



The News Quarterly

July-September 2017 >> Vol.7 No.3

Many of you have enquired as to the whereabouts of Senior Local History Librarian Julie Davidson. Rest assured Julie will be returning to the helm in early August after taking a well-deserved break. In the meantime it is business as usual.

Cate Pearce, Genetic Genealogist, visited Local History in June to deliver her 'Introduction to DNA testing' session. Cate's presentation was appreciated by a captive audience, and we hope that she will come again next year.

Following on from Cate's talk, this newsletter features a summary of 'what you need to know' when it comes to choosing a DNA test for family history. DNA testing is seen by many, as the new frontier in family history research.

Richard Offen will be visiting the library this month to introduce his photo book; *Perth: Then and Now*, which illustrates the growth and changes to the city of Perth over the past century and a half.

Other events in Local History this winter include: 'A history of adoption in Australia' and 'Using Familysearch'.

With so much happening, now is the perfect time to visit Local History. Please join us for one of our upcoming talks, to do some family research or to find out about the history your neighbourhood.



What's in this issue?

- What's new online?
- Family History:
 - DNA
 - GRO
- New books in the Local History Collection
- Local History :
 - *The Norwood Hotel from the Friends of Local History*
 - *Beaufort St. History Project*
RTRFM, community radio station
- Calendar: *In-house events*

Visit us

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday 9.00am – 1.00pm,

*2.00pm – 4.45pm (*variable - ring to confirm)

Phone: 9273 6534 Email: local.history@vincent.wa.gov.au

Contact:

Julie Davidson, Senior Librarian, Local History (Monday – Thursday)

Catherine Lang, Librarian, Local History (Monday, Wednesday and Friday)

What's New in ancestry library edition

Ancestry.com has added a large number of Wiltshire: birth, burial and marriage records. And don't forget that you can search the Ancestry card catalogue under keyword, to see if there are any records for an area you are interested in – including European countries.

Family history help on Wednesday and Thursday: Our Friends of Local History volunteers will help you with your family history research.

Family history tip

Acknowledging NAIDOC week, which runs from 2-9 July, we wish to direct any family history researchers with indigenous heritage, to the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies (AIATSIS) page on 'finding your family' in Western Australia:

[Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies](#)

Tracing Indigenous family members presents a unique set of challenges arising from the disruption and dislocation that has occurred with regards to Indigenous people since colonisation.

Kim Katon Senior Family History Officer at AIATSIS, acknowledges that "Indigenous Australians have a relationship with records that is significantly different to the majority of other Australians". Highlighting the fact that these records have usually been created by third party individuals on their families & communities without the knowledge of Indigenous people.

AIATSIS gives a list of resources available to those looking for Indigenous family members for all States and Territories in Australia. Their 'research step-by-step' guide and other resources are applicable to all family history researchers, not just those tracing indigenous family members and are well worth a look.

[RIGHT WRONGS '67 Referendum—the WA Story. 27 May-3 September @the State Library WA.](#)

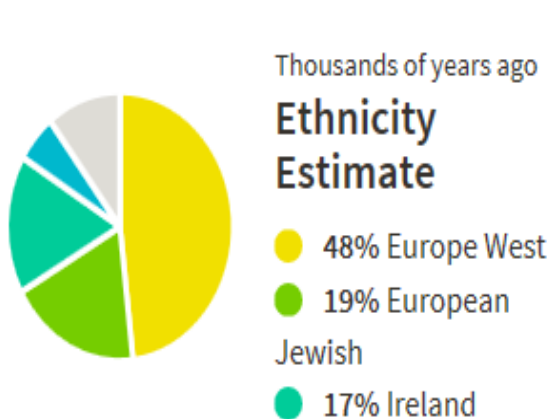


"A powerful exhibition that reimagines our understanding of the 1967 Referendum and its impact on who we are and what we can become, through the voices and stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people." *Margaret Allen, CEO and State Librarian*

DNA: The new tool in the genealogist's toolkit.

