

Swan Guildford Historical Society (inc.) founded 1962

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

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Newsletter May - June 2017

Meeting May 8th 2017

Mechanics Institute 7 00pm for 7 30pm

Speaker: **Natasha Kepert**

Natasha is sharing her research on significant Aboriginal sites now associated with West Swan Road, Caversham, Lord Street and Eden Hill.

Followed by refreshments

Everyone welcome

Meeting June 12th 2017

Mechanics Institute 7 00pm for 7 30pm

Speaker: TBA

Special thank you to the Guildford Hotel for support and donation made to the society.

Anzac Service April 25th great to see so many people sharing this special event, organised by Bassendean R.S.L. Thank you Jean and your team of helpers for providing tea coffee Anzac biscuits, slices and sandwiches, after the service.

Australian Heritage Festival 2017

This National Trust event commenced on 18 April and concludes on 21 May 2017.

Enjoy a guided tour of the Guildford Heritage Precinct including the newly restored Old Guildford Gaol. See a fresh take on the interpretation of the history of Guildford and the Swan valley via the theme of law and order. You can also visit the recently reopened Guildford Hotel, the 1841 Rose and Crown Hotel or browse local antique stores.

Check www.nationaltrust.org.au/ahf/wa/ for other events.



Dark, dank, chilly cells, these tours are not for the faint hearted.

Gaol, Taylor's cottage and Washhouse open
Tuesday – Saturday 10 am – 200 pm
Heritage Precinct Meadow Street GUILDFORD
Admission fee Adults \$5 00 children \$3 00

W.A State Heritage and History Conference, 11th and 12th May

Connections: What are the threads that connect places with their past? How does history help our understanding of heritage? What common knowledge and skills support a successful local museum and an Indigenous cultural tourism business? Curator Paul Bridges, Celia Miller and Gaye Sweeney are attending this conference.

President Celia Miller welcomed special guests, ladies and gentlemen, she continued, by acknowledging, the work of Mrs Judy Hamersley, granddaughter of Charles Harper of Woodbridge. The society, formed in 1962, was established largely due to the influence of Mrs Judy Hamersley, the Collection she started is now considered the third most important In Western Australia.

In 2001 Judy was awarded the most prestigious form of honour the Council of the City of Swan can place on an individual. She was made a Freeman of the City.

Wendy our Tourism visionary recognised the potential of our collection, the Heritage Precinct and the town and has inspired us with a vision.

“Guildford becomes a “must do” tourist attraction in a similar way to Fremantle. That people come to view Guildford as a complete historic town with a wealth of heritage buildings and plenty to do and see. The Heritage Precinct will be at the heart of of the historic town and offer interpretation, access to heritage buildings and guided tours.”

Dr. Pamela Statham Drew entertained us with the picture she painted of early days “If only the walls could speak, they could tell us of the earliest days of white settlement in Guildford, when Peel’s relocated servants occasionally became drunk and disorderly on a Saturday night, or when a debt could not be paid...for in those days property was almost more important than human welfare. Run-away servants - even if free - were locked up when caught and if sentenced by the Magistrate –which many were – they served further time in gaol.” (her talk can be viewed on www.swanguildfordhistoricalsociety.org.au)

Deputy Mayor David Lucas talked about the renovations completed costing about \$300,000, to ensure the heritage landmark will be in place for generations to come.

Guildford Gaol’s multi-faceted revamp included installing new drainage, restoring windows and doors, re-rendering the interior walls and removing dry rot.

Finishing touches like door colours and hearth reconstruction have all been restored to reflect the building’s original state as much as possible.



Dr. Pamela Statham Drew and Deputy Mayor David Lucas official re opening of the Gaol

