji men from the Shark Bay area, Helena Clarke from Port Hedland and their white friend Geoff Harcus.

## VALUING HERITAGE



Helena Clarke (nee Murphy), founder of the Coolbaroo Club c.1947. Kinnane Archives.

Club members also ran a newspaper, the *Westralian Aborigine* and became an effective political organisation, speaking out on issues of the day affecting Aboriginal people.

The exhibition draws strongly on the 1996 documentary entitled *The Coolbaroo Club* which was directed by Roger Scholes and produced by Lauren Marsh, Penny Robins and Stephen Kinnane, and the documentary is screening as part of the exhibition.

"I wanted to acknowledge the important alternative places and spaces in the city," Ms Darbyshire said.

"The Coolbaroo Club and the Coffee Pot were extraordinary for their time and allowed an alternative place for communities to meet, network and become more active in their right and fight for change. Both places supported cultural awakening," she said.

The exhibition is part of the City of Perth commitment to make the history of the metropolitan area a living history. It opens at Perth Town Hall foyer on the 20 October and continues until 7 November. For more information visit [www.cityofperth.wa.gov.au](http://www.cityofperth.wa.gov.au)



Laura Deeble was crowned Miss Coolbaroo in 1947. Daily News.

## BALLARDONG ELDERS MEET AT AVONDALE *Gina Pickering*

An initial meeting with the Ballardong people, the traditional owners of the land at Avondale, was held at the property in August as part of the new master planning process.

The gathering was set up to open discussion about traditional, present and future links with the place from the Ballardong perspective. The master planning process that will determine the future use and management of Avondale Discovery Farm near Beverley is underway. A budget of \$150 000 has been allocated for the project with \$75 000 secured through a successful Royalties for Regions grant, and a further \$75 000 made available by the National Trust of Australia (WA). The Trust is working closely with the Shire of Beverley and the Avondale Farm Project Committee Inc. to secure viable and productive outcomes for the property which is listed on the State Register.

Progress on the master plan includes undertaking a range of smaller projects which will deliver a Farm Management Plan, an Environmental Management Plan, a review of Avondale's conservation and interpretation plans as well as Aboriginal consultation.

The National Trust became custodian for the 700 hectare property late last year and the Trust's Landscape Architect Phil Palmer will direct the project which is expected to be completed in early 2011.

In addition, the National Trust plans to implement an oral history training program for Avondale. The aim is to capture stories and images linked to the property to ensure the local Beverley community plays an important role in informing the history of the site.

Anyone with an interest in the oral history program should email a contact name and details to [trust@ntwa.com.au](mailto:trust@ntwa.com.au)



Lamb's tails were cooked in an open fire by members of the Ballardong community who met at Avondale to take part in the master planning process.

Ballardong elders shared a BBQ lunch at Avondale.  
G Pickering/National Trust (WA).

## NATURAL HERITAGE

### PARTNERSHIP A KEY COVENANT STRENGTH

*Louise Leigh, Conservation Covenant Coordinator*



A patch of significant and healthy remnant wandoo bushland within the Shire of Kellerberrin, which is protected in perpetuity thanks to the National Trust of Australia (WA) Conservation Covenant registered on title. J Dalby.

The National Trust's Conservation Covenant Program continues to receive a steady stream of enquiries from landowners interested in protecting the native bushland on their property in its 11th year of operation. Conservation Covenant Coordinator, Louise Leigh is constantly reminded of the passion and drive that regional landowners have in respect of ensuring conservation of WA's precious native flora and fauna, not only for their own benefit but for the benefit of future generations.

These existing covenants are a major asset to the Trust in the promotion of the program and word of mouth has proved to be an extremely effective way to communicate the benefits of conservation covenants to other landowners.

Each covenantor contributes to the National Trust's mission to conserve and interpret Western Australia's natural heritage.

In addition to word of mouth, enquiries are quite often generated through the range of networks and partnerships that the National Trust has been working to establish since the Covenant Program was officially launched in 1999. The Trust works in partnership with other conservation organisations to spread the word through established networks.

This approach allows the Trust to work strategically in order to target potential covenantors in specific areas. While every covenant makes an important contribution to the conservation of Western Australia's natural heritage, certain areas are particularly significant due to their high biodiversity values or fragmentation.

#### Avon Region

The Avon region has been extensively cleared, retaining just 13.2% of its original native vegetation. Despite this, the area retains significant biodiversity values, containing many species that are endemic to the region. As approximately 43% of the remaining native vegetation in the region occurs on private land<sup>1</sup>, the National Trust is working closely with landowners and other organisations to provide legal protection and management services for this important natural asset.

