



FREE

Issue 3

August 2016

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EDITORIAL

Welcome to a special spring edition of *Freo StreetWise*.

Readers are in for a treat, with local businesses and individuals offering discounts, food and drink offers and gifts during September. And then there are your stories; the award-winning *Freo* actor chasing Sophia Loren and the dwarf-throwing Spearwood 'rhinoman' heading for Hollywood, the future of footy in *Freo*, visiting royals, sister cities, prolific poets and artists, young and old, with the power to heal and inspire.

StreetWise welcomes new images of our port city surrounds by guest photographer Leith Phillips, with local snapper Bob Sommerville again adding his unique style to some of the top stories you will also find on the *StreetWise* Facebook site of nearly 4000 members.

Available in print in *Freo*, Cockburn and Melville, this issue pays special homage to one of the *Freo*'s biggest religious festivals - the Blessing of

the Fleet. Read about its history and traditions and meet some of the pioneers of the industry that defines the port city.

StreetWise continues its coverage of the 400th anniversary year and arrival of the first Europeans in WA, including details of the state visit by the Dutch king and queen and a claim of discovery that has experts divided over the existence of a fifth Dutch shipwreck off Geraldton.

As for anniversaries, *StreetWise* has received the thumbs up from Cockburn City Council's grants committee to stage a commemorative horse race on CY O'Connor Beach on October 2 - 183 years after the first race was held in WA.

With a wealth of stories and images published since the first edition was launched in December 2015, *StreetWise* also celebrates its first anniversary in December with the release of a special 120-page limited-edition issue showcasing our greatest hits. You can order your limited Christmas souvenir edition on the inside back page of this issue. Enjoy.



THANK YOU

SCOOP Property, the Merenda family, Peaches Food Market, Duyfken 1606 Replica Foundation, WA Museum, Returned & Services League, South Fremantle Football Club, Portorosa, Calogero's 6162, Across the Road, the Esplanade and National hotels, Norm Wrightson Hairway, Susan Biggins Art and Design, Kensington Reflections, Bernadette McGill's Moving Art studio and gallery, Karen Neville's 'first breath art and wellbeing', Captain Munchies, Galati & Sons, John Hughes, Bendigo Bank Fremantle, Fremantle Prison and the Blessing of the Fleet Committee.

Individual giants include Blair Wallace, Terry Patterson, Liberal MLC Robyn McSweeney, retired Labor minister Ljiljana Ravlich, Ian Ricciardi, George Stavrinis, the Poole family, Anthony Joseph Capelinha, Sam and Frank Fazio, Guy and Sandra Galati, Amorino Travaglia, Joe and Sam Rifci, Jack Jovicic, Sabrina Carbone and Alex Carciotto, Basil Galati, Salvatore Passanisi, Nick Sputore, Rob Cashman, John Arthur, Hugh Edwards, Victor Paino, Eddie Albrecht, Christoph Hoppen and Cadie, Baeley and Melody Amalfi.

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

RSL EMBRACES NEW CENTURY

RETURNED & Services League State president Peter Aspinall was 24 years old with a new son in the crib when he went to Vietnam in 1966.

Half a century later, the former Albany RSL president takes up where fellow Vietnam veteran and former Labor Party Minister Graham Edwards left off - looking out for the rights of Diggers in WA.

“The challenge is to provide the necessary support and assistance to enable our sub-branches to flourish,” he told *Freo StreetWise*, pointing out Fremantle as one of the RSL sub-branches to grow under its current leadership. “Its ‘Digging for Diggers’ project is just one example of why.”

As interim president until full RSL elections next year, Mr Aspinall says one of the biggest changes since the anti-Vietnam War years in Australia was that today, “it doesn’t matter where you served”.

“Today, I see compassion in younger vets for

older members of the RSL, they are very mindful of the traditions they are following.”

National RSL president and Vietnam veteran Rod White agreed: “You don’t have to be in the RSL to benefit from the RSL.” One of six children whose mother was widowed at 49, Mr White recalls the RSL club, every few weeks, leaving a box of groceries at the front door while he received gift parcels in Vietnam. “When I got home my mother asked me to go down and thank the RSL. So I did and one of the old boys said sign this paper and I thought it was to account for the parcels. In fact, he signed me up and invited me to have a couple of beers. I’ve never forgotten that.”

Mr White joined the RSL in 1971 and served 30 years in the regular and reserve army. A descendant of the 1788 First Fleet, Rod says Vietnam veterans are playing a significant role in forging a new century of the RSL, which consists of 2000 sub-branches representing 170,000 members.

“Women too increasingly are playing a big part, I can see a female national and state president elected one day,” he predicts. (Nine sub-branches have women presidents and three of 11 WA board members are women).

Mr Aspinall adds the 100th anniversary of World War One is expected to culminate in 2018, not with a commemoration, but a celebration, “replicating the centenary of Armistice Day”. He believes Anzac Day will one day become Australia’s founding day: “I just have this feeling ... Maybe Anzac Day will become the de-facto independence day Americans celebrate.”

Follow the RSL on Facebook and www.rslwahq.org.au.

* Fremantle RSL sub-branch president Tony Mitchell and vice president Rob Cashman were named winners of the Newdegate Cup as the most efficient metropolitan sub-branch and Ken Bladen Recruiting Shield for the recruitment of new members in proportion to membership on the eve of the RSL Centenary Congress and Ball in Perth in June.

AND WE’RE OFF!

COCKBURN City Council has backed a *Freo StreetWise* application to hold a commemorative horse race on the beach where the State’s first race was held 183 years ago.

On August 11, it accepted a recommendation from its grants committee to support the historic event subject to picking the best site initially proposed at CY O’Connor Beach.

With sections of the *Wyola* wreck obstructing the proposed course, it was decided to defer a decision for two weeks to allow council engineers and event organisers to find a site north or south of the old South Fremantle power station. The final decision will be published online.

If approved, horse lovers will be able to take part in a largely unknown part of local history on the beach where six imported Timor ponies lined up for the first race meeting in 1833.

The planned October 2 event includes a family fun day and unveiling of a plaque acknowledging WA’s horse training and racing industry. Since the first race meeting, the heritage-listed beach strip between South Beach and the power station has been used continuously by champion riders and trainers, including members of the 10th Light Horse and police mounted section.

The beach site has produced 10 Perth Cup wins and ‘various winners of every major State and national event other than the Melbourne Cup’. Notable trainers and jockeys include Billy Dillon, Ted Temby, JJ Miller, Jack Collinson, Jim Cockell (father of WA country racing), the Marks brothers, Arthur Bowden, the Banks, Johnsons and Patterson families and the grandfather of

Melbourne Cup winner Damien Oliver. Engineer-in-Chief C.Y. O’Connor also used the beach which includes sites of Aboriginal significance, including mythological sites pre-dating European settlement.

Cockburn mayor Logan Howlett says horse racing and stables have been an important part of the history of Cockburn. Generations of families have converged on the area to train and race horses, hold picnics and swim in the ocean.

South Fremantle horse trainer Terry Patterson says erecting a plaque at the beach site was long overdue. He told the August 11 council meeting the event would cement the site’s place in WA history, with a number of leading people and organisations offering their support including Perth Racing WA, Racing and Wagering WA, Seacorp, Cockburn Labor MLA Fran Logan and *The West Australian*, whose forerunner, *The Perth Gazette*, reported the results of the first race:

‘the ginger-bread nut-stall, and the lame fiddler, contributed much to the animation of the scene. The groups of fashionably dressed ladies’ and gentlemen promenading to and fro, the tilted carts, the busy din of preparation, the cry of clear the course - and at length the ponies being placed side by side at the starting post, the jockies all appropriately dressed’



DOVE SAILS NORTH

FREO'S 'Little Dove' arrives in Shark Bay on October 19 to take part in a week-long festival to celebrate the first recorded European landing on the west coast by Dutchman Dirk Hartog.

