



Swan Guildford Historical Society (Inc.)

founded 1962

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

NEWSLETTER JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2025

UPCOMING EVENT: HISTORY MATTERS

The 2025 History Matter Speaking Series of talks kicks off on Monday, 10 February 2025. We look forward to hearing from guest speaker, Bill Cutler on the topic of C Y O'Connor – A Golden Heritage. Doors open 7pm, 7:30pm start. Venue: St Matthews Anglican Church Hall, Stirling Street, Guildford.

PRESIDENTS CORNER

A heartfelt thank you to all who attended the annual Swan Guildford Historical Society Christmas party. It was great to have the opportunity to enjoy each other's company and thank all who help and support the Society.

We very much appreciated the opportunity to acknowledge the ongoing support of distinguished guests representing the City of Swan with Mayor, Tanya Richardson and Councillors, Rod Henderson and Jagdip Singh in attendance, and as always retiring Member of Midland and Speaker of the House, the Hon. Michelle Roberts MLA, was extremely generous with her time and we had the chance to thank her for being such an active patron of the Society for so many years. It was also wonderful to have the opportunity to meet with new Society member, and WA Labor's candidate for Midland in the upcoming state election, Steve Catania.

For those lucky enough to win a prize in the raffle that was held to raise important funds for the Society, we offer our congratulations.

For those who didn't have the opportunity to attend, during the evening we touched on what had been achieved in 2024 and spoke to our priorities and aspirations for 2025 which include:

- Appointment of a Curator and an Education Officer.
- Progressing works involved with securing local, state, federal government and lotteries west funding to build a museum.
- Expanding our partnership with the University of Notre Dame – linking Internships for students with volunteering at the Society.
- A new offering by Dr Shane Burke with the establishment of classes on how to conduct historical research - coming online soon.

THE COLLECTION @ SGHS

The Society has a fabulous collection of objects that showcase the history of Guildford and the Swan Valley and record key moments, people and places.

In 2025 we will be launching a series of Open Days that will be held at Judy Hammersley House where we will be showcasing key items of historical significance. This exclusive access will be available to members only. Please contact us if you would like to register your interest. We would also like to hear from you if you would like to discuss making a donation or contribution to ensure the enduring significance of the collection and our historical record.

ORAL HISTORY @ SGHS

The Society strives to ensure that we maintain a record of our ever-changing world for future generations, particularly given the significance of the Swan Guildford Region to Western Australia's historical record. We are passionate about recording history, especially from people and groups who are under-represented in the historical record. If you would like to nominate someone, or would you like to play your part, by recording your recollections about Guildford and the Swan Valley please contact us.

VOLUNTEERING @ SGHS

The Society rely on volunteers to assist with our work of making history matter and by recording history and educating others. Volunteering is a way you can tap into multiple experiences, whether that's meeting new people, giving back, keeping active or learning new skills – whatever your motivation, we have a volunteering experience for you and offer full training and support.

We offer a thank you to all of our current volunteers for their valued contributions throughout 2024. **We are urgently seeking new volunteers to join us in 2025.** If you love history and heritage, we are keen to hear from you. Please consider joining our dedicated team of volunteers, it is extremely rewarding and a great way to **Act | Belong | Commit.**

TOURS RECOMMENCE

Effective Tuesday, 7 January 2025, tours of the Colonial Gaol, and Taylor's Cottage will again be commencing. We invite you to come and see our new exhibits in the Goal and look forward to seeing you soon.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Guildford Post Office, as we know it today, was constructed in 1897, with the addition of the clock tower in 1901. But, did you also know that there was an earlier Post Office that had been built in 1870.



Old Post Office, built 1870



New Post Office, built 1897

Thank you to Mr Ken Ross – self-described Amateur Historian - for sharing this information in a recent contribution to the Society.

HISTORY MATTERS SPEAKERS' SERIES FOR 2025

Monthly Heritage Presentation

Held at St Matthews Anglican Church Hall, Stirling Square, Guildford

commencing @ 7:30pm, Followed by Light Supper & Drinks

All Welcome | Entry: Gold Coin Donation

February 10th

Guest Speaker: **Bill Cutler**

Topic: O'Connor A Golden Heritage

March 10th

Guest Speaker: **Professor Jane Lydon**

Topic: Our Slavery Heritage

April 14th

Guest Speaker: **Celia Miller**

Topic: Mayors of Guildford in Peace & War

May 12th

Guest Speaker: **James Cassidy**

Topic: The Many and the Few

June 9th

Guest Speaker: **Janet Osborne**

Topic: Noongar Landowners Perth, Guildford & York

July 14th

2025 Annual General Meeting

August 11th

Guest Speaker: **Robert Hyde**

Topic: The Hydes & their Buildings

September 8th

Guest Speaker: **Lauren Tomlinson**

Topic: The Archaeology of Magic Symbols in Australia

October 13th

Guest Speaker: **Richard Rennie**

Topic: Jack Flannigan & Phonographs in Perth

November 10th

Guest Speaker: **Ross McDonald**

Topic: The McDonald Stamp in West Guildford

December 7th

Annual Christmas Party

MEMBERSHIP @ SGHS

A warm welcome to 2025 to all members. A particularly warm welcome to our most recent new member, Ian Casey. We thank you for your support.

New Members

If you are interested in becoming a new member, an application form is on request, on the website and at the following link: [Membership Form](#).

Renewing Membership – Annual Renewal Due February 2025

We kindly remind you that membership fees are due and payable annually in February. Your continued support is paramount to the success of the Society's mission, and we genuinely appreciate your ongoing commitment.

Options for payment of your \$20 membership fee include:

- Direct bank transfer.
- By Mail to PO Box 33, Guildford WA 6935.
- In person - Monday night History Matters Event or @ Guildford Colonial Gaol.

Direct bank transfer details:

Name: Swan Guildford Historical Society

BSB: 066109

Account Number: 1001 1313

Please include your last name & the word 'member' in the subject line.

For any assistance or queries please contact us.

We thank you for being a valued member.

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sghistsoc>

Website: www.swanguildfordhistoricalsociety.org.au



Proudly Supported by City of Swan

Newsletter printed courtesy of Hon Donna Faragher MLC,
Member for East Metropolitan Region