



CITY OF VINCENT
**LIBRARY &
LOCAL HISTORY CENTRE**

April – June 2019
Vol. 9 No.2

Local History News



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April-May is the Noongar season 'Djeran' which sees the beginning of cooler weather. I hope our cover image of the Stoneham sisters at Hyde Park in

1954 inspires you to head outdoors and enjoy the change in season.

If you're out and about, admire the magnificent trees in Vincent, some of which are recorded in the *City's Trees of Significance Inventory*.

One tree worth noting, especially around Anzac Day, is the giant Moreton Bay Fig at the end of Melrose Street in Leederville. The now heritage listed tree was planted by WWI soldier Horry Thompson. Horry died in the Great War and his tree serves as a reminder of the terrible cost of war on families and communities. You can read the full story on page 8 or in the Local History Centre.

The story of 'Horry's Tree' was entered in the Local History Awards by Fay Maughan in 2014. It's one of many great stories that have been submitted over the years.

For this year's awards, we're calling for both photographic and written entries. Start trawling your photo albums and memories for images and stories – there are many great prizes to be won!

If you have an interesting story of life in Vincent and would like to enter the Awards but need some help, why not come along to our fortnightly memoir writing workshops which continue until the end of May.

In addition to our regular talks and workshops this quarter, we are hosting a guided walk of North Perth as part of the National Trust Heritage Festival in May.

Dr Susanna Iuliano
Senior Librarian, Local History Centre



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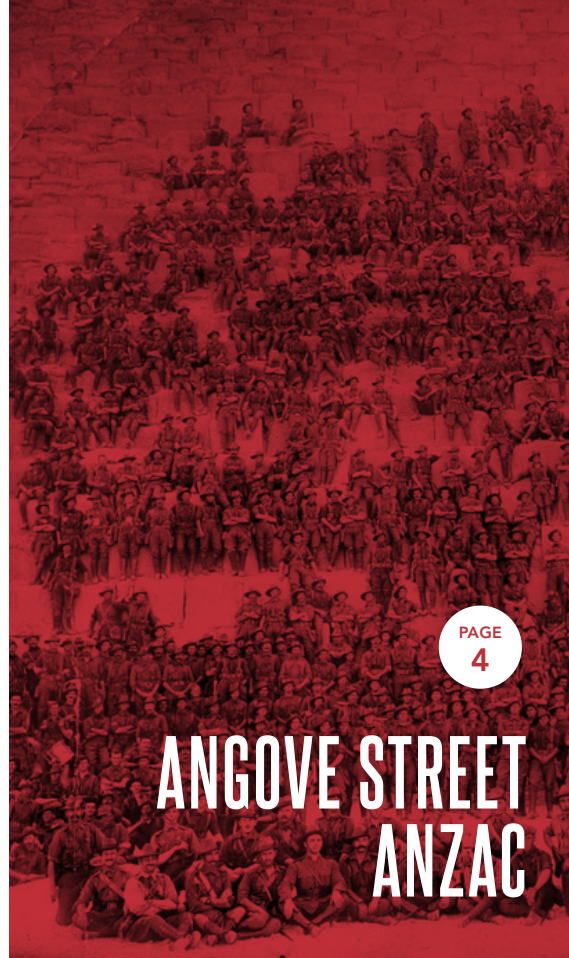
VISIT US
Opening hours: Monday to Friday
9.00am – 1.00pm
*2.00pm – 5.00pm
(*variable - ring to confirm)

CONTACT:
Susanna Iuliano, Senior Librarian,
Local History (Mon – Thu)
Ph: 9273 6534