Hartog's crew came ashore at the northern most point of the island - Cape Inscription - where an inscribed pewter plate was nailed to a wooden post to mark the historic visit on October 25, 1616.

Hartog's arrival followed the earlier landfall on the west coast of Cape York Peninsula in Queensland in 1606 by the captain of the original *Duyfken*, Willem Janszoon.

"These two events marked the early beginnings of the Dutch mapping of the 'Great South Land' we know today as Australia," Duyfken foundation CEO Peter Bowman told *Freo StreetWise*.

In 2016, in the footsteps of these great seafarers, the crew of the *Duyfken* ship replica set sail from Fremantle and after visiting Bunbury will be on exhibition in Mandurah in early September before sailing to Hillarys Boat Harbour and Jurien Bay.

"During early October, *Duyfken* will head north to visit and go on exhibition in Dongara and Geraldton before sailing to Denham for the Hartog Festival that begins on October 20," he said.

Members of the public and local schools can visit the *Duyfken* 2016 Dirk Hartog Commemorative Exhibition during the 10-week, 1000km journey.

Duyfken will leave Cape Inscription on October 25. Once home, *Duyfken* will go on exhibition at Elizabeth Quay where the ship will be berthed for several months.

"This voyage and exhibition program to be undertaken by *Duyfken* represents a wonderful opportunity for people to learn more about early Dutch maritime history and the role both *Duyfken* and Hartog played in Australia's early European history," he says.

Details of the exhibition at www.duyfken.com/vooyages/2016_Hartog_400th_Anniversary_Voyage or on the *Duyfken* 1606 Replica Foundation Facebook page. Tickets for the exhibition and *Duyfken* tours can be purchased at www.ticketek.com.au/duyfken.



DUTCH WRECK CLAIM

HAVE WA museum authorities underplayed a new Dutch shipwreck discovery off Geraldton?

WA Museum archaeologists and wreck hunter Hugh Edwards are divided over whether remains of a fifth "flying Dutchman" are wrecked in the Abrolhos islands.

Edwards filed a claim of discovery with the Federal Government in August last year. But the award-winning Swanbourne author who in 2009 received the Order of Australia for services to Australia's maritime heritage says the WA Museum has ignored it despite evidence of a mystery Dutch East India Company (VOC) ship wrecked near *Zeewyk* (1727), which he discovered in 1968. Four wrecks are known - *Batavia* (1629), *Vergulde Draeck* (1656), *Zuytdorp* (1712) and *Zeewyk* (1727).

The 84-year-old diver who co-discovered *Batavia* in 1963 told *Freo StreetWise* cannon, anchors, rigging and elephant 'teeth' or ivory at the *Zeewyk* site belongs to *Aagtekerke* which disappeared in 1726. He says the *Zeewyk* did not carry ivory.

ROYALS DOWNUNDER

DUTCH royals Willem-Alexander and Maxima Zorreguieta plan to visit WA on November 1 as part of their visit to Australia and New Zealand.

In a statement released August 8, the Dutch embassy announced the visit from October 31 to November 7 when the couple fly to NZ for another two days: "The visits will focus on the Netherlands' historical and wide-ranging bilateral ties with Australia and New Zealand."

Freo StreetWise understands the Utrecht-born king, who also is here on a "broad economic mission", is expected to be in Perth for two days. Not sure yet whether the king and queen will have time to visit Freo, but there's a good chance given the Dutch maritime exhibition at the WA Museum shipwrecks gallery in Cliff Street. Stay tuned to the *StreetWise* Facebook site.

A big fan of the Freo-built *Duyfken* ship replica, the 49-year-old king who served in the Royal



But WA Museum head of archaeology Jeremy Green says ivory was carried by *Zeewyk* as illegal cargo. "We cannot confirm the claim unless Hugh can take us to the wreck site," Dr Green says. "*Aagtekerke* also carried three tonnes of silver, so where is it?"

Edwards has written to Museum CEO Alec Coles stating confirmation of the discovery during the 400th anniversary of Dirk Hartog's visit to Shark Bay would be, "a sensational general item which could have played a vital role in promoting the State and been an important boost for tourism".

The debate continues at www.amalfipublishing.com.au.

Netherlands Navy succeeded to the throne in 2013 following the abdication of his mother Queen Beatrix, who reigned for 33 years. At the time, he was Europe's youngest monarch and the first male monarch since the death of his great-great-grandfather King William III in 1890.

The Kingdom of the Netherlands was established in 1815. King William I from the House of Orange-Nassau was its first ruler. Willem-Alexander and Argentina-born Maxima have three daughters. In 2006, the then prince and his wife visited Australia during the 400th anniversary of the original *Duyfken* visit to the west coast of Cape York in Queensland.

Fremantle celebrates Dirk Hartog Day on October 16.

SISTERS VISIT

A DELEGATION from Freo will visit the port's sister city of Funchal in Portugal in October to celebrate 20 years since they signed a "twinning" agreement.

Visiting Funchal for the first time, Freo mayor Brad Pettitt told *Freo StreetWise* the port's sister cities are places that have helped make Fremantle what it is today.

"Freo's 20-year relationship with Funchal is pretty significant," he said, adding he would join Portuguese Consul John da Silva on the delegation. "Funchal is one of those key communities whose people have helped shape Fremantle. I'm going to learn a lot."

Freo has five 'sister cities'. The sixth biggest city in Portugal, Funchal is the biggest city and capital of Madeira, a popular tourist and cruise ship destination and birthplace of famous sporting exports including footballer Cristiano Ronaldo and cricketer Henriques Alvaro.

Funchal's name comes from the Portuguese word 'funcho' or fennel.

Freo's other sisters include the oldest Seberang Perai, Malaysia (since 1978); Yokosuka, Japan (1979); Capo d'Orlando, Sicily (1983); and Molfetta, Italy (1984).

'Sister cities' are cooperative agreements which promote cultural and economic ties between towns, cities or regions in geographically and politically distinct areas. Capo D'Orlando is Freo's oldest Italian sister city, whose religious ties, with Molfetta, extend to the Blessing of the Fleet.

Cockburn's sisters include Mobile in Alabama, US; Split-Dalmatia County, Croatia; and Yueyang, Hunan, China. Cockburn has commissioned public artworks and special verge treatments on Spearwood Avenue, known as Friendship Way (www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/About_Cockburn/Friendship_Way/default.asp).

"Cockburn also has a strong relationship with Japan, having commemorated Hiroshima Day with school groups for 30 years," Mayor Logan Howlett told *Freo StreetWise*.



In 2015, the mayor was one of six people chosen from Australia and New Zealand to take part in a two-week cultural exchange in Japan: "The City also contributed to the recent Australian Peace Memorial in the City of Nagasaki. Reciprocal visits by elected members, staff, community members, artists, Nyungar elders and performers and the education and business sectors have demonstrated the mutual benefits that can be achieved through these arrangements."

Before James Stirling landed in Cockburn Sound in 1828, he was involved in military campaigns in Mobile in 1814, illustrating a history that spans 200 years.

Cockburn also celebrates ties with Croatia, whose post-World War Two migrants have contributed to the city's economic and cultural life. Cultivate is a tall red and blue sculpture near the junction of Spearwood Avenue and Beelair Drive commemorating their contributions with three crowned leopards on brick and limestone columns. These leopards are the coat of arms of Ancient Roman emperor Diocletian who founded Split by building his retirement villa there.

* The twinning agreement between Funchal and Fremantle was signed on February 6, 1996.



