



The City of Greater Geraldton

# Heritage Awards 2014



City of  
Greater Geraldton  
a vibrant future





*Cover Photo* - Brick arch revealed during renovations at the Fleur Tea Room Cafe, Swansea House, Marine Terrace, Geraldton. Photo courtesy of Rikki Clarke. *Panel Inserts* - Bimara sculpture at Ellendale Pool. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.

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*Above:* Geraldton Town Hall, early 1900s. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.

# *City of Greater Geraldton*

## *Heritage Awards 2014*

The City of Greater Geraldton has emerged from a rich heritage formed by historic buildings, landscapes, cultural records and traditions. The stories of our community therefore form an integral part of our local identity. Valuing our heritage helps us learn more about ourselves and gives us a sense of belonging and place.

The City is proud to acknowledge, through the annual Heritage Awards, outstanding efforts by people and organisations who have worked to conserve and promote this local heritage. First awarded in 2012, the Awards are the cornerstone of the City's Heritage Strategy. This is a key document which links community aspiration with clear goals and strategies for managing our City's valuable social, cultural and natural heritage.

In 2014, the following Awards were presented at a special ceremony held at the Geraldton Regional Art Gallery on the 11 April. The entry descriptions in this booklet are in the proud and personal words of the award nominees.



*Above:* Bathers at West End, Geraldton, c1941. Courtesy Buchanan Family.



*Above:* Bimara sculpture at Ellendale Pool, Walkaway. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.



*Above:* Mullewa Masonic Hall. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.



City of  
Greater Geraldton  
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The City of Greater Geraldton Award *for*

# Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation



*Winner:*

*Peter Creek*

*High Commendation: Dayle & Fay Kenny*

*Special Recognition: Dale Hammond*

*Alex & Judy Holds*

*Darryl & Joan Grey*



*Above:* Panoramic view of Geraldton, c1950. Courtesy Lesley Blakeney.



# Swansea House

*184 Marine Terrace, Geraldton*



Owner Peter Creek is the Winner of the City of Greater Geraldton  
Award for Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation.



# Swansea House

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Peter Creek is the winner of the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation 2014.

Peter Creek acquired this heritage listed building situated in Marine Terrace, Geraldton in June 2000, in order to construct a new building at the rear of the property. At the time it was known as the Sun City Guest House. Peter's intention was to move his accounting practice to these premises. At that time Peter believed all the buildings in Geraldton were facing the wrong way - that is Geraldton had a beautiful ocean and harbour but no offices or residences in the inner city area were taking advantage of this aspect.

Swansea House was constructed in the early 1900s and it appears to have been two buildings joined together. It is apparent that the first of the two buildings is the one facing directly onto Marine Terrace, as the materials used in its construction are of a different nature and older appearance. For example, the flooring upstairs in the front building is constructed of baltic pine, which was shipped out from England. Whereas the flooring in the rear building is locally grown jarrah. Also, the exterior stone wall is different in colour for both sections of the now one building. Whilst the two shops facing onto Marine Terrace have been occupied since Peter purchased the building, the downstairs rear and upstairs had fallen into disrepair.

In January 2011, Peter was approached by Andrew Outhwaite from Pollinators to see if he would be interested in working with them to develop a plan that would see them create a home for social innovation and enterprise in the Mid West. Following many meetings between Peter, the Pollinators Board, along

with Mr David Pratt from (then) West Coast Sustainability, the City of Greater Geraldton and various specialised architects, stonemasons, tradesmen, and other interested parties, the building was fully restored to its former glory and will hopefully still be standing in another 100 years time.

While undertaking the renovations Peter was aware of the principles of the Burra Charter and ensured that where possible the original appearance was maintained. All the interior flooring was retained and most of the ceilings, interior walls and windows were repaired and restored. The roof was replaced in an identical style as to when it was built (the original roof wooden trusses were in good condition so there was no need to replace them) and the four chimneys were repaired and maintained.

The restoration of this building, now known as Swansea House, has significantly improved its look and Peter hopes that other owners of buildings in the West End will follow suit in the near future. Peter believes the community has benefited by virtue given that there are now two new eating establishments in Marine Terrace to cater for locals and tourists alike, as well as the community undertakings that Pollinators attend to. Already there are more than 23 organisations that regularly use the building and, since its opening five months ago, more than 1500 people have used it for events and meetings.

*Nomination by Peter Creek. All images supplied by nominee.*



*Left: Front view of the building before renovations.*



*Left: North view before renovations.*



*Right: Roof replacement.*



*Left: Upstairs before renovations.*



*Right: Ceiling repairs.*



*Left:* Baltic pine flooring.



*Right:* After sand blasting.



*Left and below:* Pollinators events - before renovations and after.





Above: Building elevations.



Above: Street view of the completed restoration.



Above: Side view of the completed restoration.



Above: Street view of the completed restoration.

## *Award Winner - Historical Overview*

Swansea House is situated on the old Geraldton Town Lot 72. The first trace of this heritage property appears in *The Perth Gazette and West Australian Times* (15 Oct 1869). This states that following the death of Charles Alexander Manning, his real estate holdings were to be auctioned by the Government Auctioneers, Messrs Lionel Samson and Son. The previous owners of the property had been involved with the WA Mining Association Ltd Company.

The property was then purchased by Fong Lang, who proceeded to relocate his store, Wing On Woo and Co. from Gregory Street, where he had been in business since 1888. A notice in the “Local News” section of the *Express* dated 17 June 1892, stated that the new Wing On Woo shop was near completion and the last advertisement for the old shop on Gregory Street was date 22 July 1892 (source: Jim Lowrie, *The History of Wing on Woo and Co.*).

