



Founded 1926

# HISTORY WEST

PUBLISHED BY THE ROYAL WESTERN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.

May 2016

## GENERAL MEETING

The next meeting at Stirling House is on Wednesday 18 May at 6pm. **Steve Howell** will present a paper entitled **'Libel was the least of it – the characters behind Western Australia's first book'**.

Refreshments available from 5.30pm; Bookshop open until 6pm.

Fremantle in the 1830s, if one is prepared to believe the newspapers of the day, was a hotbed of gossip, intrigue and slander. Contributing in no small way were William Temple Graham and William Nairne Clark, both lawyers, who arrived in Fremantle in 1830 and 1831 respectively. In 1835 Clark wrote and Graham printed Western Australia's first book, *A report of the late trial for Libel: Clark versus Macfaul, September 4<sup>th</sup> 1835!!!* Originally friends, they soon became bitter enemies and attacked each other incessantly in the press. Relations between the two deteriorated especially badly when Clark's wife left him for Graham. This paper looks at their relationship and their interactions with each other and various friends, acquaintances and relatives.

**Steve Howell** has worked at the State Library of Western Australia for 39 years, mostly in the Battye Library and is currently the Senior Subject Specialist for the Western Australian Collections. He is the author of *Dead reckoning: how to find your way through the genealogical jungle of Western Australia*, an online publication to assist those carrying out family history research in Western Australia. He presented a paper on Emma Mould and the Bussells to the Society in 2013 and has produced many articles on various topics in the State Library's collections.



## A Giant Success

The Secondhand Book Sale has been a much loved community event for over 25 years and its appeal continues as our tremendous team effort raised approximately \$18,000. The proceeds will be put towards the preservation of our Museum and Library collections, and the general running costs of the Society.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to make the weekend a success – the volunteers who worked hard on the days and all of you who donated, visited and bought books. We couldn't do without any of you!

Special thanks to the eight-strong Book Sale team who prepare for the event over many months – Nick Drew, Jack Honniball, Val Hutch, Jenny Marshall, Jill Maughan, Lennie McCall, Margaret Medcalf and Pamela Statham Drew.

## Western Land – a journey of discovery and rediscovery Our new exhibition is now open for visitors, 10am-3pm

Come and learn about life in Western Australia before and after the discovery of the west coast by Dirk Hartog in 1616 – including European discovery of Aboriginal culture, founding the Swan River Settlement, exploring for agricultural and pastoral land, discovering mineral riches, and collecting, using and interpreting local flora.



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of **Culture and the Arts**



Royal WA Historical Society (Inc.) | Stirling House | 49 Broadway | NEDLANDS Western Australia 6009

TELEPHONE: (08) 9386 3841 | FACSIMILE: (08) 9386 3309 | EMAIL: [histwest@git.com.au](mailto:histwest@git.com.au) | WEB: [www.histwest.org.au](http://www.histwest.org.au)

# Council News

At its meeting held on 14 April items of business included the following where Council

- welcomed new members – Sean Cowan, Dr Michael Herriman & Dr Tatiana Putinseva, Robin Metcalf, Professor Mia Roth, Jennifer A Stewart and Hale School Archives;
- foreshadowed a motion to be put to the May General Meeting recommending to Members an increase in membership fees;
  - welcomed the success of the Second Hand Book Sale which raised \$17,589 (gross) and \$16,168 (net);
  - heard a report from Councillor Neil Foley on the progress of discussions between the Community History Centre representatives and the Nedlands City Council concerning planning scheme concepts for the Society’s new building;
  - resolved on the formation of a sub-committee to consider nominations for Life Memberships and thanked the Hon. R.D. Nicholson for agreeing to chair it;
  - noted with delight that volunteer hours for March (including Book Sale hours) reached a total of 1670 hours and expressed its gratitude to all those Members;
  - received welcome news from Dr Steve Errington that Professor Jenny Gregory and Dr Bobbie Oliver have been elected respectively President and Vice-President of the History Council of WA Inc.
- Lennie McCall**