KICKING GOALS

FREO footy followers will be big winners under a plan to co-locate South and East Fremantle clubs at Fremantle Oval, according to South CEO Stuart Kemp.

Once the Freo Dockers move to Cockburn, fans will be treated to regular games and other community events such as festivals and concerts as part of a \$20 million "centre of excellence" redevelopment of the historic grounds by 2021.

"The plan to co-locate offers both clubs big savings and the opportunity to create a new hub of top-quality footy south of the river," Stuart told *Freo StreetWise*. "Two strong WAFL clubs here would be of great benefit to the public, in particular the business community, if we have a game every weekend. The community will be more heavily engaged in the new facility."

Freo mayor Brad Pettitt agreed: "That for me would be the silver lining to the Dockers leaving Fremantle. It would be fantastic for the city."

Stuart says the city council has been instrumental in helping the clubs develop a business case for the co-location plan, having been very supportive of both clubs achieving their goals to create a centre of excellence for football in Fremantle.

The redevelopment could include pushing Fremantle Community Bank Oval slightly towards the 120-year-old Victoria Pavilion

and building a multi-storey carpark over the administration buildings.

Dr Pettitt says the three-storey carpark would house about 300 cars, with the redevelopment opening up a "line of sight" into Parry Street and South Terrace.

A former Wembley Amateurs player and coach who had a crack at, but in his words was 'too slow' to play for Subiaco, Stuart now plays an instrumental role in the vision for Freo's "family club".

"So many people love the red and white," he says, having joined SFFC in 2012 after a long career in sports management, including marketing manager at Tennis West; CEO at Professional Golfers Association Australia; and partnerships manager at West Coast Eagles.

"We want to make sure we look after our growing community and the businesses which support us, they are our lifeblood."

Freo Oval has been the city's major sporting venue since 1897.

The SFFC page at www.southfremantlefc.com.au.



LEITH'S VIEW

PHOTOGRAPHY came to Leith Phillips after nearly three decades as a journalist.

The 63-year-old Darlington photographer worked as a reporter, sub-editor, designer and editor on 12 newspapers including *The West Australian*, *The Japan Times* and *The Australian*.

"I picked up my first digital camera about seven years ago after quitting metro newspapers for semi retirement in Albany, where I was once the local paper's youngest managing editor," he told *Freo StreetWise*, which invited the Subiaco-born father of two to submit his favourites for this edition.

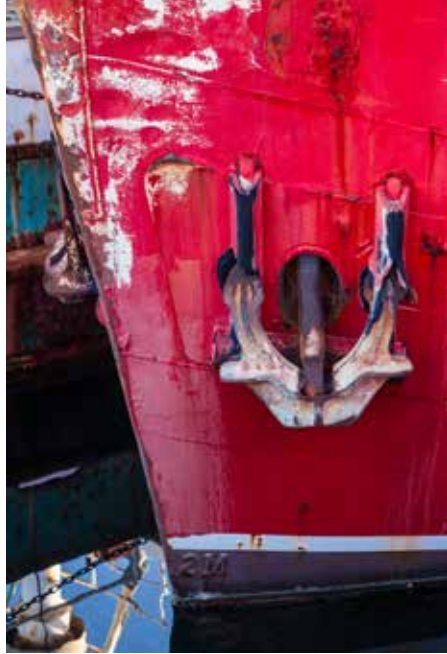
He says landscapes and portraits are his favourite subjects, "but I'm also keen on water sports action with a long lens".

"A three-month course at the local TAFE taught me the ropes, but I think my "good eye" as a page designer working with photographers was my biggest advantage," he says.

"My wife Michelle and I returned to Perth two years ago for family reasons (grandchildren Amelia and Sam), and we now live in the Hills in Darlington.

"If we won Lotto, we'd have a weekend pad in South Freo, but Roe Highway gets me to the port city in 45 minutes on a good day, so I'm not far from one of my favourite photographic haunts."

Check out Leith's latest snaps at leithphotography@westnet.com.au and the *StreetWise* Facebook site.



ORGANIC STYLE

“At Peaches, we’re setting the trend. Organics are not as expensive anymore. We have become a specialty foodie store and we stand tall by saying we are the number one organic store in Perth.”



FREO foodies are pursuing a healthier lifestyle fuelled by fresh, organically grown products, according to Peaches brothers Rob and Frank Di Tullio.

“In Freo, you’re surrounded by gyms and personal trainers, there are lots of bike riders and chefs, you’re close to the coast,” Frank says. “People want to look good and eat well.”

The South Fremantle shop has been selling organics for the past 13 years, the past three years having witnessed a boost in demand and supply as prices become more competitive.

“Freo is filled with foodies,” Rob says. “At Peaches, we’re setting the trend. Organics are not as expensive anymore. We have become a specialty foodie store and we stand tall by saying we are

the number one organic store in Perth.”

Rubra Coffee supplier Rachele Warschauer agrees. She told *Freo StreetWise* Peaches was the place of choice for vegans and organic food consumers.

“Their prices are great, and their stock is fresh,” she says, adding the Hampton Road store is the only place in Freo where organics occupied most of its floor space while other stores devoted only small sections. “Because it’s well priced, you get a big turnover and it’s always fresh.

“Higher prices means less turnover, so it’s not as fresh.”

Frank says Peaches watches its product lines closely, always ensuring it sources its products from reputable and certified suppliers in Australia and overseas.

“We price products fairly, we don’t abuse that,” he says. “Customers know that, they are more switched on now with access to the internet.

“As Rob says, there are more foodies in the area, they are more discerning and stay up to date with new lines and varieties.”

The family friendly store stocks organic, gourmet, gluten free and specialty foods: “Our milks and yoghurts are very popular. People use it for their cappuccinos and lattes.

“Gluten-free pasta is also big.”

Having just bought a new brand of almond milk from Rachele, Rob says Peaches stocks six different lines of almond milk and four lines of organic milk.

Peaches sources organic products such as peanut paste, baby foods and soaps. The store on Hampton Road also stocks bio-friendly pet food and cleaning products.

Stay tuned for the best prices at the store at <http://peachesfresh.com.au>, [facebook.com/PeachesFresh](https://www.facebook.com/PeachesFresh) and on Instagram [@peachesfreshfood](https://www.instagram.com/peachesfreshfood) and Twitter [@peachesfresh](https://twitter.com/peachesfresh).

Peaches is offering free recyclable shopping bags over September, even if you just pop in to say hello.

BURGER BUSTERS

BURGER boys Mario Noto and Rob Fernandes are serving up a storm at Across The Road Burger House on South Terrace.

The former cafe opposite Calogero's has burger lovers coming back for more.

"Our beef burgers are homemade and taste amazing," Hamilton Hill head cook Rob told *Freo StreetWise*. "We are consistent in taste and prices. We make our own marinades, relishes and sauces."

And there are more burger varieties you can poke a bread stick at - Bubble n Squeak, Crispy Coconut Chicken, Blue Hawaiian Chicken and Vege Stack.

Mario says their open grilled fish burgers are a big hit, seasoned with lemon pepper and packed with fresh lettuce, tomato, red onion and a dash of lemon aioli.

Burgers come in fresh buns, gluten free and toasted. For brekkie, enjoy organic fruit toast with espresso butter or superfood muesli, cacao, maple and coconut whip.

A popular item on the menu is the \$19 Magic Mushrooms, with a choice of field, oyster or raw

enoki, panacea and hazelnut gremolata. The \$18 shakshuka also tastes divine, with baked egg in a Moroccan style saffron, tagine, olive and dukkah.