Many are turning to science to grow their family trees, to pinpoint their family's origins or to break down brick walls encountered during their research.

On Wednesday 14 June, Vincent Local History Centre played host to Cate Pearce, who gave our enthusiastic audience an introduction and overview of how DNA testing can help you in your family history research.



There are currently many companies offering DNA tests for genealogical purposes. Choosing the best one for you can be like navigating a minefield. It is suggested you start by investigating tests offered by companies you already have a subscription with, or currently have your 'family tree' on. You will get so much more from the process if you have your information ready to share with your DNA matches.

If you are starting this process from scratch it is best to look at the comparison sheets produced by the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG). Links to these comparison sheets can be found at [ISOGG's comparisons](#). ISOGG has comparisons for the various companies that offer the three types of DNA test available: Autosomal, MtDNA and Y-DNA tests.

Autosomal DNA tests are the most common tests used in genealogy research. This is because they produce results for both your mother's and father's sides of the family. Autosomal DNA is inherited from autosomal chromosomes. Autosomal DNA test will provide you with an outline of your ethnic ancestry and put you in touch with other people who are your DNA matches. Autosomal tests can be taken by both males and females.

MtDNA tests will provide you with a profile of your Mitochondrial DNA - that is your maternal or mother's lineage. As both males and females inherit Mitochondrial DNA, either can take one of these tests, but it is important to be aware that the information they produce will be only for your mother's maternal side. These tests can be useful for those wanting to break down a brick wall on their mother's side. Or trace their maternal lineage back thousands of years.

Y-DNA tests can only be taken by males, as they profile DNA from the Y- Chromosome that is passed down from father to son. Y-DNA tests will give you an ethnic breakdown, this time only for your father's side, and will match you to any paternal relatives. Females wishing to gather information particular to their father's side should coax their fathers, brothers and any paternal uncles or their sons, to undertake the test on their behalf. Y-DNA tests can be used for 'surname projects' as they bring together the results of males who share the same surname.

DNA tests are painless. All that is required is either a swab of the inside of your cheek or sample of your saliva. Most testing companies require that you abstain from any food or drink for 30 mins before the test. It is important to follow the instruction issued by your testing company, to the letter. Once your results arrive, most companies will provide you with your genetic breakup, and identify any people that are a DNA match. Typically you can search your results by surname or geographic region if you are trying to look for a specific connection. You can then contact your matches via email or your host company's mailing system.

Cate Pearce, in her talk at Vincent, highlighted the importance in downloading your results and sharing them on as many DNA sites as possible. Ancestry will not allow you to upload results from other companies. However FTDNA, MyHeritage DNA and the free GEDmatch will all allow you to upload results from other companies, including from Ancestry.

One thing that frustrates the serious genealogist, especially with regards to Ancestry DNA tests, is the number of matches that will not have a family tree associated with them, as this makes it hard to know if this is someone you want to make contact with for the purpose of breaking down that elusive brick wall or sharing information. Often these people have only taken the test to find out their ethnic break down.

This barrier aside, stories are appearing daily on both mainstream and social media of people who have benefitted from taking a test; be this the genealogist who was stuck on one line of their family, the family historian who was trying to prove their ethnic heritage, or the adoptee who has found their birth family.



National Family History Month at the State Library of Western Australia

August is 'National Family History Month'. The State Library of WA will be celebrating with a number of informative talks and programs given in conjunction with WAGS.

These Programmes include:

- Grow your family tree : Tour & Talk – 2 August 2017
- Grow your family tree : 2 days of free presentations – 8 & 9 August 2017
- Getting the best out of Ancestry – 2 August 2017
- Aboriginal Family History – 30 August 2017

These programs are free, but do require enrolment. For more information please visit the State Library of WA: [What's on in Family History at the State Library of WA.](#)

The new Index that is helping to solve family history mysteries.