WEBSITE:
library.vincent.wa.gov.au/local-history-centre

EMAIL:
local.history@vincent.wa.gov.au

Catherine Lang, Librarian,
Local History (Mon, Wed and Fri)
Ph: 9273 6550



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ANGOVE STREET ANZAC



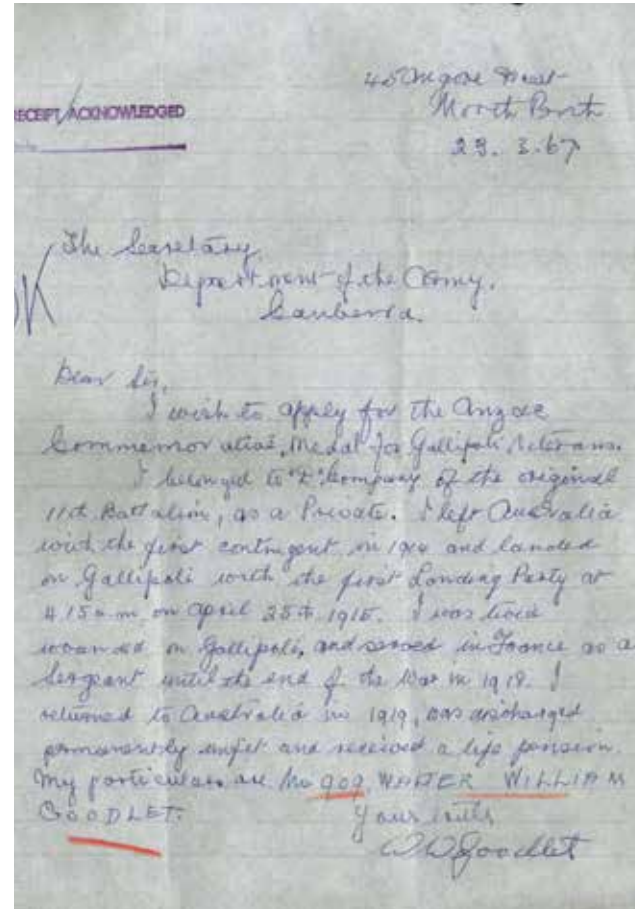
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ANGOVE STREET ANZAC WALTER GOODLET

In a laneway off Angove Street is a mural which references Anzac veteran and local electrician Walter William Goodlet who lived and worked for most of his life on Angove Street.

Walter was born in Victoria and moved to Western Australia as a child with his family in the late 1890s. Aged 19, Walter enlisted in the 11th Battalion and served in Gallipoli and France. He was one of the many hundreds of soldiers who posed for the now famous image of the 11th Battalion at the Great Pyramid at Cheops in Egypt taken in January 1915 prior to the Gallipoli campaign.



"I left Australia with the first contingent in 1914 and landed on Gallipoli with the first Landing Party at 4.15am on April 25th 1915. I was twice wounded on Gallipoli and served in France as a sergeant until the end of the war. I returned to Australia in 1919, was discharged, permanently unfit and received a life pension."

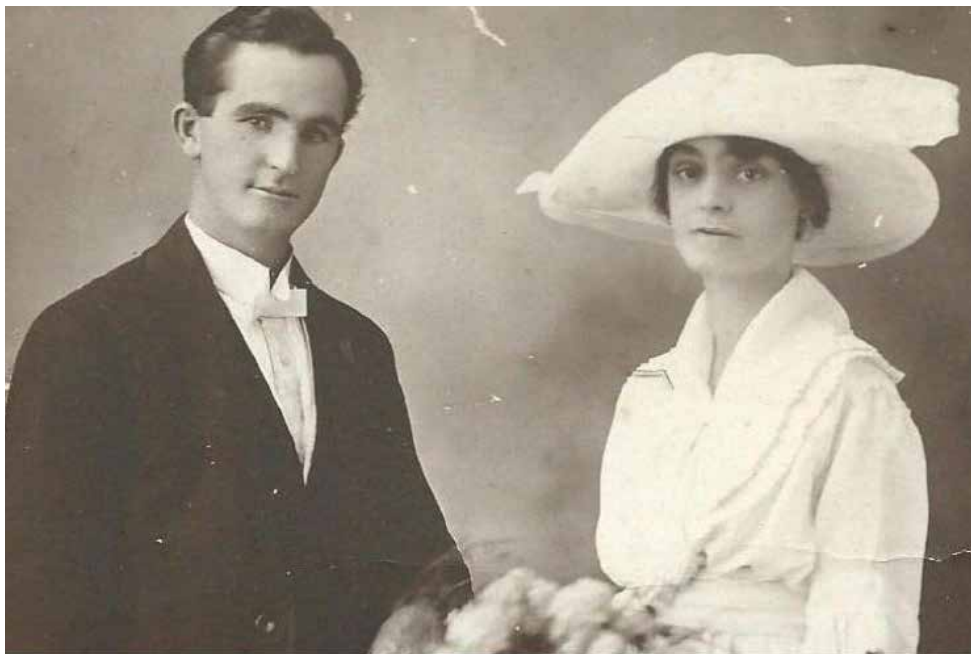
Walter Goodlet, Letter to Department of Army 1967



