

## Public Infrastructure for the 21st century – what would C Y O'Connor do?

RUSSELL BISHOP, GUEST REPORTER

Former Federal minister Stephen Smith has urged Australian governments to emulate the bravery and vision of pioneering engineers like C Y O'Connor when tackling the nation's future infrastructure needs.

Speaking at the ninth annual C Y O'Connor Lecture in Perth, organised by the National Trust and supported by the Water Corporation of Western Australia and Engineers Australia, Mr Smith said the true test of a great work was whether it stood the test of time as a productive economic and social contribution.

Mr Smith praised C Y O'Connor's courage and imagination in creating Fremantle harbour, the Perth to Goldfields water supply network and expanding Western Australia's rail network in the late 19th century, despite enormous opposition from political opponents and elements of the media.

He said it was important to recognise that great works of infrastructure were invariably controversial but infrastructure which changed social and economic outcomes required political will, courage, commitment and leadership from governments.

Mr Smith told the audience in Perth, which included descendants of C Y O'Connor, how as a child growing up in rural WA, he'd experienced firsthand O'Connor's revolutionary water supply and rail initiatives that underpinned the industrial, mining, agricultural and commercial development of the State.



ABOVE: Hon Stephen Smith with National Trust President Max Kay at the 2014 CY O'Connor Lecture in Perth. M Lefroy

In the same way, Mr Smith listed the development of the iron ore and Liquefied Natural Gas industries in WA's north-west, the first large-scale, public water supply desalination plant in Perth and the creation of a passenger rail link between Perth and Mandurah as contemporary examples of essential infrastructure.

The former minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence said Western Australia still suffered a deficiency of public infrastructure that needed to be overcome to make Perth more liveable and the state more productive.

He cited Perth's worsening traffic congestion as a major issue affecting the liveability of the city in 2014 and outlined research from the Heart Foundation which recommended a radical change of approach in which governments would invest in walking, cycling and public transport first with spending on roads secondary.

Mr Smith predicted C Y O'Connor would choose to expand public transport systems using rail, not road, as a solution to the traffic congestion problem.

### Inside this issue





### Challenges of Relevance TOM PERRIGO, CEO NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (WA)

There is always a lot of discussion about how relevant an organisation like the National Trust is in today's changing society.

To properly discuss this topic requires one to evaluate the current status of heritage in Western Australia and then to see if the Trust's programs and actions address related issues in an effective and efficient manner.

Some license has been taken here, with the goal to stimulate debate between those who read these words, while not exceeding the space allocated by the Trust's Editor.

The conservation of Western Australia's heritage (historic/built, natural and Aboriginal/ Indigenous) is nowhere near where it needs to be. Let me focus initially on the historic/built heritage in this edition.

While there are some exciting and positive initiatives in the adaptive reuse of Perth's built heritage including the Brookfield Precinct, the Treasury complex and the Trust's 57 Murray Street project, in reality these developments are driven by the private sector or in the case of the Trust's project, a Treasury advance (which is to be paid back by the

return and sale of Trust properties held under a Management Order).

These significant projects are all in the metropolitan area, however the status of rural and regional historic/built heritage is in serious decline. Whilst some government money is available to private owners for heritage work, there is very little funding for bodies like the National Trust and local governments. A review of heritage monies from the Royalties for Region Program or the Commonwealth's regional programs reveals conserving and interpreting heritage is not a priority and the Trust's ability to establish public tax deductible appeals is sometimes the only fund raising tool available for regional and rural heritage conservation.

This is extremely disappointing and quite disheartening because all research clearly highlights the tremendous economic, social and environmental benefits of investing in heritage. In addition, there is the added frustration of government

commitments being made, but not delivered by key decision makers who say they value the community's heritage.

It is a fact that investing in heritage creates jobs (often at a ratio much greater than many other sectors). It also develops opportunities in tourism and education while providing an amazing source of community wellbeing. Sadly, while there is a current trend to celebrate heritage there is almost no government investment.

The investment required to conserve Western Australia's built heritage is not only extremely significant but as successive generations fail to do so, the threats and risks for losing such heritage rise exponentially.

What are we passing on to our children? Perhaps the independence of bodies like the National Trust, to push the message that our heritage is more relevant than ever before.

(Future editions will cover the natural and Aboriginal/ Indigenous heritage)

### A Festival of Journeys begins JULIE HUTCHENS, HERITAGE FESTIVAL COORDINATOR

The journey of Margaret Feilman OBE, one of Western Australia's most distinguished women launched the Western Australian Heritage Festival 2014 on 19 April at Darius Wells Library and Resource Centre, Kwinana.