Partnering with the Wheatbelt Natural Resource Management organisation and WWF in particular, we have been able to promote conservation covenants as one of the most effective ways in which to ensure long term protection of private land native vegetation in the Avon region.

The National Trust Covenant Program has negotiated 152 conservation covenants with private landowners covering 62 369.71 hectares of land protecting 16 033.75 hectares of native remnant bushland. Of this area the Trust facilitated the protection of 13 896.95 hectares of remnant native bushland in the Avon and Wheatbelt and, due to developing strategic partnerships, this figure is set to increase in the region.

1 Retrieved 25 June 2007 from [http://www.avonnrm.org.au/about\\_us/regional\\_profile/biodiversity.html](http://www.avonnrm.org.au/about_us/regional_profile/biodiversity.html)

## A GRAVE FIND AT EAST PERTH CEMETERIES *Philip Palmer, Landscape Architect*

The National Trust has recently upgraded infrastructure at the East Perth Cemeteries including installation of a toilet and garden store facilities and the extension of the security fence along the north east corner of the site. All the information available to the National Trust indicated that the north east area of the cemeteries was never used for burials. While this was a major factor in determining the location for new construction, contractors working on the site were instructed as a matter of standard practice to keep a close eye out for any unusual material uncovered in the course of their work.

It came as a surprise when the fencing contractor contacted the Trust with the news that he had uncovered bricks, fragments of concrete edging and a headstone in a post hole he was digging. Work was stopped while the Trust's Manager of Properties and Stewardship, Sarah Murphy, and consultant archaeologist (and member of the Built Environment Working Committee) Fiona Bush inspected the excavation and uncovered the headstone.

This headstone is a particularly poignant find, being that of baby J. B. McGurk, aged 3 weeks. Considering the disposition of

the headstone and other archaeological items, it was concluded that this was not a burial site and the area had been used as a dumping ground for material that had been cleared from other parts of the cemeteries. The headstone was carefully removed from the excavation and stored for later investigation.

Thanks to contractors from All Chainwire Fencing for their diligent observation and care that enabled this fascinating find to be properly managed.

Fiona Bush analyses the excavation site at East Perth Cemeteries where the headstone was discovered. Headstone details of baby McGurk from 1859.



## CONSERVATION

### SAMSON HOUSE IN TRUST'S PORTFOLIO

*Caroline Lacy*



Samson House at Fremantle is now an important component of the National Trust's portfolio. National Trust(WA).

The Western Australian Museum and the National Trust of Australia (WA) have successfully negotiated the transfer of the historic home of Fremantle's longest serving Mayor, Sir Frederick Samson.

WA Museum Chief Executive Officer Alec Coles said he was delighted that Samson House was now in the care of the Trust.

"There are many benefits for Sir Frederick's former home by placing it with the National Trust of Australia (WA) whose core business is the conservation and interpretation of historic properties," Mr Coles said.

The Trust will hold the property on the same terms that it was held by the Museum, and maintain Samson House as an historic house museum.

National Trust of Australia (WA) Chief Executive Officer Tom Perrigo said there is absolutely no doubt Samson House is one of the most

significant heritage places in Western Australia. Its intact collection of artefacts which are directly associated with the place make it rare amongst historic houses in Australia.

"There are significant challenges facing the Trust in its conservation and interpretation and we are looking forward to working with all levels of government, the community and the corporate sector to address these challenges," Mr Perrigo said.

"The Western Australian Museum is to be congratulated for doing what they have over a very long period to save Samson House," he said.

Sir Frederick joined the Fremantle City Council in 1936. He was elected mayor unopposed in 1951 and remained unchallenged in that office until he retired 21 years later in 1972. In the early 1950s he oversaw construction of the O'Connor industrial estate, intended to provide work and housing for returned servicemen.

From 1958 onwards he campaigned to save the convict-built Fremantle lunatic asylum, which was transformed into a museum and arts centre by 1970. As a member of the Cultural Development Council, he ensured that other neglected historic buildings were restored for public use.

A shrewd businessman, he had helped to form the Home Building Society in 1946 and while chairman (1951-74), he saw its assets increase to \$70 million.

In 1962 he was knighted and when he died on 6 February 1974 in Fremantle Hospital his home and its contents were bequeathed to the Trustees of the Western Australian Museum. The Perth suburb of Samson is named after him.

