

PHA **WA**



NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 140 **JANUARY 2021**



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Note from the President:



Hello PHA WA members and friends,

I stepped into the role of PHA WA president at our AGM in September. Many of you I don't know because, like many of us, I have spent years working away in relative isolation, running my own business as a consultant. I have been a professional historian since 2001, predominantly working in heritage. I look forward to meeting you all, in person or digitally.

Part of our AGM was set aside to discuss what we want PHA WA to make our priority – what our 'core' is. All our committee members have very busy lives and many PHA WA members' lives are too full to manage attending our AGM or events at all. We simply cannot do all the good things that we would like to see PHA WA doing. The small group of AGM attendees had a lively

conversation, of course referring to the Objects of the Association (which are printed on the last page of the newsletter). It was agreed that, if we ever have to whittle our activities down to a minimum, providing nationally-accredited professional recognition and maintaining the group insurance scheme are the two things unique to PHA WA in comparison to other related groups and the most valued by our members.

What we can do beyond these bare bones depends on the energy, interest and voluntary time of PHA WA members, whether on the Management Committee or not. This includes professional development events, advocacy, internet presence, promoting employment opportunities, representing PHA WA on other committees, social networking and



producing this newsletter. You don't have to be on the Management Committee to contribute to these things. Perhaps you are someone with energy to organise a professional development event. Perhaps you have time to engage with tertiary institutions to better promote professional history as a career path. Perhaps you have a great idea for a PHA WA social gathering. We would love to have your contributions without roping you onto the committee. Please contact me to talk about where you may be able to participate in the wider life of PHA WA.

One area where we need someone to step up as a volunteer is our PHA WA representative to the national PHA committee. Helen Munt has kindly agreed to continue in the role while we search for someone else to take it on, with Sue Graham-Taylor also continuing temporarily as an alternate delegate. However, we need both someone to relieve Helen of this commitment and an alternate delegate for when our representative is unavailable. You do not need to be part of the PHA WA management committee to take on this role. It is important that we provide a delegate to the national body. Please consider whether this could be you.

A second area that needs volunteers is our newsletter. Kris and Lenore have done an excellent job over many years of producing the newsletter and are prepared to continue. However, the hunt for newsletter content is increasingly burdensome, as fewer and fewer contributions are volunteered. This has led us to consider whether it is time to end the newsletter in its current form. Does the lack of interest in writing for the newsletter indicate this is no longer a particularly useful form of communication? If the newsletter is to continue, we need a volunteer specifically to source content and a willingness from PHA WA members to write for it. Management Committee has discussed focussing content more on issues that impact our work as professional historians rather than general news, perhaps looking at areas such as copyright requirements, acknowledging Aboriginal custodianship and stories, producing fee proposals or personal care while researching traumatic material. Would this change in focus be welcomed by members? On what topics are you able to share your expertise?

If the newsletter were to cease, other options might be a more formal annual publication, a regular email of relevant news and notes to PHA WA members, a dedicated WA contribution to the national *Historia* rather than a uniquely Western Australian publication, or use of blog posts or social media to communicate with members. Each of these options requires volunteers. Is this an area where you might be able to contribute?

What would you like to see happen with the newsletter? We need to hear from you. Your feedback (or lack thereof) will shape the Management Committee's discussions about where to take the newsletter. Depending on the outcomes of those conversations, this may end up being the last edition of the PHA WA newsletter as we have known it.

My thanks again to Kris and Lenore for producing this edition of the newsletter, and so many prior editions.

Clare Menck MPHA
President

2019/2020 PHA WA Management Committee Report:

I would like to thank the State Library WA for their support of PHA WA by providing meeting rooms throughout the year free of charge for our meetings, and to acknowledge the traditional owners, the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation, of this land upon which we meet. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.



Committee

The PHA WA Management Committee has met four times during 2019/2020 as well as conducting other matters of business in between meetings via email which enables us to keep on top of current business. After last year's AGM, the Management Committee (MC) stood as follows: President - vacant; Robyn Taylor, Vice President ; Secretary - vacant; Prue Griffin, Treasurer; Sue Graham Taylor, Membership Secretary; Helen Munt, PHA delegate; and Sinead Burt, Dominic Walsh and Clare Menck as general committee members. My thanks to all the MC members for their ongoing support this past year, including representing PHA WA on our peer associations, being the PHA National Committee, the History Council of WA, the National Archives Perth Consultative Forum, DPLH Heritage Practitioners Reference Group and the Chamber of Arts and Culture WA. A special note of thanks to the following:

Clare Menck - for taking on the role of Secretary and updating the Register of Consultants.