Genealogy blogs and other family history pages are currently abuzz with news of the General Register Office (GRO) for England and Wales' new indexing search engine. Until recently, family historians wishing to order birth or death certificates from the GRO needed to consult a third party index such as that available on *freebmd*, to ascertain the necessary index numbers for the records they wished to order. These online indexes are copies of historical indexes. They contain many transcription errors and inaccuracies, both historical and contemporary, and often records are missing from these indexes.



Search the GRO Indexes

Search registration indexes to find a GRO Reference, this will help locate the correct entry and get your order sooner.

The completely new indexes on GRO, <https://www.gro.gov.uk/gro/content/> have been taken from the records held at Kew. DoVE (Digitisation of Vital Event) software has been utilised to create a new database of birth and death records. The most important new feature on the search page is the additional data fields within the index – these can assist researchers in both identifying and narrowing down correct records.

The new GRO indexing database has three main advantages to those found elsewhere:

- *Records found on the birth index list the mother's maiden name from 1837-1915 (this only occurs from 1911 on other indexes)*
- *The complete middle name is listed, not just an initial*
- *Age at death is listed from 1837 onwards.*

The new GRO index covers registered births from 1837- 1915 & deaths from 1837-1957. At present further indexing is on hold, as it would require significant investment.

The most talked about function is the new ability to search for birth records using the mother's maiden name. This ability not only narrows down the number of records a search delivers, but also increases the accuracy of the search. For example, a search for a very common name such as 'Samuel Smith' for the period of 1840-44 can deliver over 100 entries. However when the name and period is entered along with the mother's maiden name of 'Jones' only 5 entries appear. This is a far more manageable number to sort through. Combining this maiden name function with the ability to search by the full middle name further narrows down a search. In addition the maiden name function is also helpful in establishing other children born into marriage, as well as deceased children not found on census records.

With regards to searching for death records, GRO's new index allows you to give an approximate age at death, with a +/- function of 1, 2, 5, 10 years. The ability to stipulate the age at death is another useful feature that will reduce the number of entries a death search produces. However some issues have been noted with the utilisation of the DoVE software and the mistranscription of age. A child that died at 6 months of age may be listed as 6 years of age on the GRO Index.

If you have an ancestor you have been unable to find or narrow down on other indexes, it is highly recommended you give GRO's new index a go. Users require a GRO registration to use the index. This registration process is free.

What's new in the Local History Collection?

***Born German, re-born in Western Australia* by Alexandra Ludewig, 2016.**

Thousands of Germans have made Western Australia home - all united by hope and the pursuit of a future that would add a new, West Australian component to their sense of identity. This book is dedicated to all those who appreciate diversity and the cultural richness it entails, and who have, like so many of those in this volume, proved their appetite for risk-taking and new beginnings.

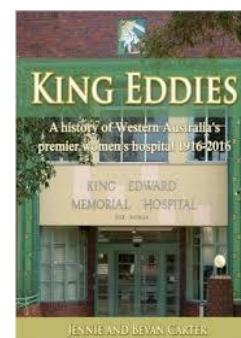


***Black Diamonds: the Aboriginal and Islander sports Hall of Fame* by Colin & Paul Tatz, 1996.**

A superb photographic portfolio of Aboriginal sporting greats from across the country. This title brings together 129 indigenous Australians from 25 different sports who comprise the first Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sports Hall of Fame. Their stories are great stories: sometimes tragic, they are all triumphs over adversity.

***King Eddies: a history of Western Australia's premier women's hospital 1916-2016* by Jennie and Bevan Carter, 2016.**

A public meeting was held on 8 November 1909 in the Government House ballroom that attracted more than 400 people, most of them women. A resolution that "the time has arrived when a maternity hospital shall be established" and "that it be for all women" won approval. This book traces the history of the institution and characters that have served Western Australian women since the hospital first opened its doors in 1916.