A.H. Mountain became the next tenant of the old Wing On Woo Shop, until Sydney Fong purchased the original old property and established Sydney Fong & Co. The buildings now known as Swansea House to the east of the property became a drapers store, known as the Federal Emporium. In 1904, this new store was operated by a Charlotte Ann Engelbrecht.

By 1933 the building was being used as a Guest House, known as the Kia Ora Boarding House, the proprietress being a Mrs Francis Christina Willcocks. In April 1934, the building was renamed the Swansea Guest House and was operated by Mrs F.A. Westlake. Substantial renovations were noted at the changeover. It continued to operate as the Swansea Guest House for many years, later being renamed the Sun City Guest House.



# Fitzgerald Flats

*19-21 Fitzgerald Street, Geraldton*

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Owners Dayle and Fay Kenny are the recipients of a High Commendation for the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation.

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# Fitzgerald Flats

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The Fitzgerald Flats, a block of six units, were built around 1937 in the Art Deco style common in Western Australia at the time, and are believed to be essentially unaltered from that time. Many older Geraldton residents reminisce about the time they spent living or visiting friends and family in this iconic building.

Dayle and Fay Kenny purchased Fitzgerald Flats in August 2010. Unfortunately, the building had been neglected for some time, concrete cancer and rising damp had taken hold of the structure. A number of the units were unoccupied and had been vandalised.

Since August 2010 the concrete cancer and rising damp areas have been restored, drainage around the building has been repaired and upgraded, the sewer lines have been replaced and a septic holding tank decommissioned. A rear shed, which was structurally unsound, was demolished and the bricks re-used for paving. The building has been repainted after consultation with the Heritage Council of W.A.

All six units are now occupied. Four units have been partially restored and two have been fully restored in keeping with the distinctive art deco style.

*Nomination by Dayle and Fay Kenny. All images supplied by nominees.*

Dayle and Fay Kenny accept their High Commendation Award for the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation 2014.





*Left: Front view - before renovation.*



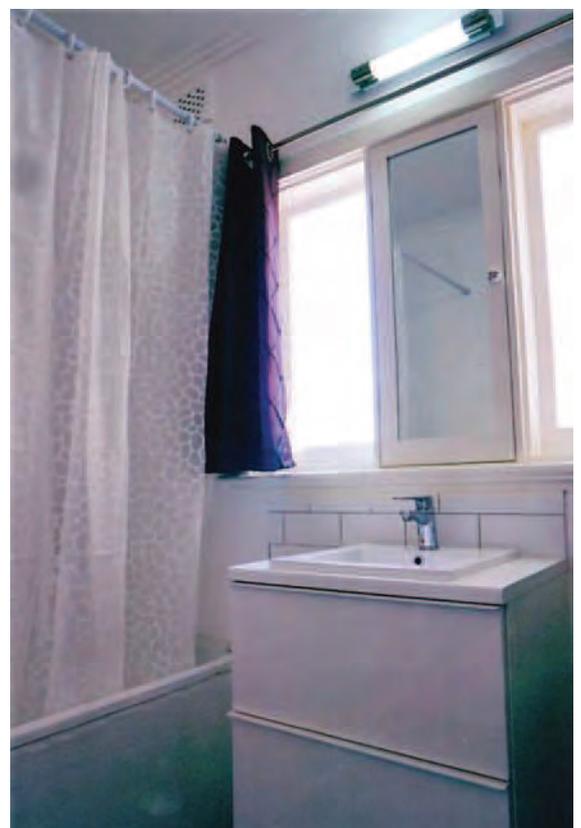
*Right: Rear view - before renovation.*



*Above and left: Stairs before and after restoration.*



*Above:* Concrete cancer on the top storey of the building.



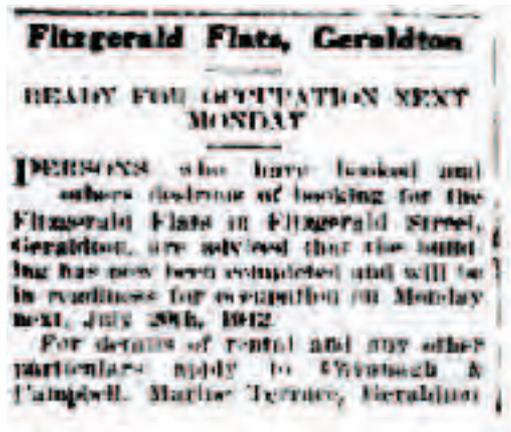
*Right:* Bathroom after restoration.



*Left and below: Lounge room and kitchen after renovations.*



*Above: Fitzgerald Flats after renovations were completed.*



Above: Advertising opening day for the Fitzgerald Flats, *Geraldton Guardian*, 18 July 1942. The article reads, Fitzgerald Flats, Geraldton. Ready for occupation next Monday. Persons who have booked and others who are desirous of booking for the Fitzgerald Flats in Fitzgerald Street, Geraldton, are advised that the building has now been completed and will be in readiness for occupation on Monday next, July 20 1942. For details of rental and any other particulars apply to Cavanagh and Campbell, Marine Terrace, Geraldton.



Above: Shamrock Hotel, Fitzgerald Street in the 1930s (now the Ocean Beach Hotel), prior to the construction of the Fitzgerald Flats to the right of this building. Courtesy Scamp Family.