The 2014 opening event was hosted by the Mayor of the City of Kwinana, Councillor Carol Adams and Noongar Elder Marie Taylor provided a warm Welcome to Country to the forty guests who attended the official opening.

*The Margaret Feilman Retrospective Exhibition* which traces the career of the renowned town planner is one of more than 165 events held statewide during the Festival between 18 April – 18 May. *(continued page 14)*



L-R Pascal Veyradier, Coordinator Cultural Development City of Kwinana, Julie Hutchens, Heritage Festival Coordinator National Trust of Australia (WA), Marie Taylor, Noongar Elder, Max Kay AM CitWA, President National Trust of Australia (WA), The Hon Gary Grey AO, MP, Carol Adams, Mayor City of Kwinana and Tom Perrigo, CEO National Trust of Australia (WA) at the launch. G Pickering

## Heritage Watch

### MICHELIDES TOBACCO FACTORY (fmr) TO BE DEMOLISHED

Michelides Tobacco Factory (fmr) at 82 Roe St (corner of Roe and Lake Street, Northbridge) is to be demolished, with the City of Perth declaring the place is not of heritage significance. This is in spite of advice given by the National Trust, and the Art Deco Society of Australia (WA) that the place was the last remaining building of its style and type left in the city. The Trust Classified the place in February 2013, noting that the place is a rare and early example of Art Deco style (1923) applied to an industrial building, and a rare remaining factory from the 1930s, when Perth had a manufacturing sector. The Trust also notes that the place is associated with a significant figure in the Greek community, Peter Michelides; this ties in with other strong Greek community associations with Northbridge. The proposed demolition of Michelides demonstrates Western Australia's heritage is still at risk, even when supported by expert recommendations.

### LOSING COMMUNITY HERITAGE

The Shire of Augusta-Margaret River is proposing to demolish the Witchcliffe Country Women's Association (CWA) building. The place is not Classified or on the State Register, and is a Category 3 place under that local government's Municipal Inventory. It is a small weatherboard building on Redgate Road, and valued by community members, who have contacted the Trust. Built in 1936, the Witchcliffe CWA represents the efforts and influence of the women of the district; their social and economic contribution to Witchcliffe and surrounding areas. In a growing region, greater public facilities are necessary, and the CWA place and its potential loss illustrate the fate faced by many small heritage places of local significance. Local people value such places, but an argument for their retention is hard to make to government in the face of growing pressure on existing infrastructure. A development of the site that retained this small piece of community heritage would be the best outcome.

### JETTY TIMBERS UNCOVERED AT ELIZABETH QUAY SITE.

The Perth Foreshore Redevelopment (Elizabeth Quay) is continuing, with works now progressing to a stage that has prompted the long debated milestone of Riverside Drive's diversion to take place; Riverside Drive is now permanently diverted via The Esplanade to allow for the construction of Elizabeth Quay. However, work stopped on the project when works unearthed a wooden beam that was thought to be remains of the old Barracks Square Jetty (c.1904). The unearthing of this beam led to the disclosure of an earlier find; 30 wooden pylons were unearthed at the site, and given to a community group to use. While heritage consultants have been engaged by the developers, it's worrying that materials with possible heritage values have been removed without this being disclosed, and further, that the public may not be apprised of further finds (should they occur).

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Scan the code to access the National Trust of Australia (WA) home page.





## Valued partnership LEANNE BRASS, ARCHAEOLOGIST

Building on a long association, the National Trust of Australia (WA) has recently signed a five year Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Western Australia. This agreement will provide many opportunities for cooperation in the areas of archaeology, history, architecture, Indigenous Studies, education and other disciplines.



**ABOVE (L-R):** Jenny Gregory, Head, School of Humanities, UWA; Thomas Whitley, Asst Prof, Archaeology, UWA; Alistair Paterson, Head, School of Social Sciences, UWA; Grant Revell, Assoc Prof, School of Indigenous Studies, UWA; Max Kay, President, National Trust of Australia (WA); Jill Milroy, Dean, School of Indigenous Studies, UWA; Michael Wheatley, Director, Centre for Learning Technology, UWA; Leanne Brass, Archaeologist, National Trust of Australia (WA). G Pickering

As a starting point to further collaboration two UWA Masters of Professional Archaeology students will undertake internships with the Trust this year. They will assist in the development of a planned archaeology education program at Old Farm, Strawberry Hill in Albany, with a project to catalogue archaeological collections held by the Trust and with background archaeological research at selected properties to assist in conservation and interpretation planning.

The Trust is also planning to initiate a research project with UWA focusing on the archaeology of built

heritage. The project will investigate the potential for 'under floor' and 'between floor' archaeology at a number of key properties.