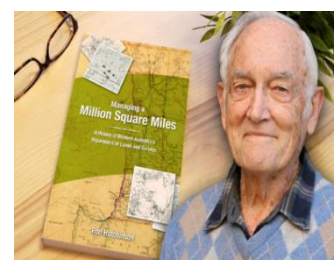


***Dor, The story of a World War I Nurse: & other nurses stories from that time* by Ann Grylls, 2016.**

Dor is the inspiring story of Doris Grylls, nee Eastwood, who served as a nurse in the Australian Army during World War I. A century after Gallipoli, author Ann and her husband, Jack, retrace the footsteps of Australians' World War I nurses. This book is Ann's tribute to a generation of women that talked little about resilience but displayed that quality in spades.

***Managing a Million Square Miles: a history of Western Australia's Department of Lands and Surveys* by Ron Hutchinson, 2016.**

With a history spanning 187 years, the authority now called Landgate has seen momentous changes. From the days of survey expeditions, to world-leading innovations in online mapping and the delivery of land information, Ron Hutchinson has given us a fascinating and insightful history of Western Australia's first government department.



***Out of tune: David Helfgott and the myth of Shine* by Margaret Helfgott, 1998.**

Margaret Helfgott, sister of the piano virtuoso David Helfgott, shines new light on the story behind the film that brought him into the public arena. Her story contests the ideas developed in the film Shine, in a thought-provoking manner.

Beaufort Street History Project Update

RTRFM radio transmits from 642 Beaufort Street and celebrates its 40th anniversary this year.



RTRFM started broadcasting on the first of April 1977, as 6UWA and in the early 80's applied for a community radio licence as Arts Radio Ltd.; RTRFM is a play on words 'aRTy radio.'

Chris Wheeldon, Operations, Events and Volunteer Manager of RTRFM; was interviewed in 2016 and he describes the move up to Beaufort Street, from the Sanders building in UWA, and the switch over in 2004:

'Pete Carroll the General Manager of RTRFM at UWA, was friendly with Haydn Robinson who owned the building. It was part of Haydn's Planet Music Empire which was on the corner of Beaufort and Walcott Street. Haydn said: "I've got office space above Planet video rentals, maybe you guys can move into that."

'Stan who is our technician and still is our technician, came down and checked it out. The line of sight was perfect; we could see our main transmitter up in Lesmurdie from our antenna. The talks started and we moved in.'

'Haydn, who is a very generous fella, gave us a low rent for a long time and also helped fit out the station. He essentially gave us a loan that we repaid over time because, as a not-for-profit, it would have been very hard to get a bank loan.'

'RTRFM moved from UWA to the Beaufort Street building over a period of a few months. And when the switch happened, we went off air for about a second. We were broadcasting on air in UWA; I think it may have been the programme Out to Lunch; the show finished and the next show that was broadcast was Full Frequency transmitted from here. And most people listening wouldn't know that we had just changed buildings completely.'



PH03301, taken in 2010.

RTRFM brought some fixtures and fittings with them from UWA:

'We brought windows; there is a window between the two studios, a double-paned window that is sound proof. And 6 lead-lined doors, the doors into the studios, are double-doors, you open one door and then open another door, which helps with the sound-proofing. We nicked them from the station. Well, not nicked, I guess we took them – they were ours – they belonged to us, so we brought them with us.'

Chris remembers that the building used to be a bank. *'This was a bank for a long time beforehand, I think it was a Westpac and maybe another bank'*

Photo, taken by Ian Atkins, in 1959 or 1960.

[The Bank of NSW is listed in the 1949 WA Post Office Directories at 644 Beaufort Street]



And last year, when the builders were levelling out the concrete floor in the shop below, they had to dig even deeper when they discovered the buried bank vaults:

'Haydn had made the floor level with the shop next door and it was half-a-metre above the level of the pitch of the street, which was great for a CD shop, but terrible for a restaurant or a retail store. So [the new leasee or owner] hired a builder and they had to dig it all out; they had to cut through all the concrete and dig down by about 500mm.'