# Hepburn House

*14 Francis Street, Geraldton*

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Owner Dale Hammond is the recipient of a Special Recognition Award for the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation.

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# Hepburn House

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Dale Hammond accepts her Special Recognition Award for the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Excellence in Heritage



This property is owned by Dale Hammond and is listed in the Geraldton Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places, Place Number 176, Category 2 (upgraded from Category 6 on 19 November 2009). Hepburn House had been subject to some non-sympathetic renovations in the 1960s that had resulted in its existing front verandah being replaced by an 'art deco' style front porch which was out of keeping with the era of construction of the cottage. Dale Hammond approached a local architectural drafting firm in 2004 to design a replacement front verandah, which was in sympathy with the streetscape that may have existed when the cottage was originally constructed.

Old photos were sourced from the Geraldton Regional Library. These depicted the form of the original front verandah. This was then replicated, together with the addition of a sympathetic timber deck and picket style fence. This gives a quaint ambience and sense of security to the front of the property, which has a front wall with an extremely short two metre setback to the Council footpath.

Following on from this, the services of a professional stonemason were employed to carry out restoration work to the external stone walls of the property. This consisted of removal of the non-original stucco render and repointing the original stonework back to its former glory. The complete building was then reroofed with a traditional profile corrugated roof sheeting.

The street appeal of the property is enhanced by the front facing windows and door, which are basically still original. A thoughtful touch by the owner was to position the new security grilles to the windows behind the window sashes, where they are virtually invisible. The works to the residence have been ongoing over a number of years and the now upgraded cottage presents a proud façade to an inner city Geraldton street that is well steeped in history.

*Nominated by Paul Connolly. All images supplied by nominee.*



*Left:* Before stone restoration works were undertaken.



*Right:* Following stone restoration works, 12 April 2007.



*Left:* Following stone restoration works, 23 January 2009.





# Mount Pleasant Holiday Homestead

*577 Company Road, Greenough*

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Owners Alex and Judy Holds are the recipients of a Special Recognition Award for the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation.

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# Mount Pleasant Holiday Homestead

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In October 2010, Alex and Judy Holds opened the Mount Pleasant Holiday Homestead in Greenough as a short stay holiday home. This followed a three year restoration project which Alex and Judy had undertaken on this 150 year old settler's cottage located on the Front Flats at Greenough. The house is a classic limestone rubble and iron roof dwelling which is listed in the City of Greater Geraldton Municipal Inventory and was built by the Waldeck family in the 1860s. According to Judy, they needed every week of the three year project to restore the property under a complicated scope of works, and were just attaching the new sign to their gate as their first guests arrived.

The opening event was a Waldeck family reunion with about 100 descendants in attendance. There were many familiar names at the event, as seen locally on street signs and businesses. Typically, the large Waldeck family married locally and their descendants settled in the Mid West but also spread throughout the state. The completed renovation of this lovely old building combines the original charm of the nineteenth century with a timeless décor, plus all the modern conveniences demanded by today's holiday maker.

Judy and Alex believe that the Mount Pleasant Holiday Homestead is a proud flag bearer for Mid West heritage, especially within the Greenough Historic Precinct. Guests have loved the home for many reasons not the least of which is its great historic appeal.

*Nomination by Alex and Judy Holds. Images provided by nominees.*

Alex and Judy Holds accept their Special Recognition Award for the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation 2014.





*Left:* Mt Pleasant Homestead, image taken c.1900.

*Right:* Restoration of the property begins in 2007.



*Left:* Restoration underway.

*Right:* Works continues through to October 2010.

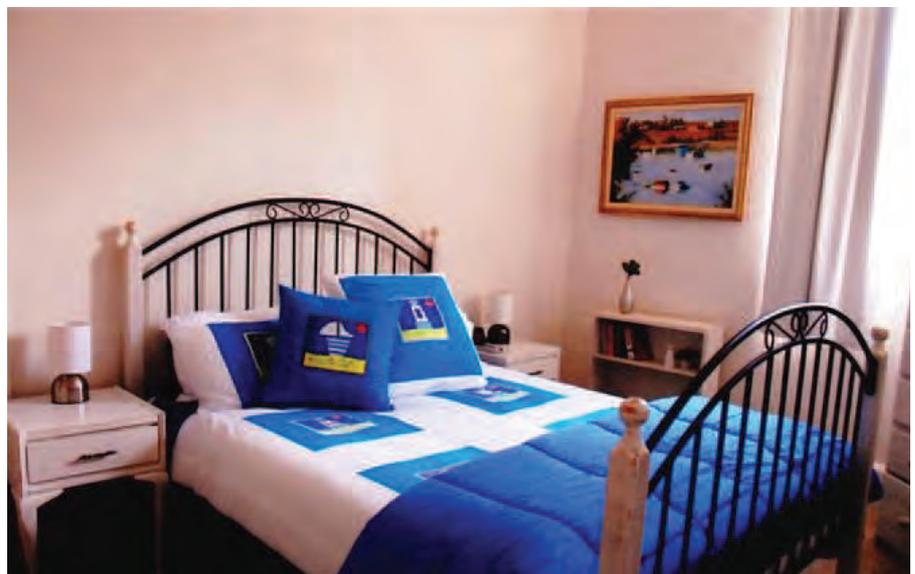


*Right:* Guest bedroom.



*Left:* Guest bathroom.

*Right:* Guest bedroom.



*Right:* Kitchen.



*Left:* Loungeroom.

*Right:* Outdoor seating area.





