

FREE

Issue 2
April 2016

FREO StreetWise



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EDITORIAL

WELCOME to a special edition of *Freo StreetWise*. On February 14, Valentine's Day, Freo gave generously as Perth's best vintage and classic cars joined the inaugural Freo Charity Car Cruise to raise funds for the breast and prostate cancer foundations of WA.

The colourful street spectacle captured by photographers Amerigo Carrello and Bob Somerville raised \$3540.50, a gallery of their images and owners' stories of the cars which moved Freo posted to our Facebook community site which now has more than 2840 members. Thank you to everyone who donated including local businesses and CBC volunteers who collected as part of the College's Christian Service Learning program.

StreetWise honours our defence force personnel on April 25, Anzac Day, commemorating the 50th anniversary of Long Tan, Vietnam and the 75th anniversary of the HMAS Sydney sinking.

StreetWise also continues its coverage of the 400th anniversary year since Europeans first set foot in WA. Given its interest in maritime history, *StreetWise* will post regularly to keep readers updated during the anniversary year including further news following our exclusive coverage on Russell Crowe's bid to film the 1629 Batavia massacre off Geraldton.

Other stories include the Japanese imperial family's reply to our first edition publication of the 1971 photograph of emperor Hirohito with Freo scout Rudy Ratts; modelling life after politics for Labor MP Melissa Parke; Ian Godfrey's return from Antarctica and Freo's cruise ship boom. Enjoy.

- Editor Carmelo Amalfi



THANK YOU

Supporters, volunteers and members of the public who donated to the Freo Charity Car Cruise and publication of Freo's new quarterly magazine: SCOOP Property, Peaches, the Merenda family, Duyfken 1606 Replica Foundation, Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation, WA Museum, Bibra Lake Home and Office, Portorosa, Calogero's 6162, Across the Road, Ruocco's Pizzeria, Direct Coffee Supplies, Nunzio's, the Esplanade and National hotels, Fremantle Prison, Spare Parts Puppet Theatre, Luna Palace Cinema, Casey Australia Tours, Norm Wrightson Hairway, Moving Art, Velvet Sushi, Captain Munchies, Love Intimo, Spudshed, RSL, St Pat's Community Support Centre, Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia (WA) and Breast Cancer Care WA.

Individual giants include my children Cadie, Baeley and Melody, Koreana Gibson, Salvatore Passanisi, Basil Galati, Louise Monte, Geert Snoeijer, Nonja Peters, Di Ingelse, Geoff Diver, Ian Edwards, Vince Elliott, Joe and Melissa Spadaro, Marcus Ahern, Stella Serafino, Joe and Victoria Rifici, Rob Cashman, John Arthur, John Longley, Hugh Edwards, Ian Godfrey, Victor Paino, Anthony Vergona, Marks Koens, Brad Manera, Catherine Jones, Melissa Parke, Victor Paino, Sam Fazio, Mark Koens, Brad Manera, Ainslie de Vos, Wes and Dale Olson, Josh Wilson, Terry Patterson, Eddie Albrecht, Amerigo Carrello, Bob Somerville and designer Christoph Hoppen.

Readers can contact *Freo StreetWise* via PO Box 258 Fremantle WA 6160 or at melnet@westnet.com. You can also join its growing Facebook community site.

STREET RELIEF

MENTAL health advocate Geoff Diver often wanders into Freo to lose himself. Broke, empty and still dealing with the pain of his 18-year-old daughter's suicide in 2011, the 52-year-old environmental scientist says the streets give him comfort in the face of tragedy.

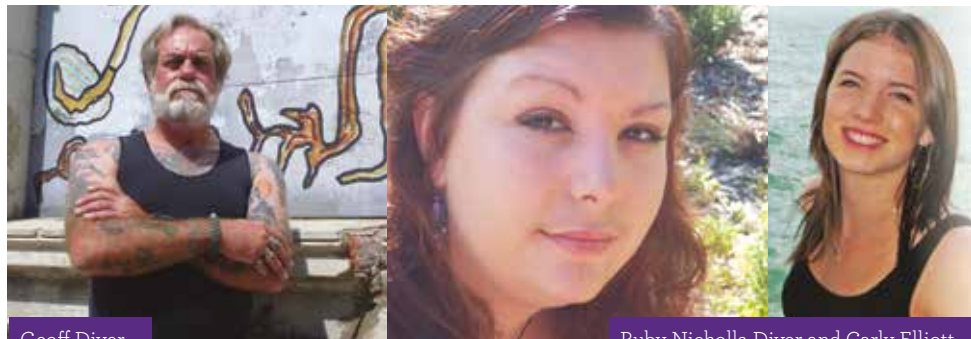
"Freo is one of those places that if you're in trouble you can just come in and drift," he tells *StreetWise* over a coffee outside Gino's. "If you have a few bucks you might have a coffee or you can sit on any of these benches ... I quite often sit in the mall and watch the world go by."

Geoff's world was shattered in March 2011 when he received the call that thrust him into the public light as a champion of mental health reform in WA. His mentally ill daughter Ruby was one of the 'Alma five' who died between March 2011 and March 2012 including Carly Elliott, 20, Michael Thomas, 57, Anthony Edwards, 26, and Stephen Robson, 47. Geoff's 26-year-old stepson also killed himself in

2014, 10 days after he was released from Alma Street. Geoff is clearly hurting, having "gone bush to lose myself" on the fifth anniversary of Ruby's death on March 2 this year.

In January, the WA Coroner in her report at www.coronerscourt.wa.gov.au condemned mental health services over a lack of adequate policies and contact with carers.

Vince Elliott says it took him a week before he could read the coroner's report: "We are still dealing with it, a week ago I was OK, today ... it comes in waves."



Geoff Diver

Ruby Nicholls-Diver and Carly Elliott

"Seven people a day in Australia die from a mental illness. That's more than 2500 people a year ... I'm over it"

Ian Edwards

"When I found her dead ... I relive that a lot. She was only 20 and I miss her like hell."

Ian Edwards says he refuses to read the report after the coroner called his "best mate" Andrew.

"I just said, 'this is bullshit', and gave up reading it," he told *StreetWise* a couple of weeks before his family planned to commemorate the fourth

anniversary of Anthony's death by releasing balloons at Point Walter where he used to walk his dog.

"Seven people a day in Australia die from a mental illness. That's more than 2500 people a year ... I'm over it."

Geoff says he is trying to pick up the pieces of his life, "I'm just

shattered. I'm empty. I looked after Ruby for five years and fought the system for another five so this is 10 years for me.

"A year before she died her psychiatric team told me, 'from this point on you are only surviving by eating into your emotional capital. And there will be a cost, you will pay for this at some point'."

If you know someone who needs help contact Lifeline on 131114 or beyondblue on 1300224636.

SOMETHING TO CROWE ABOUT

OSCAR winning actor Russell Crowe plans to film the 1629 *Batavia* massacre. The star of 'Master and Commander' and 'Mutiny on the Bounty' has bought the option to film the mutiny story based on the 1966 best-seller 'Islands of Angry Ghosts' by WA author Hugh Edwards.

Edwards told *Freo StreetWise* that agents for Crowe's Fear of God film company approached him in September last year with the idea of filming the bloody epic in which 125 men, women and children were murdered after the Dutch ship was wrecked in the Abrolhos islands off Geraldton.

"We have discussed it," *Batavia*'s 84-year-old co-discoverer says. "The rights give Crowe 12 months to consider whether he will shoot the story for a film. The option is renewable after a year."

Crowe has shown a strong interest in stories of shipwrecks and their survivors, including *Batavia*. Duyfken foundation chairman John Longley told *StreetWise* all the ingredients for a new movie about the 17th century tragedy are in WA.

"Hollywood could not have written it better because the script is already there," he explains. "The *Batavia* replica is in Lelystad, The Netherlands, so they could shoot the internals and *Duyfken* could act as *Saardam* which returned to the wreck and rescued the survivors after the mutiny."



"Russell is aware of this, but the last I heard it was a matter of timing."

StreetWise was unable to reach Crowe's agents in Los Angeles for comment.

RUDY'S ROYAL REPLY

"At least they replied," Barrington Street furniture king Rudolf Raats says sipping on his morning coffee at the Millhouse on Norfolk.

The owner of Bibra Lake Office and Home was surprised to hear the Japanese emperor's family had received his 1971 happy snap after it appeared in the first edition of Freo's new independent quarterly magazine.

Rudy was attending the world jamboree as a young Freo scout when he was invited into the carriage of the Japanese imperial family travelling from Tokyo to Osaka.

"Thank you for sending an e-mail to the Imperial

Household Agency," the family's minders told *Freo StreetWise*. "Their Imperial Highnesses Crown Prince and Princess (their Majesties the Emperor and Empress) were present at the World Scout Jamboree performed in Shizuoka prefecture in 1971, but we don't know the background of taking the picture."

After a second email, asking for a comment about what they thought of the photo, the minders replied: "We regret to inform you that we are unable to accept your request. Thank you for your understanding."

Undeterred, *StreetWise* again asked whether they could take another look at the photo, hoping it might jog their memories about the younger Rudy. No reply yet.

MATERIALLY MAWSON

IAN Godfrey is back in Perth safe and sound after spending summer at Mawson's huts in Antarctica. "It was a great trip," he told *Freo StreetWise* at his WA Museum desk overlooking Bathers Bay.

"We made good progress on work on the hut and even the weather held up. We were hut-bound by just two blizzards."

Dr Godfrey's restoration team lived in a neighbouring field hut about 600m from the century-old shack where Douglas Mawson and his men spent most of their time during the Australasian Antarctic Expedition to Cape Denison at the turn of last century.

Much of their equipment and personal gear, including assorted clothing such as jackets, balaclavas and underwear and photographer Frank Hurley's developing chemicals, still sit where they were left when the hut was abandoned.

They included bottles of stout, food, tobacco and medicinal powder tins and stacks of books and mags, including Helen Wallace's 1907 'To Pleasure Madame', Sir Max Pemberton's 1910 'Show Girl' and a 1912 paperback 'On Tour with Troddles' by R. Andom (pseudonym of Alfred W. Barrett).

Dr Godfrey, who 'retired' in 2013, says plans are underway for another Australian Antarctic Division expedition at the end of this year.

This time the 63-year-old conservation scientist says he doesn't plan to return: "I'd like to, but it's time to hand over to a younger generation.

"You have to keep the project going because if you stop, you're back to square one. The building is OK, but the artefacts will continue to corrode. Though the low temperatures slow the deterioration, the humidity is high and seldom drops below 90 per cent."