The \$17 Love in the Time of Cauliflower also is an eye-catcher, the play on the title of the late Colombian author Gabriel García Márquez's 1985 classic consisting of farinata, baked cauliflower florets, baby carrot, slow cooked egg and smoked ricotta.

The menu also includes organic teas, komucha, fresh juices, smoothies, sodas and, of course, coffee. The jukebox is free.

Pop in to the popular burger house or call 0893352115. It opens 11.30am to 9pm Thursday to Saturday and until 8pm on Sunday and 5pm to 9pm Wednesday. Across the Road will open Monday and Tuesday during the summer months.

The popular diner at shop 1, 231 South Terrace and the latest specials are available at

www.facebook.com/acrosstheroadburgerhouse.

PORTOROSA IN SPEARWOOD

PORTOROSA lovers have embraced owner Joe Napoli's decision to expand his traditional Italian food menu to Spearwood.

Hundreds of 'likes' and 'shares' poured in once the new doors opened in May, with diners describing the restaurant as, "One of my all time faves!", "Great, around the corner, so we can go by bike!" and "You're back".

The Sicilian-born businessman who runs Portorosa on Market Street in Freo says he's humbled by the response from local diners who remember his time at the popular Spearwood restaurant, then known as Bella Napoli at 218 Rockingham Road.

In a way, Joe has returned home to where it all started. The former hairdresser built up the Spearwood business as a Gold Plate award finalist for three consecutive years.

The Spearwood restaurant boasts new decor, including pizza ovens and wraparound images of Joe's hometown. He says a touch of mamma's special treats, the newly refurbished outfit and top service offers diners better value and a truly Italian experience.

"It's good to be back where I started my restaurant business," he told *Freo StreetWise*. "The locals have been very loyal so it's good to build on that and offer people food that is fresh and sourced from the best produce."

Joe now spends his time between restaurants, often sitting with friends to share a beer or casual conversation about food, politics and business. Both classic pizza restaurants are a must for seafood and pasta lovers.

For Spearwood bookings contact 0894941790 and/or make a reservation at www.portorosa.com.au or dimmi.com.au.

Joe is offering *StreetWise* readers a free bottle of house red for every booking of six adults or more if they book before September 30, 2016. Benvenuti a Portorosa.



SWEET STOP 6162

CALOGERO'S has tapped into Freo's sweet tooth. Shoppers are flocking to the popular South Terrace store to corner one or more of the over 10 different varieties produced by Rocky Road Company in Melbourne.

"We can't get enough of them, the locals love it," co-owner Sean Triplett told *Freo StreetWise*. "They are value for money at \$5.99 for 200 grams when a Kit Kat will cost you \$2 for 50 grams," Sean says. "Since we started stocking them earlier this year, we have been selling out by the end of each month. Freo definitely has a sweet tooth."

The sweet range includes pure dark and pure milk chocolate honeycomb, cherry ripe and mint-flavoured varieties. Combine it with a Calogero's \$3 coffee and you're on the way to a sweet start to the day.

North Melbourne-born founder and managing director of telecommunications company VMobile, Sean says Calogero's also supports the local sports community by giving away every weekend 650 certificates which netball, football and soccer clubs in Freo and Cockburn can swap

for a free Rocky Road when they visit the store.

"If you want to shop, have a coffee and a snack all in the one place, this is the place for you," he says, having described the South Fremantle gem as 'New York on the Terrace' in the April issue of *StreetWise*. "People love the relaxed feel of Calogero's, and value for money we offer."

Partner Carlo, after whom the shop is named, says the business is a mix of cafe and deli which offers shoppers a range of conveniences from homemade pasta and sauces to organically grown produce. The family business whose Facebook site offers daily tastings and takeaway treats from its cold meat deli can be found at 320 South Terrace.

You can also follow Calogero's 6162 on Facebook, twitter [@Calogeros6162](#) and Instagram [@calogerosfreo](#).



CONDOLENCES ...

Freo StreetWise expresses its deepest sympathy to the family of Carmela Noto, who passed away in June while on holiday in Italy. The mother of four boys, Carlo, Frank, Sergio and Mario, arrived in WA from Freo's Sicilian sister city of

Capo D'Orlando in 1961. Calogero's 6162 evolved from the grocery store founded by Carmela and husband Antonio, who retired last year after more than half a century of service to Italian fresh food and vegetable lovers in Freo.



'We can't get enough of them, the locals love it.'

BLESSED HISTORY

THE Blessing of the Fleet in Freo was born out of bad weather and a desire to keep faith with a tradition revered by fishing families in Australia and overseas.

Initially opposed by the local Catholic priest and ridiculed by locals, the origin of WA's biggest religious and cultural festival dates back to 1946. Italian fishermen wanted to honour the 'Queen of the Seas' by holding an annual 'festa' in which an image of the 'Queen of the Seas' was carried to the harbour and loaded on to a boat to bless them with a bumper harvest, and safe return home.

However, the seas were unkind that September so the fishermen went to church instead.

The first 'official' festival in Freo was held in 1948. In Port Pirie, South Australia, the first festival was held in 1934; Adelaide in 1954; Tuncurry, NSW, 1958; and Sydney 1984. One of the earliest was held in the US in 1927 in Hoboken, New Jersey, at Sinatra Park - named after Hoboken's favourite son Frank Sinatra and used as the setting for the 1954 film, 'On The Waterfront'.

The legend goes that a boat filled with injured and dying Christian Crusaders returned from the Holy Land in 1188 and found a Byzantine-style icon of the madonna and child floating off Molfetta, Italy. The statue honours 'martyrs of the faith', including fishermen.

A WA Maritime Museum exhibition of Freo's fishing families includes stories of Italian, Portuguese, Greek and Croatian pioneers, some of whom can be found on pages 22 and 23.



FREO StreetWise acknowledges Esplanade Hotel Fremantle by Rydges and local businesses and individuals for their stories and support of our special coverage of the Blessing of the Fleet.

Freo's only independent magazine thanks key supporters including Esplanade general manager Blair Wallace, SCOOP Property directors John and Diane Da Luz, Ricciardi Seafoods & Coldstores owner Ian Ricciardi,

Bluwave Lobster owner George Stavrinou and retired Freo businessman Victor Paino.

"As kids, we looked forward to the Blessing of the Fleet," Victor, 80, says. "It was a big event in our lives."

FISHING POOLES

THEY started fishing off Freo nearly a century ago, fought in two world wars and today still live a few streets from the lawn they planted at Coogee Beach.

Surrounded by one of the best gardens on Vlaming Rise, the Pooles are pioneers of WA's early fishing industry. "My father used to hire out dinghies at the beach," Robert Poole, 91, told *Freo StreetWise*. "We fished along the coast, netting mullet and skippy in the 30s and 40s."

Robert's father James, born in Blackburne, Lancashire, UK, died in 1946 aged 58, suffering from the effects of toxic gas he was exposed to while in the Lighthouse in World War One.

Rob joined the merchant navy in World War Two, aged 17. His wife Elizabeth, 85, says, "His mum had tearooms opposite Coogee Hotel on the site of the existing playground at Coogee. Lily sold pies and cakes for picnics and used to ride her bike into Mills & Wares to buy biscuits for the shop".

'Bob' says his father and brothers built boats and were one of the first families to, "venture into Shark Bay and Exmouth Gulf to catch prawns.

We also surveyed the fishing grounds off Albany to Israelite Bay and the Great Australian Bight". North Freo-born Bob, whose family planted 'The Green' at Coogee, says he still enjoys catching crays off Freo.

Bob and Beth have been married 70 years and met at the beach where the Poole family fished for most of the 20th century. They have eight grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren.



MADONNA PATROL

THE motto 'nei secoli fedele' or 'faithful through the centuries' runs deep among Italian carabinieri, both serving and retired.