Samson House was built for Sir Frederick's father, Michael Samson, who was also Lord Mayor of Fremantle. The house, which is a well-known Fremantle landmark, was completed in 1888, and was designed by Sir Talbot Hobbs.

### FAMILY FINDS AT EAST PERTH CEMETERIES *Mike Lefroy*

The National Trust is the custodian of some significant properties with strong links to the early days of the Swan River Colony. East Perth Cemeteries is one of these properties and regularly draws visits from family members reflecting on their personal histories. A recent visitor was Louise Oliver from Brisbane who took advantage of a brief stop in Western Australia to visit the grave of her great uncle Albert Schafer. Louise met Trust staff member Mike Lefroy at the Cemeteries and together they discovered his headstone close to St Bartholomew's Chapel. Albert was just two and a half years old when he died in 1898. The brief inscription hinted at a young life cut short – an occurrence rather too common in nineteenth century Western Australia.

From her previous research Louise filled in some of the family details. Albert's father Fritz (Frederick) Daniel Schafer was born in Germany in 1867. From family stories it appears young Fritz stowed away on a ship bound for Australia, arriving in Brisbane in the 1880s. From there he headed across the Nullabor to visit friends in Perth and stayed. He married an English girl Bertha Oliver in 1895 and Albert was their first child. Frederick and Bertha went on to have three more children;

one of these Elfreda Bertha was Louise's grandmother. Bertha died in 1929 and is buried in Karrakatta Cemetery.

Fritz, an industrial painter by trade, was a prominent member of the Subiaco and Leederville communities and Schafer Street in Leederville was named after

him. The name was changed to Galway Street after the Second World War. Fritz died in 1949 after a long and industrious life.

East Perth Cemeteries is open to the public from 2pm to 4pm each Sunday. Special tours for schools and other community groups can be organized by contacting the Trust on 9321 6088.



Louise Oliver crouches beside the grave of her great uncle Fritz (Frederick) Daniel Schafer at East Perth Cemeteries. M Lefroy.

## INTERPRETATION

### TIES WITH TRANBY



The Trust's Peninsula Farm is significant for its connection to the Swan River Colony, with the homestead named for the ship *Tranby* on which its settlers arrived in Western Australia.

Now residents of the UK north-east city of Hull have been asked to vote on a name for what the council is calling its "flagship customer service centre". One of the 5 names in the running is *Australia House* to commemorate *The Tranby* and two other local ships which have connections with European settlement of different parts of Australia: *The Alexander* and *The Sarah and Elizabeth*.

The ship with WA associations, *The Tranby*, was built in Hull in 1823 and virtually rebuilt from a near wreck in 1828. Since Swan River Mania was gripping England at the time with the promise of land on the west coast of Australia, there was great interest in the ship's progress. One old gentleman on the crowded quayside apparently fell into the water, was recovered, but died a few weeks later.

The brig departed from Hull in September 1829 with 37 passengers and an assortment of livestock bound for a new life in the Swan River Colony. Among the passengers were Ann and Joseph Hardey who were granted land on a peninsula in the Swan River and established a farm that was to become a model farm in the colony. A model of *The Tranby* greets the visitor on entry to the house they built in 1839, now owned by the Trust.

The Hardeys and their fellow passengers were staunch Methodists who followed the teaching of John Wesley: The Uniting Church in Australia runs the co-educational Tranby College in Australind and the bell from *The Tranby* can be found at Wesley College, South Perth.

Built at Hull in 1783, *The Alexander* has connections with the founding of New South Wales as a convict settlement, the barque arriving in Botany Bay on 19 January 1788. The largest transport ship, she carried 195 male convicts, 15 having died on 251-day journey from England, the most for any of the 11 ships in the First Fleet.

The *Sarah and Elizabeth* made several whaling voyages in the then new colony of South Australia before finally returning to the north and being crushed by ice in the Greenland Sea. She was actually built in Maryland in 1775 and might have been captured by the British during the American War of Independence. She joined Hull's large whaling fleet before being offered for sale and bought by the South Australia Company.

She sailed to South Australia in late September 1836 from Hull's Old Dock (Queen's Dock). The building Hullenians have been asked to name sits next to Queen's Gardens, created by the filling in of the former Queen's Dock.

"We want to give the building a name which honours Hull's rich maritime and social justice history," according to councillor Sarita Bush, portfolio holder for corporate resources and efficiency.

One of the other names mooted is The Wilson Centre. Charles and Arthur Wilson owned what was then the largest private shipping company in the world in late 19th century. The family lived in a stately home called Tranby Croft (now a private school) – another connection to Tranby, Peninsula Farm?