Additional snaps of Mawson's huts, wildlife and stunning landscapes around Cape Denison can be viewed at the *StreetWise* Facebook site.



BEAUTIFUL FOOTWORK

HAD Freo MP Melissa Parke not entered federal politics, she might have pursued a career in foot modelling. The retiring Labor pollie says she was approached to model footwear while working as a human rights lawyer at the United Nations.

"I was at an outdoor party in New York when I was asked whether I was interested in becoming a foot model," she told *Freo StreetWise* at her Wray Avenue electoral office.

"I said, 'perhaps another time, I have a good job, but if I found myself out of work' ..."

Melissa, who turns 50 in August, says she will step down at the next election: "I will of course remain engaged in the issues I'm passionate about and will no doubt continue to make a nuisance of myself from time to time."

That includes opposing the State Government sale of Freo port, "which should be abandoned and the billions used to develop the outer harbour", building the Perth Freight Link-Roe 8 link and lobbying for better public transport, mental health services and re-establishment of Commonwealth marine reserves off WA.

She also will continue to be a patron for the animal rescue centre Native ARC in Bibra Lake and, of course, model for Velvet Sushi, which designed her wedding gown.

"That will be great fun," she says. "That's about supporting local people and local business."

Asked whether she would consider working again for the UN, she says, "not in the short term, but I wouldn't rule it out".

Melissa says her time in federal parliament had been internationally focused, serving on committees on human rights, defence and trade.

Once described by Carmen Lawrence as a "country girl", Melissa says she wants to spend more time with her family including her parents in Donnybrook and sister's family in Toodyay.

"I have been away from them for the past 17 years," she says, having married Perth arts patron Warwick Hemsley in September. "It is important to be able to step back and just see what comes from reflection and meditation."

Before joining Labor in 1995, Parke worked as community lawyer in southwestern WA.

Melissa looks back at her nine years in Canberra and says, "I think what I've come to realise is that you very rarely get the big sweeping victories.

"You have to learn to celebrate the small incremental changes because that's pretty much how politics works.

"Unfortunately, I'm an idealist, I'd like to see sweeping changes.

"It is important to be able to step back and just see what comes from reflection and meditation."



FEELS LIKE SUSHI

VELVET Sushi's new location on William Street is a wonderland of exclusive fashion for women. Pop-up owner and designer Deborah Mckendrick has extended her repertoire to include three collections which can be made to order and fitted to women of all shapes and sizes.

The 'Classic Collection' focuses on the easy to wear silhouette with a simple colour palette. 'La Boutique Collection' is more adventurous with stunning prints and rich colours. Then there is the deliberately delicious 'Special Occasion Couture' which is just waiting to be discovered.

The daughter of a dentist, Deborah migrated to WA from Portsmouth, UK, in 1966, as a young child. Starting her career as a graphic designer, somewhere along the road she tripped and fell headlong into the fashion industry, "like Alice falling through The Looking Glass".

"What I love about the fashion industry is that it incorporates business with art", she tells *Freo StreetWise*. "I have to study the global and local economy and forecast what I think will happen, that's why I've chosen to take advantage of pop-up spaces to keep down the overheads."

Deborah's first label 'Detekt' was of 80s Japanese influence, with the emphasis on hand cut stencil prints. In 1986, Deborah and co-founder Bret Polok opened the ultra hip clothing store Eldorado in King Street, Perth, which traded for 10 years until it was sold in 1996.

"When I get an idea I quickly sketch it, then I do a technical draft to work out how it will be constructed, I make the pattern and then sew a sample," she explains. "For the client it's not just about the look, it is also about the feel and comfort."

Joining her equally artistic sister Sandy Mckendrick in Fremantle, Deborah says Freo has become, "a global melting pot, full of well-travelled, interesting people, many of whom have a strong inclination towards the arts".

Deborah says her clients are mostly mature women of a discerning age, including retiring federal MP Melissa Parke, whose ice-blue wedding gown she designed and stitched together with the help of seamstress Natasha Lea. This "one off, work of art" was given the title of 'The Water Goddess' and is part of the Glamazon Gown series.

"I met Melissa when Velvet Sushi Salon was in the New Edition Bookshop," she recalls. "She's great, a wonderful person and has a natural hourglass figure. I'm working on a new stunning evening gown as part of the collection Melissa will be photographed in."

Deborah lives in Success with her Norwegian partner and two hounds, an English mastiff and Irish wolfhound, and indulges in a more personal creative passion, life drawing and expressive paintings of the female form.

Deborah's creations can be viewed at www.velvetsushi.com.au and *StreetWise's* Facebook site.

She can be contacted at luxury@velvetsushi.com.au or 0421965549.



PHOTO FANATIC

BOB Sommerville left school to work underground on the Golden Mile, Kalgoorlie, when he was 15 years old.

Today, the 69-year-old photographer and graphic designer is part of the Freo fabric, capturing the ever changing colours and faces of the port city he calls home.

“My connection with Fremantle began with my grandparents and mother (McKay family) who lived in Swan Street, North Freo, and were deeply involved in the port workforce and unions,” he says, his images reflecting the busy working port.

“My parents married and moved to Kalgoorlie which became my home town. After 11 years, mostly underground, I moved into local government, always with a leaning towards drafting and graphics.

“I still have my late father’s 1935 Kodak camera which started my lifelong interest in photography. When I was 12, my parents bought me a Brownie camera which my son now has.”

Bob’s father arrived in WA from Scotland in 1912 and with his grandparents settled in Northcliffe before drifting back to Perth.

Bob says there is hardly a morning or night, rain or shine, when he is not down at the harbour photographing the port traffic, people fishing off the rocks or wildlife at the water’s edge.

He is drawn to it.

“The harbour environs offer a wonderful platform to refine the essentials of photography, the most important of all being to understand and to ‘see’ light at any moment.

“Fremantle Ports has been very generous, encouraging and supportive, and this has inspired me to continually improve the image quality.”

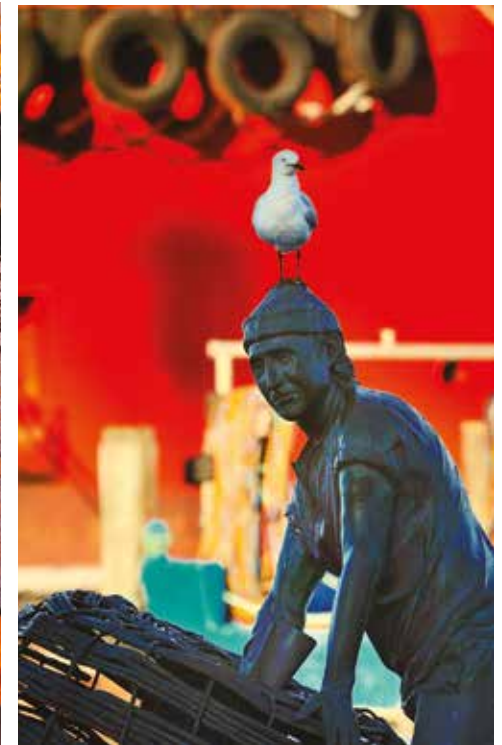
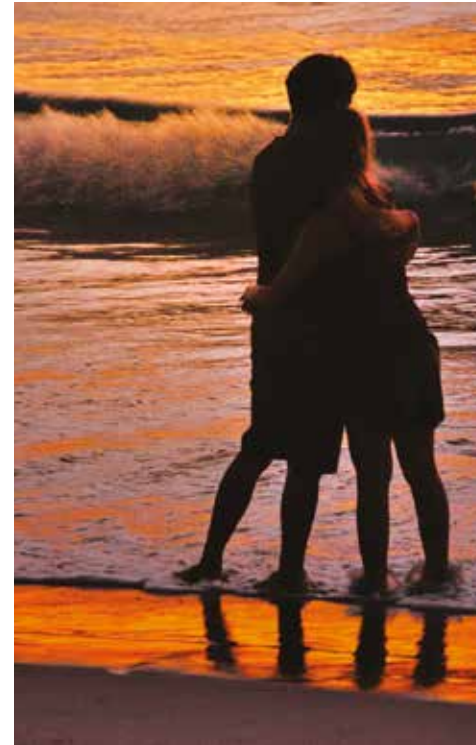
He says Freo also offers enthusiasts every visual opportunity - in its festivals, concerts and street music, buskers, history, architecture, industrial, nature and interesting faces.

“It’s all here and here every day. Having large and expensive gear is not as important as one might think. Being able to recognise the potential for a picture is important and easily learnt, whereas technique learned through experience takes longer.

“Just shoot often and regularly in all conditions.”

Bob has also photographed widely in Europe and Asia - the elegant streets of Vienna and Paris, the motor city of Munich, the grim banality of concentration camps in Germany, the mountains of Bavaria, Petra and deserts of Jordan, the high country in Sulawesi and Roman ruins of Italy.

“Fremantle though is always my favourite destination,” he tells *Street Wise*, his best snaps appearing throughout this edition and on the magazine Facebook site.



COACHED IN THE BUSH

SWINGING billies in the outback, patting dolphins at Monkey Mia and cooling off in an eski - 'little' Tim is right at home in the bush.

Images of his childhood on tour with dad Bryan Casey - founder of WA's longest-running coach operator - reflect a family business whose adventures have taken passengers on one day to 20-day tours to some of the most remote spots in Australia. The Pilbara, Kimberley, Nullarbor.

Tim is all grown up now and ready to set off again when *Freo StreetWise* popped in to the Casey Australia Tours control room in Bicton.

Tim's wife and former corporate travel agent who studied early childhood teaching in Freo, Jacinta is busy with reservations while Bryan and his wife Rina work in the next room coordinating a fleet of three 28-seater and one 48-seater coaches.

Founded in 1973, the business started with a handful of passengers on a 40-day tour of Australia and now employs drivers and experienced guides who enjoy sharing their love of the bush with people from around the world.

"We go into places where you wouldn't otherwise be able to go, places that are out of the way," the former Left Bank staffer and father of three says.

One of the big destinations of the year will be Shark Bay, which is gearing up for the 400th anniversary celebrations of the first European visit to Dirk Hartog Island (named after the Dutch explorer who set foot on WA's biggest island in late October 1616).

Places for its eight-day 'Voyage of Discovery' - starting October 20 - are filling fast, the local festival of music, art and culture expected to attract hundreds of people to the World Heritage-listed region.

Jacinta says Casey Tours is setting up a camp in Denham, with a full-day

cruise to Dirk Hartog where the WA Government plans to re-enact Hartog's landing: "This is going to be a great event and opportunity for people to see some extraordinary country."