Private W. W. Goodlet
Western Mail (Perth, WA):
1885–1954), Friday 20 August
1915, page 5 (15)



The Old Laundry bar and restaurant at 22 Angove Street



11th Battalion Digger Walter Goodlet and wife Ivy in 1920.

The West Australian, 3 December 2014

Walter returned from the war injured, but lucky to be alive. In 1920, he married Ivy Devlin and qualified as an electrician and subsequently started his own business at 22 Angove Street, location of the present day 'Old Laundry' bar and café.

Walter and Ivy first lived at number 30 Angove then 24 Angove next door to the business. Goodlet's business was timely given the rapid uptake of electricity by Perth residents in the 1920s (the number of Perth homes with electricity tripled between 1918 and 1929).

Walter ran his business out of 22 Angove Street from the 1920s until 1952 working with one of his sons. Aside from his work, Walter served on the Bayswater Road Board and ran (unsuccessfully) as a Nationals candidate for the state seat of Leederville in 1939. During WWII,

he also served as the Head Air Raid Warden for North Perth.

After WWII, the Goodlet family moved across the road to 45 Angove Street (beside the Rosemount Service Station) where he was listed on the electoral role as a 'builder' until his death in 1972.

His obituary read:

He will be remembered by his children and grandchildren as a caring and sensitive man, stern but fair, sincerely protective of his family, with a good sense of humour. When his sons were small boys their father would ask them, "Who won the war?" He would write his service number down on a piece of paper, "909". He then asked the boys to look into a mirror for the answer. It was "POP".

Story contributed by Friends of Local History.

W. W. GOODLET

**22 ANGOVE-ST., NORTH PERTH
Tel. B5231**

**For all Electrical Equipment and Installations
Estimates given free for all classes of
Electrical Work**

The Daily News, 12 March 1938 p 21.



Horry Thompson with wife Lily and children Horry, Annie and William, 1915



HORRY'S TREE

.....

The large Moreton Bay Fig tree near the Mitchell Freeway entrance off Vincent Street was planted in 1915 by Horace ('Horry') Thompson, a dairyman and Leederville resident. He planted the tree beside his home in Melrose Street prior to leaving for war, saying to his family they would see how much it had grown by the time he returned home. Horry never did return to see his family or the tree grow. He died on a French battlefield in 1917 leaving three children and a widow Lily, who died in 1921 (family myth has it that she died of a broken heart). The Thompson children were raised by their grandmother and helped by kindly neighbours who kept an eye on the tree and staved off attempts to cut it down during construction of the Mitchell Freeway.

The tree was heritage listed by the City in 2016 (Place 25710 on the City of Vincent Heritage List) in recognition of its contribution to the community's sense of place.

This year on Anzac Day 2019, the City of Vincent will be remembering Horry's Tree during the morning service starting at 10.50am. The story of Horry's tree offers an opportunity to reflect on the longer term cost of war on local families and communities.

The story of Horry's Tree by Fay Maughan is available to read in the Local History Centre. Horry's story is also featured in the Local History Centre display 'Life after war' which can be viewed in the centre from April to May.



Hyde Park Fountain,
c 1905, COV Local History Collection PH05642

HYDE PARK, NORTH PERTH, W.A.