Prue Griffin - for again managing the annual insurance policy scheme.

Dominique Walsh – for designing the invitation to the end of year function.

Kris Bizzaca – for managing the website and newsletter.

Lenore Layman – for assisting with the editing of the newsletter.

Robin Chinnery – in her co-opted role on the Credentials Sub-Committee.

Although there has been no President, and with the loss of Sinead in January from the MC, the committee continued to do as much as it could to fulfil its obligations to promote the association and keep members informed in relation to relevant networking opportunities, events, activities and news within the sector as well as employment opportunities, as well as maintain the insurance scheme policy. This has been a difficult task without a President and is a reminder of how critical it is to have a fully populated MC.

There have been two e-newsletters produced this past year however the decline in contributions from our members has been noticeable with the result being the newsletters, while still excellent and worthy editions, are perhaps not meeting their potential worth to members. However, we do acknowledge that there is considerable 'competition' with so many newsletters being produced and circulated by our peer associations as well as increased traffic from social media and other news and information sources. Some reflection on the future of the newsletter will be an important issue in the year ahead for the MC and the members.

This year has been particularly challenging with the outbreak of the Covid-19 global pandemic. This has impacted on our working and personal lives and has presented challenges to the physical and mental health of ourselves and our loved ones. Many activities were cancelled – including what would have been our 4th annual History Slam – venues and facilities closed, organisations struggled to maintain basic functions and responsibilities. However, we soldiered on and have mostly come out the other side of the lockdown and border closures albeit a little battered and bruised. And here in WA, we have certainly been more fortunate than our eastern states communities. However, recent events have shown the future is still uncertain as Covid-19 continues to challenge expectations.

Membership

Currently our membership numbers are as follows:

Professional 18

Retired 6

Prof (Assoc) 6

Graduate 10

Historical Researcher 1

A new member this year has been: Luke LeCras (Professional). Welcome Luke.

PHA

Helen Munt has served as the WA delegate as well as Secretary, with Sue Graham-Taylor supporting as second delegate. All meetings have continued in the format of teleconferences. This year's AGM will be held in October and will be a Zoom meeting owing to the Covid-19 state border restrictions. As Helen is stepping down from the MC she will not be our State delegate so we will be looking for another member to step into this role. One of the main activities of the national body was the undertaking of a national survey of members about the impacts and issues in relation to the Covid-19 pandemic. The survey was both to ascertain how our members have been faring professionally as well as personally. The results of the survey are available on the PHA website and will be circulated to WA members.

Activities

In summary, in 2019/2020 the MC's main activities have included:

- The organisation of a professional development session on The Current Heritage Landscape led by Nerida Mourdandt (HCWA) and Luke Donegan (DPLH). This was well attended and followed our 2019 AGM
- The organisation of a combined end of year/Christmas sundowner at the National Hotel, Fremantle with the History Council of WA
- Review of the PHA Register of Consultants
- Continued contribution to other committees and affiliations such as:
 - National Archives Perth Consultative Forum - Prue Griffin
 - History Council WA – Helen Munt
 - DPLH Heritage Practitioners Working Group - Helen Munt & Clare Menck
 - Cultural Executives Group, Chamber of Arts and Culture WA - Helen Munt
 - City of Perth Cultural Advisory Committee – Helen Munt
- The publication of two e-newsletters – editors Kris Bizzaca and Lenore Layman
- The continued administration of the group policy for members for Professional Indemnity and Public Liability insurance - Prue Griffin
- The monitoring and distribution of issues, events and opportunities of interest to our members via the email network

Looking Forward

The MC is also looking forward to other activities it has initiated for the following year including:

- A roundtable discussion for PHA members and committee following this AGM; and
- Revisiting planned events that were cancelled, and/or put on hold due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Conclusion

On behalf of all Members of PHA WA I acknowledge the good work of the 2019/2020 Management Committee – Prue, Helen, Sue, Sinead, Clare and Dominic. While not wanting to single out any particular member, I am sure members of our MC have been highly appreciative of Helen's willingness to be PHA's representative on a number of committees, as outlined above, her fresh ideas, and theatrical flair as revealed in our highly successful annual History Slams. Helen has decided not to renominate for the MC. We wish her every success and look forward to her ongoing participation in PHA activities. Personally, I would also like to acknowledge Helen's assistance with this annual report. Meetings via Zoom, and especially teleconferencing, can be challenging.