Worldwide, there are more than 200,000 members of the National Association of Police. Perth association president Amorino Travaglia says Italy's famous police force only included men and women with no criminal record in their family dating back seven generations.

"Though we are not in the service, we are still carabinieri. It's something you never forget, it's in the blood," he told *Freo StreetWise* during a reunion with retired electrician Sam Rifici and ex-fisherman and boilermaker engineer Tony Forte.

A mining draughtsman with his own music band, the 70-year-old son of a carabinieri recalls patrolling power installations in northern Italy where terrorists were active in the mid to late-1960s. In Palermo, Sicily, Sam recalls installing

wire taps and escorting mafiosi to court. Having arrived in WA in 1962, Sam took on the responsibility of escorting the Blessing of the Fleet procession in 1995. For the past 14 years, that honour has passed to his son Joe, also an electrician, accompanied by fellow carabinieri's son Egidio Gianoli.

Formed 202 years ago by King Victor Emmanuel I of Savoy to protect the island of Sardinia, the carabinieri corp today is a branch of the Italian military.

Armed with carbine rifles, hence the name carabinieri, policemen pay homage to the Virgin Mary as the corps' patron saint.

More information at www.assocarabinieri.it.

LITTLE ITALY BY THE SEA

ITALIAN culture by the sea will be celebrated in the port city during the annual Blessing of the Fleet Festival in late October.

Created by Nella Fitzgerald Events, 'Little Italy by the Sea' will showcase the best of Italian music, art, food and culture focused on the iconic Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour and Bathers Beach.

A selection of regional Italian cuisine rich in authentic flavours will be lovingly prepared by some of Perth's top food specialists.

Discover hidden gems as you stroll along the harbour and shoreline; and dine on the scenic jetties and boardwalks overlooking a panorama of boats as you feast on exquisitely prepared seafood.

Succulent porchetta, traditional pizzas, exquisite pastas, delectable regional signature dishes offer you a taste of Italy.

Enter the trendy and cosmopolitan bar situated in Piazza Italia and savour famous aperitivos alongside sumptuous antipasto platters. Trendy Italian beers, wines and champagne will be available for guests to enjoy while entertained by some of Perth's finest artists.

Relax and enjoy cool jazz, hot Latin contemporary and retro Italian music, and dance the night away under the stars with one of Perth's acclaimed salsa orchestras.

Experience the soulful and powerhouse vocals of Monique, direct from her Fringe World Festival Perth sell-out show, 'Italian Live Lounge'.

Cheer on some of Australia's finest baristas who will compete in the prestigious Australian Specialty Coffee Championships in a bustling

café strip offering authentic Italian coffees and signature beverages. Mouthwatering cakes, pastries, biscotti and gelati will tantalise your tastebuds.

Festival director Nella Fitzgerald says the October 29 and 30 festival will transform Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour and Bathers Beach into picturesque Italian piazzas reminiscent of seaside cities and towns along the breathtaking Adriatic and Mediterranean coastlines.

A curated exhibition will feature historical images and memorabilia of the Blessing of the Fleet, with the screening of a new documentary outlining the history of the State's biggest cultural festival whose origins date back to 1948 when fisherman from Freo's sister city of Molfetta held the first street procession and blessing at the port.

Nella says the Blessing of the Fleet honours the devotion, respect and joy experienced by generations of families who have maintained their language and culture in Freo.

She says the world-class event is the start of a three-year program culminating in the 70th year of the Blessing of the Fleet in 2018.

People are invited to share in 'Little Italy' with all it has to offer and celebrate 'La Dolce Vita'.

"The Italian culture is one of the modern world's richest cultures, going back to the times of ancient Rome and beyond," she says. "With over a million citizens of Italian origin living in Australia today, the Italian language and culture are of ever increasing importance.

"The strong presence of the Italian community in Australia has captured the interest of Australians from all backgrounds, and the community is eager to familiarise themselves with a culture which has become increasingly admired, valued and respected."

Details of 'Little Italy by the Sea' are available on the Little Italy by the Sea and Nella Fitzgerald Events Facebook sites.

For additional information, contact 0468 771 219 or email nellafitzgerald@gmail.com.



BLESSED IS THE FLEET

WESTERN Australia's biggest religious and cultural event - the Blessing of the Fleet - will see thousands of people flock to the port city to take part in a tradition dating back to the Crusades.

In its 68th year, the annual procession through Fremantle will start at St Patrick's Basilica where devout followers will carry statues of the Madonna Dei Martiri and the Madonna di Capo d'Orlando to Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour where Archbishop Timothy Costelloe will bless the fishing fleet.

The procession will be followed by a celebration on the Esplanade Reserve including fireworks at 4pm and again at Southern Breakwater at 8pm. The Blessing of the Fleet Ball will also be held at the Esplanade Fremantle Hotel - by Rydges on October 22 when the debutantes carrying the Madonna di Capo D'Orlando will be introduced. The two fishing boats carrying each statue will be chosen at a Variety Night on October 8, the names to be published on the *StreetWise* Facebook site.

Blessing of the Fleet Committee president John Minutillo says the event on Sunday, October 30, will be bigger and better. For the first time, the 'Little Italy by the Sea' festival will be held on Saturday (October 29) and Sunday as part of a three-year program leading to the 70th anniversary year in 2018.



"We're carrying on a tradition that's been going for 68 years," John told *Freo StreetWise*. "We're one of the biggest in Australia and one of the reasons for that is because our organising committees have changed. We now have more people, particularly younger people, getting involved and offering new ideas to keep it going such as more strategic advertising and of course social media."

Having spent more than 30 years in the industry, John says, "The blessing is not just for the fishing fleet, but all boats including pleasure craft. Fishing and crayfishing are dangerous, which is why we pray to God to look after us. It's about wishing boats a safe return and a bountiful catch."

It has been many years since he fished himself, but John recalls his early days working at the Fremantle Fisherman's Cooperative and for one of the Kailis companies for 20 years.

The 57-year-old father, whose son is a fisherman on a crayboat, now runs his own company exporting mainly to China about 100 tonnes a year of crayfish which he buys from seven local boats.

He says his father, a champion swimmer who worked for the Water Board, did not like fishing but loved the ocean.

The first Blessing of the Fleet was held in 1948 by fishermen from Freo's Italian sister city of Molfetta. Deeply devoted to their patroness, Molfetta holds its annual event on September 8. Capo D'Orlando, on the northeast coast of Sicily, introduced its blessing of the fleet in 1954, celebrating the event on October 22.

The history of this devotion dates to the 12th century when Molfetta received wounded crusaders from the Middle East. They brought with them paintings of the Madonna and child and told of the protection crusaders received on the battlefield when carrying the pictures.

Details at www.facebook.com/fremantle.blessingfleet. The image of the Madonna (opposite) supplied by Bob Sommerville.



FLEET FAMILIES

ITALIAN, Portuguese, Greek, Croatian, Australian. Commercial and recreational. *Freo StreetWise* profiles pioneers of the WA fishing industry, celebrating decades of dedication and sacrifice recognised each year at the Blessing of the Fleet. These are their stories:

JOHN DE SOUSA:

THE late John De Sousa was a barber by trade. But after arriving from Portugal in 1956, aged 23, he was drawn to the sea.

The Madeira-born migrant built WA's first aluminium fishing boat, 'Lady of Fatima', which is still used in the Lady of Fatima procession in May. A rosary John made by hand from his floats and ropes is still carried by children dressed as angels in the annual procession.

The boat was named after Our Lady who appeared to three young children in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917.

His daughter and SCOOP Property manager Diane recalls how her father donated fish to the community each time he returned to shore.

John was a strong supporter of the Blessing of the Fleet, his boat having carried the statue of the Madonna on many occasions.