LOST VINCENT HYDE PARK FOUNTAIN

A recent donation to the collection is an image of the fountain which once stood near the corner of Lake and Glendower streets in Hyde Park from 1900 to 1920. The fountain has been described in various reports and documents, but prior to now there was no image of it digitally available in a public collection. The donation was received with particular interest by local resident Rodney O'Brien who has been researching the history of Hyde Park and its fountain for many years. Rodney has kindly contributed this information about the fountain's history:

One of the many treats for local girls and boys in the early 20th Century was to play at a highly ornamental fountain in Hyde Park. It had a huge octagonal tank at the base, and a special dish from which dogs could drink. Inside the tank swam a shoal of tiny gold and silver fish. Local resident Thomas Cain wrote to the Town Clerk in January 1907 about these fish:

"For the last two days, boys have been fishing at the water fountain near Clifton Street (now William street) catching the little gold and silver fish. I warned them against this morning and I think it would be advisable for you to put up a notice near the fountain as to remedy the matter in some way." The Town Clerk responded that he had instructed the City Engineer to "put a man on the watch occasionally."

This was an appropriate strategy because two years on, the fountain was seriously damaged. It was neither the first nor the last time that vandals would strike at this popular folly on the slope inside the Lake Street entrance east of today's bifurcating path.

Modeller George Waugh, who in agreeing to make and supply the fountain in 1899 and build it in 1900, was given the task of repairing the damage. His brief to the Perth City Council in 1909 highlights the extent of the vandalism.

HYDE PARK VANDALS

Acts of vandalism have been common of late at Hyde Park, one of the beauty spots of the city.

Such indications of wanton foolishness as the destroying of seats, rooting up of gardens, and interference with the birds on the lake and in the park are viewed seriously by the city authorities.

For some time the police have been trying to apprehend the larrikins who are responsible for the damage, but to date they have been unsuccessful.

Today the city gardener (Mr. Braithwaite) expressed his disgust with the vandalism, and stated that he believed it was due to a mob of young men in a near-by suburb. "Control of these juvenile people," he said, "appears to have been lost, and unless their foolishness is quickly checked they will become as bad as in Melbourne and Sydney."

"Only quite recently," he added, "a whole bed of beautiful cannas was uprooted and the plants flung about the lawns. The police have been informed again, and we will leave no stone unturned to stop such acts of vandalism."

There is no resident caretaker at Hyde Park.

"I agree to make good all broken portions of fountain and in tank replace new 3 foot figure with pipe through – drill new holes in pipe in first basin and color (sic) all throughout for the sum of seven pounds and ten shillings."

The vandalism continued and Hyde Park's fountain was ultimately savaged beyond repair and was removed in 1920.

Story contributed by Rodney O'Brien



*Bryant children sitting on the running board of their father's wood truck, 1927.
Submitted by Local History Award prize winner Janet McCallum in 2018.*

LOCAL HISTORY AWARDS 2019

The Awards encourage and reward community participation in recording and sharing local stories, research and images for the City of Vincent's Local History Collection. There are two categories: written and photographic entries.

WRITTEN ENTRIES

Geoffrey Bolton Award: Life in Vincent

This award was established to honour distinguished WA historian and former local resident Geoffrey Bolton. Written submissions are encouraged. These can be in the form of memoirs, biographies, essays, historical narratives or original research supported by photographs, maps or illustrations. We are looking for stories and research that enhance knowledge of people, places and events in our area, past and present. Subject areas may include:

- People and groups in Vincent (individuals, families, local artists, businesses, community or sporting clubs, schools, religious or charitable groups);
- Places in Vincent (history of a house, street, park, lake, tree or landmark);
- Events documenting significant historic or contemporary social, cultural, political, or economic events in the Vincent area.

PHOTO ENTRIES

Images, either historic or contemporary, that document people, places and events in Vincent are encouraged. Submissions may be prints, slides or digital images that document existing or former streetscapes (commercial and residential), houses (interiors and exteriors), landscapes, people and events in the Vincent area.

Entries open **1 May** and close **31 July**. A judging panel will assess all written and photographic entries and award cash prizes.