*Above:* Mount Pleasant Holiday Homestead, restorations complete.



*Above:* Views of Central Greenough, with Mount Pleasant at centre left.



# 212 Chapman Road, Geraldton

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Owners Darryl and Joan Grey are the recipients of a Special Recognition for the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation.

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# 212 Chapman Road, Geraldton

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Darryl and Joan Grey accept their Special Recognition Award for the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Excellence in Heritage Building Design and Conservation 2014.



The original house at 212 Chapman Road, Geraldton, was built at the turn of the century and is typical of houses from this time, consisting of four rooms which run off the wide central passage, and with verandahs at the front and rear of the house. The owners, Darryl and Joan Grey, believe that the out-buildings were demolished in the 1960s and there is a cellar which was filled in before Darryl and Joan purchased the house. The old kitchen appears to have been built at the north end of the back verandah, as before the current renovations were undertaken, there was evidence of an old fireplace having been bricked in.

Since Darryl and Joan purchased the property, the following renovations have been undertaken:

- The house was gutted leaving only the walls and existing doors, windows and floors.
- Two new rooms were added, one to the north side of the house and one at the rear and the width of the kitchen has been extended. These rooms are sympathetic to the style of the house.
- The existing tile roof was removed and a new colourbond roof constructed. Gables were added above the bay windows at the front of the house.
- All ceilings were replaced and new cornices fitted, with ceiling roses in the dining and sitting rooms.
- Two of the four original fireplaces have been retained; the other two were in disrepair.
- Skirting boards and architraves were custom made.
- The jarrah floors were sanded back and polished.
- Due to the age and the use of very porous bricks, the house had been coated with a sand render to help protect the brickwork. This render had weathered considerably over the years. Therefore the old render was removed and a new render applied.
- Heritage approval was given for these renovations.

*Nominated by Darryl and Joan Grey. All images supplied by nominees.*



*Left:* Front view before renovations.

*Right:* Rear view before renovation.



*Left:* Removal of the front verandah.

*Right:* Removal of the back verandah.





*Above: Front entry.*



*Above: Rear entry.*



*Above: Internal view during renovations.*



*Left:* Roof restoration.



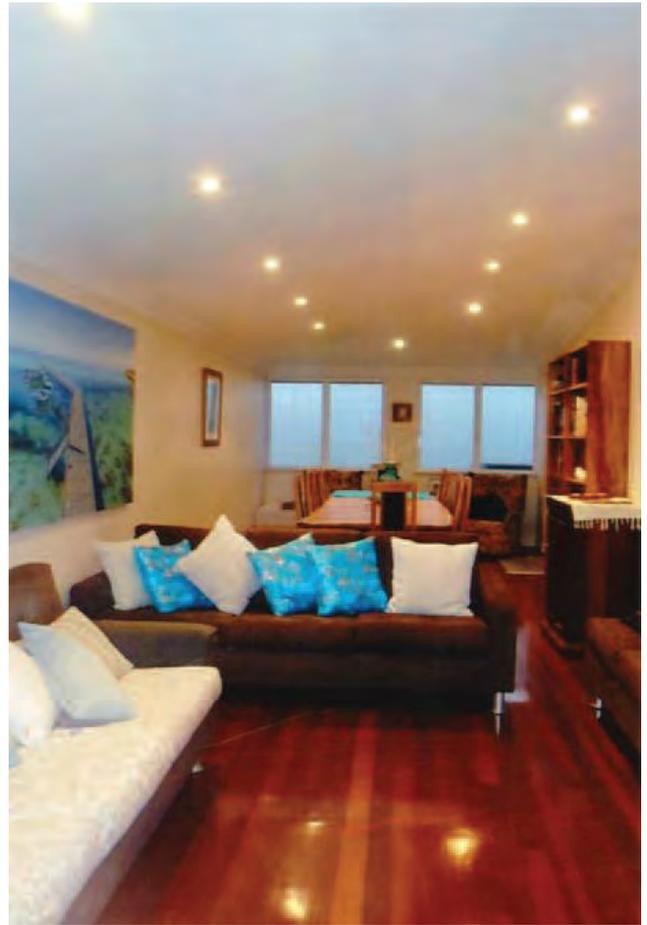
*Right:* Further roof restoration



*Left:* The kitchen before renovation works.



*Above:* North extension before renovations.



*Above:* North extension after renovations.



*Above:* Kitchen after renovations are completed.



*Above:* Front view of 212 Chapman Road, Geraldton, following the completion of renovations.



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The City of Greater Geraldton Award *for*

# Outstanding Heritage Achievement



*Winner:*

*Howard Gray*

*High Commendation:* *Barry Stinson*

*Special Recognition:* *Pat Mills*

*Geraldton Historical Society Inc.*



*Above:* Dedication to lives lost, Batavia Park. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.



*Above:* Soldiers Fort, East Wallabi Island. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.



# Howard Gray

B.Sc., Dip. Ed., Ph.D.

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Winner of the City of Greater Geraldton Award for  
Outstanding Heritage Achievement.

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# Howard Gray B.Sc., Dip. Ed., Ph.D.