Travellers can contact the Caseys at www.caseytours.com.au or res@caseytours.com.au and +61893394291 or 1800999677 (Australia only). Check out Tim swinging billies and bathing in the family eski at the *Freo StreetWise* Facebook site.

"This is going to be a great event and opportunity for people to see some extraordinary country."

Jacinta Casey



LEEWIN'S AGE OF DISCOVERY TOUR

THE Dutch ship *Leeuwin* or Lioness visited WA in 1622 and described the south west coast as a 'low land with dunes, dotted with trees and bush and liable to flooding'.

The 'accidental' discovery of this now popular coastal destination which British explorer Matthew Flinders named after the VOC galleon took place six years after Dirk Hartog landed at Shark Bay.

This year, STS *Leeuwin II* sails into history to celebrate not just the 400th anniversary of Hartog's landing in his ship *Eendracht*, but the maritime exploration of western Australia by a number of Dutch 'Age of Discovery' ships sailing to Batavia (Jakarta, Indonesia).

VOC (Dutch East India Company) letters indicate *Leeuwin* was the first vessel to sail the continent's most southerly latitudes, its charts of 'Leeuwin's Land' or 'Land of the Lioness' between Hamelin Bay and Point D'Entrecasteaux recorded on a 1627 map, 'Caert van't Landt van d'Eendracht' or Chart of the Land of Eendracht (Harmony).



The *Leeuwin* Ocean Adventure Foundation invites maritime history lovers to experience life at sea as part of its 'Dirk by Sea' program launched in February.

Based at Victoria Quay, the Freo-based 55m tall ship built at Henderson and launched in 1986 departs the port city on October 14, arriving at Shark Bay a week later in time for the anniversary celebrations organised by the WA Government and Shire of Shark Bay.

Foundation CEO Anne-Marie Archer says the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will cater for 40 history and sailing enthusiasts aged over 18 years old. The 344-tonne *Leeuwin* is a working ship so participants are expected to take part in most aspects of ship operations from sailing, steering and navigating to cleaning and climbing the masts.

"Those who join us on this sail will get the chance to experience all aspects of the sailing program that others experience on our youth development voyages," she told *Freo StreetWise*, whose Facebook site includes a gallery of working crew and passengers and *Leeuwin* sailing off Freo.

"Our mission is to challenge and inspire young people to realise their personal potential and make a positive contribution to the wider community through the unique medium of a tall sailing ship."

The Foundation is a not-for-profit and award-winning provider of experiential learning and leadership development programs for young people aged 14 to 25. Details about the Dirk Hartog voyage in October at www.sailleeuwin.com and www.facebook.com/LeeuwinII or contact the Foundation at office@sailleeuwin.com or on 94304105.



GEERT BY SEA

GEERT Snoeijer's ancestry is just as fascinating as the subjects in his portraits. The Dutch-born photographer has produced a collection of images depicting members of Aboriginal families in WA who claim to be descendants of 17th and 18th century Dutch shipwreck survivors - including Peidence Lawson pictured here.

The images are part of a new project, 'Dutch Diaspora, the Orphans of the Dutch East India Company', which will be exhibited in October at the WA Museum, Westfries Museum in Hoorn, The Netherlands, National Museum Bloemfontein, South Africa, and Galeri Nasional, Indonesia.

The former lawyer from IJsselmuiden, who began his career as a documentary photographer at the Dutch daily *Het Parool* in 2004, says his portrait work has a strong anthropological element.

In 2009, he portrayed descendants of the first settlers in New Amsterdam (17th century New York), producing images of descendants in the direct male line of Dutch ancestors who lived there before 1675 - their images available on the *Freo StreetWise* Facebook page.

"I was driven by curiosity as to whether or not traces of Dutchness could still be discerned in their faces after so many generations," he told *StreetWise* during a recent visit to WA to interview Aboriginal families from Kalbarri, Northampton, Geraldton and Shark Bay.

He says the Dutch Diaspora project he is working on with Curtin University anthropologist Nonja Peters is, "about people's desire of belonging and awareness of self-identity".

But it is his own self identity which intrigued *StreetWise*. Asked about his background, he says, "I remember since my early childhood people asking me the question: 'who do you belong to?'. My mother had that experience ... People kept telling her over and over again she was Jewish.

"It made her more than anxious to find out what was going on and after insisting for many years, my grandmother revealed her 'secret'. She had

been born to a Jewish mother, but grew up with a foster family. Lots of Jews denied and hid their background in post-war Holland.

"It made me curious to know who my ancestors were ... so I sent in a DNA sample and am waiting for the result."

Dr Peters says Aboriginal families they interviewed believe their European characteristics, such as blonde hair, blue eyes and extra toes and fingers, suggested their blood lines mixed with Dutch survivors

"I was driven by curiosity as to whether or not traces of Dutchness could still be discerned in their faces after so many generations."

Geert Snoeijer's

of wrecks including *Zuytdorp*, which sank near Shark Bay in 1712 when as many as 180 people may have reached shore.

She says the physical features they describe is related to a rare genetic disease, Ellis-van Creveld syndrome, also found among the Amish in Pennsylvania, in the US, who are descended from 17th century Dutch-German migrants.

Additional images at www.dutchdiaspora.com and www.geert-snoeijer.com.



DECKED FOR NEW ADVENTURE

'LITTLE Dove' Duyfken is seabound. Its latest adventure - sailing as the 17th century centrepiece of the State's 400th anniversary celebrations recognising the arrival of the first Europeans in WA.

As the Freo-built ship prepares to sail again, WA maritime experts, divers and technology scour the seabed off Geraldton, Shark Bay and Christmas Island for a fifth, even sixth, 'flying Dutchman'.

The original Duyfken was the first ship known to have visited the 'unknown Southland' at Cape York, Queensland in 1606. Luckily, it did not meet the same end as WA's first four Dutch East India Company ships - *Batavia* (1629), *Vergulde Draeck* (1656), *Zuytdorp* (1712) and *Zeewijk* (1727).

Once Little Dove's decks are done, the 140-tonne ship will be lifted into the water at Rous Head after its first major refit since its launch in Freo in 1999. The 20m 'Age of Discovery' ship reconstruction will be moored in Denham from October 19, taking part in a week-long festival of culture, art and history.

Its six-week voyage of 'rediscovery' begins on August 20 when it leaves its Little Creatures berth to visit Bunbury, Mandurah, Hillarys, Jurien Bay, Dongara and Geraldton before tacking north towards the shipwreck coast to World Heritage-listed Shark Bay.

Details of the voyage are available at www.duyfken.com, Duyfken's role in the early exploration and mapping of Australia at <http://museum.wa.gov.au/explore/dirk-hartog>.

The new Dirk Hartog 1616-2016 website developed by *StreetWise* editor Carmelo Amalfi and the WA Museum was launched by Premier Colin Barnett on January 23 - on the 400th anniversary of Hartog's departure from The Netherlands in Eendracht and arrival on the west coast on October 25.

DREAM CUISINE AT PORTOROSA

JOE Napoli was 14 when he arrived in Freo with his parents in 1969 on board the Italian ocean liner *SS Guglielmo Marconi*. Born in the Sicilian town of Falcone, the owner of Portorosa Ristorante on Market Street worked with his mum in Cockburn before he accepted a barber's apprenticeship in Freo.

His dream was to be a cabinet maker but he couldn't speak English, so in 1970 with his father's influence he took up his trade in barbering, which he did for 35 years.

During that time, he owned four unisex salons in different locations - the first in 1975 at the first unisex salon in Freo (Snip and Kick on High Street). "Don Peppino" as he calls himself on Facebook says men's haircuts cost \$5 back then.

In 1977, the South Freo resident opened a barber shop at the Phoenix shopping centre which he managed for 25 years before moving a few hundred metres along Rockingham Road.

"The landlord persuaded me into the restaurant business across the road and I took over the Bella Napoli in Spearwood," he recalls as familiar faces pop in to shake his hand and say hello.

The reluctant barber built up the Spearwood business (a Gold Plate award finalist restaurant for three consecutive years) until he sold it after seven years to become a silent partner in Portorosa.

Tripling turnover within the first 12 months, Joe has stamped his brand of Mediterranean cuisine in Freo. Back in Spearwood, he re-opened the old Bella Napoli under the Portorosa name.

Portorosa is a combination of 'porto' or port and 'rosa', pink or rose - named after the biggest resort port in Sicily where Joe grew up before migrating to WA.

The classic Italian pizza restaurant is a must for seafood and pasta lovers and Joe's signature dish - spaghetti portorosa - is a popular dish even among hardcore Italians. Using the best available local ingredients, Portorosa is open daily for

lunch and dinner when diners can on most days count on a friendly chat with Joe or one of his staff. If you're lucky, he'll even join you.

But don't just expect a conversation over penne vodka pasta or crab linguini with fine wines and Italian beer. The father of two also has strong views about the future of his adopted port city.

"When Myers closed, business turnover dropped by at least 10 per cent," Joe explains. Having no department store to attract shoppers, he says Fremantle became less busy especially at the beginning of the week.

"People like to chase the specials which generates business for small boutiques and retailers across the city. The parking also turns people off while rents and rates continue to rise.

"I have lobbied the council for the past five years to close off this section of Market Street and turn it into a "piazza" for families to safely walk through and enjoy the beautiful city of Fremantle."

Joe's special menus are available at www.portorosa.com.au or you can contact the restaurant at 93 Market Street on 0894306126 or portorosa@westnet.com.au.



IN THE MARKET FOR HISTORY

FIRST cousins Victor Paino and Anthony Vergona look at home in the empty room overlooking Market Street. Their families once occupied both floors of the building where up to 20 people have lived and worked for more than a last century.

"They used to cook crayfish in big pots out the back," Victor says, staring out over the rooftops behind the former grocery store supplying imported goods to Freo's migrant community.

It also was the scene of a terrible accident in 1926 that claimed the life of his brother Cono, aged five years old, while playing on the roof with his younger brother Anthony.

"Cono was electrocuted when he touched the overhead wires," Victor tells *Freo StreetWise*. "Anthony was thrown back by the shock and taken to hospital."

Victor's family history in Freo began in 1911 when his father Salvatore arrived from Sicily penniless and unable to speak English. He married Maria Vergona, daughter of Antonino and Rosa, who owned the Roma Fruit Palace.

Anthony says his grandfather Antonino returned to Sicily because he was going blind. He never came back and left the business to his son-in-law

Salvatore and Maria, who had five children, Cono, Anthony, Helena, Sam and Victor.

Victor says the family, which moved to Forrest Street in East Fremantle in 1932, bought the shop next door and converted it into Fremantle Fish Supply at 58 and 60 Market Street.