'But where the bank vaults used to be, the concrete was an extra 100mm thick. So, what was supposed to be a pretty quick job turned into a bit of a nightmare. We were living with jack-hammers for 3 months, just going crazy, which is not great for a radio station. Down stairs it's all been screeded off, and levelled and concreted. So it's all ready to start fitting out as a shop now.'

Chris has been involved with the community radio broadcaster since he first joined as a university student. He remembers how two large street trees growing in Walcott Street nearly cost them their line of sight.

'There was a couple of palm trees on Walcott Street that were starting to grow a little bit into our line of sight and the talk was, 'do we have to maybe go ask the owners to chop them down or pull them back?' Luckily it just sorted itself out naturally, they started growing back towards the sun, and it hasn't been an issue since.'

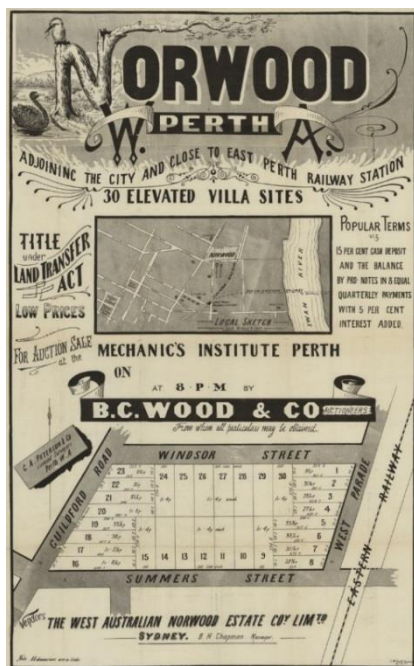
RTRFM is an independent radio station and is funded by government grants, local sponsors, by fund raising from local musical events and listener subscriptions.

The radio station recently celebrated the 40th anniversary with a picnic in Hyde Park on April Fool's Day. And it is in discussion with the State Library WA about a celebration of the radio's 40 years in community broadcasting in summer this year.

From the Friends of Local History

The Norwood Hotel (later known as Jackson's Hotel) corner of Lord and Windsor streets, Perth

This continues our series of hotels which are no longer standing, but for which we have been donated original documents. The Norwood Hotel was built in 1897 and demolished in 2008. This extract focuses on the original owner and the first ten years, but a more detailed history up to 2008 is available online and in the Local History Collection *Norwood Hotel* folder.



The portion of Swan Location A4 to the west of the Eastern Railway, bounded by Old Guildford Road and Summers Street was purchased by the WA Norwood Estate Company in October 1887. This was later subdivided and sold in stages. This poster advertised the first Norwood subdivision for auction in 1892. The lots were each a quarter acre. At the auction of Section A on Saturday 30 July 1892 Lot No. 22 sold for £70 and Lot No. 23 also sold for £70. (Vol.64 Folio 157)

SAMUEL MOORE was the owner of Lots 22 and 23 when he applied to build a hotel on the south corner of Old Perth Road and Windsor Street on 11 February 1897. At that time he was a contractor living in Bayswater.

His character references and application were supported by some leading businessmen and lawyers of the time, including Lyall Hall, FW Percy and Thomas Coombe. However the application was refused.

Samuel Moore reapplied to the Justices of the Peace in the District of Perth on the 19 May 1897, by which time he was living in Perth, and he was granted a provisional licence to erect a hotel. The hotel was situated on a major traffic route and close to a railway stations and yards.

Built in a Federation Stripped Classical style on a U-shaped plan, the construction of the brick and iron hotel was speedy and by 26 August 1897 Moore was advertising for painters.