UWA Archaeology staff and students have undertaken a similar project at Fremantle Prison with great success. Recent archaeological work at a number of Trust properties has revealed evidence of the past in seemingly unlikely places – under floorboards and in roof and wall spaces.

The project will provide further opportunity to add to our knowledge of the history of the Trust's significant heritage places.



**ABOVE (L-R):** Archaeologist Leanne Brass with the first UWA Archaeology intern Varteny Boyadjian who will undertake research at East Perth Cemeteries and Old Farm, Strawberry Hill. G Pickering

## Hamel Eco-Park completed PHILIP PALMER, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Conservation and interpretation works at the site of the former Hamel State Government Nursery have been completed. Based on extensive research and a Conservation and Interpretation Management Plan prepared by the National Trust's Landscape Architect Philip Palmer, Interpretation Officer Gina Pickering and design consultant Lauren Wilhelm (Designmine Pty Ltd), a scope of works was developed to conserve and interpret the significance of the site – historic, natural and Aboriginal.



**ABOVE:** Outstanding Waratahs are a feature of the Waratah Walk at Hamel Eco-Park. Geoff Plant reconstructs of the bridge across Sampson Brook at the former State Nursery. The completed bridge at Hamel Eco-Park provides access to spectacular Plane Trees which are some of the oldest in the Western Australia. Phil Palmer NTWA

A particular conservation achievement has been the adaptive reconstruction of the old timber bridge providing access across Sampson Brook. After careful inspection and design by consulting engineer Peter Baxendale and with the enthusiastic and creative input of contractor Geoff Plant, it has been possible to retain the original supporting structure with new deck and balustrades closely matching existing ones which had deteriorated beyond repair. This outcome was made possible by constructing a narrower deck for pedestrian use only. In this way,

only one log supporting beam had to be replaced and the outer log beams are now exposed to view adding a further layer of interest for visitors.

New rural style boundary fencing and gates, firebreaks, gravel driveway, car park and walk trails are in place. The main public access crossover was paid for by project partners the Shire of Waroona.

Directional and interpretive signage was installed to complete the project and Western Power commissioned to reconnect an upgraded power supply to the site to facilitate future

use. The site will remain under the management of the Department of Parks and Wildlife (formerly DEC) who have approved and supported all aspects of the project.

The project has been funded by a Royalties for Regions grant which was made available through the Peel Development Commission. Take a Talk to the Trees a guided tour of the new look Hamel Eco-Park with National Trust Landscape Architect on 10 May during the Western Australian Heritage Festival. It's FREE!



## Commemorating an inspiring life

MICHELLE EBBS PROJECT MANAGER SALVADO BICENTENARY PROJECT

The establishment of the Aboriginal mission at New Norcia, 132 kilometres north of Perth, had a profound effect on the lives of the local Aboriginal people, the Yued people of the Noongar nation.

As the Benedictine monks of New Norcia commence a year of commemorating the birth of Rosendo Salvado, the founder of their monastery and the mission, it is encouraging to read a statement by the descendants of those most affected by its establishment...

*We consider that Bishop Salvado was a friend of the Yued people. Bishop Salvado gained the trust of the Yued people who helped him and his fellow missionaries survive in the bush and to establish the mission at New Norcia.*

*Bishop Salvado had a deep interest and respect for Aboriginal people in which he recorded the local Noongar language, culture and customs. Those records have provided important historical information about Noongar people, including being used to support the Noongar native title claim.*

*In the spirit of reconciliation, we look forward to participating in events commemorating Bishop Salvado's life and his legacy.*

Mary Nannup, Margaret Drayton  
and Paul Willaway  
Executive Directors, New Norcia Aboriginal Corporation



ABOVE: Pauk Willaway, Margaret Drayton and Mary Nannup of the New Norcia Aboriginal Corporation. New Norcia Aboriginal Corporation

To mark the milestone of the bicentenary of their founder's birth, the monks will host a number of events throughout 2014. One of these is a special exhibition which focuses on Salvado in his primary role of missionary and seeks to explore the central relationship between Aboriginal people and the monks.

It also explores Rosendo Salvado as abbot, bishop, landholder, educator and public figure through a range of outstanding artefacts – photographs, paintings, maps, vestments and books. Many of the items have been conserved especially for the exhibition and have not been on public display before.

Abbot John Herbert OSB, the leader of the Benedictine Community, hopes that through the exhibition and the bicentenary events, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people will be encouraged to share their opinions and interpretations as they journey together in the spirit of mutual respect and reconciliation.

"No doubt, a myriad of emotions will surface as the year unfolds, but it is a journey well worth taking and worthy of celebration too," says Abbot John.

"This bicentenary provides a rare opportunity for us to lay the foundations for a deeper study of all aspects of his life, and to develop resources for the future in the unique town he established."