Tranby Croft is associated with a royal scandal while a survivor of the sinking of the Titanic gave his address as Tranby House in the UK. But those are Tranby stories for another time.

### NAIDOC WEEK CELEBRATED AT TRUST *Gina Pickering*



Dr Richard Walley and Carmel Charlton perform during NAIDOC week celebrations at the National Trust. S Smith/National Trust (WA).

National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) Week activities were held around Australia in July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people.

The national theme for this year's NAIDOC Week celebrations was *Unsung Heroes – Closing the Gap* by leading their way.

At the National Trust Headquarters at the Old Observatory a concert was held featuring Dr Richard Walley and Carmel Charlton. Carmel sang some beautiful songs with an Aboriginal theme and Richard delighted the crowd with his talents on his traditional and contemporary didgeridoos. Images of the National Trust's involvement with communities connected to the Burrup, Karratha and Roebourne were also displayed during the concert.

## TRAILS

### TRAIL PROVIDES INSPIRATION FOR KARRATHA COMMUNITY

*Dr Kate Gregory, Special Projects Historian*



Dr Kate Gregory, Special Projects Historian and botanist Vicki Long walk the breathtaking Jaburara Heritage Trail in the afternoon light.  
G Pickering/National Trust (WA).

The National Trust's review of the Jaburara Heritage Trail in the Karratha Hills is bringing a fresh approach to trail interpretation and management. Since May, the National Trust has been working with Ngarluma Aboriginal Corporation and the wider Karratha community towards the redevelopment of the Trail. Ngarluma people are the Traditional Owners of the area and are playing a vital role by sharing stories of the area and exploring opportunities for dual language signage and interpretation. Funding is being sought to enable a full archaeological survey of the area with Ngarluma people – much needed prior to the redevelopment of the Trail. Funding is also being sought to undertake an ethno-botanical study of the Trail area with local botanist Vicki Long and local Aboriginal people. Knowledge about plants and their traditional use in medicine and as food will contribute to understanding the significance of the Trail area and feed into interpretation and education programs.

As the community of Karratha grows, there will be increasing pressure on the Trail, so it is critical to understand how the community uses



A scenic view to Karratha from one of the lookouts on the Jaburara Heritage Trail. G Pickering/National Trust (WA).

this unique asset. A survey has been distributed throughout the local community to help understand the trail's use and to ascertain what the community would like to see in its redevelopment. One of the considerations is the creation of a separate mountain bike track, because mountain biking is becoming increasingly popular in the winter months. This would need to be carefully managed to ensure adequate protection of the flora and archaeology.

The community is actively involved on a range of fronts - the Red Dirt Camera Club has targeted the Jaburara Trail for a special photography competition. Members have been invited to test their skills by submitting a portfolio of five images which best capture the spirit, sense of place and use of the Trail. The National Trust, with an esteemed judging panel, including Richard Woldendorp, will select a winner for the competition and contribute prizes. Photographs will be used in National Trust programs and to promote the unique heritage of the area.

## CONSERVATION AND PLANNING FOR HISTORIC TOWNS

*Gina Pickering*

Almost 60 people attended a National Trust community seminar at the Guildford Town Hall in August to discuss conservation and planning for historic towns.

This seminar considered the statutory and policy framework for the management of heritage values of historic towns, with a particular focus on Guildford which is a rare and comparatively intact nineteenth century town and one of ten historic towns in Western Australia recognised by the National Trust of Australia. The seminar involved a number of presentations and concluded with a panel discussion.

Presenters included Phil Palmer, Landscape Architect, National Trust of Australia (WA), Callum Crofton, Manager of Local Government, Heritage Council of Western Australia, Dr Ian Alexander, Town Planner and Heritage Advocate and David Ritchings, Strategic Planner, City of Swan.



## TRAILS

### NEW LOOK FOR AN OLD TRAIL

Caroline Badminton



Hundreds of people each year are taking to the multi use Railway Reserves Heritage Trail. Mundaring Trails.

With formations that date back 126 years, Railway Reserves Heritage Trail has just been fast tracked into the 21st Century with a new logo and brand identity. The new logo, brochures and website are part of a revised campaign to promote the Trail's heritage as well as the opportunities it offers walkers, cyclists and horse riders of all ages and abilities.

