

Swan Guildford Historical Society (Inc.)

founded 1962

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



Making History Matter

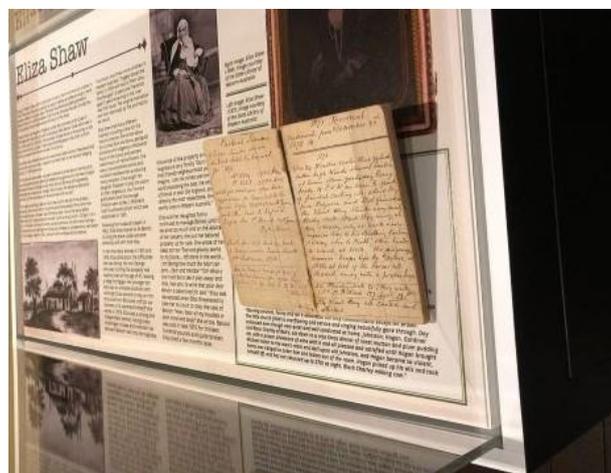
NEWSLETTER

September – October 2020

New Exhibition: Eliza Shaw

A new exhibition about the life of Swan Valley pioneer, Eliza Shaw is on display in the Society's museum space, located in the Swan Valley Visitors Centre building. Eliza and her husband came to the Swan River Colony in 1830. She was widowed in 1862, but continued to manage their property, Belvoir with limited assistance. A prolific writer, she kept a diary, and sent letters back to England often. She wrote "Ours is the most friendly neighbourhood you can imagine...I am the richest person in the world possessing the best, the very best of friends in dear Old England, and certainly the most respectable, kind and worthy ones in Western Australia."

Eliza was also interested in the natural sciences and painted watercolours of the native flora and fauna. She was an excellent pianist and needlewoman with some of her samplers from the early 1800s surviving today. Our exhibition (pictured below) features Eliza's last diary, kept shortly before her death in 1879. Entry is free, so be sure to check out this tribute to an amazing woman.



New collection store

Planning for our new collection store is well in hand. When it's completed, it will give us much needed space to house and manage our extensive collection. It will be built to national Museum standards, including climate control, imperative for preserving and looking after a collection. We will also have new space to host tours and visitors to the museum, and a place for school and community groups to take part in workshops and educational visits. We look forward to enjoying this vital space to add to our visitor experience. Stay tuned for more news on this exciting development.

Tours of the Historic Precinct

Following lockdown due to COVID-19, we were pleased to open the museum to visitors recently. Our enthusiastic volunteers are keen to do tours, telling you about law and order in Colonial days.

Tour times: Each Tuesday to Saturday, from 10AM to 2PM. Bookings not required for individuals or families.

Special tours for primary school age students, seniors and community groups are also available. Note: We require advanced bookings for these tours, so that the right number of guides are available on the day. To organise a tour, call Fay on **Mobile 0438169674** or email fay@procreation.com.au

SGHS Committee

This year has been a frustrating one for everyone, however the SGHS Committee is optimistic about better times ahead. Under President Andrew Minogue's guidance, committee meetings have recommenced, with everyone working hard behind the scenes to plan for the future. Both Andrew as President, and Deputy President Celia Miller are very much involved in discussion with the City of Swan on specifications for the collection store, ensuring it will be an asset to the Society. Other Committee members are Kathy Feucs (Treasurer), Angela Hodgson, (Secretary), Kathy Parker, Gaye Sweeney, Fay Stockdale, Marcia Nicholls, and Janet Taylor.

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Visit our website: <https://www.swanguildfordhistoricalsociety.org.au/>

Contact us: Telephone 9379 1829 email: sghistsoc@gmail.com

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this newsletter**