In 1969, he helped establish the WA Portuguese Club and its first soccer club, 'Associaçao Recreativa Portuguese'. He died in 2006 aged 72.

PIETRO SPATORE:

PIETRO Spatore was just 38 years old when he sailed with his mates to fish off Garden Island. The father of four never returned, bad weather capsizing the new boat owned by his wife Concetta's cousin and European Ceramics founder Orazio Serra.

Orazio drowned and Pietro, a good swimmer, hit his head on the boat and also drowned while another mate and his son made it back to shore.

Today, his wife Concetta, 78, and four children remember the Italian-born recreational fisherman and foundry worker as a devoted family man who regularly took part in the Blessing of the Fleet.

Sicilian-born Concetta, who worked in various factory jobs to support her family, was one of the first "queens" of the procession. "She was one of the very first queens of the fleet in the 1950s, before she met my dad," Pietro's only son Nick, 48. Born in Abruzzi, Pietro died when Nick was five and a half years old: "I still remember when the police came to the house."

The father of three sells safety gear to clients on WA mine sites and oil rigs.

NATALE RICCIARDI

NATALE Ricciardi was 22 when he arrived from Capo D'Orlando, Sicily, in 1949.

With little money and no English, Natale and brothers Giuseppe and Umberto started a family fishing business. As the Ricciardis grew and ideas for expansion varied, Natale decided in 1985 to establish Ricciardi Seafoods and Coldstores.

Mentoring his sons Ian and Claude, Natale's life experiences and family morals, together with resounding support and advice, have been the catalyst of the Ricciardi Seafoods success story.

The business, assisted in the early days by Tonia and Natalie, has grown into a well-known industry name whose Premium brand is now sought after in Australia and overseas.

Natale passed away in 2013, aged 86, a proud man with pioneering roots in rock lobster and Shark Bay prawns. He was a big supporter of the Blessing of the Fleet - a tradition still proudly supported by his family. Natale's son Ian says his father persevered at a time when technologies such as GPS and sonar did not exist, with fishermen spending weeks living and working on their boats.

"My dad's goal was to give us an education and a helping start in life," Ian says. "My first job was working at the RAC in Fremantle for \$100 a week. After 18 months there dad needed a hand in Carnarvon, so I went up for a six week holiday and ended up working with dad for five years.

"I saw the pleasure, relief and peace of mind it gave him and soon learnt the love of the ocean - guided by and learning from the 'master fisher' was the best education."

Based on a solid family foundation, the Ricciardi group provides jobs and seafood at discount prices at 14 Emplacement Crescent in Hamilton Hill.

GEORGE STAVRINOS

GEORGE Stavrinos was born in Greece on the Aegean Island of Lesvos, having first visited Australia in 1959.

With a vision for a better future, and fishing, he later set up shop in Wellington, New Zealand, before expanding his fishing operations to the west coast of Australia.

"I came to WA 15 years ago to buy four crayfishing boats," the 66-year-old owner of Bluwave Lobster processing factory in O'Connor says. "I sell into Japan and China and the US, but the industry is very competitive, with many countries selling lobsters in the face of rising costs."

The semi-retired father of two says the Blessing of the Fleet is a special time, representing the start of the season, "a time to be happy, start families, the son you want to marry, the daughter you want to marry". George's decorated boat, Gran Sasso, will be part of the fleet this year.

There are currently 250 lobster boats operating off WA - the most valuable single-species fishery in Australia with an estimated value of \$200 million a year. Second only to WA's biggest player, Geraldton Fisherman's Co-operative, Bluwave emerged after it picked up licences and suppliers from the former Fremantle Fisherman's Co-operative.

George's story from visitor to one of Australia's biggest lobster processors was published in his 2013 book, 'Empty Net: A journey of hope and uncertainty'.



GALATIS ON WRAY

WRAY Avenue family store Galati & Sons has four framed panels of old black and white photographs hanging over the fresh fruit and vegetable section.

Starting in the 1950s, the album images plot through time the family's rise as one of Freo's most sought after grocers whose founder, the late Antonino Galati-Formaggio, arrived in WA in 1950.

Given the many Galatis in his Sicilian hometown of Tortorici, not to mention in Perth today, authorities added hyphenated surnames to avoid confusion. In Antonino's case, Formaggio was added to his family name because his dad was a cheese maker ('formaggio' means cheese).

"Dad lived in a barn with other Galatis on the corner of Rockingham and Yangebup roads in Munster," eldest son Santo told *Freo StreetWise*. "He would ride his bike to Jandakot and worked at the Woolstores until he had saved enough money to buy a truck to cart limestone. After eight years, he sold the truck and was ready to return to Italy when he was offered the original shop on South Terrace where Santo was born (opposite hospital). With aunts Rosaria and her husband Rosario and Angela and husband Sebastian, they opened Galati & Sons in 1958."

Antonino met Santo's mum Vincenzina while she was picking cauliflowers in one of the market gardens supplying the shop. They married in 1962 at the old St Jerome's Church in Spearwood. Antonino passed away in 1988, aged 59. Vincenzina just celebrated her 77th birthday.

The rest is local Freo history; Galati's children Santo, 51, Rina, 53, and Salvatore, 44, and up to 25 casual staff now work at 19 Wray Avenue where shoppers will do laps around the block until they can find a parking spot.

"We would describe ourselves as organised mayhem," Santo says as Rina and Salvatore's wife Diana work on the books while his wife Frances checks the stock in one of the busy aisles.

Passionate about good food and service, the Galati family have created a "little Italy on Wray", its bargain prices and friendly atmosphere attracting shoppers from around the Perth metro area.

Galati & Sons also offers daily soft and crusty continental rolls for just \$6.50, French cheeses and butters, four-litre cans of Cecilia vegetable oil for \$10.00, 400-gram tins of capriccio legumes, 1kg carrots in pre-packed bags and 2kg bags of brown and red onions, all for under \$1.

Not to mention Vincenzina's fresh cauliflowers selling at 99 cents a head.

StreetWise readers who shop at the heritage award-winning store will receive a free raffle ticket to be drawn at the end of September.

Check out the specials at www.facebook.com/galatiandsons.



BEN'S BEST BREWS

CRAFTY beer lover Ben Kealley says a world shortage of hops has not deterred Freo drinkers from their favourite brews.

The National's 38-year-old venue manager from Narrogin has been working behind the bar since the historic hotel re-opened three years ago.

"We're moving more towards a craft line-up with a focus on WA beers, and a little bit from the east coast," the Hamilton Hill Dockers supporter told *Freo StreetWise*.

"It's what the public is asking for."

On the list of demands, 12 different beer varieties including Coopers Long Necks, Natural Lager and a 7.1 per cent Porter.

"Our taps increasingly are moving towards craft beers such as Eagle Bay, Feral and Four Pines," he says, having recently increased the hotel's craft beer range.

"Craft beers appeal to Freo. It's the nature of the place, its artisans, music and vibrancy of the port city." The demand in craft beers also is flowing into spirits and liqueurs, Ben says, with gin having overtaken vodka as the drink of choice in Perth. Stouts also are back in vogue, Ben confessing to having a capped king brown of 7.4 per cent Swan Stout at home.

National manager Karl Buller urged people to try the increasing craft beer range in the best function area in Freo.

Riding high on a wave of successful festivals and food events, such as its High Teas on High Street. Karl offers *StreetWise* readers a table for four or more adults and a bottle of house wine free of charge.

All you need to do is mention the offer when booking. Check out the National at <http://national-hotel-fremantle.com.au>.