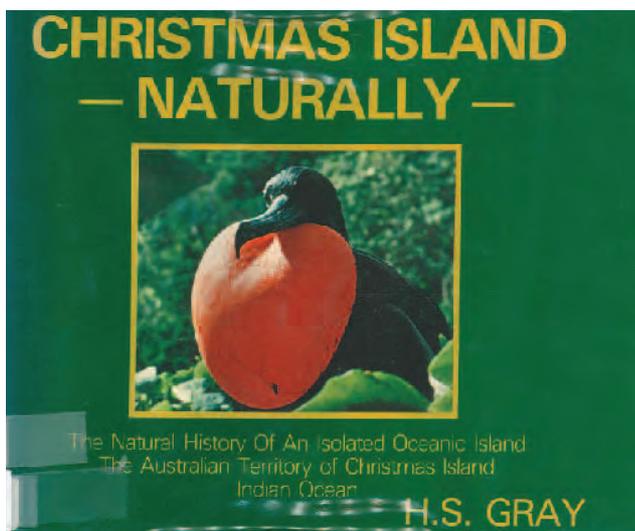
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Howard Gray was nominated for the CGG Award for Outstanding Heritage Achievement Award 2014 in recognition of his contribution to increasing the knowledge and appreciation of the maritime heritage of the Batavia Coast.

Throughout his teaching career in Geraldton spanning over three decades from 1980, Howard has found opportunities to focus on local maritime and heritage themes in science courses, in art projects as leader of sub schools Abrolhos and Batavia, and in a teacher-induction experience he initiated for teachers new to Geraldton, which ran for several years through the Community Education Centre.



Howard Gray is the winner of the City of Greater Geraldton Award for Outstanding Heritage Achievement 2014.

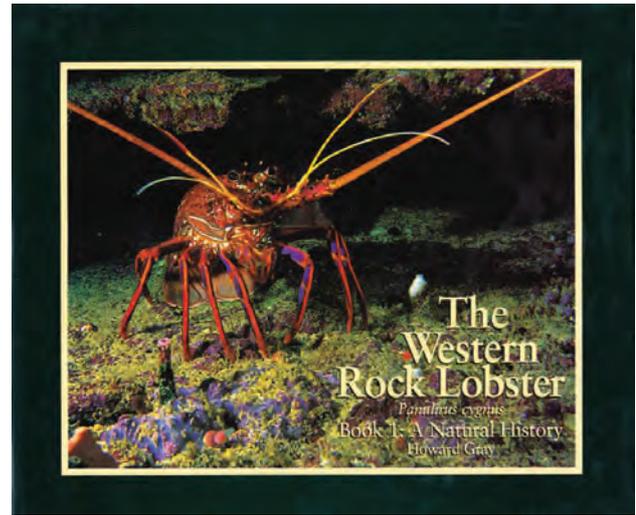


## *Christmas Island Naturally*

Howard taught for two years on Christmas Island in the mid 1970s. During this time, and on return visits to the Island, his professional and personal interest in the natural history of the Island led to his research of the scientific literature, and exploration and subsequent photographic documentation of the Island, all of which formed the basis of this book. Published in 1981.

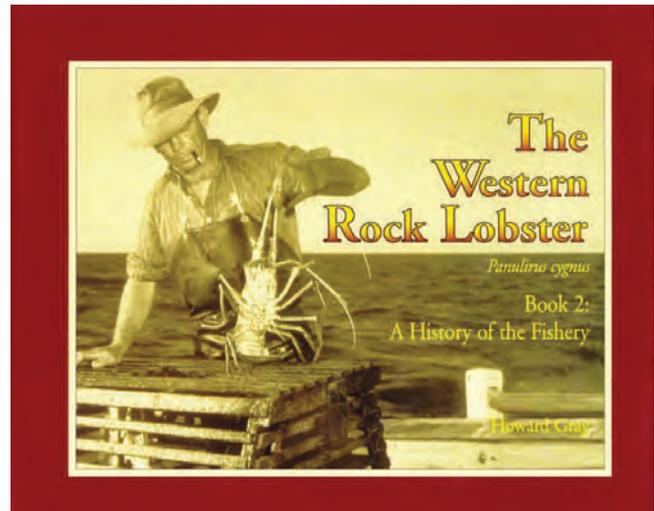
## *The Western Rock Lobster Book 1: A Natural History*

This book describes not only the life history of the lobster but the research in Western Australia that over the course of a century has uncovered this. The book won the Royal Zoological Society's Whitley Medal in 1993 as 'the best natural history book in Australia' for that year. Published in 1992.



## *The Western Rock Lobster Book 2: A History of the Fishery*

This book recounts in detail the history of the rock lobster fishery since the settlement of Western Australia, and is based on intensive research into archival material and interviews with fishers, past and present, on the Batavia Coast. Published in 1999.



## *Rock Lobster Fishing: The Batavia Coast*

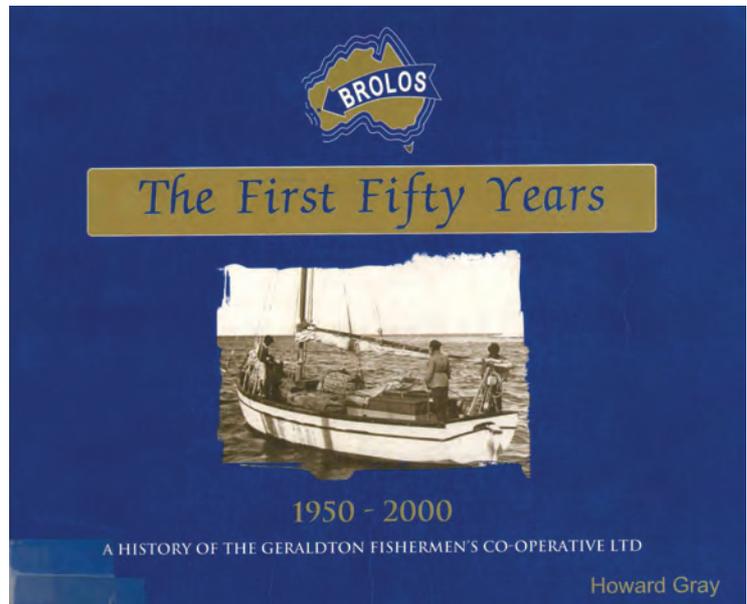
A title in the popular Mid West Heritage Series (MWHS), which was published by the Geraldton Regional Library in 2011. Howard also served as a member of the MWHS Advisory Group.