Finally, we welcome our new members to the MC and wish everyone well in the year ahead.

Dr Robyn Taylor MPHA

Vice-President, PHA WA 2019/2020

Well deserved honours awarded to PHA WA Member Dr Dorothy Erickson:



Prof John Cordery Vice Chancellor of Curtin University presented Dr Dorothy Erickson with a souvenir painting at the Lifetime Achievement Awards. Photograph courtesy: Ezra Alcantra Photography.

It gives me real pleasure to write this article about my long-time friend and colleague.

Dorothy and I came to know each other in the mid 1980s when we enrolled in the Master of Arts degree in Fine Arts at UWA. The Centre for Fine Arts had just been established under Dr David Bromfield, and his agenda was to encourage postgraduate studies into the state's visual arts. He obviously saw a great hole that needed filling.

Art History as an academic discipline has long been established in the eastern states, and of course internationally. But the lack of such a discipline in WA became apparent with the history books produced in 1979 under the umbrella of the government's 150th Anniversary Board. The state's first comprehensive building history was published then. *A New History of Western Australia* (1981) edited by Tom Stannage included a section on Social History, but evidently there wasn't sufficiently researched material across the spectrum of the visual arts for its inclusion. The research undertaken by Janda Gooding, former curator of Western Australian art at the State Gallery, was one of the few highlights in terms of academic research that was accessible through the gallery's exhibition catalogues.

Since first settlement art and craft works were made and written about. Lectures and talks with lantern slides on European art and architecture were popular. These activities played an important role in social life, but it seems a case of missing in plain sight when it came to serious evaluation of the presence of these fine and applied arts in our state's history.

Along comes Dorothy. A renowned fine art jeweller, a graduate of the Western Australian Institute of Technology (WAIT), and daughter of Rica Erickson, a formidable historical researcher and botanical artist. Dorothy went on to do a doctorate in Fine Arts, awarded in 1992, specialising in the history of the fine art of gold and silversmithing – her specialties. But this was just the tip of the iceberg. While researching the history of the arts and crafts in WA, Dorothy also kept abreast of the contemporary national and international scene and has written on contemporary practitioners, and produced her own fine jewellery for exhibition. Latest count over 50 years of practice, includes more than 40 solo exhibitions and 350 group exhibitions in Australia and internationally.

Dorothy has been a long-time contributor to *Australiana*, and while her publications are too numerous to mention, much of their content is captured in her two major works, *Gold and Silversmithing in Western Australia: A History*, (2010) and *Inspired by Light & Land. Designers and Makers in Western Australia 1829-1969* (2014) that was shortlisted for the Premier's Book Award. Whatever she publishes, Dorothy's books and articles are always richly illustrated using works from state and private collections. They have become invaluable resources for museums and private collectors nationally and worldwide.

The year 2020 has been a golden year for Dorothy with her years of absolute dedication being justly recognised. She received the honour of being inducted into the Design Institute of Australia (DIA) Hall of Fame, the fourth West Australian to be inducted. In October she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from Curtin University, her alma mater that morphed from WAIT to Curtin University of Technology, and now Curtin University.

Dorothy has helped to establish solid ground for present and future historians of the arts. Hopefully others will build on it for WA's 200th anniversary in 2029.

Dr Robyn Taylor MPHA

New Member Profile - Luke LeCras:



Photograph courtesy: Luke LeCras.

I completed my PhD at Murdoch University in 2017, where I worked sessionally as a tutor and lecturer in the history program until 2019. Since then, I have also published a book based on my thesis, *A.K. Chesterton and the evolution of Britain's extreme right, 1933-1973*, as part of Routledge's Fascism and the Far Right series.