By World War Two, like many Italians in Freo, Salvatore was deemed an "enemy alien" and imprisoned after his arrest at the fish shop. This was despite his brother-in-law's service in the RAF, Victor says, annoyed at his family's treatment.

Even Victor's brother Anthony, who died in 2014 aged 92, his hands still bearing the burn scar of the electrical shock he received in 1926, was accused of having collaborated in HMAS Sydney's sinking in 1941. He was the last civilian on the Australian cruiser and, according to Victor, almost didn't make it off after bringing supplies to the ill-fated ship: "He escaped death twice."

Salvatore died in 1966, when Anthony Vergona was four, the now 53-year-old real estate agent recalling how his uncle "old man Paino" would always make him feel welcome at the shop.

Anthony's father Bartolo or "uncle Bob" was also born upstairs. He served in the Australian army until 1947 and after the war worked at the fish shop until his retirement in 1980.

The father of two boys, Anthony says his family has been part of Freo's history since his grandfather Antonino arrived in 1890. "The Vergonas in Freo and Re family in Perth were among the first Italian importers in WA."

Victor was the first businessman to be inducted in the Fremantle Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame for having turned Sealanes into a top 500 Australian company. Accepting his award, Victor said, "Tough times never last, but tough people do. It's just a matter of persevering".

Images of the Painos and Vergonas in early Freo can be viewed on the *StreetWise* Facebook site.



LOVE OVER LAW

TO start their family, Coogee couple Joyce and Santo Merenda fought for three years to change the adoption laws in WA.

The result more than a decade later - keen soccer player Tae, 13, and good swimmer Su, 11.

"I was 40 when I applied for Tae and I got him when I turned 43," Joyce shared with *Freo StreetWise*, our interview starting with her grandfather Rosario's arrival in South Australia in 1927.

"The law in WA had not changed for older parents to adopt children, if you were over 40 the only child you could adopt was a child with special needs or a disability," the Adelaide girl explains.

She says after 15 years of marriage, they decided to adopt Tae from Seoul, South Korea, and two years later, orphaned Su from Chongqing, China.

Former WA Attorney-General Jim McGinty recalls how hard the couple fought to change the "old-fashioned" adoption laws for people aged over 40.



"I championed their cause because it was so unfair and highly discriminatory," he told *StreetWise*. "And though I would have preferred a completely non-discriminatory law, the parliament decided in the best interests of the child and as a compromise to raise the age from 40 to 50."

He says Santo and Joyce's desire to have a family has changed the lives of many people who provide homes, education and a future for society's newest members.

The story of Joyce's grandfather and father Giuseppe, "who grew lettuce like you grew wheat", is available at the *StreetWise* community page on Facebook.



ALFRESCO KING PLATES UP

NUNZIO Gumina, Freo's father of alfresco dining who in 1978 was granted permission to put tables and chairs on the Cappuccino Strip, turns 69 this year.

Six years old when he migrated to WA with his mother Lucia, the doyen of fine dining shrugs it off and asks one of his waiters to turn on the music for diners at his Essex Street Italian restaurant.

The former proprietor of Papa Luigi's Cafe and Old Papa's says Freo was at a crossroads where old and new were battling to redefine the port city through one of its most precious assets - food.

"We are fighting to reinvent ourselves as a place of cultural diversity and development," he tells *Freo Street Wise* as he confirms another booking on his mobile phone.

Nunz clearly has strong views about service and top quality cuisine and doesn't hold back when asked to described how Freo can do better to stem the exodus of businesses, particularly in retail.

"When I was on the Strip, I walked across the road and introduced myself to the owner of New Edition bookshop who was opening up a new coffee shop," he recalls.

"I told him I welcomed competition, but asked whether he could make a good coffee. He said, 'I'll try'. I said that's not good enough because people will come to Freo, buy a book and grab a coffee.

"If that coffee is not good, they'll go home and criticise Freo to their friends. So we helped him out."

That same principle applied to food. One bad dish and ...

Surrounded by a colourful collection of local and international artworks, diners will melt as waiters serve homemade pastas, squid ink linguine in prawn ragu and chilli, eggplant-stacked parmigiana, milk fed veal and oven-baked capretto.

Nunz's place also is the first in WA to serve Birra Moretti on tap. The menu of the day can be viewed at the front door or else enquire at nunz@nunzios.net.au and 0862195441.

"It has to be about quality and top service," he explains, getting up to make espresso.

"We're all in the same boat and cannot afford to have people bagging Freo."

Nunz says High Street should be lit up at night and booming with Chinese, Indian and Italian wine bars and restaurants. At the other end of the street, in Kings Square, he says films could be screened on the walls of the old Myers building: "At night it (Kings Square) could be all lit up like a piazza, with gelatorias and small bars.

"We pay high rents and all we get is pop-ups. It needs a four or five-star Ibis hotel, with small rooms for singles and couples. Freo is a number one destination for visitors and tourists.

"It's like Fremantle has no address."

Even the rail station, Nunz insists, should be sunk to make way for apartments and buildings connecting the port to the CBD.

"Will we see it in the next 20 years, maybe. We have to catch up with other councils. Growth in Perth has risen 30 per cent a year, in Freo it's about eight per cent."

Nunz says part of the reason for this was the loss of the city's traditional continental stores and delis, such as Lango's

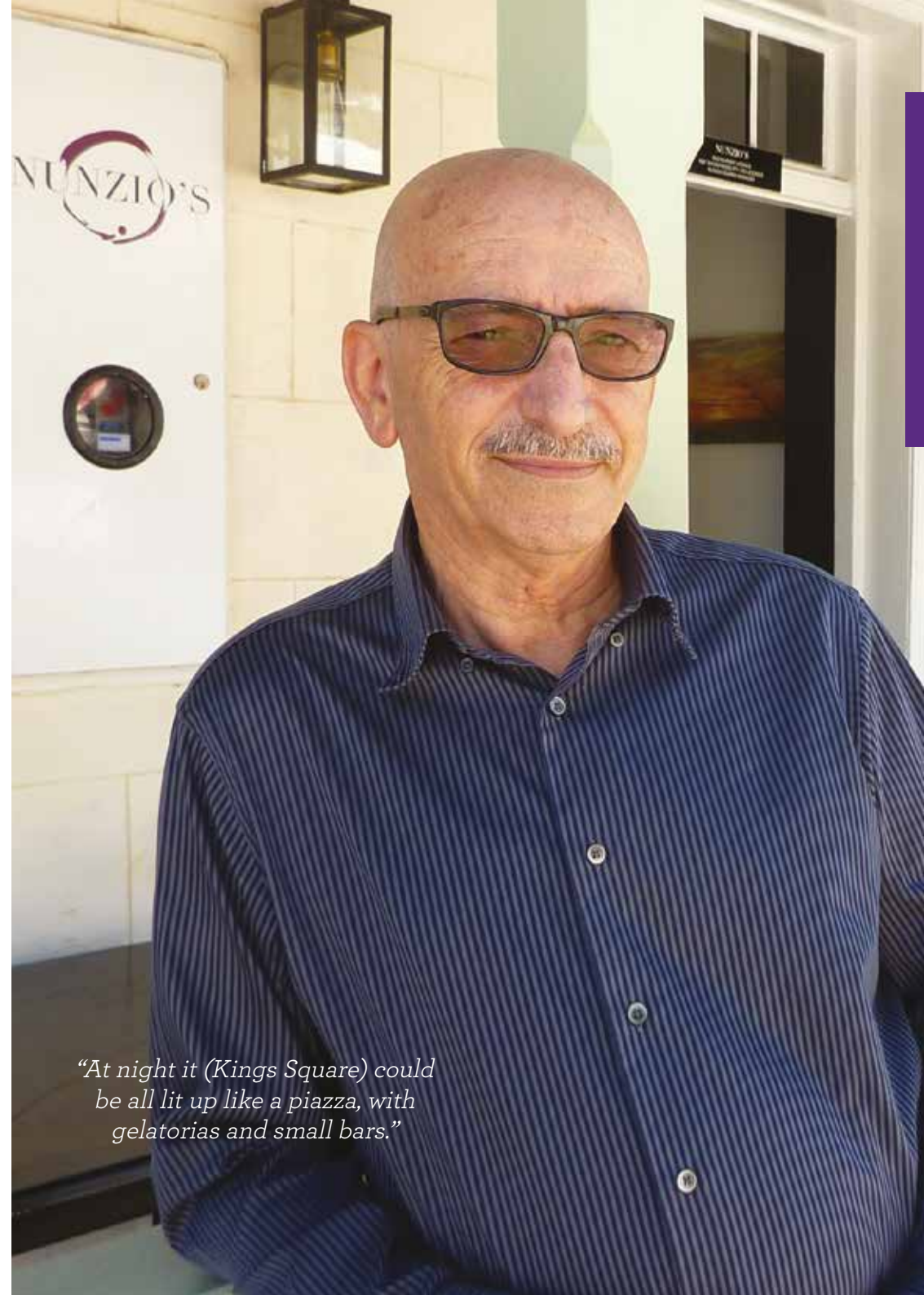
Foods which became Interfoods and Mamas on Market Street.

"We've lost all that," he says. "The only place left in central Freo is Kakulas Sisters where you can still get beautiful olives and cheeses."

Nunz also blames himself for trading his crayfish and salami sandwiches for Vegemite sandwiches as a young boy, "My kids blame me for not holding onto the traditional foods I got sick and tired of eating when I first arrived in Freo".

He called on Freo's ethnic communities to pull together and rebuild its cultural identity, his restaurant providing a template for fine food and service. Nunz himself is very hands-on, diners enjoying a casual chat with the son of an Italian policeman and passionate restaurateur.

It has to be about quality and top service.



"At night it (Kings Square) could be all lit up like a piazza, with gelatorias and small bars."

WOOD-FIRED TRADITION ROCKS

RUOCCO'S first established in 1978 by Matteo Ruocco, has been serving some fulsome and authentic Italian food to generations of families in Fremantle and its surrounding suburbs.

Boasting the first wood-fired oven in Western Australia, built by Matteo himself, the restaurant was originally a pizza takeaway outlet. Over the years, Ruocco's has turned into a landmark and a place where family and friends gather to celebrate all sorts of events ranging from birthdays and Holy Communions, to Christmas functions and reunions. Then there're also the regulars that dine in or get takeaways three to four times a week, simply because it is honest food, cooked right and affordable.