## *Skinnin' the Pots*

This thesis described and analysed the rock lobster fishery in Western Australia, particularly in the Midwest region. For this research, Howard was awarded a Doctorate of Philosophy by Murdoch University in 1999.

## *Brolos: The First 50 Years*

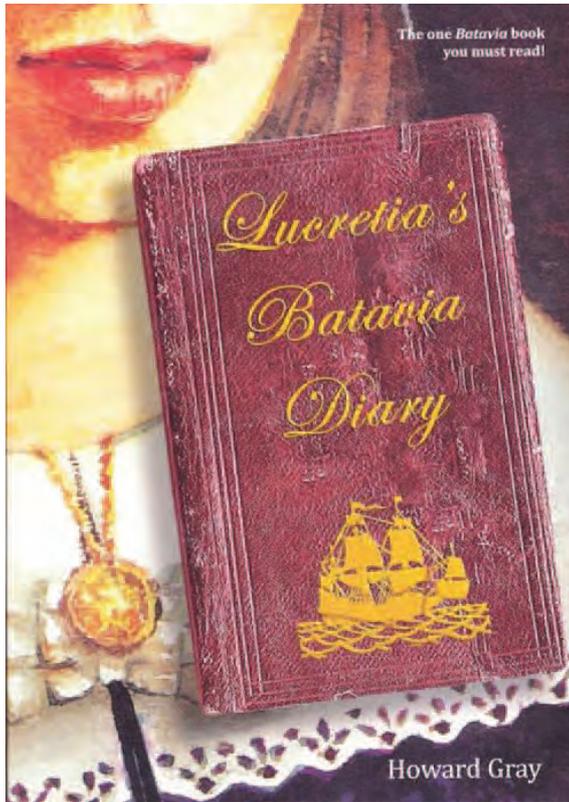
This book was commissioned by the Geraldton Fishermen's Cooperative to mark their 50th anniversary and recorded its origins and the many events in its history since. Published in 2000.



## *The Batavia Saga and the Courageous Wiebbe Hayes*

A title in the popular Mid West Heritage Series published by the Geraldton Regional Library in 2008 and reprinted in 2012.





## *Lucretia's Batavia Diary*

This historically accurate fiction title reconstructs the events of the *Batavia* shipwreck saga through the eyes of the 'femme fatale' aboard, drawing on historical documents and newly discovered material to tell what it must have been like to live through the horrors of the shipwreck and its bloody aftermath. Published in 2013.

Howard has served as a member of the HMAS Sydney II Memorial Advisory Committee and on behalf of the City of Greater Geraldton, prepared the submission to the Commonwealth Government which resulted in the gazetting of the Memorial as a Memorial of National Significance. He served on the Abrolhos Islands Consultative Committee during the mid-1990s, working on management plans related to ensuring the heritage values of the Abrolhos were considered in all deliberations.

In 1993, Howard was a founding member of the Batavia Coast Maritime Association and has since held the positions of Secretary and Treasurer with this group. In particular, Howard coordinated events in 2013 to mark the 50th anniversary of the identification of the Batavia wreck site, which included lectures, a celebratory dinner, a commemorative newspaper insert, excursions to the Abrolhos Islands to visit Batavia sites, and a ceremony to name Batavia Park and dedicate it to those who innocently lost their lives in the Batavia shipwreck and its tragic aftermath.

*Nominated by the Batavia Coast Maritime Association. Images supplied by nominee.*



*Above:* Howard Gray. Photo provided by nominee.



*Above:* Bay view, East Wallabi Island. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.



# Barry Stinson

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Recipient of a High Commendation for  
the City of Greater Geraldton Award for  
Outstanding Heritage Achievement.

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# Barry Stinson

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*Right:* Memorial at Birdwood House, Chapman Road, Geraldton. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.



Barry Stinson's dedication and passion for collecting and preserving military memorabilia and photographs is demonstrated in the continuing improvements and expansion of the exhibits at the Birdwood Military Museum. The many hours Barry spends involved in museum activities are all on a voluntary basis. To enable him to improve his skills and deliver best practice in museum management, Barry completed a Certificate in Museum Management through Edith Cowan in 2012.

During late 2013, Barry took advantage of an exceptional, first ever opportunity by undertaking a month long stint of volunteering at the History Department of Western Australian Museum at Kewdale. During this time he participated in a range of activities relating to the latest methods of packing items for storage and transport, photographing and identifying collection items.

## Positions held:

- Chairperson of Birdwood Military Museum Society Inc.
- Curator of Birdwood Military Museum Society Inc.
- Committee member of Geraldton City Returned Soldiers League (RSL) Sub Branch.
- Trustee of the Geraldton Sailors Soldiers & Airmen's Memorial Trust.
- Member Geraldton Historical Society Inc.