Roslyn Stoneham in fancy dress for a North Perth Primary school function, 1960. Submitted by Local History Award prize winner Helen Cozens in 2018.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE LOCAL HISTORY COLLECTION?



Arts in Vincent Clips

In February, we launched the second series of 'Arts in Vincent' 5 minute YouTube clips featuring talented and creative local residents. The clips were created from longer video interviews with local residents Shane Colquhoun, Graham Hay, Brendon Darby, James Ledger, Graham Seal, Brianna & Sonya Shepherd and Terri Charlesworth, all who have made a mark in various forms of the arts. The interviews are available on the Local History Website at: library.vincent.wa.gov.au/local-history-centre/oral-histories/arts-in-vincent-series-2.aspx



Postcards

Recently, philatelic dealer Mike Kouwen generously loaned for copy several turn of the century post-cards relating to the Perth and Vincent area. The post-cards included several detailed post-cards of homes on Angove Street, North Perth and Brewer Street Perth and the wonderful post-card image of the now demolished Hyde Park Fountain circa 1905.

CAN YOU HELP?

George Francis Thompson – Mystery Milkman of North Perth

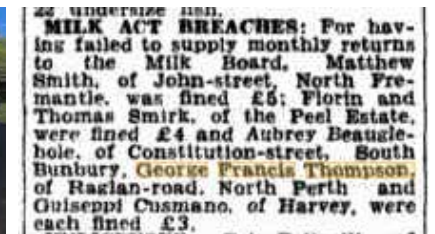
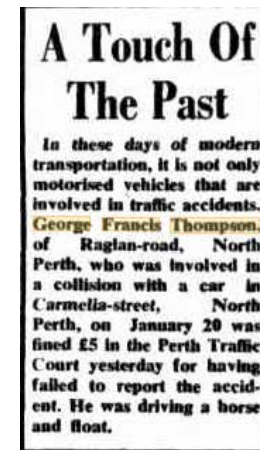
When people in Western Australia die without a will and the Public Trustee are unable to find beneficiaries, the proceeds of deceased estates are transferred to the Department of Treasury. People can search for unclaimed monies on the Treasury website: www.treasury.wa.gov.au/Unclaimedmonies/

One of the largest pots of unclaimed monies on Treasury's unclaimed monies list belongs to a retired North Perth milkman George Francis Thompson, who died in 1994 leaving an estate now worth \$915,703. Efforts to find the beneficiaries have been unsuccessful to date.

Can you help track down the family of George Francis Thompson? Surely someone in Vincent remembers this local milkman. This is what we know about him:

Name: George Francis Thompson
Address: 147 Raglan Road from the 1950s until 1994
Born: 1918
Died: 1994
Occupation: Milkman

He was still driving a horse and cart in 1953 when he had an accident with a car that was reported in the West Australian. In 1954, Thompson also pops up in the paper for selling watered down milk breaching the Milk Act.



IN-HOUSE EVENTS

SPEAKERS & EVENTS

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CONSUMING ANZAC
WEDNESDAY 24 APRIL 2019
10–11.30AM
Local History Centre

In the years after the Great War, Australian memorials were often engraved with a simple request, 'Let silent contemplation be your offering'. Today, remembrance is fuelled by a booming Anzac industry that spruiks everything from tourism to mass-produced Anzac biscuits. Jo will speak about her new book *Consuming Anzac* which explores how commercialisation of the Anzac legend has shaped the way Australians remember the Great War.

Presenter: Joe Hakwins,
Bookings preferred
Cost: Free, Includes light refreshments



**BUOYANT: A HISTORY OF
SWIMMING IN WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**
WEDNESDAY 29 MAY 2019
10–11.30AM
Local History Centre

The sport of swimming has been a significant part of Western Australian life since the 1880s when Perth's first public baths were built. Until *Swimming WA* commissioned Ken Spillman to write *Buoyant*, however, its history had been seriously neglected. While celebrating the stories of some famous Western Australians, Spillman's book has also uncovered many forgotten stars. Ken will speak of his journey writing the book and take listeners on a splash and dash through the decades.