# History in the City

How close did WA come to being French? This was the subject of our April talk by Noelene Bloomfield. To enhance her talk, Noelene decorated the room on two sides with posters depicting events of the era before British settlement. The talk began with a member of the audience playing the French national anthem. We then learnt about the French expeditions to Australia. One of the French ships arrived in Botany Bay just eight days after Captain Phillip. Some of the places Noelene included were familiar to us – Port Jackson, King Island, Wineglass Bay and Seal Bay. The name Seal Bay led to a discussion of the part the whaling and sealing ships played in European discoveries at that time. However the French Revolution came and France’s outlook on settling new lands in the far south changed. It seemed strange that so many towns retained French names and Noelene spoke of the regard that sailors of different countries often felt towards each other. It was a fascinating talk and left us wanting more.

History in the City is held on the first Wednesday of each month. Join us at 2pm at the Citiplace Community Centre on the Perth Railway Concourse. Donation \$5 entry with afternoon tea, all welcome.

**Lorraine Tholet**

# Exhibiting at the Guildford Heritage Festival



On a pleasantly warm day in a large tent with WAGS on one side and the Guildford Library on the other, we put on a display of historic photographs together with stands showing

a range of books. We were kept busy with plenty of interest in the books, and sales of over \$200. Franco Smargiassi, Joe Smith and I did the honours.

I had a nice surprise when a lady read my name badge and asked where my family came from. She works for a drilling company and had seen the name ‘Eivers Find’ on a mining lease at Lake Lefroy near Norseman. As there is only one Eivers family in WA, the find

must have been associated with my grandfather. So that was a bit of history.

Altogether another good day and a great opportunity to promote the Society to the general public.

**Kerry Eivers**



Due to circumstances beyond their control the Tours & Events Committee have had to defer the proposed day tour to Cockburn and other local sights planned for 25 May. We will keep you posted as and when further arrangements can be made.

# Affiliates News

**Busselton Historical Society's** website has been re-designed and is now live at - <http://busseltonmuseum.org.au> Please pay an online visit and provide the Society with feedback so that the museum can be presented in the best light.

*The Little Bottler*, newsletter of the **Colonial Bottle & Collectors Club**, tells the interesting story of Taufik Raad, Syrian-born herbalist of Murray Street in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He advertised many potions and tonics which he claimed had 'cured thousands' but brought him into sharp conflict with the Medical Board. His tonics were sold in bottles embossed with his name and credentials.

**Denmark Historical Society** is celebrating 120 years of education in the town. In 1896 the town was wholly owned and built by Millars Timber Co., and 53 children enrolled in the new town school. More district schools followed with the establishment of group settlements in the 1920s. The last to close was at Tingledale in 1968. The Society hopes to hold an event in early December to commemorate the milestone.

**Maritime Heritage Association** has ventured into publishing with its re-publication of Les Johnson's *Albany and the Whalers* (1979) with new images and design. The book traces the development of the Australian whaling industry and Albany's role as a major whaling centre until the closure of Cheynes Beach station in 1978.

**Maylands Historical & Peninsula Association** expresses its gratitude to the City of Bayswater which has upgraded carpets in the Old Police Station where meetings are held. That is good news.

**VOC Historical Society** tells us about John Lethbridge (1675-1759), a wreck salvager from Devon who invented the individual diving suit. He dived for both the English East India Company and the Dutch East India Company who contracted him to perform its salvage work. This made him one of the earliest commercial salvors.

The **WA Police Historical Society's** *Peelers Gazette* contains an extended feature on the death in October 1946 of Detective Carl Roe who was gunned down by Sydney Hammond. Roe was trying to arrest Hammond on a charge of breaking and entering. Carl Roe, aged 34, was posthumously awarded the King's Police Medal for gallantry.