*The exhibition will run until 1st March 2015 at the New Norcia Museum and Art Gallery.*

*A photographic component will also be exhibited on the ground floor of the State Library, Perth from 12 November to 29 December 2014. For more information please call 9654 8018 or email [communications@newnorcia.wa.edu.au](mailto:communications@newnorcia.wa.edu.au)*



LEFT: Dom Rosendo Salvado, Battye Library 666P



## Vale Trust Heritage Champions

**Rosalind Lawe-Davies, BA, M.Ed, PhD (1945 - 2014)**

**YVONNE GENEVE, MA OAM, PRESIDENT, ART DECO SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC.) CHAIR OF THE ART DECO COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (WA)**



**ABOVE:** Dr Rosalind Lawe-Davies – a champion of WA's built heritage. NTWA

Heritage in Western Australia has lost a fine champion in the passing of Dr Rosalind Lawe-Davies. Her passionate advocacy and activity in the protection of the state's built heritage were major aspects of her busy life. Rosalind was the longest serving committee member of the Art Deco Society of WA (ADSWA) and a founding member of the Art Deco Committee of the National Trust (WA) (ADCNT). She worked tirelessly for both organisations.

In the mid-1990s, the energetic Rosalind was actively involved with other ADSWA members in producing an

impressive dossier of Trust-listed buildings, leading to the instigation of the ADCNT. In 1996, she joined the National Trust in her own right, became its Vice President in 1997, a member of the Classification Standing Committee in 2000 and elected to its Council in the same year.

One of these first listings was the Lord Forrest Olympic Pool at Kalgoorlie where, as a young woman, Rosalind visited as a member of the state's swimming team. Rosalind was also instrumental in securing state heritage listing of Trust-listed places such as Bunbury's Lyric Theatre, the Windsor Theatre at Nedlands and the Swanbourne and Raffles Hotels.

In recent years Rosalind took charge of two critical issues that had been pending on the ADCNT files - the town of Manjimup and the former Michelides Tobacco Factory (later Peter's Ice Cream building) Roe Street, Northbridge. Thanks to her campaigning, Manjimup was declared an Art Deco heritage town.

Rosalind was a highly respected Life Member and former president of the Voluntary Gallery Guides of the Art Gallery of WA.

She also nurtured 800 avocado trees – with her husband Philip - at their property, Allestree Estate at Northcliffe, and produced prize-winning wine at the family's much-loved property by the sea at Esperance. My sorrow at the passing of this dedicated wife, mother and proud grandmother of four will be shared by many.

**Peggy Clarke (1933 - 2014)**

**DR FIONA BUSH, COUNCILLOR NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (WA)**

After Peggy joined the National Trust in 1996, she worked tirelessly as a committee member and a volunteer guide at Tranby and Woodbridge.

She became a member of Council in 2000, joined the Classification Standing Committee in 2002 and was made an honorary life member in 2006. These dry statistics fail to describe the warm, vibrant and humorous person that was Peggy. She was knowledgeable about Western Australian history and passionate about the National Trust. As a guide at Tranby, Peggy would occasionally dress in period costume and sometimes provided tasty treats for the kitchen.

My most enduring memory of Peggy is a wet winter's day at Chidlow. I had asked for volunteers to assist the Mundaring and Hills Historical Society with an archaeological survey that we were doing of a former World War II Army Camp. Peggy readily offered her assistance and spent the day handing out buckets, plastic

bags, pens and transcript record sheets. She helped serve morning and afternoon teas and the BBQ lunch. It was a cold, drizzly day but Peggy's good humour never faltered – she turned the day into an exciting adventure of discovery. Peggy became my dear friend. She will be deeply missed by her fellow Councillors, members of the Classification Standing Committee and her fellow volunteers at Tranby and Woodbridge.



**ABOVE:** Peggy Clarke – a passionate supporter of the National Trust. C Heald



## Property Wrap SARAH MURPHY DIRECTOR CONSERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP

Conservation work to chimneys at the Old Observatory has been completed. Six of the chimneys have been repointed and the flashings repaired. Structural repairs have also been made to some of the brick work.



**ABOVE L-R:** Repairs underway to the chimneys at the Old Observatory. G Pickering

**RIGHT** New future unfolds for Stirling House. M Vince

Education and interpretation staff are excited to be working with the Schools of Early Learning, lessees for Stirling House, to develop innovative interpretation for this site. The Trust is working with the new tenants to imbed interpretation into their philosophical approach by embracing a 'valuing our heritage' focus into their programming.

In recent years Stirling House, formerly North Fremantle Primary School, has provided work spaces for the National Trust's Defence Heritage Committee and was used to store financial archives and the collections from Curtin Family Home. With roof replacement imminent the building had to be vacated.

