

NEW MEMBERSHIP/ or MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The application for NEW membership / or membership RENEWAL is attached for your convenience.

SWAN GUIDFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY Membership Application or Renewal



Please tick the relevant box

Application for NEW Membership
Application to RENEW EXISTING Membership

Details of Applicant:

Name _____

Address _____

State _____ Postcode _____

Best Phone Number for Contact _____

Email Address _____

Our mission is to collect, conserve, research, interpret and display

- the development of the early Guildford settlement as a port supporting the Swan Valley and inland agricultural region
- the development of the Swan River Colony
- the ongoing history of the town of Guildford and the Swan Valley Region and interpret with integrity the history of its people and places.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Fees: The membership joining fee of \$20.00 is payable with this application and the annual fee of \$20 is then payable each February thereafter.

Please Note: All new applications must be determined by the SGHS Management Committee which meets monthly. Applicants will be informed of the Committee's decision and a full refund will be provided if your application is declined.

PAYMENT METHODS (Payment is due on application for Membership):

- **In Person** by cash or by cheque made out to "Swan Guildford Historical Society (Inc)"
- **By Mail** to PO Box 33, Guildford, 6055 (cheques to be made out to the Society, as above)
- **By Direct Electronic Payment to:** Account Name "Swan Guildford Historical Society (Inc)"
BSB Number: 066 109 Account Number: 1001 1313
[Please include your full name]

The SGHS values the support of all our members as vital to the success of our mission. Thank you.



Swan Guildford Historical Society (Inc.)

founded 1962

Patrons: Ken Wyatt AM, MP | Donna Faragher MLC | Michelle Roberts MLA

NEWSLETTER MARCH – APRIL 2021

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Welcome to the President's corner for March/April 2021. The year has certainly started off well with our Making History Matter series of talks returning. These events run from February to November on the 2nd Monday of the month.

In February, guest speaker Bevan Carter captivated up to 50 people in attendance {COVID restricted} with a presentation on "Early contacts with the Swan Valley Aborigines". This coming Monday 8th March will be no exception, details below. The Guildford Town hall holds up to 100 people, so we hope you can join us.

As many would know, one of the reasons Guildford is special is the high number of buildings constructed before 1945 that are still standing and one of those eras being the colonial era from 1829 to 1849 with five known buildings of that era in Guildford. Do you know which ones they are? Next newsletter we will start to showcase some of those houses and their importance to Western Australian History. Many Thanks and hope to see you all Monday night. Andrew Minogue SGHS President.

NEXT MONDAY NIGHT "MAKING HISTORY MATTER" MEETING

Our next "Making History Matter" meeting will be held on Monday 8th March 2021. Time: 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

Venue: Guildford Town Hall, Corner of James and Meadow Streets.

Noted Swan Valley researcher and published writer Cheryl Rogers traces the story of the mother of a large family, widowed soon after arrival in the colony in 1831. Desperation led to theft then punishment including a lashing then imprisonment at the Fremantle Round House.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions this is a registered event. Contact the President Andrew Minogue on mobile 0408 433 298 if you wish to attend.

ROGUES AND HEROES GALLERY

Guildford has the dubious honour of being the place where a crime resulted in the first death sentence in the Swan River Colony.

Richard Reilly arrived in the Colony in 1836, and was employed by James Stokes of Guildford as an agent for the sale of stores. On 10th October 1837 Stokes was informed his house, rented out to Reilly had burnt down and all his property destroyed.

Reilly told Stokes he had lost all his possessions, and some pieces of a melted substance that looked like silver. When questioned about missing sovereigns, he firmly denied having any. Then he changed his story, saying he had saved some sovereigns during his escape from the burning house. He threw them on the table, saying 'here they are Sir'. He was quickly arrested and charged with arson.

At his trial before Magistrate W.H. Mackie, witnesses recalled seeing him acting suspiciously on the night of the fire, crying he was ruined, and warning bystanders not to go in as gunpowder was in the house. Witness Mrs. Turner, a Perth storekeeper recalled hearing about the Guildford fire. Shortly afterwards, Reilly had called to pay back five pounds he owed her. Her evidence proved Reilly's alibi false.

He was committed for trial in 1838, charged with intent to defraud and injure Stokes, the complainant. Reilly was subsequently sentenced to hang. This was commuted to 11 years transportation to Van Diemen's Land, where the most hardened criminals were kept.

In:

Dictionary of Western Australia. 1829 – 1914, page 280.

Perth Gazette and Western Australian Journal (1833 – 1847) Saturday 4 November 1837 page 100. Retrieved from Trove 8/5/2019



Monday 8th March is **International Women's Day**.



This United Nations day of observation celebrates women's achievements internationally. This year's theme is "Women in leadership: achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world". This is particularly relevant, as it's said women make up a good proportion of health workers fighting the pandemic.

Sunday 21st March 2021 is **Harmony Day**. This day celebrates Australia's multiculturalism, based on successful integration of migrants into our community. It's an acknowledgement of inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians.

Swan Guildford Historical Society participates in the **Australian Heritage Festival**, held in April/May each year. In 2021 we are running a series of walking tours about convicts in Guildford. Tour dates: 24th April; 27th April; 30th April; 6th May; 11th May; 14th May and 19th May. **Time:** 10.30am to 12 noon. **Cost:** \$15 per person. Children free. Maximum 10 persons per tour. Bookings essential. Email: fay@procreation.com.au

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Website: www.swanguildfordhistoricalsociety.org.au



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Newsletter printed courtesy of Hon Donna Faragher MLC. Member for East Metropolitan Region