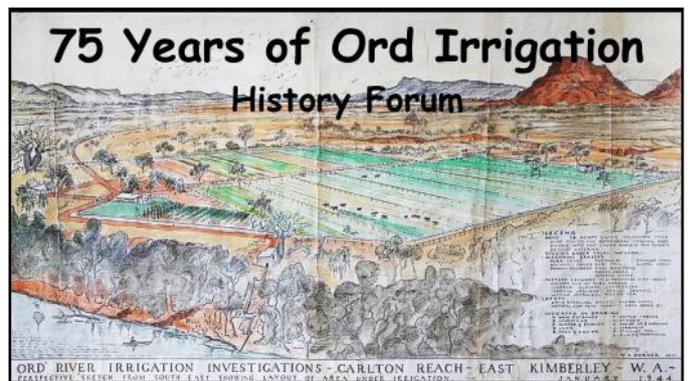
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## Kununurra Historical Society - History Forum

On 31 March 1941 Kimberley Michael Durack published *Research Station for the Kimberleys*, and by the end of 1941 his proposal had become a reality. This document is available to download from the Kununurra Historical Society website. It is fascinating to realise that Kim Durack was just 24 years old when he wrote

this proposal. It will be 75 years since the Carlton Reach Research Station was set up and 2016 also marks 70 years since the Kimberley Research Station was set up in 1946.

On the weekend of 24-26 June, we will commemorate this history with various events for all to enjoy. On Friday night there will be a history slide-show and documentary film, *On the Banks of the Ord*, made by Kevin Richards. This will be shown on the big screen at the Kununurra Picture Gardens. The following day starts at the original Carlton Reach – Ord River Experimental Farm site alias Lake Kununurra Golf Club, before moving on to the Kimberley Research Station site, where the rest of the day will be spent with tours and talks covering from the earliest history through to the future directions of Ord Irrigation. On Sunday take a look at some fascinating history in the Kununurra Museum and Society Archive, at an Open Day from 10 am to 8 pm.



For more information see – [www.kununurra.org.au/events](http://www.kununurra.org.au/events)

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## Mystery Photo



Do you recognise any of these gentlemen from Southern Cross or surrounding district? If you have any information, please phone and ask for

the Library, on 9386 3841, or email [library@histwest.org.au](mailto:library@histwest.org.au)

## Diary Dates

**Sun 8 May:** International Irish Famine Commemoration service at St Patrick's Catholic Church, York, 11:30am.

**Wed 11 May:** Philippa O'Brien *The two founding documents*, 10am. Bookings essential. Please contact the office. \$10pp includes coffee/tea.

**Sun 15 May:** Government House Open Day, 11:00am to 3:00pm. See [www.govhouse.wa.gov.au](http://www.govhouse.wa.gov.au)

**Wed 8 June** Booked in for a Cuppa: Bernice Barry, Victoria Laurie, Steve Errington and Sue Clarke (Children's Books)

## A benefaction from Ruth Donaldson OAM, DStJ (1908-2014)

We record our gratitude to Ruth Donaldson, a long-time member who joined us in 1967 and remembered the Society with a bequest of \$2018.90 in her will. The Society greatly appreciates her gift.

Ruth Gwendoline Donaldson (née Birch) trained as an accountant but her life's work was as a nurse in the St John Ambulance Nursing Division which she joined in 1936 and in which rose to become the District Superintendent (Nursing). During World War II she enlisted in the Australian Imperial Forces and, with the rank of Captain, served in military hospitals in Australia and New Guinea. She married Dr John Ralph Donaldson in 1961.

After her official retirement in the early 1970s she continued to be an active member of the St John Fellowship giving lectures and frequently representing the Order, including at annual general meetings in London. In recognition of her services she was admitted to the Order of St John in 1952, promoted to Officer Sister in 1958, Commander Sister in 1966 and Dame of Grace in 1978. Her voluntary community work was recognised in 2006 with a Medal of the Order of Australia.

Ruth was the great grand-daughter of Lewis and Hannah Birch who arrived in the Colony in 1841. He and his sons commenced as pharmacists in Barrack St in 1853, a business which became well known to Perth and Fremantle residents.

Ruth had many interests, not surprisingly one of which was history, and in 2003 she wrote a history of St John Nursing in Perth 1913-1963 (*Following a Nursing Star*, published by St John Ambulance), which is in the Library at Stirling House.