Six truck loads and two days later the Defence Heritage Committee was relocated to an unused, vacant cottage at Samson House in Fremantle and the archives and collections to other metropolitan locations.



Before its occupancy, the cottage at Samson House required some initial minor works. Internal asbestos panels were removed and replaced with fibre cement sheeting and there was an upgrade to security and power. It is anticipated works will continue on an incremental basis as funds allow.

Documentation for proposed future conservation works at Gallop House in Dalkeith is underway. A scope of works is being prepared for the external and internal conservation works and refurbishment and upgrade of kitchen and new bathrooms.

Structural engineer Peter Baxendale is providing input for the micro-cement injection underpinning of foundations and details for the structural connection between the east verandah and house. A quantity surveyor will provide an estimate of the costs for budgeting purposes.

There have been external works at the Old Perth Boys School during the first part of 2014.

Clinton Long Project Management applied poulting on some north and west external walls to remove salts. The areas were covered temporarily to prevent vandalism.



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## PLACES

### A Class Act SARAH MURPHY DIRECTOR CONSERVATION AND STEWARDSHIP

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The sumptuous interiors of Woodbridge recently provided an exceptional backdrop for a special photo shoot.

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**ABOVE:** Sigrid Thornton at Woodbridge during the publicity shoot for *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Daniel Grant Photography.

Renowned Australian actor Sigrid Thornton was the focus, in Perth to play the role of Blanche DuBois in Black Swan Theatre Company's production of *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

Sigrid graced the billiards, drawing and dining rooms clad in glamorous gowns that complemented this significant heritage place.

She was supported by a team of stylists who brought various scenes to life for the photographer to capture the essence of this well loved star of stage and screen.

National Trust properties Australia-wide are often commissioned to serve as sets for films, television series and advertising needs.



**RIGHT:** Behind the scenes and on location at Woodbridge. H Etchells and I Jarzabek

# St George's College

LISA STURIS, COORDINATOR HERITAGE SERVICES

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St George's College has a distinguished history being the first university college established in Western Australia in the early 1930s. Located in a prime location on Mounts Bay Road with views to the Swan River and University of Western Australia, the Inter-War Gothic style Central building with Tudor detailing is one of the most impressive buildings in Perth. The College was designed by the noted architectural firm of Hobbs, Smith and Forbes which was responsible for many significant buildings throughout Western Australia in the early-mid 1900s. Along with the Chapel and established gardens the College is a noteworthy historic precinct along with the nearby UWA campus.

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ABOVE: St George's College. NTWA

St George's College was based upon the tradition of colleges from the United Kingdom. It was funded with part of the donation from Sir John Winthrop Hackett which underpinned the establishment of the University of Western Australia at its Crawley campus. Construction of the Central building and Chapel commenced in the late 1920s with the first group of (male only) students being accepted in 1931.

A number of prominent Western Australian citizens, including Peter Dowding (Western Australian Premier 1988-1990), Sir Francis Burt (Chief Justice 1977-1988 and Governor of WA 1990-1993),

and Alan Carpenter (WA Premier 2006-2008), have been residents of the College and made marked contributions in politics, science, business, law, literature and other areas in the state as well as further afield.

The National Trust recognised the significance of St George's College early on when the main buildings were Classified in 1979. Recently this initial assessment was reviewed and updated to take into account the changes which have occurred since the original assessment. New buildings have been constructed and a number of conservation works to

repair the damage to the College and Chapel during the 2010 hail storms have been completed. A program of conservation and maintenance works are currently being carried out or are planned for the future.

St George's College represents a significant part of Western Australia's history and heritage and to recognise and support this significance, the National Trust is partnering with the College and fundraising for conservation works. Visit the Heritage Festival program at [www.heritagefestival.org.au](http://www.heritagefestival.org.au) for FREE concerts at St George's College and a self guided tour of the site.



## Cyclone damage at Cossack CAROLINE STOKES HERITAGE ARCHITECT

The National Trust of Australia WA has prepared conservation advice for the Shire of Roebourne Karratha following damage caused by Category 3 Cyclone *Christine* in December 2013.



**ABOVE:** Exterior of former Courthouse at Cossack. C Stokes



**ABOVE:** View showing mobile scaffolding to inspect the roof inside the former Courtroom, a George Temple Poole designed building, 1885/1886. C Stokes

Director of Community Services Manager Andrew Ward said although residents in the Cossack and Point Samson area were not required to evacuate as a result of *Christine*, they were alert to the risk of the road flooding and the situation was monitored closely. While some Shire buildings needed repairs in the wake of the cyclone, Mr Ward said damage was mostly to trees and signs.

