

# Family and Local History Newsletter

Joondalup Library, Local History  
102 Boas Avenue, Joondalup 6027

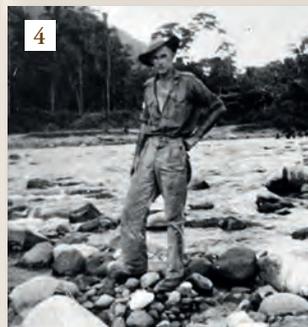
Monday – Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm  
Saturday 9.30am – 12.30pm

## When was the ‘Great War’?

When researching your family tree, be aware that many people think of the First World War (1914 – 1918) as the ‘Great War’. However, when people in the 19th century talked about the ‘Great War’ they were talking about the period from 1793 to 1815.

In Britain during the 1920s and 1930s, World War I was referred to as the ‘Great War’. In the USA it was referred to as the ‘European War’. When the Second World War (1939 – 1945) was well under way, most people thought to refer to the ‘First World War’ or ‘World War I’.

(Partially reproduced from the 22 March 2018 *Lost Cousins* newsletter)



### PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. George Sears in army uniform ca.1916
2. Ernest John Cockman in military uniform ca.1916
3. John Charles Stuart ca.1942
4. John (Jack) Reginald Cullen ca. 1945

## Creating a Timeline

One of the most important things to do as you begin your research is to create a timeline. Timelines can help you visually see what you have found and gaps in your research. A timeline might be a table in your

word processor program, a spreadsheet or even a form you find online. Timelines can help you record findings, decide on future research and assist in writing up your findings.



Irene Pryor at Yanchep National Park ca. 1940s

## An Introduction to Family History

Thursday 25 October 2018,  
6.00pm – 8.00pm  
City of Joondalup Libraries –  
Joondalup Local History  
102 Boas Avenue, Joondalup  
Cost: \$16.00

Tracing your family history is a favourite pastime for many but where do you start?

Joondalup Local History Library is hosting ‘An Introduction to Family History’, a two hour seminar to help enthusiastic researchers get started.

Participants of this seminar will learn how to begin researching their family tree. Explore useful family history resources with expert genealogists Olive and Wendy. Discover all the best tips and resources to begin researching and receive the *Tracing your family tree: a beginners guide*.

Book and pay online via the City’s event calendar, or call 9400 4751 for further information.

# 10 Common Crimes Committed by Convicts

With 20% of Australians descended from convicts, convict ancestry is for many a badge of honour. But just how criminal were these criminals?

While it's difficult to generalise, given that a staggering 160,000 convicts were transported to Australia in total, certain offences appeared more frequently than others. Here are 10 common crimes that resulted in the sentence of transportation.

## 1. Petty Theft

By far the most common crime that led to transportation was petty theft or larceny. Historians estimate that roughly a third to three-fifths of the male convict population came under the category of 'other larcenies'. A broad category, larceny could include pick-pocketing, receiving stolen goods, cutting false coins, stealing clothes from washing lines, and more. It was particularly common amongst urban convicts.

## 2. Burglary or Housebreaking

Burglary or housebreaking was considered a more serious form of theft because of the level of premeditation involved. Another common crime amongst male convicts in particular, stealing from a dwelling (as it was sometimes known) often carried the death penalty.

## 3. Highway Robbery

More serious still, was highway robbery. Though commonly romanticised as a gentlemanly crime, highway robbers often employed violence. It was essentially a form of armed robbery occurring on public roads, similar to the later Australian phenomenon of bushranging.

## 4. Stealing Clothing

The crime of stealing clothes, along with jewellery, fabrics, and other household items, was particularly common among female convicts, especially those who worked as domestic servants or prostitutes.



## 5. Stealing Animals

Stealing animals like sheep and cows was most common among convicts from Ireland and, unsurprisingly, rural areas. In Ireland, this crime was often associated with major upheavals such as the potato famine. Remarkably, stealing a sheep often carried the death penalty.

## 6. Military Offences

Military and civil officers were used as guards and security forces during the early colonial period – but many former military men were also amongst the convicts' ranks. Soldiers could be transported for desertion, insubordination and mutiny.

## 7. Prostitution

Early convict women were unfairly labelled as 'damned whores'. It's estimated that roughly 20% of female convicts in total were prostitutes. The exact number is difficult to determine, as the term was widely applied to women who were in de facto (or 'co-habiting') relationships.

## 8. Crimes of Deception

Historian James Jupp compares the colonial-era offences of forgery and embezzlement to the equivalent of today's white-collar crimes. The convicts who committed such crimes tended to be more educated and skilled than the average working convict, and often found work in the colonial civil service.

## 9. Political Protest

At roughly 4,000 in total, political protestors make up a small, yet important, category among the convict population. These included not only Irish nationalists, Fenians and insurrectionists but also French Canadian nationalists, First Scottish

Martyrs, Yorkshire rebels, early trade unionists, the Tolpuddle Martyrs, Chartists, Luddites, Swing Rioters and people who engaged in activities like rural riots, machine-breaking and cattle-maiming.

## 10. Assault

The number of convicts transported for crimes of violence was fewer than 5%. This scarcity also likely had practical considerations, given the confined spaces on board convict voyages, not to mention the small population of the fledgling colony beyond!

(Sourced from the *January 2018 Ancestry.com newsletter*)

Search for your convict ancestors in Ancestry's Australian Convict Collection by accessing [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) at the City of Joondalup Libraries.

## National Family History Month



August is National Family History Month. The City of Joondalup and the State Library of Western Australia have a number of resources (electronic and hard copy) that are able to be borrowed and/or accessed by family history researchers.