In future, I hope to find more work as a professional historian (don't we all!) but am fortunate to have picked up some freelance work as a commercial proofreader and professional writer in recent months. I am also currently drafting a book chapter that deals with far right movements in post-war Australia, for inclusion in a forthcoming edited volume.

My research interests have recently tilted back towards Australia, though I remain interested a wide variety of historical issues and subjects, and enjoy assisting other people with research and writing history in all its forms.

Thank you to the members of PHA WA for welcoming me to the group — I hope I can make a positive contribution in the year ahead.

Luke LeCras MPHA

WA Museum Boola Bardip:



Alec Cole speaking to members of PHA and the History Council during their tour of Boola Bardip on 14 December 2020.

Photograph courtesy: Clare Menck.

It's about being Western Australian, about identifying the people we are, the oldest continuous culture... the most culturally diverse state.

Alec Coles, Chief Executive Officer, WA Museum

The nine-day opening celebrations are over and the WA Museum Boola Bardip (Many Stories in Whadjuk Nyoongar) is now open for regular hours and free for visitors for the next 18 months. What an experience it has been! Before it opened fully, 50,000 people, successful in a ballot, visited the new site. To date, most visitors have commented favourably on the buildings; and spectacular they are. The four-storey new building embraces five heritage buildings, including a stunning cantilever over Hackett Hall.

Over 54,000 Western Australians have been involved over the past four years, providing stories, objects, and advice in many areas. The embrace of Aboriginal culture and stories from across the state was a strong community demand and the delivery is clear from the minute a visitor enters. In every part of the Museum and in each gallery, a powerful Aboriginal perspective is provided. Galleries embrace themes such as Innovations, Wildlife, Origins, Changes and Reflections, and all gallery teams have consulted widely to ensure that the Museum can well claim to be Western Australian.

Detailed reviews of WA Museum Boola Bardip are yet to come – and I am not the person to undertake such a task, having been part of the team for the *Changes* gallery. There will always be those who comment that something is missing, not covered, or misinterpreted. Fifty-word labels made it difficult to address complex issues, so digital content will provide more detail. However, I know how hard everyone worked within a tight budget.

Commentators often imply that the \$400 million spent on the New Museum is a large investment. Let us remember that this is the State Museum – not just one gallery and a revamp! The total budget covered building, heritage restoration and conservation of existing buildings as well as design, production, and installation of content, including multimedia, exhibitions and artworks for eight galleries. The new Museum is three times the size of the old museum on the site and boasts a 1000 square metre temporary exhibition gallery.

The enthusiastic reception of this new museum shows that museums play a key role in our society. WA Museum Boola Bardip is a museum for the future, and content and stories must change over time. It is important that it remains vibrant, topical, and relevant; a place to which people turn when seeking to understand the problems we face; inspiring us to learn more. Organisations like Professional Historians Australia WA need to continually remind governments to provide ongoing and adequate funding to strengthen and enhance this role.

Sue Graham-Taylor MPHA

Wander Out Yonder Down South:



Karina, John and Kathryn Shapland at *Recollections of War* Museum, Albany, 2020. Photograph courtesy: Kathryn Shapland.

As we are encouraged to Wander Out Yonder for our holidays, I invite historians to wander down south for the summer and take in a couple of museums (and an amazing outdoor gallery).



In and near Albany, there are two military museums of national importance – and very different in their scale and approach. First, the *National Anzac Centre* on Mount Adelaide in Albany has rightly received plaudits since its opening in October 2014, to coincide with the centenary of the first AIF convoy leaving Princess Royal Harbour for the Middle East and the European front.

Its approach deliberately avoids what the designers called ‘Anzacery’ – the tendency to glorify the whole campaign and disregard the many negatives and privations endured by the troops. Here you will get a chance to follow one (or more) combatants – Australians, New Zealanders, German, Turkish and one nurse – through their military journey in World War I and beyond.

Many stories end sadly but this brings home the pathos and futility of war, and makes you wonder why Australia and New Zealand blindly followed the British lead and joined the fray. Multi-media techniques bring home the stories for all ages, and the view from the *National Anzac Centre* over King George’s Sound is to die for.