When cyclone *Christine* passed over Cossack and the Shire, a number of Cossack historic buildings were damaged in the high winds. Overall the historic buildings appear to have survived remarkably well given this potentially catastrophic event.

The former Courthouse, now Museum, experienced water damage internally and some structural damage to the ceiling roof framing as double doors were thrown open by the winds and uplift forces were experienced. Overall the roof appears to have escaped intact.

However, the former Customs House and Bond Store suffered roof damage with some roof cyclone purlins, ridges and valley gutters dislodged. There was also damage to timber barges and eaves linings.

Minor damage included several double doors demolished by high winds in the former Post and Telegraph Office, and some roof sheets and hip flashing dislodged in the former Gaol.

The historic seawall sustained some damage from an overturned concrete pontoon.

Established in 1863, *Cossack Townsite Precinct* was the first port in the north-west of Western Australia and is remarkable for its role as a pearling port from 1860s to the 1880s as well as being a staging post to the Pilbara goldfields. *Cossack Townsite Precinct* is notable as a frontier settlement with rich evidence of an early multicultural society, extremely important archaeological sites, and

for its notable group of public buildings designed by George Temple Poole, then Chief Architect of the Public Works Department. *Cossack Townsite Precinct* was entered onto the State Heritage Register in 1992.

The National Trust has been involved with the Shire of Roebourne Karratha over many years in the creation of natural, indigenous trails and historic cultural heritage programs. The Trust (WA) developed a curriculum program for year seven pupils called *The Burrup Peninsula* (available from the Valuing Heritage NT website) and has offered professional development programs for school teachers in the north-west.

The likely cost of the remedial works is now being assessed as is the program for rectification of the damage. Works will be documented, tendered and administered with a heritage architect advising on the works as they proceed.



## Yeelirrie – Wendy’s Place

ANNE BRAKE INTERPRETATION MANAGER

When a life is lived so well and for so long, it isn’t any wonder it is full of serendipity. Wendy Folvig’s amazing life is celebrated in *Yeelirrie – Wendy’s Place*, launched at the Old Observatory on 6 March.

In her enthusiastic speech to launch the book, CWA (WA) President, Sara Kenny, provided highlights from the pages, meticulously researched by Alan Jones, the author, over several years. But probably the most memorable moment was when Sara recounted a story in the book, from Wendy’s father’s letters when he was at the Great War. He was on parade and saw a fellow Western Australian, Eric Stoddart, whom he hadn’t seen for many months. Not thinking where he was, he warmly greeted Eric with a handshake for which he was soundly reprimanded by the Sergeant Major. In what can only be called an amazing coincidence, Eric Stoddart is Sara Kenny’s father. He too had written letters home and, when she went to check them, indeed there was the story of running into Dick Finch (Wendy’s father) on that parade ground.

Wendy’s life has been rich and her connections many. It has taken her from Yeelirrie, where she lived for 45 years including what she describes as an idyllic childhood and where she married and raised a family, until it was sold to Western Mining in 1972 and they moved to Rockingham.

National Trust Vice President Professor Jenny Gregory said it was important that family histories and memoirs like Wendy Folvig’s are recorded for the future.

“We need to know about the experiences of previous generations. Family records and Wendy’s reminiscences have been mined for this book and they provide us with a valuable insight into past lives,” she said.

The National Trust and the CWA have featured prominently in Wendy’s life. Her first connections with the CWA began in 1944. She continues as an active member today. Her links with the National Trust began in the early 1990s when she took on the role of CWA



ABOVE: Wendy Folvig reflects on her life at the launch of the new book *Yeelirrie*. G Pickering



ABOVE (L-R): CWA State President Sara Kenny, Wendy Folvig, Author Alan Jones and National Trust Councillor Helen Cogan at the book launch held at the National Trust of Australia (WA). G Pickering



ABOVE: Kathleen Douglas – Smith (92) and Wendy Folvig (93) have known each other since before they were teenagers. G Pickering

representative on the Trust Council. Since that time she has been involved in various technical committees and has volunteered with the Golden Pipeline project and as a general volunteer. A rough estimate of the time she has given is around 10,000 hours or almost 1,400 days of service.

Possibly one of the most telling incidents of the recent launch was

that one of Wendy’s friends from her school days now lives close by and was able to attend the event. Both in the 90s, Wendy and Kathleen Douglas –Smith still know how to enjoy life.

*Yeelirrie – Wendy’s Place* can be purchased by contacting the National Trust on 9321 6088 or going to <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/shop/australianhistory/yeelirriewendysplace/>.