Presenter: Ken Spillman,
Bookings preferred
Cost: Free, Includes light refreshments



**BEING A REFUGEE IS NOT A
CHOICE**
WEDNESDAY 19 JUNE 2019
10–11.3AM
Local History Centre

On World Refugee Day author and refugee advocate Carina Hoang will reflect on the exodus of more than one million Vietnamese between 1975 and 1996. Carina Hoang escaped war-torn Vietnam on a wooden boat with her two younger siblings and 370 other people when she was sixteen. Her experience shaped her life and inspired her award winning book, *Boat People: personal stories from the Vietnam Exodus 1975-1996*.

Presenter: Dr Carina Hoang,
Bookings preferred
Cost: Free, Includes light refreshments

WORKSHOPS & WALKS



RESEARCHING THE HISTORY OF YOUR HOUSE

SATURDAY 22 JUNE 2019
10–11.30AM

Local History Centre

Every house has a tale to tell. If your walls could speak, what would they tell you about when and how the house was built or about the people who have called it home? This workshop introduces you to resources and information that will help unlock the stories and secrets of your house, street and neighbourhood.

Presenter: Susanna Iuliano,
Bookings on Eventbrite

Cost: Free, Includes light refreshments



WRITING YOUR STORIES OF LIFE IN VINCENT

FORTNIGHTLY SESSIONS

10AM – 12PM

Local History Centre

- **Week 3 (10 April)** Who: are the people in your neighbourhood or family?
- **Week 4 (8 May)** How: Photo Essays, beginnings and endings
- **Week 5 (15 May)** How: Narrative and shaping your story
- **Week 6 (29 May)** Editing and sharing your work

Do you have a personal or family story about life in Vincent that you have been meaning to write, but just haven't gotten around to doing yet? Join us at the Local History Centre for a series of hands on workshops with writer Melinda Tognini and librarians Susanna and Catherine who will teach you how to gather and organise your information and write and edit an engaging and compelling family story or memoir.

Facilitator: Melinda Tognini ,
Bookings essential (maximum 15)

Cost: \$10 per session/\$50 full course,
Includes light refreshments



NORTH PERTH HERITAGE WALK

SUNDAY 19 MAY

11AM – 12PM (APPROX. 1 HOUR)

Leaves from 1 Albert Street North
Perth (Albert Square)

Come and explore the history of North Perth. This one hour guided walk in the heart of the original North Perth town centre offers a glimpse into the history of the area from early 20th century to the present day. Visiting sites in Angove, View and Fitzgerald Streets, the tour highlights some of the people and places who have contributed to North Perth's rich heritage.

Presenter: Dr Susanna Iuliano,
Bookings via Eventbrite

Cost: Free,
Participants are advised to wear comfortable footwear, carry water and a hat or umbrella in case of rain.



TOGETHER FOREVER: FAMILIES UNITE IN REMEMBRANCE

THURSDAY 25 APRIL 2019

OPEN 3 – 6PM

4PM WREATH MAKING WORKSHOPS
5.15PM ANZAC SUNSET SERVICE

Anzac Cottage,
38 Kalgoorlie Street Mt Hawthorn

The building of ANZAC Cottage in 1916 was essentially a family affair. Reflecting this and the importance of family to our veterans, the Friends of ANZAC Cottage have ensured that ANZAC Day at ANZAC Cottage has a strong family focus. Planned Anzac Day activities include:

- a wreath making workshop;
- the Field of Remembrance commemorating those lost in warfare;
- Maori Cultural Group performance acknowledging the "NZ" in ANZAC;
- Sunset Service commencing at 5:15pm.

Cost: Free



CITY OF VINCENT



HORRY'S TREE

VINCENT COMMUNITY

ANZAC DAY

MARCH & SERVICE

March 10.50am | Service 11am

25 April 2019,
Axford Park, Mount Hawthorn



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Email: local.history@vincent.wa.gov.au

Phone: 9273 6090

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