Since becoming Curator of the Birdwood Military Museum, Barry has been successful in completing the following projects:

- Participated in the development of a constitution and incorporation of the Geraldton Historical Society Inc., and assisted with the relocation of the Society's collection from the

Pioneer Museum building, assuring that correct museum practices in wrapping, storing and transporting the Society's vast collection were applied.

- Participated in the development of Collection Management Policy for the Museum.
- Successfully sought a Lotterywest Grant to undertake a Significance Assessment of the Geraldton City RSL's collection of memorabilia.
- Purchase of suitable show cases.
- Oversaw the professional preservation of a World War One tunic held in the collection.
- Oversaw the insulation and air-conditioning of additional storage which holds archival items.

Barry has attended many workshops and key conferences, including the Museums Australia State Conference in Perth, the Royal Historical Society WA History Conference in Bunbury and regular Museums Australia Mid West Chapter Meetings. At the time of nomination, Barry was working on grant applications which were to be submitted with regard to the preservation of a number of World War One Rolls of Honour. In partnership with the Western Australian Museum, Barry is co-ordinating the Birdwood Military Museum's participation in the "Remembering Them" Project and is conducting research on activities undertaken by Geraldton residents at home during the war years. The activities of the Lonely Soldiers League and the question of Conscription, "for or against?" will be a major part of this research. The final display will be completed in November 2015.



*Above:* Tank on display at Birdwood House. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.



**Home Made Australian Flag:**

This Australian Flag was taken to the World War 1 Gallipoli campaign in 1915, fought between the Turks and Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (commanded by Field Marshall Sir William Birdwood after whom Birdwood House is named). The 'Gallipoli' Flag, which was stabilised and framed by professional conservators, is displayed in the hall of Birdwood House.



**A World War I Engineers Uniform Tunic**

Worn by A.C. Henville in France in 1918 has since been conserved in Perth by Patricia Moncrieff a renowned textile conservator.

This is a rare example of a tunic surviving from the First World War, in that it is complete with all insignia, Colour patches and rank chevrons.



**Darnley Dixeline Mark V1**

Little was known of the origins of this item that appeared one day in the bar at Birdwood House Geraldton.

Through extensive research Barry Stinson has located Mr John Darnley, the makers son, who has donated photographs and material which enabled an accurate record of the provenance of the item to be compiled.

The maker was Mr W.J Darnley, members of the 2/28<sup>th</sup> Battalion signals unit

*Above:* Assorted items from the collection at Birdwood House.



# Patricia Mills

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Recipient of a Special Recognition for  
the City of Greater Geraldton Award for  
Outstanding Heritage Achievement.

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# Patricia Mills

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*Above: Pat Mills and Bishop Justin Bianchini. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.*

The architecture of John Hawes has played a significant role in the life of Patricia Mills. Pat was baptised by Father Hawes at Our Lady of Mt Carmel Church in Mullewa, one of his most popular buildings. Pat's father contributed to the construction of Our Lady of Mt Carmel, which is visited by thousands of tourists each year. In the 1930s, Pat's grandparents, James and Maggie O'Brien, donated a portion of the farm east of Geraldton to allow for the construction of the St James Church at Kojarena. This was blessed and opened by Bishop O'Collins in 1935.

Pat's enthusiasm and passion for sharing the history of John Hawes and his contribution to the cultural and historical landscape of the Midwest is evident in the many projects she has undertaken within the community. These include the following:

Coordinator of the St Francis Xavier Cathedral Tour Guides:

- This group is led by Pat and conduct 3 guided tours a week of the Cathedral, connecting with approximately 10,000 international, interstate and local visitors a year.
- Pat arranges tours for groups on request, such as Rotary clubs, visiting delegates to conferences, school groups, and liaises with the Geraldton Visitors Centre, as well as tour companies and cruise ship companies to facilitate Cathedral tours. She ensures that the quality of the tours are maintained and supports the volunteer guides, recruiting new volunteers and conducting training sessions and familiarisation tours.
- Pat organised for a Cathedral Information Sheet to be translated into German for the benefit of the many German tourists who visit the Cathedral each year.
- In 2013, Pat organised for the Guides to attend a talk by Father Robert Cross to develop a greater understanding of the symbolism in the architecture and art of St Francis Xavier Cathedral.

The funds generated from the tours and sales of merchandise are used to enhance the Cathedral. Projects these funds have contributed to include the restoration and upgrading of the Bishops Sacristy in the Cathedral, the Bishop Justin stained glass window, making the first major donation to the St Francis Xavier Cathedral Precinct Project and making ongoing donations to the St Francis Xavier Cathedral Precinct Project.

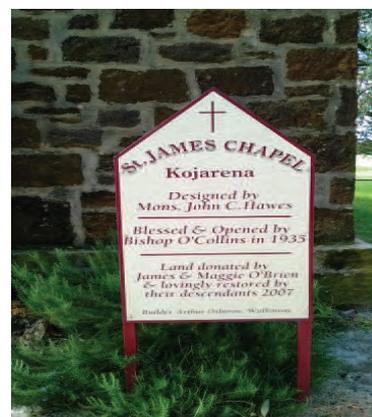
Board Member of Monsignor Hawes Heritage Inc. (MHHI):

The vision of the MHHI is – to establish the Monsignor Hawes Heritage Project as a heritage tourism icon of global significance, that enriches local participating individuals and communities, and that successfully conveys to visitors the spiritual traditions that animated the life of Monsignor Hawes. Pat has been a member of the MHHI for the past 5 years and has been involved in the interpretive sign project which was launched at Saint Francis Xavier Cathedral on the 26 April 2014.