You possibly have not heard of a small, private museum at Youngs Siding, between Albany and Denmark, called *Recollections of War*. John and Kathryn Shapland have taken their passion for accumulating militaria of all sorts one step further and opened their collection to the public.

In purpose-built galleries (John is a builder!), you can see an amazing accumulation and interpretation of many different aspects of warfare, right through to the present day. The Shaplands will take you through the museum on a personal tour and can tell you how they acquired the objects.

Recollections of War is open only by appointment so check the website and Wander Out Yonder in their direction on the south coast.

And for something completely different and for those who prefer to bypass militaria, how about an open-air art museum in one of the most gorgeous forests in the region?

The *Swarbrick Art Loop* is part of the Walpole Wilderness area, and is not far from the much better known Treetop Walk in the Valley of the Giants. The outdoor art exhibits explore the history and also the botany of one of the State’s oldest karri forests.

And if the name is at all familiar to you, Swarbrick was a key battleground in the fight against logging of native forests in the latter part of last century. The Loop pays tribute to those who fought long and hard against the indiscriminate logging practices and also to the original inhabitants of the area, the Bibbulmun people.

It’s only a short walk – less than one kilometre – so won’t tax anyone’s fitness. The *Swarbrick Art Loop* is wheelchair friendly and a great example of using nature’s majesty to tell an important historical story and also showcase local artists.

Malcolm Traill

The History Trail - Albany

Windows on another world. Gnulla Moort (Our Family) - Unveiling an interpretation story at Redbank Pool, Toodyay:



Bird hide overlooking Redbank Pool, 2013. Photograph courtesy: Greg Warburton.

The Shire of Toodyay, through which the Avon River flows, is seen as a unique region by the local Noongar. It embraces three cultural groups or countries (Boodja), the Ballardong which includes the town of Toodyay, the Yued to the north, and the Whadjuk of the metropolitan region.

In 2018 a reactivated Aboriginal community group was formed, the Noongar Kaartdijin Aboriginal Corporation (NKAC) led by a Yued elder Robert Miles. One of its aims was 'to work with like-minded groups such as the Toodyay Friends of the River and Toodyay Naturalists' Club to help preserve Aboriginal heritage'. (*Toodyay Herald*, October 2018) The Toodyay Historical Society became part of this as our three groups have strong affiliations.

This year, on 3 August, NKAC's aim of mutual cooperation was realised with the unveiling of a stunning interpretation centre overlooking Redbank Pool, a registered Aboriginal site. The creation of this centre can be seen as a logical outcome of what had gone before NKAC was formed.

Some years ago, in consultation with Ballardong Elders, the Friends of the River began the construction of a walking track along the Avon from Duidgee Park in the town of Toodyay to an early cemetery named Nardie about 5.6km upstream. 'Bilya' comes from Gulgulga Bilya (Avon River). The Bilya track skirts Redbank Pool, a sacred and particularly significant place where long ago Noongar families came together. The permanent pool provided a rich source of food, plants, animals, fish and birdlife. In those times, it was probably less salty though it is possible fresh water springs bubble to the surface. In August 2013 the Naturalists' Club constructed a timber and corrugated iron bird-hide next to the track overlooking the pool with horizontal viewing windows. It was named after John Masters, a Club member and authority on WA's birdlife.

The NKAC approached the Naturalists' Club about using part of the inside of the bird hide as a way of telling stories about Noongar culture, the seasons and the significance of the Pool. Using a zoom camera, photographs of the Pool were taken from the perspective of the bird-hide and enlarged to cover the inside walls, with sections cut out to coincide exactly with the viewing windows. The panels merged photography and reality in an almost seamless way with painted figures re-creating scenes of family life.



Elder Auntie Pat Davis and the Hon. Darren West MLC with members of the Gya Ngoop Keeningyarra dancers, 2020.

Photograph courtesy: Robyn Taylor.

The unveiling was a major event with Gail McGowan, Director General of the Department of Planning, Land and Heritage representing the government as sponsor of the project. There was a Welcome to Country, a smoking ceremony and a performance of a Kobori by Gya Gnoop (first blood) Keeningyarra traditional dancers. Elder Auntie Pat Davis and the Hon. Darren West MLC, Member for the Agricultural Region, unveiled the interpretative artwork.