Located within the picturesque Perth Hills in Western Australia, Railway Reserves Heritage Trail retraces 59 kilometres of the old Eastern Railway that formerly linked Fremantle to York in the late 1880s. The popular walking, cycling and horse riding trail starts at Bellevue, forming a unique 41 kilometre loop at Mount Helena entirely on railway formations, before extending to Moorooloo Reserve.

Shire of Mundaring, with support by Lotterywest and Department of Local Government, contracted a Trails Marketing Officer dedicated to raising awareness and use of the Trail.

Shire President Helen Dullard said the Shire had worked tirelessly to make Railway Reserves Heritage Trail a premier multi-user trail.

"Railway Reserves Heritage Trail is an important community recreation facility and the new brand not only reflects its historical significance but also a place for activity and to unwind," Cr Dullard said.

"The aged tracks of the original railway, the green of the Eucalypt trees and neutral grey reminisce of the historical railway, together with bold fonts, create a contemporary look that has been used across the new brochure and website," she said.

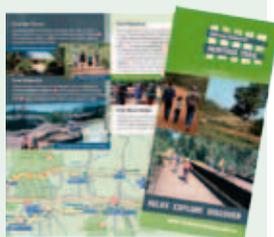
It is hoped that the new materials will inspire both the local community and visitors to the region to walk, cycle or ride sections of the Trail that they may not have seen before.

Railway Reserves Heritage Trail is accessible from many of the townsites within Shire of Mundaring, a 40-minute drive east of Perth.

An annual Shire event, Trek the Trail, helps promote the Trail, taking in a different section of the Trail each year.

For more information visit the new website [www.railwayreserves.com.au](http://www.railwayreserves.com.au).

Copies of the Trail brochure are now available from Mundaring Visitor Centre or the Shire's Administration Centre, alternatively the Shire can be emailed at [shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au](mailto:shire@mundaring.wa.gov.au).



## EDUCATION

### ST MARY'S STUDENTS VISIT THE OLD OBSERVATORY

Joy Lefroy

Each year for the last six years, the Year 4 students from St Mary's Anglican Girls School in Karrinyup have visited West Perth to explore the site of their original school. Accompanied by their teacher, Alison Oldershaw, and school archivist, Stephanie Neille, they make their base for the day at the Old Observatory, with the Trust's Education & Learning Manager Joy Lefroy.



Joy Lefroy takes the St Mary's students on a tour of the Old Observatory. G Pickering/National Trust (WA).

The day begins by studying photographs that show how the area has changed over time. The girls are always surprised by how much more space there was then and how the area was mostly residential. Later, taking a walk through the local streets, the girls compare how the area is used today. Amongst other things, they consider the architectural styles, how the gardens have changed and how much space is needed for parking.

One of the highlights of the trip is to visit the site of the original St Mary's School in Colin Street and to go into the new Church to meet Reverend Jacob Ng. The girls enjoy exploring the church to see what they recognise from their earlier learning. They love to look at the original Rose Window and the organ. The walking tour through West Perth also takes them past old school boarding houses.

In the afternoon the girls learn something of the history of the Old Observatory and the first government astronomer, WE Cooke. Finally they use their 'heritage telescopes' to search for some of the design features within the architecture of the building. This last activity becomes the stimulus for an art activity back at school. A lot is crammed into one day but, by the end, each student has a deeper understanding of their school heritage.

Year 4 students use their 'heritage telescopes' to find architectural details of the Old Observatory. G Pickering/National Trust (WA).



## EVENTS

### MAKING CONNECTIONS: FROM THE BEACH TO THE BUSH

*Anne Chapple, Museums Australia*

With the major theme of the recent Museums Australia (WA) annual state conference being 'disaster management' and all that this entails, it was entirely appropriate that the event was held in the goldfields twin cities of Kalgoorlie Boulder, still reeling from the impact of the earthquake that shook the area in April.

The conference, opened by Minister John Day, Minister for Planning, Culture and the Art, attracted some 70 delegates, representing the museums, gallery and cultural sector as well as local and state government agencies, consultants and suppliers from all areas of the state, from Albany to Broome and from Busselton to Sandstone.

Keynote speaker, Alec Coles, recently appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Western Australian Museum, gave a lively and often humorous keynote speech which focused on his interpretation of museums, what they represent and what they mean to their visitors, in addition to the role that museums play in their communities. Mr Coles also revealed his unique vision for the Western Australian Museum becoming more accessible and user friendly thus encouraging more frequent visitation.

From this enlightening opening the conference moved on to look at regional issues in the goldfields, at significance and working with local government and the new field of digitization, which is a current topic of interest and concern to the museum sector as workers try to embrace the new medium and explore how it can enhance their displays and perhaps change their approach to both their collections and their visitors.