We honour her memory.



## Dirk By Sea

The sailing community plans to join commemorations of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dirk Hartog's landing in WA on the vessel *Eendracht* in 1616 in the most appropriate way – by sea.

The Dirk Hartog Race and Cruise starts with the annual Offshore Fremantle to Geraldton Yacht Race, leaving on 15 October. This year it also includes a rally group for cruisers, mono and multi-hulls, and powerboats.

If you think you'd like to go but would like something a little more substantial under your feet, WA's own tall ship, traditional-style *STS Leeuwin I*, plans to sail in Dirk's wake up the WA coast from 14-21 October, past the notorious Zuytdorp Cliffs to Shark Bay. This, however, will not be your normal cruise; 'participants will be expected to be involved in most aspects of ship operations from sailing, steering and navigating to cleaning the ship and climbing the mast'. Oh and another thing, you must be over eighteen! WA Museum historian Michael Gregg will be on board to provide insights into 400 years of Dutch-Australian maritime history.

Maybe life on the ocean wave is not for you. If this is the case but you would still like to join in the exciting and interesting events planned for the Festival Weekend in Denham - including a celebration concert, a 17<sup>th</sup> century dress-up ball and a re-enactment of the landing – you can go by road; a coach is being planned.

*For further information and updates:*

<http://www.fsc.com.au/sailing-events/dirk-hartog-dirk-by-the-sea/>

<http://www.sailleeuwin.com/dirkhartog2016>  
[www.sharkbay1616.com.au](http://www.sharkbay1616.com.au)

**Heather Campbell**



**DIRK BY SEA**  
Travel in the steps of  
Dirk Hartog

## Perth's newest museum

The whole history of Perth is at your fingertips in our city's newest museum, which opened in January. It's the Museum of Perth in the Grand Lane (behind 117 Barrack Street). The museum records the social, cultural, political and architectural history of Perth and is an initiative of the Perth History Association Inc., a not-for-profit association founded last year. The main mover behind the museum's establishment is Reece Harley who is also the chairperson and a director. Reece has a passion for the history of Perth as do the other office bearers. They are Ryan Mossny (secretary), Ryan Zaknich (treasurer), Dallas Robertson and Diana Warnock OAM (directors). Richard Offen is the museum's heritage and history advisor.

# Library News

## From Bonny Baby Buster to Leading Lady, Part 1

*Library volunteer Val Krantz has written this fascinating account of her mother-in-law, Dorothy Krantz, an actress on the Perth stage for nearly fifty years. The family has many photographs which tell Dorothy's story and has decided to donate many of them to the RWAHS. There is also an interview with her in 1980 recorded by Battye Library. Here is the first of a two-part article on her long and distinguished career in Perth theatre.*

Dorothy was born illegitimately on 30 August 1912 to Ivy Robinson, a young woman from a poor Fremantle family, who called her baby Jessie Hope. Jessie's father Cyril Maddocks was not interested in marriage so Ivy gave Jessie up for adoption by her employer, Mrs Catherine Powell. It seemed her baby's only chance for a decent life. Jessie became Dorothy Hope Powell and Ivy and Cyril disappeared completely from their child's life.

Dorothy's wide brown eyes, full lips and a coquettish smile were just part of her appeal. By the age of three it was clear that she could charm an audience and Catherine paid for twice-weekly lessons in Highland and Irish dancing which her daughter found endless and exhausting. But she loved her private speech lessons with Lionel Logue (who later cured King George VI of his stammer). He taught her poems by rote and she recited them at the camps for eager young men waiting to embark for Europe.

Mad dogs of war are on the track  
Barking at the Union Jack  
Oh what a surprise they'll give the Kaiser  
Those mad dogs will soon be wiser...

she would begin with gusto ... and could still recite them sixty years later.



**The young actress**

Dorothy's earliest performance, as far as I can tell, was on the stage at the Shaftesbury Theatre as Bonny Baby Buster when she was three years old. Vaudeville drew crowds as did concerts and eisteddfods. Spurred on by ambitious mothers, children entered dancing, recitation and impromptu reading competitions. Dorothy became

a drawcard in the camps to entertain the troops before they set off for Europe and in fundraising concerts.