Part of the proceedings was a cultural speech by Yued Elder Rodney Garlett that tells the story of the sacred rainbow serpent that lives deep in the Bolgart springs, a region north of Toodyay. When the springs stop flowing in summer the serpent travels under the Toodyay Brook into the Avon making its way upstream, past Redbank, to the deep permanent Burlong Pool in Northam. Here it rests until the winter springs begin to flow before making the return journey. For much of this story Rod acknowledged the research undertaken by historian Rica Erickson.

Rica lived in Bolgart, and her publication *Old Toodyay & Newcastle* (1974) is based on early official records, private journals and published articles such as those by James Drummond, the botanist who acquired a land grant along the Toodyay Brook in 1836. It was Drummond's Canning River guide Babbing who told him the country was called Duidgee 'and that it was a favourite haunt of the natives, no doubt on account of its natural productions'. (Erickson, p. 20) The argument continues to this day about how to pronounce the name. It appears Drummond's suggestion has been taken to give the name meaning as 'a place of plenty'. This was subsequently adopted by the Shire into its logo, no doubt recognising its attractive potential. However, members of the Toodyay Historical Society were informed by an Elder that it means 'a place of winter mist' which accurately describes the Avon River Valley where mist gathers on winter mornings.

Rica also had the benefit of memories of family stories and diaries held by the surviving children of the first settlers to the Swan River Colony. A remarkable fact in itself. These families had considerable contact with the Noongars.

There are positive indications that more projects will be undertaken with the NKAC as part of the Shire's Reconciliation program.

Dr Robyn Taylor MPHA

What is NED and how does it affect you? Legal Deposit and the National edeposit (NED) online service:

All historians are involved in 'communicating the results of your research in accessible and evocative ways to wide audiences'. Increasingly this is through digital as well as, or even instead of, print publications.

Legal deposit is a legal requirement which obliges publishers of all types – commercial publishers, societies and organisations, clubs, churches, associations, private individuals – to deposit a copy of their publications in the National Library of Australia and in the state or territory library where the publisher is based.

In 2017, the Australian national, state and territory libraries joined forces to develop a single system to simplify the legal deposit of digital publications across the country, and in 2019, launched the National edeposit (NED) online service for the deposit, archiving, management, discovery and delivery of e-publications Australia-wide.

Now, publishers need deposit only once to fulfil legal obligations in all Australian jurisdictions, and this efficiency allows faster access to more legal deposit e-publications. Deposit in NED fulfils both state and national requirements.

Currently in Western Australia we don't have legal deposit regulations covering digital publications. However, state government agencies are required to deposit digital publications under the Premier's Circular 2019/01, and we encourage deposit of non-government digital publications in anticipation of the regulations expanding to include digital publications in future.

The process of depositing is easy and intuitive. The instructions enable a publisher to create an account and upload their files. NED enables the publisher to clarify copyright status, select preferred licencing conditions, and choose the level of access for e-publications submitted. NED also allows commercial publishers a range of access and reuse options to protect revenue streams. To maintain the integrity of this process deposits cannot be made by third parties on behalf of publishers.

Items should be deposited only if they have already been published elsewhere - NED is not a de-facto publishing platform! Unpublished Government documents are managed as state records. The Library does collect unpublished non-government material, both digital and in print, but not through NED.

So, what can you do as a commissioned author? Please encourage your publishers to deposit eligible publications in NED – there is no paperwork involved in a NED deposit! We are happy to work with publishers to assist them with NED and are happy to follow up if you notify us of a digital publication.

More information can be found at:

- The State Library Legal Deposit web page <https://www.slwa.wa.gov.au/explore-discover/collecting-wa/legal-deposit>
- The State Library Donations & Purchases web page (for unpublished materials) <https://www.slwa.wa.gov.au/explore-discover/collecting-wa/donations-purchases>
- The NED Home page <https://ned.gov.au/ned/> and NED About pages <https://ned.gov.au/resources/about.html>

For:

- Questions about legal deposit - email legal.deposit@slwa.wa.gov.au
- Questions about using NED - email ned.enquiries@slwa.wa.gov.au

- Enquiries about donating non-government unpublished materials email collection.liason@slwa.wa.gov.au
- Or phone 9427 3348

Frances Hammond, Librarian, State Library of WA

News from PHA - Call for items for *Historia* now open:

Professional Historians Australia is preparing the next edition of *Historia*, our well received email newsletter. *Historia* keeps members up to date with news and events within PHA membership and the wider industry.