# Celebrating Indigenous Heritage in Albany

**MALCOLM TRAILL, WA MUSEUM, ALBANY**

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As part of the Perth International Arts Festival 2014, the Great Southern Festival ran three very successful half-day Indigenous Heritage Site Tours, which incorporated a stop at the Old Farm at Strawberry Hill in Albany.

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**ABOVE:** Harley Coyne talks to visitors at Barmup Lake, Old Farm, Albany. M Lefroy



**ABOVE:** Visitors at Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, Albany. M Lefroy

Menang Elder and Department of Aboriginal Affairs Heritage Officer, Harley Coyne, was a knowledgeable and humorous guide and he treated the participants to a wonderful overview of Menang culture, using the sites visited as a backdrop to his stories and information.

Around 50 people signed up for the tours which took in such places as Mokare's gravesite and statue in central Albany, the Memorial Park cemetery, Yorrl Park, the Kalgan Hall site, and the Oyster Harbour Fishtraps.

In addition, the tours were privileged to view the Ngallak Koort Boodja – Our Heart Land canvas. This monumental painting is now housed in Albany and depicts the whole Noongar nation through the

eyes of six contemporary artists. Its presentation on the stage of the Albany Entertainment Centre was an emotional highlight.

At the Old Farm, Harley Coyne explained the uses that the Menang made of the site known as Barmup before European settlement, and then looked at interpretation using the recently-acquired painting of the Farm, which shows indigenous people, Europeans and farm animals, all in front of the farmhouse and buildings. The painting is attributed to Sir Richard Spencer's niece, who visited Albany in the mid-19th century.

Harley was also most complimentary about the vegetables and farm produce being grown by primary schoolchildren and the

Farm volunteers using old-fashioned methods of cultivation and irrigation.

At stops outside Albany, Harley was able to explain forthcoming interpretation works at the Oyster Harbour Fishtraps and at Kalgan Hall, and the groups were able to admire newly completed signage, paths and planting at Yorrl (=Paperbark) Park, on the western shore of Oyster Harbour.

The great interest in these projects and ongoing investment by local authorities and funding agencies all point to many positive stories of interaction between wadjelas and Menang people. It continues the long tradition of cooperation which led to the King George's Sound area being dubbed 'The Friendly Frontier'.



## OUT 'N' ABOUT

# Public lecture series launched at Mundaring Weir

MANAGER EDUCATION AND LEARNING

Would you like to learn more about CY O'Connor? Why was the engineering of the goldfields pipeline so important for WA? What changes have occurred to the Scheme in the 100+ years the pipeline has operated?



ABOVE: Mundaring Weir wall facing west with No. 1 Pump Station top right. B Birt, Water Corporation

The National Trust is hosting a series of lectures to be held on the first Sunday of every month at No 1 Pump Station, Mundaring Weir. They will cover the "who, what, when, where, why and how?" of the Goldfields Water Supply Scheme.

In the first lecture of the series, Mike Lefroy, a great grandson of the visionary engineer, spoke of O'Connor's life in his talk "*From Ireland to Western Australia*".

On Sunday 4th May, Golden Pipeline expert Diana Frylinck will lead a guided walk across Mundaring Weir sharing her stories and information. In the months to follow topics will include talks by researchers, engineers and people who lived and worked along the pipeline.

Join us for this and every first Sunday of the month lecture, at the Learning Centre on the south side of the Helena River near the base of the Weir wall. Tea and coffee will be served from 10.30am with the one-hour lecture from 11am. After the talk, tour No 1 Pump Station, the first in the line of eight original pump stations, managed by the National Trust.

For more information and future speakers, contact the National Trust – phone 9321 6088 (office hours) or email [trust@ntwa.com.au](mailto:trust@ntwa.com.au). Entry is by donation.

## See you at the Western Australian Heritage Festival

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

National Trust of Australia (WA) President, Max Kay AM CitWA said Margaret Feilman OBE was a WA trailblazer of heritage conservation and captured the spirit of this year's Festival theme 'Journeys'.

"The community response to the Festival is reflected in the wide range of community events in metropolitan and regional WA locations celebrating Australia's spectacular natural, Aboriginal and historic heritage," Mr Kay said.

Attend a free concert and tour beautiful St George's College during *In the Path of the Dragon* (10 May & 18 May) in Crawley or see an exhibition of contemporary photos revealing the links between convict descendants and the crimes for which their ancestors were sent to Australia at *A convict in the family?* (2-31 May) in Geraldton.

This year's Journeys theme is wonderfully showcased at Whiteman Park Heritage Open Day (18 May), with a smorgasbord of vintage transport and entertainment. Consider *Journey of the Double Sunrise* (13 May), a talk highlighting a fascinating military story of Catalina flying boats, or *Lighthouse Journeys* (18 May), an illustrated talk on the evolution and history of lighthouses in Western Australia by Prof John Stephens and Dr Fiona Bush.