White City in William Street was a magical place for a little girl. From about six years of age Dorothy walked there, often on her own, from her home in Hay Street, climbed onto the stage and recited her poems. She also remembered playing in *Little Lord Fauntleroy* and at His Majesty's in *The Silver King*.

Catherine Powell was proud of her young daughter. She had dressmakers make kilts, court finery, jodhpurs, Red Cross nurse's outfits and demure dresses for a little girl. But there were bad times. When Catherine's husband Bill Powell lost money at the races she would often get drunk. She'd make a bonfire and throw all Dorothy's costumes onto it to punish her. And she kept a carving knife under her pillow for who knew what need. Dorothy sometimes hid in the bush all night, scared of what her mother might do.

When she was seven Dorothy was sent to Victoria Square College. She had speech lessons with Sister Mary Coleman whom she thought a fine teacher. In January 1921 the *Sunday Times* carried a report that eight-year-old 'Perth Prodigy' Dorothy Powell had won gold medals at the Guildford Ugly Men's Industrial Show for dancing and elocution. More such awards came her way during her years at Victoria Square. When she left, aged sixteen, to take a shorthand-typing course and then a job at Albert's Bookshop, she was already a well-known performer.

Dorothy joined the Repertory Club in 1929 which, despite the Depression or perhaps because of it, was thriving with a new production every month. She soon had small roles in *Private Lives* and a new thriller *Rope*. In mid-1931 she paid £5 to join the Arthur Maxwell Comedy Company on a country tour with one-night stands in six towns. They played to empty halls but back at the Rep she had a good part in John Galsworthy's drama *Loyalties* and a year later starred as Viola in *Twelfth Night*. Producer Mollie Campbell was angry with her principal when Dorothy played for extra laughs and she taught the young actress a valuable lesson: never stray from the production line. Dorothy though treasured theatre critic Polygon's (Paul Hasluck) comment that Dorothy as Viola 'stepped straight out of Shakespeare's text'.

*A Midsummer Night's Dream* opened in Supreme Court Gardens in February 1933, the Rep's first ever outdoor production with Dorothy playing a 'charming' Oberon, King of the Fairies. Later that year the Club felt confident enough to move to its own premises in the Print Room of West Australian Newspapers in St George's Terrace. Members worked furiously to convert the wonderfully expansive space into a workable theatre.

**Val Krantz**

# Museum News

## Treasures from Europe in the Collection

We are privileged to hold in our Collection items which help tell our Western Australian story of migration. Here are just three examples of these fascinating objects.



The first is a pair of **Russian dancers** donated by Daphne Wood through our member Pat Griffiths. Daphne told Pat of a young lady, Anna Prakhov, who arrived in Australia in the

1950s. Anna was from Kiev and, in an effort to escape from Russia, she walked westward as a refugee with her young son. She eventually arrived in Narrogin where she worked as a shop assistant. In the 1970s, Daphne met Anna in Perth where Anna was working at the Australian Fine China factory. Anna invited Daphne to an exhibition where these little Russian figures, which she had made, were for sale. Daphne could not say for sure whether these figures were part of the factory's official production or not but she thought that they were made in Anna's free time at the factory. Were they official or did Anna help herself to the clay? We will never know!



The next items are from a collection donated by Dorothee Stick (née Menzel). Dorothee migrated to Canada with her parents in 1956, where she met her Australian husband. They arrived in Perth in 1975. The items have their origin in Germany, some dating from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. These **broderie anglaise and cross stitch edgings** were either bought or taken off dresses when they were altered or passed on. On handkerchiefs are the initials of family members. The two ivory name cardholders were given to Dorothee's mother by her grandmother, one in 1917 and the other in 1919 at her confirmation. Her family in Germany was able to preserve the items, despite experiencing two world wars, and the objects were brought to

Australia when both Dorothee's mother and her aunt went into care in the year 2000. It was decided to accept them into our collection as an interesting comparison to our similar English items, and to add variety and allow us to talk about the diverse cultural backgrounds of our current population.