In 2021 you will see a modified version of *Historia* – the emphasis will be on ‘short and snappy’. Our aim is to publish six editions of *Historia* this year with around 10-15 items of national interest in each bulletin. We welcome your short and snappy contributions.

Content may include:

- News and events – history, heritage, museums etc
- Recent publications by members
- Recent exhibitions that members have been involved in
- Recent work – commissioned or completed
- Book reviews
- Industry announcements
- Historians in the Media
- Resources or useful articles
- Articles that members have been featured in
- Recently accredited members
- PHA PD activities
- PHA committee updates
- Websites of interest
- Award winners

Written pieces should be a maximum of **300-350** words in length (but may be shorter) and submitted in a word document format. All items should include an image or some type of illustration. Bullet points and hyperlinks can also be included in an item/article.

The closing date for submissions is **29 January 2021**. Please forward items or send any questions you might have to newsletter@historians.org.au

Professional Historians Australia would very much appreciate the assistance of members to continue the success of this newsletter. It is a valuable tool for sharing information as well as promoting all PHAs and the wider history community.

Sonia Jennings and Dot Wickham, Historia Co-editors

Note from PHA WA editors: *Historia* is an excellent source of information about the work being done by PHA members throughout Australia. Recent highlights from [the December 2020 edition](#) include the COVID Kids Oral History Project in

Victoria and the Women in War podcast. We encourage WA members to be involved by subscribing and/or contributing to our national newsletter.

News from the Heritage Council 2020/2021 Heritage Grants Program - new Community Heritage stream now open:



Perth City Workshop, 2020. Photograph courtesy: Annelie Hansen Photography.

The Heritage Council's Heritage Grants Program is now open for applications. The program offers funding for the conservation and celebration of State heritage-listed places, and supports investment in the preservation of Western Australia's rich cultural and built heritage.

The Minister for Heritage announced the opening of the program on the 30 November 2020, also launching a new Community Heritage Grants stream.

Since its inception in 1997, the Heritage Grants program has offered funding to private owners for urgent conservation works, and the preparation of conservation management documents. This year, the new Community Heritage Grants stream provides additional support to business, local governments and not-for-profit organisations wanting to undertake events or interpretation projects that tell the story of a State Registered place or promote best practice conservation.



Pathways to Pinjarra Heritage Trail, 2016. Photograph courtesy: DPLH.

The development of heritage trails, installation of heritage interpretation, events or activities that promote best practice heritage conservation, or heritage place research may be eligible under the new Community Heritage Grants stream, including such projects as the Perth City Workshop and the Pathways to Pinjarra Heritage Trail shown above.

Applications to the Heritage Grants Program close 12 noon Friday 12 February 2021. More information on the program, including how to apply, can be found on the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage's website:

<https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/heritage-grants-program>

Please contact the Senior Heritage Grants Administrator to be added to the Heritage Grants Program distribution list to receive further updates.

Contact: Senior Heritage Grants Administrator

Phone enquiries: (08) 6551 8002

Email enquiries: HCWAincentives@dplh.wa.gov.au

News from the State Library - J S Battye Memorial Fellowship 2021 now open:

The J S Battye Memorial Fellowship 2021 is now open for applications.

Applications are open to Western Australian residents who are researchers or scholars, including University based researchers, on topics relating to West Australian history. Research must be based on the collections of the J.S. Battye Library of West Australian History and will result in a report. The research may lead to future publication and public programs at the State Library of Western Australia.

The monetary value of the fellowship is \$10,000, paid in installments upon the completion of agreed milestones. For further details and the application form, please click the following link:

<https://slwa.wa.gov.au/about-us/fellowships-and-scholarship/battye-memorial-fellowship-application>

News from WAHF - 2020 Grant Recipients:



The range of audio visual formats held in the Deckchair Theatre Archives, 2014. Photograph courtesy: Kris Bizzaca.

