

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

10 Tips for an Oral History Interview

Talking to family members and recording their memories will help to personalise your family history research. Getting the stories behind the names and dates will bring the facts alive and help you to get to know your older relatives and the times in which they lived.

1. Before the interview, draw up an outline or a series of questions to keep the interview focused. Most interviews proceed chronologically starting with when and where the person was born. Bring any old photos or information you have which will help to start the discussion.
2. Think of it as a conversation and keep the interview comfortable, relaxing and enjoyable. Most people love to talk about the past and the fact that you are interested to hear and record their stories will help the interview go smoothly.
3. Be respectful if your relative doesn't want to discuss certain family subjects. Empathise with negative experiences and feelings, not all family life is perfect.
4. Let the person talk freely and don't fire questions at them. Remember an older relative may not remember specific dates, people or places.
5. Use open-ended questions and ask the person to tell you what they remember or ask them to describe an event, place or experience. Use follow-up questions to get more detail.
6. Do they remember any stories their parents told them about the family that you may not know?
7. Ask what life was like for them growing up and how the cultural standards of the day affected them.
8. Check whether they have lived through any world events such as the Great Depression, wars or were they or any family members immigrants who had to start again in a new country.
9. Ask your interviewee if you can look at their photo collection and copy their photos for your records.
10. Topics can include: family, school years, friends, teenage years, social life, adult life, work and marriage and children.



Did You Know?

The Joondalup Local History Library subscribes to several journals available for loan that contain a wealth of valuable and interesting information for the family history researcher.

Western Ancestor: Journal of the Western Australian Genealogical Society contains feature articles, useful information and society news - including information about Special Interest Groups and upcoming events.

History West is published by the Royal Western Australian Historical Society and has a Western Australian history focus. This journal has interesting articles, book reviews, lists of events and news from other historical societies within Western Australia.

Genie Exchange

Tuesdays, 9.30am – 12.30pm
City of Joondalup Libraries – Woodvale
Last session 11 December 2018,
recommencing 5 February 2019

Fridays, 10.00am – 12.00noon
City of Joondalup Libraries –
Joondalup Local History
Last session 14 December 2018,
re-commencing 11 January 2019
Cost: Free, no booking required

Join other family history enthusiasts at the Genie Exchange and research your family history with help from skilled and knowledgeable volunteers.



Caporn family, 1909. Left to Right: Daisy, Stirling, Amos and Leslie (standing) Caporn.

Picture our Past: Celebrating Joondalup's Past Together

The City of Joondalup has published a book documenting the rich history of its area. Using historical photographs, oral history interviews, maps, newspaper articles and memorabilia from the City's local history collection, *Picture our Past* tells the story of how the hard work and determination of our pioneers turned an isolated settlement into the modern Cities of Joondalup and Wanneroo.

Each photograph, quote or historical record captures a moment in time that shaped the history of the area and the lives of the people living there.

Available from City of Joondalup Libraries and customer service centres. At \$42.00 it's an ideal Christmas gift.



Dennis family at Mullaloo Beach, 1965

What is Trove?

The Trove website brings together Australian resources from libraries, museums, archives and research and cultural organisations.

Hosted by the National Library of Australia in partnership with state and territory libraries, Trove aims to make available Australian-focused content for public research.

This free service is a useful tool for family history researchers as it provides easy access to many databases and collections in a single place.

The content is divided into zones which can be searched together or separately: books; diaries, letters and archives; journals; maps; newspapers and magazines; pictures, photos and objects; people and organisations; music, sound and video and government gazettes.

In the Newspaper zone Trove provides access to 700 Australian newspapers including the earliest published newspaper, *The Sydney Gazette*, some community language newspapers and the *Australian Women's Weekly*.

The diaries, letters and archives zone also contains manuscripts, photographs, pamphlets, ephemera, posters and business records.

A link from the homepage offers a guide on how to use Trove and answers frequently asked questions about the service.

Joining Trove is free and you can also contribute to the content by way of comments and corrections.

Visit trove.nla.gov.au



Family History at the State Library of Western Australia

A visit to the State Library of Western Australia is a worthwhile outing for family history researchers.

Conveniently located at the Perth Cultural Centre in Northbridge, the Alexander Library building houses many valuable sources of information.

The State Records Office, the J.S. Batty Library of West Australian History and the Genealogy Centre are all part of this complex.



State Records Office of Western Australia

The State Records Office has many records that may be of interest. Convict lists, passenger lists, wills, court case files, police records and school records are some of the resources available. Many of these are available on a self-service basis but some will require retrieval from storage areas.