The third item also has a migrant story. In 2011 I received a phone call from a lady asking if we would accept a **framed cheque** into our museum. I detected an accent in her speech and, of course, curiosity got the better of me – what was so special about this framed cheque? I asked her if she would like to bring it in and invited her to join members of the museum committee over a cup of tea. Her story moved me quite deeply.

Christa Nimmo came to Australia with her first husband from Holland as a 20 year old in 1955. She and her husband worked on a farm in Mingenew for two or three years, he as a farm hand and she as a cook. She used her Dutch cookbooks, which she had to translate into English to buy the ingredients. She recalled that her schoolgirl English was quite different from the Aussie lingo spoken here! Christa, lonely and homesick, went back to Holland for about two years. On her return she divorced and remarried. Her son, Trevor Hofstee, was born in 1964 and the family lived in Bunbury. They mixed mainly with other migrant families and an Italian friend, who worked cutting trees in the bush, offered Trevor a job collecting and packing



the wood. Trevor was aged ten when he received his first pay cheque to the value of \$1.50 for his labour. Christa gave her son the cash and kept the cheque. She was very proud of her son who was an independent boy and later became a chef. Unfortunately he died at the age of 22. With no family to leave her personal belongings to, Christa offered the cheque along with a photograph of him (aged sixteen) to our Society and was very pleased that it was accepted in his memory.

These objects and the stories of their donors leaving their European homes behind in the 1950s and starting new lives, but still retaining memories or memorabilia of their homelands, add greatly to the social history of this country and to the richness of our collection.

**Val Hutch, Convenor Museum**

# Spotlight on Members' Research

## Perth's First Public Water Supply Scheme

*Retired engineer Mike Taylor is a member of both the RWAHS (where he volunteers in the Library) and Engineering Heritage WA, the engineering heritage group of the Institution of Engineers Australia in WA. Sponsored by the Water Corporation, Mike and other Corporation employees prepared a nomination of Perth's First Water Supply for heritage recognition. The significance of Perth's First Public Water Supply Scheme was recognised by the award of an Engineering Heritage Marker in October 2012. The nomination document is in the RWAHS Library and is also available online from the State Library of WA.*

Perth's first public water supply scheme was constructed at a time when the settlement relied on a fragile system of private wells, rainwater tanks and a few public springs. Increasing population and unreliable rainfall caused water shortages. With water shortages, water borne diseases, mainly typhoid, became more prevalent due to greater reliance on groundwater that was polluted by poor sanitation methods.

Perth's first water supply (which predates the Coolgardie pipeline by ten years) was constructed under a 'build, own and operate' contract between the Perth City Council and a Melbourne based syndicate, Neil McNeil and Company. Edward Keane represented the Company in Perth and the estimated cost for the scheme was £160,000 (\$23 million in 2014 dollars). The scheme incorporated a 240 million gallon (1 billion litres) capacity Victoria Dam on Munday Brook in the hills at Carmel, 16.33 miles (26.3 km) of 12-inch (305 mm) diameter gravity trunk main, a 660,000 gallons (3 million litres) capacity reservoir at Mt Eliza in Kings Park and city reticulation with an eight-inch (200 mm) main along Wellington Street.

Work began in October 1889. The storage reservoir of 42 acres (16.2 hectares) was cleared by manual labour, while concrete for the dam wall, with a crest length of 722 feet (220 metres) and a maximum height of 71 feet (22 metres), was mixed and put in place by 60 or more men at a time using shovels and hand rammers. The new scheme was opened on 1 October 1891 and operated by the newly established City of Perth Water Supply Company.



Mrs Lilla Keane, wife of Perth Mayor Edward Keane, opens the 'waterworks' by turning on a valve at Victoria Dam, 1 October 1891.