* Captain James Cook brought beer with him on his ship *Endeavour* as a means of preserving drinking water, stating in a 1768 letter to Joseph Banks, "I find by Experience that the smell of stinking water will be entirely destroyed by the process of fermentation".

The drink of choice for the first settlers and convicts was rum.

To reduce drunkenness, beer was promoted as a safer and healthier alternative to rum. Cheers.

OLD SCHOOL IS BEST

NORM Wrightson Hairway offers young and old the best in barber shop service based on 83 years of styling experience.

Whether it be a straight haircut, beard trim or cut-throat face shave, friendly and experienced staff at the Fremantle shop in William Street and its Kardinya shopping centre premises will ensure you leave feeling new.

No appointments needed. Discounts are available for seniors and students.

Sax-playing Bicton Norm is still a regular at the shop. Norm's also offers struggling families registered with St Patrick's Community Centre a free haircut once a month.

St Pat's told *Freo StreetWise* such a service would help those who found it difficult to make ends meet.

Additional details, including costs and products, are available at www.normwrightsonhairway.com.au and on Facebook. For details call the Fremantle shop on 0893353546 and Kardinya on 0893373637.



FOOD OASIS

"I came, I saw, I munched" - Freo's Captain Munchies is a Beach Street oasis for locals looking for a 24-hour food stop.

Owner Aisha Li says staff will cater for every need, serving up a mouth-watering range of popular dishes from the \$15 Kitchen Sink, \$13 Hangover, \$12 Happy Hippie and \$10 Hula Hula to the \$16 chicken penne, \$15 spaghetti



bolognese made in homemade sauces and \$12 double hot dog.

Munchies offers all day breakfasts, including \$8 bacon and eggs, \$14 Nacho's supreme and \$18 seafood basket. Kids snacks, milkshakes and coffees also are popular.

Aisha says local construction workers and cruise ship visitors have kept staff busy during the day, with 10 people employed at the red and yellow outlet at the base of the Victoria Quay overpass.

Aisha used to watch the Munchies ad on TV while studying for her MBA 13 years ago. She took over the business two years ago and runs Lucky 7 on Collie Street.

For more information call 0894307434.

CANVAS PARTISAN

FORMER WA Labor minister and daughter of a Croatian freedom fighter in WW2, Ljiljana Ravlich wields the power of paint. Wildflowers, birds, hearts. Her father.

Now retired, 'Lil' as she is known to friends and family spent 18 years in politics, elected in 1996 as the first woman from a non-English speaking country to enter the WA parliament. Born in Split, Croatia, Lil was five years old when her mum and four brothers and sisters migrated from the village of Kozica on Biokovo Mountain in 1963 on board the liner *SS Galileo Galilei*.

"My father Ivisa came out two years earlier on the *Neptunia*," she told *StreetWise*. Freo is full of people who share a similar migrant background as mine." Lil says the migration of Croatian people to Australia dates back to the mid-1800s, her grandfather Ivan Sulenta having arrived in the early 1900s as one of WA's earliest Croatian immigrants. She says Kozica was known as a partisan village whose men resisted the Nazis.

In parliament, Lil reformed the vocational education and training sector making it the



first in the nation to move from a time served to competency based training system. She also initiated literacy and numeracy reforms.

In opposition, she put pressure on the government to improve WA's mental health system. She also served as minister for racing, gaming and liquor; government enterprises; multicultural interests and citizenship; and youth. Most of her time is spent in the studio or office as director of Joint Venture Consulting Group, promoting trade between WA and Croatian companies. "Life's fantastic," she adds. "Art for me is for my own pleasure." She is working on a new website where readers will be able to view her latest creations, some of which are available on *StreetWise's* Facebook site.

FLUID CHANGE

"MY style of paintings is changing," East Freo artist Bernadette McGill says.

"It's still fluid or moving, but I'm experimenting with new colours and textures."

The self-taught fluid artist and interior decorator at Moving Art studio and gallery says the market is booming for the artistic fit-out of new homes and offices in Perth.

"I work with designers on fit-outs in some of Perth's leading display homes," the mother of three from Seaham in Durham, UK, told *Freo StreetWise*. "This involves choosing artwork furniture, soft furnishings and all window treatments." Works are affordable and replaceable, buyers attracted to her abstract style which includes acrylic paints poured onto canvas, as well as charcoal and pencil.

Bernadette's pieces will be exhibited at Little Creatures in 2017, with 30 to 40 pieces displayed in its upstairs section in March. Bernadette's art, which can be bought from the studio where commissions are also taken, are displayed at a number of locations including At Home Furniture and Homewares in Osborne Park, Michael Summers art gallery in Applecross and White Framers gallery in Como. Bernadette also runs arts classes for children and holds regular corporate art events and exhibitions with fellow artist Susan Biggins, whose story and artworks are also featured in this edition. Both artists have thousands of pieces displayed around the country.

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

SPORTING HORSE HERITAGE

“I felt his hand on my shoulder ... He wanted his story told,” Robyn McSweeney says.

And the 58-year-old Liberal MLC for the South-West does not disappoint in a new book honouring her family horse racing heritage. Robyn’s definitive, documentary-style, ‘Albert Edmund Cockram: King of the Racecourse - 1870-1943’, pays tribute to a largely unknown figure in Australian history - her great grandfather.

Written as a gift to all descendants of her family, Robyn’s 731-page book acknowledges Albert’s contribution to the early development of WA; not just horse racing, but agriculture, mining and politics.

Albert was born on Australia Day 1870 at Cheriton near Gingin, his parents having sailed from Devonshire, England, in the Sophia 20 years earlier. Educated at Hale School, one of eight children, Albert became one of the wealthiest men in WA, drove the first Silver Ghost Rolls Royce and bought and sold the best racehorses in the colony.

He also owned Belmont and Goodwood racecourses and until his death in 1943, was the biggest thoroughbred importer in the country, his horses having won a string of cups and prizes

with his colours of orange and purple.

Bridgetown-born Robyn says Albert’s love of horses was inherited from his father Edmund who raced at Canning in the early 1870s.

‘Horse racing is considered the Sport of Kings and the great thoroughbred the King of all horses’

“Albert forged the foundations of today’s horse racing industry,” she told *Freo StreetWise*, his contributions recorded two weeks before his death and republished as

newspaper inserts until 1951.

Reprinted for the first time, ‘King of the Racecourse’ consists of seven chapters documenting each decade of Albert’s life, ending in a special section cataloguing the contributions by his descendants; Buckingham, Lazenby, King, Hall, Durack and Carroll.

And Robyn McSweeney who was elected a member of the WA Legislative Council in 2001. Robyn served as Minister for Child Protection, Community Services, Seniors, Youth and Women and numerous shadow portfolios. ‘King of the Racecourse’ is a great Father’s Day gift.

Books are limited and sell for \$55. They can be ordered at mcsweeney@iinet.net.au or at Gannon’s Racing Shop in East Perth.



ABSOLUTELY HUGHES

“ABSOLUTELY!” John Hughes is WA’s car dealer of choice, his motto, “choose your dealer before you choose your car” familiar to anyone who has visited his Vic Park premises.

While he has few hobbies and can’t navigate a computer mouse, the Beaconsfield-born salesman is a regular on WA’s rich list; the former CBC boy having created his own success story.

John, 80, says his father was a bus driver, his mum a bus conductress, “That’s how they met”. Standing where he was born in 1935, John says his grandmother had a shop deli on the corner of Lefroy and Hampton roads. “I was born in the house right next door, it’s still there”.

After leaving school in 1952, John wanted to be a lawyer but he couldn’t afford to attend university so he took up accountancy part-time.