If natural heritage is your calling then check out *Talk to the Trees* (10 May) at historic Hamel Nursery with Landscape Architect Phil Palmer, *River, Rubbish and Restoration* (17 May) incorporating talks, a guided walk and morning tea in Alfred Cove or a talk focused on the changes in the gardens at Blythewood in the Landscape (18 May).



ABOVE LEFT Noongar Elder, Marie Taylor told those attending the opening event about her life in Kwinana during the Welcome to Country. G Pickering



RIGHT One of the images featured in the Margaret Feilman Retrospective Exhibition. City of Kwinana

Explore events on the Festival's new online calendar at [www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au](http://www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au) You can search for events, make a Festival itinerary, register for the competition, invite friends to events or share events on social media.

Interested in volunteering for the Festival or periodically for events? We'd love some helping hands and have lots of different roles. Contact Julie Hutchens on 9321 6088 or email [julie.hutchens@ntwa.com.au](mailto:julie.hutchens@ntwa.com.au)





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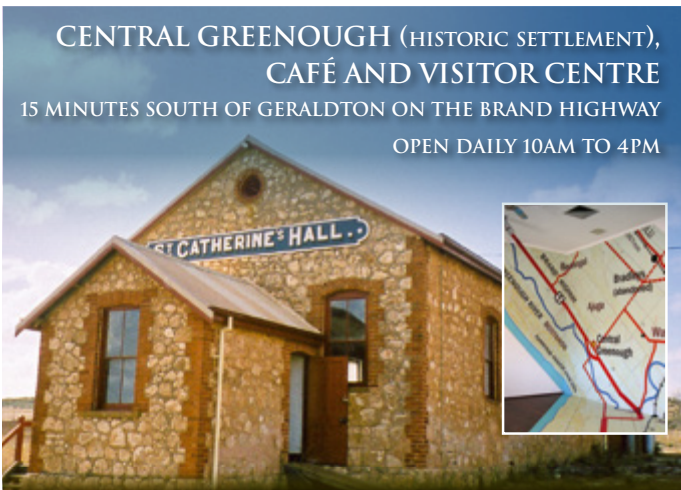
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# National Trust places you can visit for a GREAT day out!



1. Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, Albany
2. Samson House, Fremantle
3. Ellensbrook, Margaret River
4. Central Greenough (historic settlement), Greenough
5. No 1 Pump Station, Mundaring



## PERTH

**East Perth Cemeteries:** Bronte Street, East Perth. Tel: 08 9221 4022. Open Sunday 2 to 4pm. Groups 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:** Closed until further notice. Open for group bookings by appointment only. Tel: 08 9321 6088

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

**Tranby:** Johnson Road, Maylands. Tel: 08 9272 2630. Open Thursday to Sunday 10am to 4pm.

**Weir Walk:** Starts at No 1 Pump Station, Mundaring Weir Road, Mundaring. 1.9km (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 Thursday to Tuesday.

## WITHIN 90 MINUTES DRIVE OF PERTH

**Jarrahdale Heritage Park:** Jarrahdale Road, Jarrahdale. Tel: 08 9525 5255. Open every day.

**Old Blythewood:** 6161 South Western Highway, Pinjarra. Tel: 08 9531 1485. Open Saturday 10.30am to 3.30pm, Sunday 12.30pm to 3.30pm.

**York Courthouse Complex:** 132 Avon Terrace, York. Tel: 08 9641 2072. Open Thursday to Monday 10am to 4pm.

## WITHIN 3 HOURS DRIVE OF PERTH

**Bridgedale:** Hampton Street, Bridgetown. Tel: 08 9321 6088. Open by appointment via Visitor Centre 08 9761 1740.

**Ellensbrook:** Ellensbrook Road, Margaret River. Tel: 08 9755 5173. Open Friday to Monday 10am to 4pm.

**Wonnerup:** Layman Road, Busselton. Tel: 08 9752 2039. Open 10am to 4pm Thursday to Monday.

## 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 650km from Mundaring to Kalgoorlie. Tel: 08 9321 6088. For more information go to [www.goldenpipeline.com.au](http://www.goldenpipeline.com.au)

**No 8 Pump Station:** 80km west of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, at Dedari. Open by appointment. Tel: 08 9024 2540

**Old Farm, Strawberry Hill:** 174 Middleton Road, Albany. Tel: 08 9841 3735. Open 7 days per week 10am to 4pm.

**Mangowine Homestead:** Karomin North Road, Nungarin. Tel: 08 9046 5149. Open Thursday to Tuesday 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.