Upon stepping into the restaurant, you will be enticed by the aroma of food oozing out of the kitchen and the wood-fired oven. There's always

a queue of patrons waiting to be seated which is a great sign, especially when most regulars are locals to the neighbourhood. Then there's the new menu which has only been released over a week ago, introducing exciting new dishes, whilst keeping some of their well-known classics. The menu displays the variety of food served in this iconic Italian restaurant ranging from sharing-sized starters, house-made pastas, wood-fired pizzas, seafood dishes, meat & poultry (including a sensational rabbit risotto), vegetarian options, salads and not to forget the array of house-made desserts (especially the all-time favourite, Ruocco's Tiramisu). You will be spoiled for choice!



The restaurant comes to life every night, with friendly wait staff rushing through the restaurant carrying mouth watering dishes, voices of children, laughter, conversations at tables, the kitchen bells ringing and many more... Ruocco's is open from 11.30am - 10.00pm, Tuesdays - Sundays, serving food & drinks right through the day. So you can call in at anytime to get your Ruocco's fix! Sectioned off into five different dining areas, there's space for every different occasion. Whether it be a dinner date in a room with walls full of hand-painted murals of Italy, functions for larger groups of up to 120 patrons, to the more relaxed alfresco dining wrapped around the heritage listed building, there's always a suitable table.



Having been taken over by the new generation, Ruocco's maintains the same traditional values and respect of the food and ingredients, whilst serving up wholesome, mouth-watering meals that keep you coming back for more.

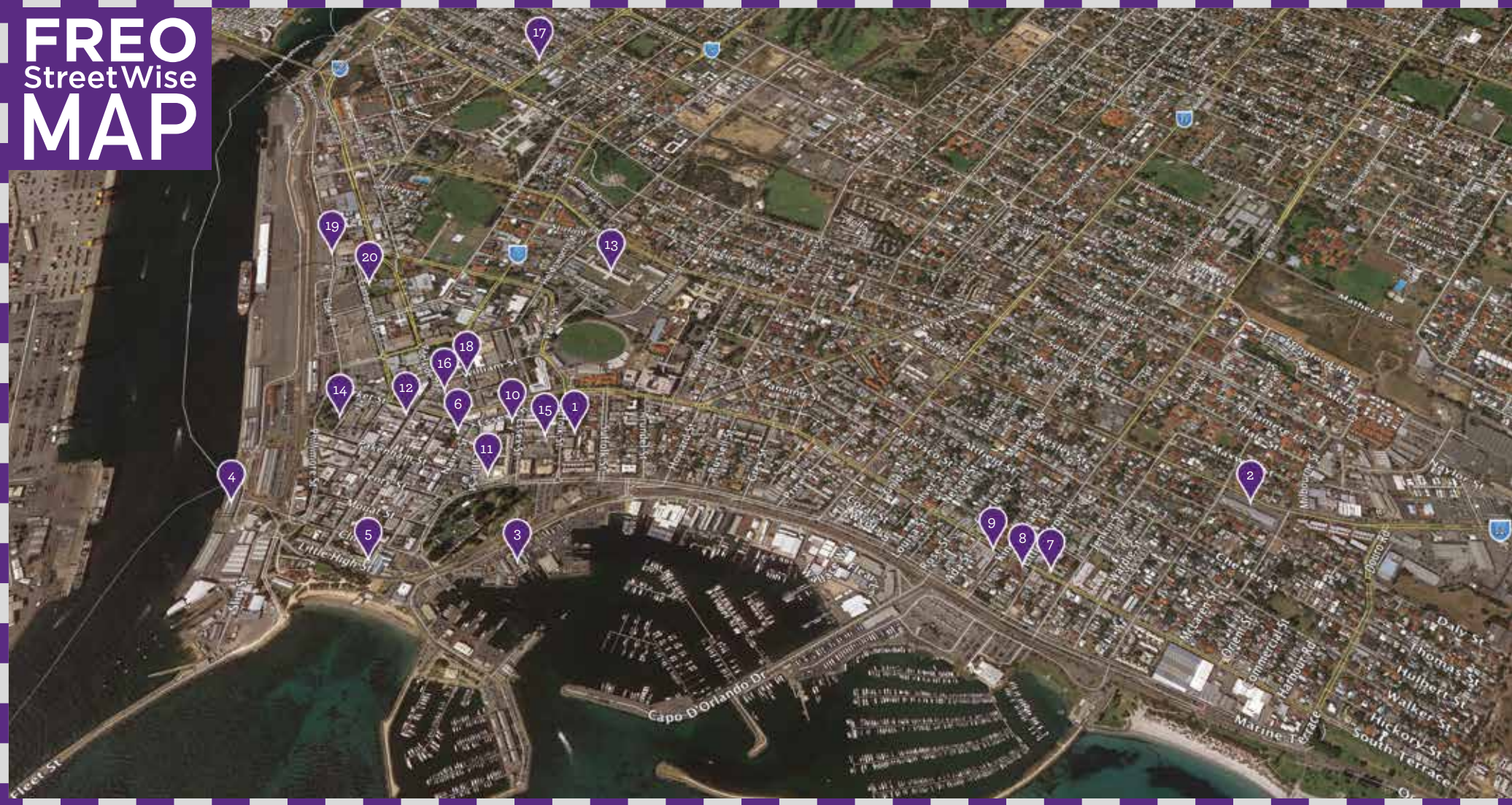
Contact Ruocco's Pizzeria e Ristorante

T: (08) 93356939

E: info@ruoccos.com

W: www.ruoccos.com

FREO StreetWise MAP



1. SCOOP Property - 5 Norfolk St, Fremantle
2. Peaches - 195 Hampton Rd, South Fremantle
3. Duyfken 1606 Replica Foundation - Little Creatures, Fremantle
4. Leeuwin Ocean Adventure Foundation - Victoria Quay, Fremantle
5. WA Museum - 45 Cliff St, Fremantle
6. Portorosa - 93 Market St, Fremantle

7. Calogero's 6162 - 318 South Tce, South Fremantle
8. Across the Road - 231 South Tce, South Fremantle
9. Ruocco's Pizzeria - 217 South Tce, South Fremantle
10. Nunzio's - 20 Essex St, Fremantle
11. The Esplanade - 46-54 Marine Tce, Fremantle

12. National Hotel - 98 High St, Fremantle
13. Fremantle Prison - 1 The Terrace, Fremantle
14. Spare Parts Puppet Theatre - 1 Short St, Fremantle
15. Luna Palace Cinema - 13 Essex St, Fremantle
16. Norm Wrightson Hairway - 7 William St, Fremantle

17. Moving Art - 99 Hubble St, East Fremantle
18. Velvet Sushi - 10 William St, Fremantle
19. Captain Munchies - 2 Beach St, Fremantle
20. RSL - Freo (Clancy's)

This *StreetWise* finder recognises businesses and community groups which have supported the creation of this magazine. It was created with the support of the National and Esplanade hotels.

CALL TO JOIN ANZAC RANKS

FREO RSL will this year hold its Anzac Day services at Princess May Park next to Clancy's.

"We are calling on all ex-service personal, current serving members, family of veterans and any community members to take part," RSL secretary Rob Cashman told *Freo StreetWise*. "We want all members of the Fremantle area to come to the park for two-up, kids entertainment including bouncy castles, playgrounds, music and ice cream vans."

The April 25 dawn service starts at 5:50am at the Fremantle War Memorial at Monument Hill followed by a "gunfire breakfast" between 7am to 9am at Princess May Park at 92 Adelaide Street.

A 9am service will be held at the North Fremantle Fallen Soldier's Memorial at the corner of Queen Victoria Street and Harvest Road.

Marchers are asked to assemble at 9.45am at Esplanade Reserve for the 10.15am parade along Marine Terrace, Collie Street, Pakenham Street,

High Street, Market Street, South Terrace, Essex Street and back to the Esplanade for the closing ceremony at 10.45am.

ANZAC Commemorations in the Park - 100th Year of RSLWA (in conjunction with Clancy's Fish Pub) will be held at Princess May Park from 11.30am to 4.30pm.

"We need the younger generation to help move the RSL into the 21st century."
Rob Cashman

"The services we offer to returned service personnel would not be possible without the ongoing support of the community," Rob says. "We need to get the younger veterans

involved ... we need the younger generation to help move the RSL into the 21st century."

Contact rslfremantle@hotmail.com for details. Information on Anzac Day services at Cockburn and Melville available at www.rslwahq.org.au.



MINT HONOURS RSL CENTURY

THE Returned and Services League was founded in 1916 by Australian soldiers who survived World War One.

Today it is the biggest ex-service organisation in Australia, its members joining ranks on Anzac Day to commemorate the sacrifice of diggers at dawn service ceremonies around the country. The RSL has grown to 1200 sub-branches with more than 170,000 members and 200,000 affiliate members.

To mark the 100th anniversary of the RSL in 2016, The Perth Mint has issued commemorative gold and silver coins portraying the iconic RSL badge. In the centre of the badge is a sailor, soldier, service woman and an airman marching with arms linked, symbolising friendship and unity.

RSL president Graham Edwards says Anzac Day

is a time to recall the mateship shown by Australian diggers at a time of war and peacekeeping.

The 100th anniversary recalls some of the most deadly battles on the Western Front after Australian and New Zealand forces abandoned Gallipoli. It is also the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan in Vietnam and 75th anniversary of the HMAS Sydney sinking in which 645 Australians disappeared off Shark Bay until the ship's discovery in 2008.

The Dawn Service at Kings Park begins at 6am at the State War Memorial on Fraser Avenue followed by the parade through Perth at 9am.





CRUISING FOR A BOOM

A BOOM in cruise ship visits has put Freo at the top of Australia's most popular 2016 travel destinations ahead of the Whitsundays, Melbourne and Uluru.

More than 150,000 cruise ship passengers are expected to visit the port city this year, which is great news for local businesses in hospitality, retail and tourism.

Already riding on the back of a surge in visitor numbers, Freo topped the list of trending destinations announced by Flight Centre on Australia Day. The retail travel giant put the increasing popularity of the port city largely down to the rise of the cruise industry in the west, with bookings up 126 per cent from 2015.

It says Freo is more than just a port city: "Fremantle has a vibrant reputation and is an artistic hub where writers, painters and artists reside. The city's burgeoning creativity boasts

a lively yet relaxed lifestyle with plenty of pubs and cafes as well as a unique multicultural population."

It says locals can jump on a ship to Bali, Singapore, Thailand and Hong Kong, "while Aussies around the country can still come out ahead with a cheap Asia cruise holiday from Fremantle even with the added cost of a flight to Perth".

