

## Swan Guildford Historical Society (inc.) founded 1962

Patrons: Ken Wyatt, AM and MP Donna Farragher MLC Michelle Roberts MLA

Website: [www.swanguildfordhistoricalsociety.org.au](http://www.swanguildfordhistoricalsociety.org.au)

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### Newsletter September - October 2016

#### General meeting September 12th 2016

Mechanics Institute 7 00pm for 7 30pm

#### Speakers:

#### Marty and Connie Winch Buist:

The couple are sandalwood nut farmers near York in Western Australia, they were named 2014 Australian Forest Growers National Tree Farmer of the Year.

**Topic** *Old Industry to Modern Food*

*All welcome.*



**Marty and Connie Winch Buist**

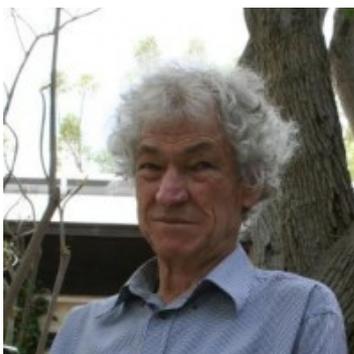
#### General meeting October 10th 2016

Mechanics Institute 7 00pm for 7 30pm

#### Speaker:

#### Emeritus Professor Bob Reece will speak on Yagan.

A specialist in Aboriginal history, Australian colonial history, he is the founding editor of the journals *Aboriginal History*.



**Emeritus Professor Bob Reece**

### Tourism Report: Wendy Davidson

#### Website / Social Media

The website is up to date. Unfortunately Kellie Todman our social media lady has resigned as she is imminently expecting her second child – we thank her for the work she has done to date.

#### Guildford Leaflet Now ready for printing.

Overall this reflects the brief to produce an interesting, attractive and informative leaflet to persuade people to spend time in Guildford, and to specifically visit the Heritage Precinct.(distribution shortly)

**Arrangements for when the Gaol is closed for renovation** three A3 folder books which contain key documents and photographs to use with visitors when the Gaol is closed. The folder includes the map of Guildford and Convict Dept document.

**Accreditation** Our membership of the Tourism Council WA has been renewed work has started to revised information required.

#### Curator report Paul Bridges

**Working towards re vamping** the displays in the Gaol to better interpret the building as a lock-up and former courthouse and to showcase the trades and industries of colonial Guildford and the Swan Valley. **Research work** has been done on collecting raw data for inclusion. A focus has been made on acquiring lists of names and information on those associated with the history of Guildford and the Swan Valley. This is due to an increased interest in genealogical research which is expected to increase as the numbers of 'post-war baby boomers' cease to pursue careers, retire and focus on researching family histories.

**Donations** received from Harold Loton, box of kerosene lamps, these are of interest as they are from the former owners of 'Belvoir'

## WHO'S BEEN SLEEPING IN MY HOUSE?

By 1838, 'Garden Hill' Meadow St. had been purchased by Alfred Waylen. In 1854 Alfred Waylen offered to sell the property to the Government. The Government Resident and two other gentlemen giving a full account of the buildings and property in their report dated 22 July 1854. The inspectors found two small, mud brick cottages on the 13 acre property as well as a shingle building consisting of a kitchen, brew house and store.



The latter had a cellar of about 1.5 metres deep. Other features of the property included a small yard with stable and a deep well containing good water. Alfred Waylen Snr. died in 1856 and the property passed to his son Alfred Robert Waylen. Alfred had studied medicine in England, his medical degree was the first issued to a native born West Australian, on his return to WA in 1859 he was appointed Medical Officer at the Guildford Convict Depot. He made his home at the back of his father's house, where he established a vineyard, Padbury, Loton & Co sold his Garden Hill wine.

The Guildford Town Trust was revived in 1870 and Dr. Waylen was elected as its Chairman, Under Waylen's Town Trust, streets were cleared levelled and macadamised, drains laid with pavements of slabs. Stirling Square was cleared of tree stumps, planted with couch grass and fenced. He also appointed a Town Crier and Town Herdsman to look after the local cattle on the 90 acres of Common Land. In 1872 at the age of 39, Waylen was appointed to succeed Dr. John Ferguson as Colonial Surgeon, director of the Perth Colonial Hospital, medical officer of the Perth Prison's system, plus superintendent for the state's vaccination. (Colonial Secretary Office Batty Library)

In the 1890's the original buildings at Garden Hill were demolished, and in 1897 Waylen built a new large house. (pictured) overlooking the river. A few yards below, adjacent to the east and river were his original vines. Waylen resided here till he died in 1901. William Padbury purchased Garden Hill in 1902. (Garden Hill, later purchased by the Roman Catholic church and is now the site of St Charles Seminary

## NEWS GUILDFORD 1866

In 1866 Moondyne Joe was on the loose, the inquirer says "Our enterprising Sub-inspector and his posse of police are out hunting, and it is hoped they will be successful. Simply because Mr. Piesse did not inform us publicly that he was going to follow such and such a route in his search, the surmise is that he is on the wrong scent, as nothing has been heard of him here since his departure. But I have no doubt, and a few agree with me, that he will turn up just when wanted, and do his share in capturing these pests of society. One party of police was fortunate enough to surprise the camp of Joe and his mates, and captured the watchman not, however, before his giving the alarm to the others who decamped leaving many of their 'traps' behind"...eventually recaptured he was placed in irons in solitary confinement in a specially reinforced cell with triple-barred windows at Fremantle gaol.