Laura Miles, Chief Executive Officer from Museums Australia Victoria branch office was invited to speak on the aspect of disaster management, given the recent tragic fires in her state. Laura deftly wove the two aspects of disaster and digitization together in her presentation and urged those present to embrace this new technology which may be the solution to ensuring the sustainability of collections. This view was followed by a slide show showing the damage done to

the heritage buildings in Boulder and a panel of local historians and museum workers discussed various issues and insights that they had gained as a result of that disaster.

Case studies of the recently opened Curtin Family Home and the work being undertaken in the Burrup Peninsula were not only fascinating, but reassuring that people and projects in this sector continue to move forward despite limited resources. As a contrast, Elizabeth Hof's well researched paper on the issue of our pastoral and agricultural heritage slowly but surely deteriorating in the Northern Goldfields revealed that there is still a long way to go!

The conference was inspiring and stimulating and was enhanced by the heritage and history in which the goldfields is immersed. Museums Australia (WA) staff and board left the conference confident in the fact that many connections had indeed been made.

National Trust Interpretation Services Manager Anne Brake with Museums Australia WA Executive Officer Jane King at the 2010 Kalgoorlie Conference.

A Chapple.

National Trust Special Projects Historian Kate Gregory with Max Cussons from the Kojonup Historical Society. A Chapple. Gina Capes, Curator and Community Development Officer, Melville Discovery Centre, Rikki Clarke and Amy Cumming, both from Creative Spaces. A Chapple.



### NEW PHOTOS OF OLD FARM

*Sarah Murphy*

The National Trust's collection associated with the nationally significant property The Old Farm, Strawberry Hill was bolstered in July.

Former resident Wendy Hackett (Bird) made available a selection of family shots taken in the 1930s when she was only about 10.

The images included photos of the now demolished barn, the lake and the family at the house itself.

The images have been scanned and will provide valuable insights into understanding the evolution of the property and its significance as a family home still highly valued by the Bird family. The National Trust is only the third owner of this important property which is a focus of its work in 2011.

Wendy Hackett (Bird) with Properties and Stewardship Manager Sarah Murphy. G Pickering/National Trust (WA).



## EVENTS

### NEW FUTURE FOR KANYANA *Ria Reedman*



Kanyana Founder June Butcher with Environment Minister Donna Faragher at the official opening of the Kanyana Wildlife Park. G Pickering/National Trust (WA).

The new look Kanyana Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre was officially opened by Environment Minister Donna Faragher in August.

Kanyana founder June Butcher said the move to Paxwold at Lesmurdie has allowed Kanyana to fulfill its potential as a rehabilitation facility for native animals, expand its endangered species breeding program and offer research facilities relating to Australian wildlife.

Kanyana has received about \$1.8M over the past three years to build and refurbish its new facility at Lesmurdie. Animal admissions at Kanyana have increased from 70 to over 2000 in the past 20 years and Kanyana's administrator Jenny Van Gorkum said the opening allowed Kanyana to show off its new facilities.

"The opening gave us a chance to show our supporters the new facility and have a celebration with the volunteers who have made this all possible," Ms Van Gorkum said.

"We have a long way to go still, but the new facility will allow us to do much more than we could before," she said.

The evening featured a fly over during which Kanyana founder Lloyd Butcher's ashes were scattered from a plane flown by Jan Ende, a former apprentice of Mr Butcher.

Murdoch University's Dr Kris Warren, a guest speaker at the event said the new facility supported Kanyana's important conservation work at this new facility.

"It is clear that Kanyana provides an immensely valuable contribution to the Perth community and to threatened species conservation in Western Australia," she said.

The facility features a hospital unit, separate enclosures for animals, reception and

administration, equipment storage wing, and a food preparation area. Paxwold also offers an education centre to increase the appreciation of Perth's unique wildlife and intends to offer nocturnal tours on a regular basis.

"The education and training centre is very big so we will be able to have people come in for conferences, workshops and seminars," she said.

"We have kangaroos and possums visiting every night which makes our nocturnal visits something special," she said.

"We will also be open on a regular basis for nocturnal tours."

The National Trust has begun a new project to provide an Interpretation Design Plan for the site which will take an holistic approach to highlight the natural, Nyoongar and historic values of the place.



Henry, the red-tailed black cockatoo is well known at Kanyana Wildlife Park. Houndstooth Studio.