Freo cracked the 100,000 passenger mark last year, the biggest cruise ship season since the 1970s. Cruise ships visiting WA generated \$275.3 million towards the State's economy in 2014-2015.

For details of the 2016 cruise season, visit www.fremantleports.com.au.

STREETWISE WORKSHOPS

Freo StreetWise will hold a series of writing and editing workshops in June and July. The five-week course coordinated by award-winning journalist Carmelo Amalfi covers print and online news and feature writing, editing and photography, media skills training and a field trip to a secret location in Freo.

The StreetWise workshops cater for up to 20 people, so register asap. The first two-hour workshop will be held in Fremantle at 10am on June 11.

Call 0468608503 or email melnet@westnet.com.au.



BURGER BAR BONANZA

ACROSS The Road is South Freo's new burger house - combining the best in Australian and New Zealand cuisine.

The new business owned by brothers Frank and Carlo Noto, who also owns Calogero's just across the road, offers a mean menu, free jukebox and a comfy interior where customers can chill over coffee on couches looking out at South Terrace.

Diners will find it difficult to choose from the range of 24 burgers which include roo, paua and oyster combos served on brioche or Turkish buns, with extra salad or beer-battered or sweet potato chips on the side. Free range eggs and bacon are also used.

Savoury muffins, pies, puddings and delicious smoothies are available, along with a kids menu that comes with chips, juice or a bottle of water.

Staffer Aria Turoa says the roo burger was designed using a traditional recipe combining a generous sized pattie, fried onions, cheese, sun-dried tomatoes, jalapeno, olives and homemade relish: "Burger lovers will find it a challenging selection," she told StreetWise on opening day. "We also plan to offer a range of soups over the winter months."

Across The Road is open from 11.30am to 8.30pm from Tuesday to Sunday. Check out the burger bonanza at www.facebook.com/acrosstheroadburgerhouse and the StreetWise Facebook page.



COFFEE FIX

NINO Sapienza fell in love with Freo in 1990 when a friend asked the Bibra Lake businessman to escort a group of Sicilians to WA.

"I was here one month and I fell in love with the place," he told Freo StreetWise. "Freo was very European, and still is. I went back and three years later moved here permanently."

Studying English and travel consulting, the former sales consultant from Piscittina (a suburb of Freo's sister city Capo D'Orlando) quickly embraced the port city's coffee culture.

A former sales rep who worked at Old Papa's for five years, Nino is the co-owner of Direct Coffee Supplies and Direct Appliance Repair at 17/6 Quarimor Road in Bibra Lake (www.dcs.com.au).

"It's often very hard to find a consistent coffee quality," Nino says. "People are becoming more discerning and going for more locally made brands."

The father of two who met his Christchurch-born wife and Melville senior high school teacher Shannon soon after arriving in WA says the family returns regularly to Sicily.

"We still call Australia home," he says, his son attending CBC and daughter Christ the King.

Nino's full story is available at the StreetWise Facebook site.

NEW YORK ON THE TERRACE

“YOU can walk in, grab a coffee and pasta, relax and watch the world go by,” according to Calogero’s co-owner Sean Triplett as he describes the 335 square metres of shop floor at 320 South Terrace in South Fremantle. “It’s a cross between Manhattan, New York, Melbourne and Freo all in one.”

Calogero’s 6162 is buzzing when *Freo Street Wise* visits the converted grocery store which evolved out of a family business founded by Antonio and Carmela Noto, who still live upstairs.

The business name itself hails from the name on the 1970 birth certificate of their first-born Carlo who is hard to miss as he paces around the front of the shop on most days, usually with his mobile stuck to his ear, taking and giving orders.

Today, the friendly staff are serving customers popping in for lunch and a coffee or cruising the aisles for the latest specials.

“I love Freo, the weather, the people, the vibe.”

Sean Triplett

Carlo and Sean met at a double wedding in Freo: “Our other partner Vinnie Giarrizzo married a local girl from Fremantle and I ended up sitting next to Carlo.

“We had a great time and became good mates.”

North Melbourne-born founder and managing director of telecommunications company VMobile, Sean spent a lot of time in WA as a team manager and recruiter to AFL player come premiers coach Denis Pagan.

“I followed Denis to Carlton, then moved to the Bulldogs until 2007,” Sean recalls, having joined Greater Western Sydney under Kevin Sheedy before the team entered the AFL in 2009.

Good mates with former Dockers coach Mark Harvey, Sean eventually returned to North Melbourne. But he says he always wanted to open a store in Freo.

“I love Freo, the weather, the people, the vibe,” he says. “I could see Calogero’s taking off.” And it has, catering to lovers of fresh fruit and vegies, cold meats, coffee and chocolate.

“Our rocky road range also has proved a popular hit, selling out as soon as we stock it,” he says as a couple of students eye off the range of chocolate rabbits next to the watermelon stand.

Carlo says the business prides itself on a range of conveniences - from homemade pastas and sauces to organically grown produce, some of which appears on the *Street Wise* Facebook page.

His mum, who arrived from Freo’s Sicilian sister city Capo D-Orlando in 1961, and dad, who migrated two years later from the Sicilian town of San Salvatore di Fitalia, married in 1969 and opened Hampton Fruit Markets on the corner of Hampton and Lefroy roads.

They eventually moved to South Terrace and together with their boys, Carlo, Frank, Sergio and Mario, built the foundation of a business reflected in the now-popular cafe and grocery store.

They retired last year, leaving it to Carlo, Sean and Vince to transform the family business whose Facebook site offers daily tastings and takeaway treats from its cold meat deli.

You can follow the latest gastronomic releases on Facebook, twitter [@Calogeros6162](#) and Instagram [@calogerosfreo](#).



SPLENDOUR AT THE ESPLANADE

“FREO is a special place,” Esplanade Hotels’s new general manager Blair Wallace says. “It’s beauty and architecture and food and beverage spots around town have a real Melbourne feel.

“The petite craft brewers and coffee roasting houses, and ultimately the people in Fremantle are so friendly and welcoming.”

Having grown up on a sheep and cattle farm just outside of Queenstown, New Zealand, Blair says the Esplanade Hotel Fremantle - by Rydges is the destination of choice for visitors looking for the best place to stay in the port city.

“Since the hotel was purchased by Primewest three years ago a large sum of money has been invested to improve the product,” he says. “It is a fantastic hotel, but there is still a lot of opportunity to bring out its full potential.”

He says some of the upgrades will include a new cocktail bar and lounge. Its conference facilities are also getting a makeover.

“When you’re staying at the Esplanade Hotel and go out on a balcony overlooking the fishing boat harbour or Esplanade park, it’s a pretty special place.”

Senior porter Kylie Wozencroft agrees. Having worked here for the past 19 years, she told *Freo StreetWise* she enjoys the people and the stories they share with her on a daily basis.

“The people I meet love Freo because it is a quirky town with a lot of history,” she says. “I know because I’m always asking where they’ve been and what they’ve got up to during their stay.”

Kylie’s retired parents live in Kardinya, her mum having worked at Myers for many years. Each day from Monday to Friday, she travels from Baldivis and drops off her chihuahua Fang at her parents.

“I’ve reached a point in my professional life where I’m really happy where I am,” she says, adding that having travelled overseas after completing high school was a big learning curve for her.

“The changes that have been made so far are brilliant. I’m looking forward to the future.”

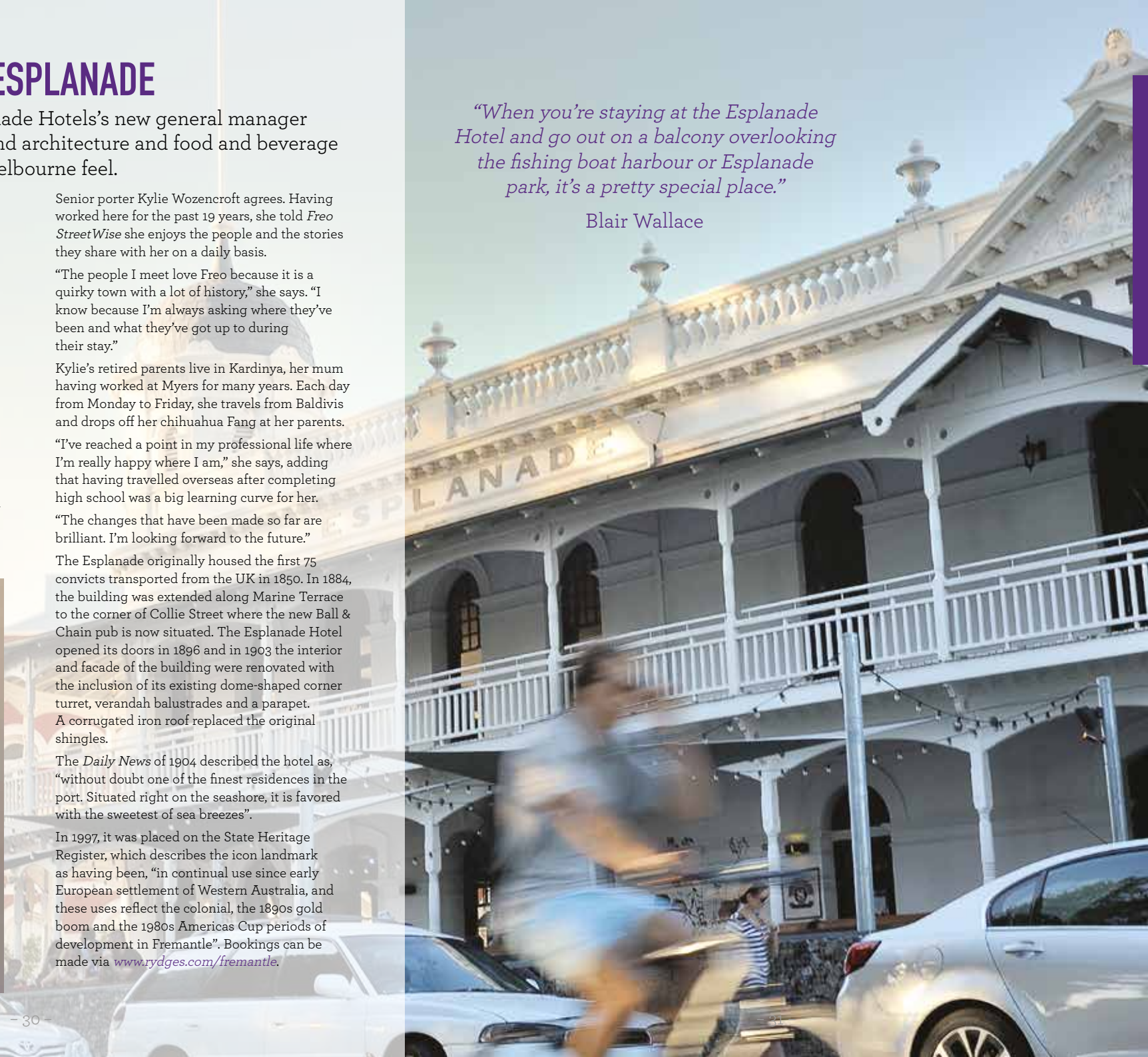
The Esplanade originally housed the first 75 convicts transported from the UK in 1850. In 1884, the building was extended along Marine Terrace to the corner of Collie Street where the new Ball & Chain pub is now situated. The Esplanade Hotel opened its doors in 1896 and in 1903 the interior and facade of the building were renovated with the inclusion of its existing dome-shaped corner turret, verandah balustrades and a parapet. A corrugated iron roof replaced the original shingles.