During National Family History Month there are lots of (often free) genealogy events taking place in the Perth Metropolitan area.

Pick up a brochure from any City of Joondalup Library or download the program of events from the State Library of Western Australia's website [slwa.wa.gov.au](https://www.slwa.wa.gov.au)

# Overlooked Genealogy Resource Alert!

## Nine Tips to Research at Heritage Museums



You've searched **Ancestry.com** and **FamilySearch**, gone to the library and maybe even taken a DNA test to discover your family's immigrant origins. But for a genealogist, just knowing the country or region is rarely enough.

To find records in your family's homeland, you need their town or village. And you probably want to understand how your ancestors lived, what they did for work, what they wore and ate.

Heritage museums give you a look at that culture's history and people. Many have research centres (an overlooked genealogy resource!) with records such as foreign-language newspapers, maps, photos, histories and more. Staff often can help with research and translation.

Whether your ancestors hail from Germany, Ireland, Eastern Europe, Japan, Africa, Mexico or elsewhere, there's probably a museum for that.

These tips will help you do your best genealogy research at a heritage museum:

- Scan the museum website to understand its library holdings and geographic focus.
- Search the online catalogue (if there is one) for materials you'll want to use.
- Call ahead to verify hours and any fees (including acceptable forms of payment), ask about special services such as translation or research consultations. Make an appointment with research centre staff if needed.

- Check the museum's events calendar in case you want to time your visit for a family history workshop or cultural festival.
- Find out about research room rules. For example, you may need to request materials ahead of time so they can be pulled for you, or use only pencils for note-taking.
- School yourself in the basics of history and genealogy for the heritage group of interest. You won't have to spend as much of your visit getting up to speed.
- Bring a pedigree chart with as much information as you know. Summarise what you've learned about immigrant relatives, even if all you have is stories. If your family talks about your great-grandfather who always went to the river to catch fish, that can be a clue to a geographic area.
- Bring good-quality, full-colour copies or high-resolution digital images of any records needing translation.
- Consider becoming a museum member or making a donation, especially if the research centre charges minimal fees. Send a thank-you note to acknowledge help you received.

To find museums focusing on your family's heritage, search online for the country or ethnicity plus the words heritage, history or cultural and museum. Add the name of a city or town to narrow results to places in that area.

(Partially reproduced from the *Genealogy Insider eNewsletter* 3 May 2017)

## Public Art in the Joondalup City Centre

Artwork and decoration that enhances and beautifies public areas, can be seen on the walkways, parks, civic centre and libraries throughout Joondalup.

In the 1970s and 1980s the Joondalup Development Corporation planned the design and layout of Joondalup as a 'City in harmony' or a 'City in a landscape', so from the start there was a focus on developing a city that looked and felt good to be in.

Five artists were commissioned by the City to design public artworks for the new city centre including building decoration, furniture, pavements, lighting, bus stops and street sculpture.

Many of the public art projects involved community and school groups working with the artists to create artworks reflecting the City's sense of community and identity.

continued overleaf...



### PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. Stone floor inlay, Civic Centre, ca.1996
2. Bronze plaques, library and civic centre walkway, ca.1996
3. Copper banding on external walls, Lakeside Drive, ca.1996





Artist Andrew Carter collaborated with engineers to design the innovative streetlighting for the Joondalup CBD. The design of the beautiful and distinctive street lights was inspired by the arching lines and soft curves of tree branches.

The metal street bollards by artist Peter Dailey were inspired by Fritz Lang's 1927 science-fiction film 'Metropolis'. The artist also designed the cast iron surrounds for the street

trees using the patterns of fallen leaves as his inspiration.

Architects Hames Sharley and artist Peter Dailey collaborated in the design and manufacture of the park benches featuring a distinctive curved back piece. Made of recycled jarrah set in precast concrete and aggregate, the benches were sandblasted to give the appearance of stone.



Street kerbs feature small ceramic medallions created by residents of Shenton Avenue Retirement Village, students from Connolly Primary School and children in after-school care. Coordinated by artists Geoff and Jane Yorke the medallions represent the use of land in the area.

A very distinctive honeycomb design was used for many of the limestone walls and a team of stonemasons were employed to create the distinctive walls and sculptures in Central Park.

In Neil Hawkins Park a life-sized bronze sculpture of an Aboriginal woman (Bibulmun Yorga) and her dog (Dwerda), represents the traditional owners of the region.



The Police Academy entrance features a life-sized bronze figure called The Graduate, by artists Tony Jones and Ben Jones. It serves as a figurehead for the academy and depicts a graduating police officer.

A series of 30 bronze plaques, created by Steve Tepper, illustrating domestic life are embedded into the columns along the Joondalup Library and Civic Centre underpass.

In the Joondalup Library foyer artist Mark Cox has created a circular metal floor inlay with the stainless-steel elements evoking the play of light on water. The inspiration for this work was Lake Joondalup, the 'lake that glistens'.

The external library walls on Lakeside Drive feature a copper banding of the classical roman alphabet designed by artist Brian McKay to symbolise the themes of literacy and community.

The beautiful stone and timber inlay in the civic chambers foyer created by artist Malcolm McGregor, was inspired by George Grey, the explorer who visited Lake Joondalup in 1838. The concentric bands of stone include the indigenous names of wetlands between Joondalup and Perth.

These and other public artworks found throughout the City play an important role in enhancing the built environment and give residents and visitors to the City a sense of community and cultural identity.

All historic photos supplied courtesy of *Picture Joondalup*.



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*This document is available in alternate formats upon request.*