An application was made for a Publican's General Licence on 17 August 1897. Now named the Norwood Hotel, the application detailed the hotel rooms and facilities. It also stated that Moore and his family now lived there and that he had never previously held a licence. (see illus.)

thereunto belonging, situated at corner of Windsor-street and Old Guildford-road, Perth, to be known as **Norwood Hotel**, and containing 4 sitting rooms, 2 bars, 1 billiard room, drawing room, kitchen, laundry, stabling and buggy shed, and 17 rooms, exclusive of these to be used by my family, for which premises I now hold a provisional license. I am the owner of the said **hotel** and premises, and which I intend to keep as an Inn or Public House. I have never previously held a license.

Given under my hand this 17th day of August, 1897.

SAMUEL MOORE.

On 25 May 1898 the Norwood Hotel was advertised to let. A month later Samuel Moore applied to transfer his licence to the Empire Hotel on the corner of Murray and George streets, Perth. (By 15 December 1898 he was facing bankruptcy.)



NORWOOD HOTEL, to Let, ingoing very easy. All particulars Coombe, Wood and Co., Ltd., Lord-street.

Thomas Coombe's financing company, Coombe, Whiting and Co, were noted in a change of owner in the 1898 rate books as the agents for the property at the time of advertising for a tenant. Original documents in the Local History Collection reveal that on 30 June 1898 Thomas Coombe signed an agreement with the Swan Brewery Company for them to lease the premises on a seven year contract.

1898- 1899: ROBERT T HOWSON became the Publican.

The hotel was located nearby the Highgate Police Station, which also opened in 1987 in Lincoln Street. As with many publicans, Howson was charged in relation to trading outside the Licensing Act. The Court reports appeared in the newspapers of the day. He was reported in the *Daily News* in January 1899 in court for supplying liquor to a boy under 16 years of age. William Meeks was found walking away with a bottle of stout. The boy claimed his age was 15. This was proven with a birth certificate. Mrs Howson and a witness said the lad claimed himself to be 16. The case was dismissed.

October 1899: A transfer of the licence of the Norwood Hotel from R.T Howson to SEPTIMUS HUGHES was granted by Mr A S Roe, PM.

In 1900 Septimus Hughes appeared in the Perth Courts accused of serving beer to a drunk man. The case was dismissed as proof of drunkenness was hard to assess.

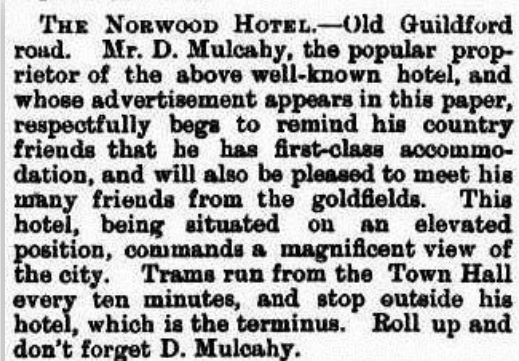
Hughes remained the licensee until 1901, when he moved to the Golden Age Hotel in Alfred Street, Leederville. Unfortunately, in 1904, he died from injuries sustained in an accident.

Mr Septimus Hughes of the Golden Age Hotel Leederville died at the Perth Hospital December 29th. His death was accidental when he was returning home from the race course. The buggy in which he was travelling collided with a stray horse, and Mr Hughes was thrown out. He succumbed to his injuries the next day. (WA Record: 9 January 1904)

14 January 1901: DAVID MULCAHY signed an agreement with the Swan Brewery to take over as licensee.

The WA Record, December 1901

This section of Old Guildford Road was incorporated into Lord Street in 1903 resulting in the hotel address changing to Lord Street.



THE NORWOOD HOTEL.—Old Guildford road. Mr. D. Mulcahy, the popular proprietor of the above well-known hotel, and whose advertisement appears in this paper, respectfully begs to remind his country friends that he has first-class accommodation, and will also be pleased to meet his many friends from the goldfields. This hotel, being situated on an elevated position, commands a magnificent view of the city. Trams run from the Town Hall every ten minutes, and stop outside his hotel, which is the terminus. Roll up and don't forget D. Mulcahy.