The *Daily News* of 1904 described the hotel as, “without doubt one of the finest residences in the port. Situated right on the seashore, it is favored with the sweetest of sea breezes”.

In 1997, it was placed on the State Heritage Register, which describes the icon landmark as having been, “in continual use since early European settlement of Western Australia, and these uses reflect the colonial, the 1890s gold boom and the 1980s Americas Cup periods of development in Fremantle”. Bookings can be made via www.rydges.com/fremantle.

“When you’re staying at the Esplanade Hotel and go out on a balcony overlooking the fishing boat harbour or Esplanade park, it’s a pretty special place.”

Blair Wallace



LOVE REVS UP CHARITY

“SPILLED jelly beans,” is how one car enthusiast described the scene at the inaugural Freo Charity Car Cruise on Valentine’s Day.

“SPILLED jelly beans,” is how one car enthusiast described the scene at the inaugural Freo Charity Car Cruise on Valentine’s Day.

The colourful street machines filled the Captain Munchies carpark and the Cappuccino Strip to help raise funds for breast and prostate cancer research in WA.

Reliving Freo’s traditional ‘bog lap’, the owners of the city’s classic and vintage cars and members of the public donated more than \$3500 to the cause.

Judging by the Facebook posts and letters received by *Freo StreetWise*, the charity cruise is expected to be bigger and better next year.

Chevys, Cadillacs, Stingrays, Shakers and HQs cruised along the Strip as people took photos and

cheered on the candy-coloured convoy.

“Wow what a fantastic day and what a beautiful collection of cars,” Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia’s WA events coordinator Belinda Katz told *StreetWise*. The PCFA (www.prostate.org.au) and Breast Cancer Care WA (www.breastcancer.org.au) said the funds will help sufferers and create, “ongoing awareness in the wider community”.

“Without your kind help the event would have not been the success that it was, and we thank you once again for your commitment and support,” Belinda said in a letter to volunteers.

From *Freo StreetWise*, thank you to all who supported the popular event.

CAPTAIN Munchies owner Aisha Li never could have imagined she would be running Freo’s fast food icon when she first arrived in WA.

“I used to see the Munchies ad on TV while I was studying for my MBA 13 years ago,” she says.

Aisha and her late husband and former Istanbul owner Sam Kartal took over the Beach Street business two years ago. Aisha also runs Lucky 7 on Collie Street.

“I love Freo,” the mother of two young children says. “Captain Munchies caters mostly for local workers and the big number of visitors who arrive on the cruise ships.”

The business, which employs up to 10 people including Sara Argiolas pictured here, proudly supported the Freo Charity Car Cruise.



Aisha’s staff worked tirelessly to keep *StreetWise* volunteers fed during the inaugural event whose supporters and images of the day can be viewed on the magazine’s Facebook site.



CRUISERS Rob and Frank Di Tullio are drawn to the streets of Freo.

The owners of one of Perth’s most visited organic shopping hubs may be in their early 40s but their passion for the ‘bog lap’ hasn’t waned.

“The cruise through Freo or to South Beach was a way for people to catch up,” Rob says. “On the cappuccino strip on most weeknights you can see guys in their 20s cruising through. I see more cars and clubs out there now than ever before. The charity cruise proved that.”

Frank says social media also helps, with car groups using it to ‘re-connect’ and share their interest in street machines: “We respect the cars, we look after them.”

The Coogee boys and former St Brendan’s College students were the first to donate to the Freo Charity Car Cruise. Their V8s - a Torana A9X and Ford GT - were hard to miss.

Peaches Fresh Food Market can be found on Hampton Road or at www.peachesfresh.com.au and facebook.com/PeachesFresh.



MELISSA Spadaro, 14, is a self-confessed speed freak who wants to travel and drag cars.

The junior dragster from Spearwood says it’s in her blood, her passion for high-octane racing and burning rubber is inherited from her family’s interest in racing.

Her older brother Curtis, 19, also raced, and her dad Ross has owned a Vermillion Fire XY GT Falcon for 34 years.

Last year, the lightning-quick student from Emmanuel Catholic College in Success was named the winner of the 60foot Rising Star Award at the 44th Western Nationals in her first ever race meeting.

“I’ve always loved drag racing,” the RPO-sponsored driver says, her idols are Michelle Osborn and Rhiannon Allison. “I hope to pursue drag racing and travel to other race tracks.”



SPUD SUCCESS SOWS NEW CROP

SPUD king Tony Galati is loading spuds and carrots into trucks when *Freo StreetWise* caught up with WA's best known potato grower and retailer. The 54 year-old father of four and six grandchildren, with another on the way, stepped onto his first market garden, aged just three years old.

He now runs farms from Myalup and Manjimup in the south to Kununurra in the north and employs more than 1000 people. The farms supply seven Spudshed stores where more than 100,000 people a week walk through the doors looking for a bargain.

Better known for his fight over deregulation of the WA potato market, the Spudshed founder says he could have done without the expensive 20-year headache which has seen the usually reserved businessman thrown into the public eye to defend local growers.

He has achieved celebrity status over his stoush with the Potato Marketing Board, which regulates who can grow potatoes, how many can be grown

and which varieties can be grown. And he shows no sign of pulling back, vowing to fight for the deregulation of the industry and a free market in WA.

Sporting his trademark stubbies and singlet, the battler from Munster says the secret to his success is listening to his customers who want value for money.

"We grow it, we sell it. You save!"

Cutting out costs in the supply chain, the independent retailer not only grows the produce, he transports it direct to his stores enabling Spudshed to sell at farm gate prices: "When you're out there working hard, day in day out, you know what people want."

The business has expanded along with the support of many other local growers. Today Tony supports about 200 WA growers buying produce direct from them for Spudshed.

Tony says the Galati group is a family business with his brother Sam running the Kununurra division and brother Vince and his sons the Myalup operations.

"We are pushing the next generation, my kids and their kids," he says, adding the group is looking to redevelop its Baldivis store and open a new store in Australind latter this year.

The farming operations have expanded to include a cattle farm in North Dandalup and egg farm in Anketell. This has helped Spudshed to offer customers fresh meat, vegetables and dairy products.

And if you are looking for a good coffee, drop in to Francesco's café, named after his late father, at Spudshed Jandakot. For the latest specials and updates, visit Spudshed at www.spudshed.com.au or www.facebook.com/Spudshed.



FAST ART MOVES DESIGNER

FLUID artist and interior designer Bernadette McGill is surrounded by bright blue, orange and green canvas creations.

Self taught with a background in fashion design and interior decorating, the 'retired' artist from Seaham in Durham works at Moving Art studio on the corner of Hubble and Marmion streets.

"I create what I call fluid or moving art to improve the interior of homes and offices," she says.

"It's very affordable and replaceable, my works reflecting my interest in colour, fashion and design.

"When I first started, I called it 'fast art'. Each one is an experiment."

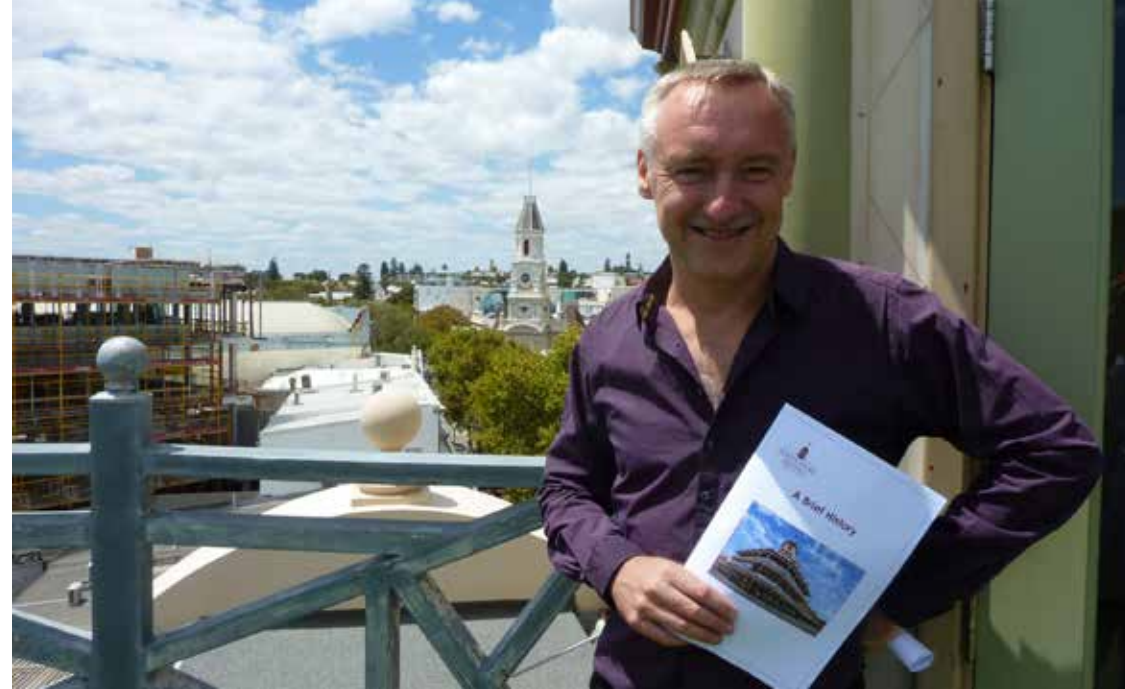
Bernadette says she enjoys painting in the abstract style using acrylic paints, charcoal and pencil, with most of her artworks involving pouring and working paint on canvas.

Learning something new with every work, she says, "in art there are no mistakes, just creative experimentation", which readers can view on the *StreetWise* Facebook site.