State Records Office staff are willing to help the novice researcher with basic advice on searching for their West Australian ancestors. Regular seminars are held to help the public develop research skills and to familiarise themselves with the range of available resources. Staff can also advise on the type of records that may help in tracing your relatives. Visit sro.wa.gov.au/

The J.S. Battye Library of West Australian History is the main source of historical and current information on Western Australia. The collection focuses on books, serials and newspapers but also includes maps, private archives, ephemera, photos, music scores and recordings, DVDs and videos and oral histories and films. Its broad range covers all aspects of Western Australia from our beginning as the Swan River Colony to the present day.

Visit slwa.wa.gov.au/

The Genealogy Centre has many useful services on offer for family history researchers. Australian, Great Britain and New Zealand resources are a particular strength, but the

wide range of resources can be used to trace relatives anywhere in the world.

The centre is open normal library hours and staff can provide help and advice for beginners. Additional assistance is provided by volunteers from the Western Australian Genealogical Society (WAGS) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays between 9.30am and 1.00pm.

Visit slwa.wa.gov.au/explore-discover/family-history/genealogy-centre



Winemaking in Wanneroo



Conti's Winery

Many of the early settlers in the Wanneroo region came from Europe. They brought with them their market gardening knowledge, winemaking skills and a will to succeed. Clearing the land and planting the vines using picks and shovels was an arduous process. Many immigrants had little support as wives and children were left behind in Europe while the men established themselves in a new land.

Although many migrants produced wine for their own consumption a few entrepreneurs went on to establish commercial wineries. Four main wineries were established in the Wanneroo and Joondalup area. Brothers, Peter and Marion (Roko) Parin (pictured in their vineyard below), from the Croatian island of Sepurine, established the first commercial vineyard in Wanneroo in the 1920s. The other three were set up by Italian migrants, Ezio Luisini, Carmelo Conti, Leone (Leo) and Paolo (Paul) Faranda. Today only Conti's (pictured left) remains.





The Parin Family in their vineyard, 1927. Left to right back row: Maria, Peter, Rose, Marion (Roko), Milka (Millie) Parin. Left to right front row: John, Frank, Anthony (Tony), Lucy Parin

The Parin brothers purchased 20 hectares of land at the 10 Mile Peg, Wanneroo Road, near Canham Way, Greenwood in 1921. By 1929 the brothers had 100 acres under cultivation and delivered their wine around Perth by horse and cart.

John Parin, Peter's son, remembers his father's sense of humour:

"Alongside his main notice for the vineyard he had a sign there saying, 'free wine tomorrow.' Well people used to come in you know the next day after seeing it the day before and not take any notice that it was still there. They'd come in to Dad and say, 'Oh we've seen a notice out there when we went past yesterday that you had free wine tomorrow, so we've decided to come in to see if you've got the free wine.' Dad would say, 'Well go outside and have a look at the notice. It is still free wine tomorrow.' So, the story was that tomorrow never came."

(Parin Oral History E0065)

Ezio Luisini arrived in Western Australia in 1909 from Umbria, Italy to join his father. In 1924 he purchased 100 acres of land along Lake Goollelal to plant a vineyard. The winery was established in 1929 and concentrated mostly on red wines until the installation of a still and boiler in 1957 allowed production of fortified wines.



After Ezio died in 1964 the winery continued operations and was managed by his nephew until its closure in 1986. The winery buildings are heritage listed and currently managed by the National Trust WA.

Leone (Leo) Faranda migrated to Australia from Sinagra, Sicily in 1938, joining his brother Paolo (Paul) and his sister Anna Scolaro. Leo and Paul purchased 50 acres at the 14 Mile Peg, Wanneroo Road, and established a market garden. In 1949 they planted a vineyard with vine cuttings from other local Italians, Antonio Villanova, Leone Sinagra and Ezio Luisini.

All historic photos supplied courtesy of *Picture Joondalup*.



Exterior front view of Luisini, 1986



Luisini Wine tasting cellar, 1986

Using Grenache and Muscat grapes they specialised in red wine which they delivered in flagons from their truck.

Leo's son, Basil, helped his father in the winery at weekends and moved back to manage the vineyard in 1990 when Leo's arthritis prevented him from continuing.

Faranda Wines final vintage was in 2013. The property was then sold and developed into a housing estate called the Faranda Estate.

Carmelo (Charlie) Conti left Sicily for Western Australia in 1925. He and his wife Rosa bought two lots of 20 acres at the 12 Mile Peg, Wanneroo and started a market garden and vineyard.

In 1948 Charlie expanded the vineyard to cater for a growing domestic wine market. Paul Conti took over from his father in 1968 and started producing premium bottled wines including the award winning Mariginiup Hermitage (now called Shiraz).

In 1971 the wine cellar was opened and in the 1980s the family home was transformed into a fine dining restaurant. Now called Paul Conti Wines, the winery and restaurant has been run by Paul's son, Jason, since 1991.



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