A big crowd gathered in the Paxwold building to help celebrate the milestone in Kanyana's development. G Pickering/National Trust (WA).

Left: Thousands of native animals are treated by the capable staff at Kanyana Wildlife Park each year. Houndstooth Studio.



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Tel: (08) 93216088 Fax: (08) 93241571.  
Email: [trust@ntwa.com.au](mailto:trust@ntwa.com.au) Web: [www.ntwa.com.au](http://www.ntwa.com.au).

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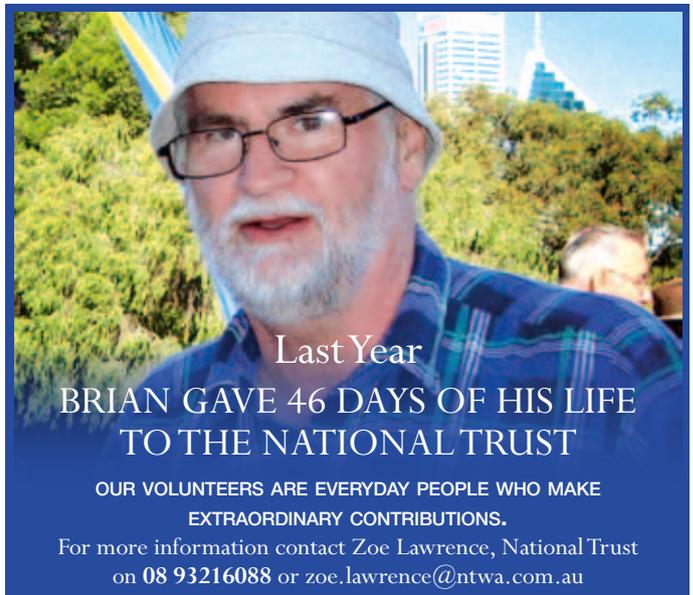


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NATIONAL TRUST

National Trust of Australia (WA)

## 2010 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The National Trust of Australia (WA) will be holding its  
51st Annual General meeting and Volunteer Awards

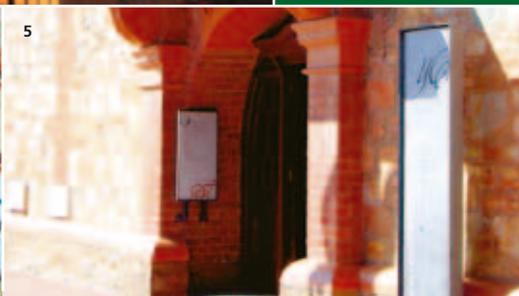
on **Wednesday 3 November 2010 at 5pm.**

St Peter's Anglican Church  
11 Leonard Street, Victoria Park

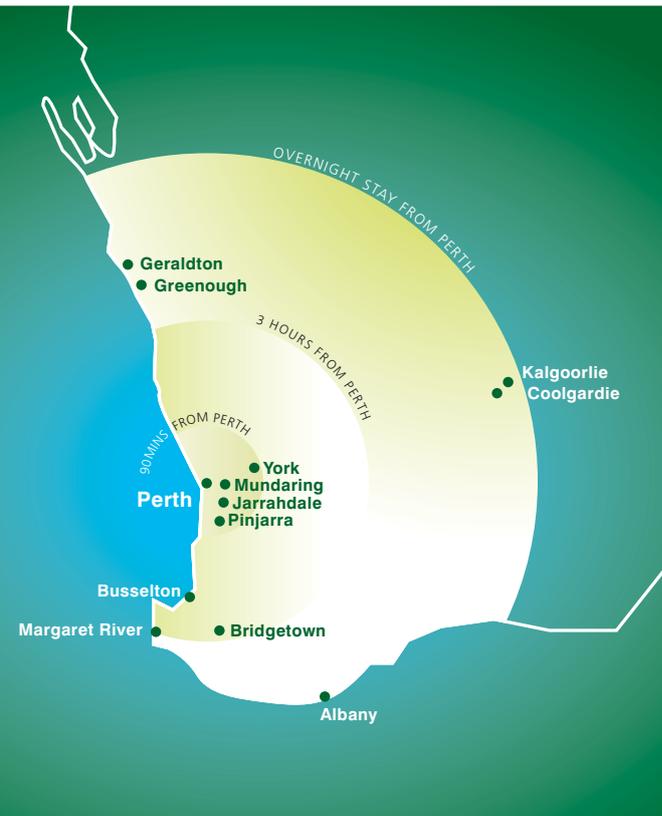
A light supper will be served from 6.00pm to 7.00pm.