Coordinator of the Restoration of St James Church Kojarena:

Regular church services ceased at St James in the 1980s and by 2007, it was in a state of disrepair. Parts of the roof had blown away, birds and termites had taken up residence and it was close to ruin.

- Pat approached 40 members of her large, extended family and asked for their support in the restoration of this Church. They responded overwhelmingly with donations of time and money and worked hard with Pat's guidance to restore the building to its present state.
- Pat organises an annual celebration at the Church and ensures that it is continually maintained. The many tourists who visit the building as part of the Monsignor Hawes Heritage Trail are fascinated by the story of its beginnings and its restoration.



*Above: St James Church, Kojarena. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.*

Member of the St Francis Xavier Cathedral Precinct Project:

Some of the outcomes envisaged for this project are: Pat was a member of the Steering Committee for this important project and continues to serve on the Management and Fundraising Committees. To date, the project has raised \$2m for the restoration, conservation and enhancement of the Cathedral. The Committee is currently applying to the State Government for funds to build a Heritage Centre for the storage and display of the valuable collection of Hawes memorabilia.

Initial Process to Regain Access to Hermitage:

The Hermitage, which is situated in Onslow Street, Geraldton, was built and donated to the Bishop of Geraldton by Hawes in 1935. It has been under the control of the National Trust for a number of years and, as it has been leased as a private residence, is not generally accessible to the public. Pat has been active in attempting to regain access to the building for the benefit of the community for tours and related events. She is a member of a Committee formed to liaise with the National Trust on this matter.

*Nominated by Bishop Justin Bianchini. Images provided by nominee.*



*Above: St. James Church, Kojarena. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.*



# Geraldton Historical Society Inc.

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Recipient of a Special Recognition for  
the City of Greater Geraldton Award for  
Outstanding Heritage Achievement.

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# Geraldton Historical Society Inc.

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*Above:* Rita and Barry Stinson, Stan and Joy Gratte. Courtesy Geraldton Regional Library.

The Geraldton Historical Society Inc. (GHS) are based at the Bluff Point Lighthouse Keeper's Cottage and in recent years, there has been a noticeable change to the displays within the Cottage and with the activities being undertaken on the premises. The Curatorial Committee of the GHS has been innovative in their use of display space available within the cottage and has achieved commendable results in showcasing collection items to their advantage. Displays will continue to be added to on an ongoing basis.

There are many people within the Society who apply their valued individual skills, working tirelessly behind the scenes in a voluntary capacity. Visitors come looking for information on their descendants and the research volunteers willingly assist. Volunteers are also on hand to give visitors a guided tour of the cottage. Their enjoyment is captured in the many wonderful comments in the Visitors' Book. The work being done to preserve the history of Geraldton and surrounding district is commendable and a credit to the Committee and members. The Geraldton Visitor Centre and a GHS representative co-manned a display at the 2013 Perth Caravan and Camping Show. Another initiative is the Quarterly Review Newsletter which is produced by the GHS and distributed to all members and other Historical Societies around the state.

Projects being undertaken at present are:

- Indexing the reference books, and books for loan held in the library.
- Converting collection items from the Illyarie Database system to Mosaic.
- Digitising and archiving the GHS collection of historically important documents.
- Upgrading open display cases to improve environmental conditions for items on display.
- Storing of heritage costumes according to correct museum practice.
- Mounting photographic display of “The Way We Were” at the Old Gaol Craft Centre.

The Geraldton Historical Society Inc. is a member of:

- The Mid West Chapter of Museums Australia, and hosted the April 2014 meeting in Geraldton.
- The Royal Historical Society of Western Australia and will be hosting the State History Conference in Geraldton in 2015. Members also attended the 2013 History Conference in Bunbury.

In 2013, the GHS participated in the Nagle College Community Service program which was successful in creating an awareness of the importance of preserving the heritage of our region and pioneer families.

The GHS has also encouraged local Primary Schools to visit the Lighthouse Keepers Cottage, introducing them to the different way our pioneers lived their daily lives.

The Geraldton Historical Society Inc. relies on fundraising to continue its activities. In the 2012/13 financial year the City of Greater Geraldton introduced a three year curatorial grant of \$8,000 per year and this grant has been invaluable in assisting with curatorial activities, enabling the Society to upgrade and purchase important resources needed.

*Nominated by Mrs A. R. Thornton. Images supplied by nominee.*



Antique sideboard displays beautiful items from collection.



Victorian biscuit barrel safely displayed



Formal Table Setting



Jose Family Bible on display in the Library in enclosed showcase.



Valuable china on display in secure cabinet

Above: Assorted items from the collection at the Bluff Point Lighthouse Keepers Cottage.

# City of Greater Geraldton Heritage Awards Evening 2014



Left: David Pratt, Peter Creek and Cr. Jerry Clune.



Right: Howard Gray and Cr. Jerry Clune.



Top left: Susan Smith, Ken Diehm, Trudi Cornish and Stacey Russell. Top right: Cr. Tarleah Thomas, Tanya Henkel and Susan Smith. Bottom left: Andrew Bowman. Bottom right: Amangu Elder, Robert Ronan.

*Booklet compiled by Trudi  
Cornish and Lauren McMile.*

*For more information contact:*

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Geraldton Regional Library  
37 Marine Terrace  
Geraldton WA 6530*

*Phone: (08) 9956 6659*

*Email: [library@cgg.wa.gov.au](mailto:library@cgg.wa.gov.au)*