The WA History Foundation was delighted to fund a grant round in mid-2020 despite the year being such a difficult one. We hope to repeat the success in 2021; therefore, if you are thinking of seeking funding for a history project, keep an eye on — <http://www.wahistoryfoundation.org.au>

Six projects received funding assistance in 2020:

- CWA Rocky Gully, taking the lead in what is a community-wide project, plan to install roadside interpretive signage to acknowledge and honour the service and sacrifices of service personnel during World War II and their subsequent involvement in developing agricultural land in the Rocky Gully area. The memorial project will stand on Muir Highway in the town of Rocky Gully.
- Fremantle History Society will digitise audiovisual materials belonging to the Deckchair Theatre Archives. The collection includes VHS tapes, audio cassette tapes, betacam tapes and audio reels. Work by volunteers since Deckchair Theatre's closure in 2012 has sorted and collated the collection to create a comprehensive archive. When complete the collection will be deposited in an appropriate institution with public access to the material.
- Geraldton Libraries Local History Collection will develop a local history education pack for the Year 3 curriculum. The resource pack will provide local Aboriginal history information and incorporate local elements addressing all Year 3 HASS History Australian Curriculum enquiry questions.
- Margaret River Independent School's project 'Nyindamurra Kitchen Gardens' will create a living regional history through the construction of four gardens – of indigenous edible plants; kitchen plants that Ellensbrook homestead may have used in the colonial period; a 1920s group settlement kitchen garden; and a contemporary water-wise kitchen garden.
- Port Hedland Library will digitise its historical photographic collection to make it more accessible to the local community and available to the wider public.



- Shane Burke and other historians from Notre Dame University and UWA plan to digitise primary sources held in NSW Archives & Records relating to King George's Sound 1826-1831. These documents explore the decision-making process and operation of WA's first British settlement. New South Wales oversaw the operation of Albany between 1826 and 1831, with the NSW State Archives and Records housing approximately 280 documents in a number of volumes. The project involves digitising the original handwritten documents, translating them into typed English, and uploading the results onto a website linked to the University of Notre Dame Australia's library. There, the documents will be freely accessible.

Lenore Layman, Secretary, WA History Foundation

Next Newsletter:

We encourage members to submit articles about their current projects or reviews of recent histories for inclusion in the PHA WA Newsletter. Copy for the next newsletter is due in **May 2021** and can be sent to [Lenore Layman](#) or [Kris Bizzaca](#). Calls for submissions will be emailed closer to the date of publication.



PHA WA Management Committee 2020 - 2021:

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| President | Clare Menck |
| Vice-President | Robyn Taylor |
| Secretary | Sue Graham-Taylor |
| Treasurer | Prue Griffin |
| Membership Secretary | Malcolm Traill |
| Committee member | Carmel Given |

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| PHA Representative | Helen Munt (Delegate) Sue Graham-Taylor (Alternate) |
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| Professional Development & Promotions | Management Committee |
| Accreditation | Malcolm Traill & Robin Chinnery |
| Advice for Commissioning Histories | Prue Griffin & Robyn Taylor |
| Website | Carmel Given |
| Newsletter | Kris Bizzaca & Lenore Layman |

Annual Membership Fees as from 1 July 2014:

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|------------------------------------|------|
| Professional Historian | \$85 |
| Professional Historian (Retired) | \$50 |
| Professional Historian (Associate) | \$65 |
| Graduate Historian | \$40 |
| Joining fee | \$30 |

Further information:

Membership applications, the Rules of the Association, the Register of Consultants, and advice regarding consultancy fees are available on request via info@professionalhistorianswa.org.au.

Members of PHA WA adhere to the Code of Ethics and Professional Standards endorsed by the Professional Historians Australia in August 2001.

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OBJECTS OF THE ASSOCIATION

- To promote the concept of professional history and the status of Members of the Association in the community.
- To set and maintain standards of professional practice.
- To act in the interest of Members.
- To maintain a register of all Members.
- To advise Members and prospective clients on desirable terms of employment.
- To collect and disseminate information of professional and general interest to Members.
- To encourage further professional development by such means as seminars, workshops and publications.
- To maintain links with similar organisations.

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