She also runs arts classes for children and holds regular corporate art events and exhibitions with fellow artist Susan Biggins, both of whom have thousands of pieces displayed around the country.

You can contact Bernadette at www.bernadetteemcgill.com and bernadetteemcgill@hotmail.com

www.bernadetteemcgill.com and bernadetteemcgill@hotmail.com



NATIONAL TOURS

"HAVE you found any ghosts?" the elderly lady asks National Hotel owner Karl Bullers. "I've been looking," he replies, having scoured the archives for any evidence. "Nothing solid yet I'm afraid."

The group of local and overseas visitors laugh as their charming host begins their tour through the four-storey building which has seen several murders, suicides, bar room brawls - and fire.

The most recent blaze in 2005 tipped the hotel on the corner of Market and High streets to the edge of its 148-year-old existence only to survive after its current owner had the vision to 'recycle' the charred remains of the Federation Free Style site.

The hotel originally was used as a shop owned by local pearl merchant Abraham Moise Josephson in 1868, the same year the 875-toned convict ship *The Hougomont* arrived in Freo.

Karl begins his tour with graphic details of a murder in 1886 when its first owner, William Conroy, shot 70-year-old Freo councillor John Snook through the mouth after he was refused entry to a children's fancy dress party at the town hall. Conroy was the last man hanged at Perth Gaol despite a 1200-strong petition against the death penalty, including the signatures of the entire jury.

"Unfortunately, they botched the hanging after Conroy's neck failed to break, leaving him to suffocate 15 minutes later," Karl continues. "He was only 30 at the time."

The tour proceeds upstairs where Karl explains the renovations and innovations introduced by Daniel and Michael Mulcahy, who came to WA in the 1860s and after striking it rich in the Goldfields and bought several prominent hotels including The Royal George in East Freo and The Terminus and Commercial hotels in Freo.

"They rebuilt the National into its current form," Karl explains. "They fitted it with electrical fixtures before electricity was brought into Freo and installed two lifts and lots of stained glass windows."

Details and images of the hotel restoration and its chequered past is available at the *StreetWise* Facebook site.

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I enjoy the freedom of being my own boss, the flexibility of choosing my own hours and the fun of working with beautiful lingerie while supporting other women to do the same and to give back to the community via the various projects that Intimo is involved in. I also love the vibe of Fremantle. It takes me back to my childhood when my family would visit my auntie and walk to South Beach. That tradition lives on when I visit friends or when clients need a "feel good fit" in the comfort of their own home or a friend's home.

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SWEET STRINGS

FROM Freo to Lake Como, Perth-born cellist Catherine Jones holds fond memories of the port city where she inherited her love of Italian food and people.

Catherine studied music at the University of WA before receiving a postgraduate scholarship to study in Holland where she specialised in early music performance, culminating in a Master of Music degree at the Royal Conservatorium in The Hague.

“During that time (at UWA) I had the pleasure of living on Little Howard Street in Fremantle, a small property that my parents still own,” she tells *Freo StreetWise* from her home in Lago di Como.

“At that time, it was an area full of Italian immigrants who used to make tomato sauce in big pots in the traditional way in their backyards. Freo was a much simpler town, there were only two cafes, Old Papa’s and Gino’s, where I spent a lot of time with my musician friends and my dog.”

Catherine says it was in Freo she developed her love of Italian food, pasta, bruschetta and lots of garlic: “That’s why I feel so at home in Italy where I now live with my Italian partner and child.”

She says after completing her postgrad studies, she went to work with most of the well known European orchestras including The Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra, The Academy of Ancient Music and The English Concert.

Catherine also performs regularly as soloist with the Baroque Orchestra of the Ernen Festival (Switzerland), having performed cello concertos by Vivaldi, Fiorenza and Porpora.

“Since moving to Italy in 2007 and starting a family I’ve worked closer to home with Italian groups, Il Complesso Barocco, La Scintilla and I Barocchisti where I’m currently playing principal cello in the Montecarlo Opera season of Bellini’s ‘Norma,’” she says.

“I released my first solo CD of Boccherini and Cirri cello sonatas for Sony/Deutsche Harmonia Mundi in 2014 which has had five-star reviews.”

In January 2015, Catherine was in Freo and played three solo recitals. She hopes to return in the near future, “It’s a long and expensive flight from Italy and since my cello must also have a

seat on the airplane the cost of getting there is quite high”.

She says she will continue to build her cello class at the Felice Dall’Abaco Conservatorium of Verona, where she is professor of Baroque cello, and also a new cello class at the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatorium in Milan. Catherine also has taught masterclasses at the Austria Barock Akademie in Gmunden where she will again teach in 2016.

“My biggest project will be to release a new CD of cello concertos by Nicolo Fiorenza, for which I’m currently looking for sponsorship,” she says, working on a new site at www.catherinejones.it.



GOING SPARE FOR PRINCELY PROGRAM



SPARE Parts Puppet Theatre’s highly popular ‘The Little Prince’ promises to enchant young and old during the April holiday period.

The much-loved adaptation of poet and aviator Antoine de Saint-Exupery’s novella first published in 1943 is back for a new season, the story translated in more than 250 languages (and braille) and adapted to plays, films, ballet, opera and anime.

Director Michael Barlow says the family favourite is a journey of the imagination which will appeal to the inner child in all of us.

“There’s nothing else like it,” he told *Freo StreetWise*, describing the central character as a, “slightly alien child-like figure who sets off on a new adventure to explore the universe”.

The Little Prince is the story of a pilot stranded in the desert (drawing on Saint-Exupery’s experience in the Sahara Desert) who meets a young prince fallen to Earth from a tiny asteroid.

The timeless classic reflects the strangeness of the adult world, an allegory of Saint-Exupery’s search for certainty and security and belief in human courage.

“Written from both an adult and child’s point of view, it brings up feelings of loneliness and companionship,” Michael explains. “It explores the importance of spending time together.

“That’s why it’s so popular with families.”

The Little Prince runs April 9 to 23, Monday to Saturday at 10am and 1pm, and April 26 to 29 before going on national tour May 23 to August 18.

Michael, who has been with the company since 1992, says the theatre also hits the road in regional WA with Hachiko, a true story from Japan in which a loyal dog continues to visit the train station after its master fails to return from work.

Splat! also features during the June holiday period (June 27 to

July 1, 10am to 1pm).

“This is completely different to the other two and is more physical in style and also features some black theatre puppetry where the performers are completely invisible,” Michael says.

Additional details available at www.sppt.asn.au or email admin@sppt.asn.au.

ARTISTIC CONVICTION

INSIDER Art returns to Fremantle Prison with a new exhibition of serpents protecting waterholes and wildflowers to flightless emus and honey ant trails.

The joint initiative with the Department of Corrective Services showcases artworks by WA prisoners, the money raised from the sale of their works going back to the artist and department.

Insider Art is a free exhibition which runs over autumn (until May 29) and winter (June 4 to August 28). Some of the pieces reproduced in *Freo StreetWise* reflect the skills and cultural engagement of prisoners in paint, prints and sculpture.

The quarterly exhibitions, which have run since 2004, are held in the Prison Gallery seven days a week, 9am to 5pm, and include a strong representation of Aboriginal painting and art objects.

From May 14 to November 6, Fremantle Prison also hosts 'A Quiet Conviction: Photographs of decommissioned prisons' by Brett Leigh Dicks.

It features a selection of photographs taken at the prison in 2014 and exhibited with images of prisons around the world. Additional details at info@fremantleprison.com.au, www.fremantleprison.com.au and 93369200.

A selection of art pieces appear on the *StreetWise* Facebook site.



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STREETWISE GIGS

- April 5: Low, Mojo's Bar
- April 9: Ed Kuepper, Fly By Night Club
- April 10: Trivium, Metropolis
- April 13: Skeggs, Mojo's Bar
- April 15: Things of Stone & Wood, Mojo's Bar
- April 23: The Stranglers, Metropolis
- April 26: Millencolin, Metropolis
- May 1: Ladi6 & Parks, Mojo's Bar
- May 13: L7, Metropolis
- June 8: Fear Factory, Metropolis

STREETWISE FILMS

- April 13: 'Divergent Series: Allegiant', Hoyts Garden City/ Millennium
- April 15/16: 'Eddie The Eagle', 'Midnight Special', 'A Month of Sundays', Hoyts Garden City/ Millennium
- April 28/29: 'Captain America: Civil War', Hoyts Garden City/ Millennium
- May 5: 'The Man Who Knew Infinity', Luna on SX
- May 26: 'The Hunt for the Wilderpeople', Luna on SX
- April releases: 'The Huntsman: Winter's War', 'The Jungle Book', 'The Boss', 'Fan', Hoyts
- May releases: 'The Angry Birds Movie', Hoyts

STREETWISE STAGE

- April 9-23/ April 26-29: 'The Little Prince', Spare Parts Puppet Theatre
- May 19+20: 'I See Red', Spare Parts Puppet Theatre
- May 6, 7, 12-15, 19-21: 'Death and the Maiden', Melville Theatre Company
- June 27-July 1/ July 2-16: 'Splat!', Spare Parts Puppet Theatre
- July 8-9, 14-17, 21-23: 'Under the Blue Sky', Melville Theatre Company

BAZ'S BEAT

ED KUEPPER

April 9, Fly By Night Club, Fremantle

Hard to believe it's been 40 years since Ed Kuepper recorded his debut single '(I'm) Stranded', by The Saints. Since co-founding the legendary Australian punk outfit with Chris Bailey, Kuepper has continued to forge his own reputation as one of the country's premier singer, songwriter musicians. He is in town to promote his 50th release, 'Lost Cities', and perform a selection of previous hits.

THE STRANGLERS

April 23, Metropolis, Fremantle

When it comes to iconic bands, they don't get any bigger than UK punk pioneers, The Stranglers. Formed in 1974, they have amassed 23 UK top 40 singles and 17 UK top 40 albums, making them one of the most enduring and successful bands to emerge from the punk movement. Their mainstream hits include 'Golden Brown', 'Always the Sun' and 'Skin Deep'. With a back catalogue ranging from their 1977 debut, 'Rattus Norvegicus', to the 2012 album 'Giants', they have an extensive array of material to choose from, ensuring a memorable night will be had by all.

NIGHTWISH

January 15, 2016 Metropolis Fremantle

They came, We saw, We died. WOW! What a night. The place was packed and once again, we were not disappointed. Ripping through a number of classics, including the now rarely played, 'The Poet and the Pendulum', Nightwish blew away the metal starved audience. They even performed the main section of their latest 25-minute epic, 'The Greatest Show on Earth'. And it was.



DAVID BOWIE

1947-2016

RIP