**All members welcome. Please RSVP to Zoe  
on 9321 6088 for catering purposes**

# National Trust places you can visit for a GREAT day out!



1. East Perth Cemeteries, Perth
2. Wonerup House, Busselton
3. No 1 Pump Station, Mundaring
4. Central Greenough Historic Settlement, Greenough
5. York Courthouse Complex, York



VISIT A NATIONAL TRUST PROPERTY IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA TODAY!

## PERTH

**East Perth Cemeteries:** Bronte Street, East Perth. Tel: 08 9221 4022. Open Sunday 2 to 4pm for guided tours or by appointment.

**Keo Track:** Starts at Mundaring Weir Hall, Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring to Northam. Multi use trail open every day. Tel: 08 9321 6088

**No 1 Pump Station:** Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring. Tel: 08 9295 2455. Open Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 4pm and public holidays. Closed February.

**No 8 Pump Station:** 8km off Great Eastern Highway, Dedari. Open by Appointment. Tel: 08 9024 2540

**O'Connor Trail:** Starts at Mundaring Weir Hall, Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring. 5.3 kilometres (2.5 hr walk approximately). Open every day. Tel: 08 9321 6088.

**Old Perth Boys' School** now operates as Reveley's Café, 139 St Georges Terrace, Perth. 08 9322-5288. Open week days 7am to 3.30pm.

**The Old Observatory:** 4 Havelock Street, West Perth. Tel: 08 9321 6088. Tour by appointment only. Open week days.

**Tranby:** Johnson Road, Maylands. Tel: 08 9272 2630. Open Wednesday to Sunday 10am to 4pm. Closed 22 December to 3 February.

**Weir Walk:** Starts at No 1 Pump Station, Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring. 1.9 kilometre (1 hr walk approximately). Open every day. Tel: 08 9321 6088.

**Woodbridge:** Ford Street, Woodbridge. Tel: 08 9274 2432. Open Thursday to Sunday 1pm to 4pm. Café open 9am to 5pm daily, closed 20 December to 4 February.

## WITHIN 90 MINUTES DRIVE OF PERTH

**Jarrahdale Heritage Park:** Jarrahdale Road, Jarrahdale. Tel: 08 9525 5255. Open every day. Please contact Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale for details.

**Old Blythwood:** 6161 South Western Highway, Pinjarra. Tel: 08 9531 1485. Open Saturday 10.30am to 3.30pm, Sunday 12.30pm to 3.30pm and July school holidays by appointment. Closed 20 December to 6 February.

**York Courthouse Complex:** 132 Avon Terrace, York. Tel: 08 9641 2072. Open daily 10am to 4pm including public holidays. Closed 20 December to 1 March.

## WITHIN 3 HOURS DRIVE OF PERTH

**Bridgedale:** Hampton Street, Bridgetown. Tel: 08 9321 6088. Open Saturday and Sunday only, 10am to 2.30pm.

**Ellensbrook:** Ellensbrook Road, Margaret River. Tel: 08 9755 5173. Open Saturday and Sunday 10am to 4pm, Public Holiday Mondays. Closed 20 December to 8 January.

**Wonerup:** Layman Road, Busselton. Tel: 08 9752 2039. Open 10am to 4pm on Thursday to Monday. Closed 20 December to 6 January.

## OVERNIGHT

**Central Greenough (Historic Settlement):** Brand Highway, Greenough WA. Tel: 08 9926 1084. Open Monday to Sunday 9am to 4pm. Café open during nominated opening hours. Closed Christmas Day only.

**Golden Pipeline Heritage Trail:** Extends across 650 km from Mundaring to Kalgoorlie. Tel: 08 9321 6088. For more information go to [www.goldenpipeline.com.au](http://www.goldenpipeline.com.au)

**Old Farm, Strawberry Hill:** 174 Middleton Road, Albany. Tel: 08 9841 3735. Open 7 days per week 10am to 4pm. Closed Boxing Day, 19 July to 1 September.

**Mangowine Homestead:** Karomin North Road, Nungarin. Tel: 08 9046 5149. Open Thursday to Monday 1pm to 4pm.

**Warden Finnerty's Residence:** 2 McKenzie Street, Coolgardie. Tel: 9026 6028. Open everyday except Wednesday. Phone for opening times. Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday.

To obtain a copy of our WA Property Guide phone 08 93216088 or email [trust@ntwa.com.au](mailto:trust@ntwa.com.au)



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