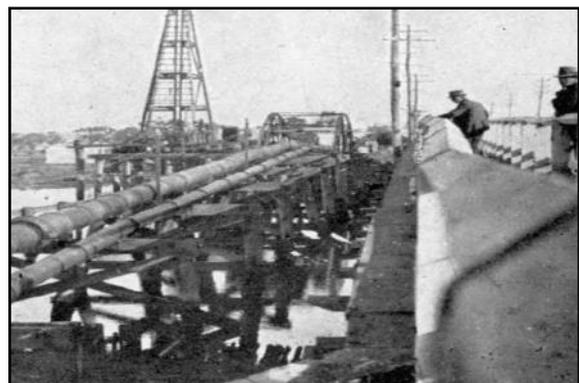
Victoria Dam, completed 1891.

Due to problems of water availability and catchment contamination that the private company had difficulties in addressing, the State Government purchased the scheme in 1896. Control was given to an independent Metropolitan Waterworks Board that made improvements. The successor to this Metropolitan Waterworks Board is the Water Corporation and Perth's public water supply has now been in State ownership for 120 years.

Local civil engineers, Henry Saunders and James Barratt, designed Perth's first public water supply scheme. Saunders, who had worked on railway development, later became a mining entrepreneur and manager. He was a Perth City Councillor, elected to terms as Mayor, and a member of the Legislative Council; then he became a member of the Federal Senate in 1903. He died in Perth in 1919. Barratt also worked on railways, for a time as Chief Engineer for the Midland Railway Company, and later moved to Albany. He also worked in Melbourne for 22 years, but it is not known where or when he died.

In 1990 the wall of the original Victoria Dam was partly demolished to allow for overflows from a larger capacity dam built 300 metres upstream. The original Mt Eliza reservoir was demolished in the 1930s to make way for much larger storages. Apart from about two thirds of the original Victoria Dam wall that is still standing, virtually no other physical evidence remains of the first scheme.

**Mike Taylor**



The original 12-inch main and subsequent 21-inch main pipelines from Victoria Dam cross the Swan River at the Causeway bridge.  
Photos – courtesy Water Corporation

## Making Hay out of Howick

At the Quiz evening held recently, one of the questions asked was – what was the earlier name for Hay Street? A point then boosted the score of those teams who provided the required answer – Howick Street. Some people, however, were of the belief that Perth had its Hay Street marked out from the start of settlement. Perhaps the question might have been better worded – what was the earlier name for the eastern stretch of Hay Street?

Coming from West Perth, Hay Street was the name that applied originally only as far east as Barrack Street. From that intersection the thoroughfare continued as Howick Street until 1897. Similarly, in parallel, Murray Street originally became Goderich Street when it crossed Barrack Street but was extended east as far as Victoria Square in 1897. Goderich Street was thereby reduced to the lengthy stretch beyond the Cathedral. The abolition or extension of various other street names occurred also in 1897, mainly in the area now known as Northbridge. A list of 27 newly redefined street names was proclaimed in the *Government Gazette* of 23 July 1897. The older street names are well shown in the useful map by Jesse Hammond that Tom Stannage reproduced as an endpaper to his book, *The People of Perth* (1979).

Central Adelaide today makes an interesting comparison.

There, all the long roadways running east-west have different names on either side of their intersection with the main north-south artery, King William Street. One wonders whether the authorities ever gave serious thought to settling on just nine names instead of the existing eighteen.

**Jack Honniball**



### Western Australian Heritage Festival, 16 April-18 May

With events in cities and towns across the state, there are so many interesting events to be discovered at the 2016 Western Australian Heritage Festival (16 Apr-18 May). Gilbert the Potoroo was thought extinct, was rediscovered, but is again sitting on the brink. Discover more about his recent adventures and our diverse natural, historic and Aboriginal heritage at fabulous performances, workshops, tours and more. With a heritage festival organised by the National Trusts in each state and territory, this is Australia's biggest heritage festival! Visit [www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au](http://www.nationaltrustfestival.org.au) to learn more or subscribe to the festival's mailing list.

**Administrative Officer :** Lynn O'Hara  
**Assistant Admin Officer :** Lesley Burnett  
**Editor *History West*:** Dr Lenore Layman

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