As with most hotels they not only served food and drink, and supplied accommodation, they were also known as gathering places for various clubs and public meetings. For example, in 1904 the *WA Record* reported that

Cr. T. Molloy will address the electors of Perth, in the Town Hall at 8 o'clock. Front seat reserved for ladies, and all Committee men are urged to attend. Other meeting to be held Wesley Hall, Charles Street, November 11 at 8pm. St Albans Hall Highgate Hill, November 11 at 9pm. Norwood Hotel Lord Street, Monday November 14 at 8.45pm.

In 1904 the Stanley Brewery Company purchased the Norwood Hotel. This brought to an end the lease with the Swan Brewery Company. Mulcahy continued on as the licensee until 1911.

(The Stanley Brewery, one of Perth's earliest breweries, opened in 1848. In 1887 it became the Stanley Brewery Company Ltd. with eight local directors in the hope that the sale of shares would inject capital to produce a higher class of beer. The newer Swan Brewery was becoming a more dominant competitor. The name changed again in 1891 to the Stanley Brewing Company Ltd. In 1905 the company split with the Stanley Co-operative Co Ltd. controlling beer manufacture and the Stanley Brewing Company carrying on as the owner of freehold hotel properties in the metropolitan area. Around this time offers had been made for the Swan Brewery to buy out the Stanley Brewery, but they declined. The Stanley's output of bottled beer bearing the 'Emu' label soared from 300 dozen to 3,000 dozen. In March 1908 the name was changed to the Emu Brewing Company to avoid any confusion.)

The value of the Norwood Hotel was assessed at £1,000 in 1906 with rates due of £78. David Mulcahy appeared in the Perth Licensing Court in regard to the value being assessed so highly, as he had previously paid rates of between £28 and £30. It was determined that the City Council officers had made a mistake in calculating the 1905 rates to be £26.

Daily News 14 March 1906

The hotel saw many licensees and underwent a series of structural changes through the years.

To read more...



The Norwood Hotel, 1995

In-house events

RICHARD OFFEN: PERTH THEN AND NOW

Wednesday 26 July 2017 10 am to 11 am

Library Lounge

In late 2016, Richard Offen released the book; Perth Then and Now; which features historic photos of Perth and specially commissioned contemporary photographs. Come and listen to Richard talk about how his book illustrates the growth and changes to the city over the past century and a half.



Presenter: **Richard Offen**

Bookings preferred

Cost: Free

Includes light refreshments

LOCAL HISTORY PHOTOGRAPHIC AWARDS

Monday 21st August 2017

Local History Centre

Enter your photos and slides for the chance to win \$100. Entries close 6.30pm Monday 21 August 2017. Tell us the stories behind the photos.



HISTORY OF ADOPTION IN AUSTRALIA

Wednesday 30 August 2017 10am to 12 noon

Local History Centre

Wendy will discuss the historical context of adoption in Australia in the decades before and after WW2 and how changing social circumstances and attitudes, reflected in government policies and practices, deeply affected the lives of those touched by adoption; particularly the mothers whose babies were adopted in the 1950s to early 1970s.



Presenter: **Wendy Brown**

Bookings preferred

Cost: Free

Includes light refreshments

USING FAMILYSEARCH

Wednesday 27 September 2017 10am to 12 noon

Local History Centre

Ian will show you how to get the most out of the free Familysearch website.

Presenter: **Ian Simon**

Bookings preferred

Cost: Free

Includes light refreshments



Outside events

ANZAC COTTAGE: the launch of a memorial dedicated to the animals that served alongside the service men & women during times of war.

Sunday 10 September 2017 1pm to 4pm

Open days first Sunday of the month, [ANZAC COTTAGE](#).