At 24, the oldest of three brothers became general manager of Attwoods Motorama. “I have never serviced a car, never changed a wheel. I just wanted to sell cars,” he says, his first car a 1936 Austin 10 which he bought for 125 pounds. In 1980, John took over the Mitsubishi franchise in Victoria Park and renamed it “John Hughes” - the biggest single location retailer in Australia.

The John Hughes Group employs about 560 people and sells more than 1700 new and used vehicles each month, with an annual turnover of \$550 million. The father of two children from his first marriage and two with second wife Margarita, John says Freo played a big role in his life: “CBC was a rough, tough school with market gardeners’ sons, crayfishermens’ sons. I was a good boy but I still got the cuts.”

Each year, John returns to CBC to talk to students about the secret to his success. John says he doesn’t race horses, “I don’t own a property at Margaret River. I don’t play golf. I don’t go fishing and I don’t play lawn bowls. Gardening too fills me with dread.

“This is my passion”.

Contact John at 196 Albany Highway or at www.johnhughes.com.au



‘I didn’t know what I wanted to be when I was growing up, but I certainly knew what I didn’t want to be.’

BANKING ON BENDIGO

COMMUNITY groups in the Freo area have shared hundreds of thousands of dollars in profits donated by Fremantle Community Bank since 2006.

Branch manager Nancy Bizzantino says this model of shared value brings big benefits to the business and the communities it serves.

“At Fremantle Community Bank we actively support local people to build the communities they want to live in because we know the only way we can be a successful business is to help our customers and communities succeed as well,” she says.

“The Community Bank model encourages local people to commit to buying essential financial services through locally owned companies committed to retaining capital in their community.”

There are 44 communities across WA that have embraced this model. Bendigo Bank provides the banking infrastructure and licensing requirements while the community, through a volunteer board of directors, runs the branch operations and generates funds to invest in their community.

Together, the bank and community share the revenue, with surpluses invested back into local businesses via grants, sponsorships and dividends to local shareholders. Initiatives the bank supports can vary greatly, based on community need, available funding and additional funding provided by other community partners. It supports local organisations including South Fremantle Football Club, Sunday Music, Danceout, Festival of 6 Continents and East Fremantle Football Club. The South Fremantle Football Club awarded the naming rights of Fremantle Oval to the branch - Fremantle Community Bank Oval.

Nancy told *Freo StreetWise* one of her favourite sponsorships is the Fremantle CBC All Abilities Football Team: “The WAAFL Integrated Football Program developed in 2009 includes seven clubs (CBC All Abilities has two teams) which gives players 16 years and over with physical and intellectual disabilities the opportunity to play Aussie rules.

“Fremantle Community Bank Branch funding provides players with tracksuits, tops and equipment, and more importantly, inspires confidence, determination and commitment. These kids train all year and the medal awards last year were more inspiring than the Brownlows. “When you look at all these projects you can see why many communities see enormous value in a local Community Bank branch. But it’s only through the banking business of our loyal customers that we can continue to grow the amount of money we return.”

With a strong background in banking, the Bertram mother of two boys and grandmother of five started her sales career in cosmetics at Boans department store in Perth. Nancy was 18 at the time, the middle child of five who grew up in White Gum Valley, her parents from Reggio Calabria.

In 1996, the Murdoch University graduate who took swimming lessons at South Beach switched to banking and within four years was appointed a lending manager.

“I love working with people, I like to understand what people are about and how I can help them achieve their goals.



“With the support of my great team, we’ve changed the lives of many people in the community. We believe in making the community successful by helping people be successful.”

To find out more about Bendigo’s banking model, call into Fremantle Community Bank and talk to Nancy and her team, or visit bendigobank.com.au/community/our-branches/fremantle.





HEALING ART

BORN and raised in coastal Queensland, East Freo artist Karen Neville spent her childhood wandering the beaches and creeks of sleepy Redcliffe.

Her journey has seen her make her way around Australia, backpacking through Indonesia with two young children, and finally settling in Fremantle 24 years ago, a place she loves because it “has a country culture, stunning coastlines and the community vibe reminds me of home”.

Karen told *Freo StreetWise* her affinity with the land and its people stems from those early days spent immersed in the Australian outback. A former corporate risk and assurance manager who also worked in early childhood programs at Fremantle Hospital, Karen found herself at a crossroads three years ago when she collided into the back of a car on Stirling Highway.

As she lay on the bitumen, looking up through the rain into the towering branches of an old fig tree, she made a promise to herself. “I remember lying there,” Karen recalls, “and promising myself that if I got back up, I would do all of the wonderful things that I had been putting on hold.

“As soon as I was up and about, I launched myself into life at full speed, doing everything I had always wanted and loved.”

Starting with meditation and relaxation classes for women, it wasn't long before Karen picked up a paintbrush. “Six months after knocking out my first painting”, the owner of ‘first breath art and wellbeing’ says, “I held my very first exhibition.” That night saw a near sell out of her original art.

Combining relaxation, meditation, massage and reiki therapies, Karen is passionate about art: “My entire focus is on giving women a moment out of their crazy lives. The ‘first breath art and wellbeing’ site is available on Facebook or www.firstbreathartandwellbeing.com.au. Karen’s art is on display in Studio 10 Captains Lane, Plympton Rooms, East Freo, and David Giles Gallery on High Street. A gallery is available at the *StreetWise* Facebook site.



IS there a Picasso or Pollack in your child? If so, enrol in Moving Art’s term four classes - places are going fast.

Term four starts October 8, with classes kicking off the following week. Classes cater for up to 15 young proteges aged six to 12 years every Tuesday and Wednesday.

“They are always popular so it’s best to book ahead,” coordinator Susan Biggins told *Freo StreetWise*. “We have already started taking bookings for next year.”

According to early childhood experts, art is a great way to help children develop their cognitive, social and motor abilities. South Terrace parents Len and Vanessa Sciaresa told *Freo StreetWise* their 11-year-old daughter Eva enjoyed taking part in the courses.

“She is really into her art and has done a few more paintings we have in our house,” Len says. “It definitely brought out the artist in her. We recommend it to other would-be artists out there.” Susan says the classes end with an exhibition of their works at the Moving Art studio gallery in East Freo.

For further details, contact Susan on 0402508249, at susanb@westnet.com.au or message her on the Susan Biggins Art and Design Facebook page. *StreetWise* wants to thank Bree Braun, of Kensington Reflections (www.kensingtonreflections.com.au), for sponsoring the kids art page.



THE ART IN HEART

EXPERIMENTATION, freedom and most of all colour are at the heart of Susan Biggins' works of art. But there is another important ingredient that makes her creations cry out for attention - emotion.

Speaking to *Freo StreetWise* at her home in Munster, Susan's journey started with a hairdressing apprentice at the age of 16, studying at Mt Lawley TAFE. "While completing my training in Perth, I broke my leg badly in a horse riding accident, after which I couldn't continue with my apprenticeship because I was in plaster up to my hip for nearly a year." Two decades later and married with two growing children, Susan's passion for art, which started out as a hobby, blossomed into her own unique form of "moving art." She says she started experimenting with different art forms including glass art at a shop in Gosnells where she ran classes for a couple of years until she and her husband Keith started a picture framing business which they operated for many years. This business (Kensington Reflections, which Susan and Keith sold three years ago to former Eagles player Michael Braun and his wife Bree) is where Susan started working with interior designers looking for unique art works to fit out display homes and apartment buildings in Perth.

Susan is a talented and sought after artist whose artwork is in high demand. "My work is in private collections both in Australia and overseas as well as in a large number of display homes and apartment buildings in Perth. It was while supplying art to these markets that I developed my range of 'fast, moving art' which enabled me to employ many local artists who could then

make an income from doing something that they loved.

"My art is a form of meditation. When I paint, I don't think of anything else."

A prolific artist who also sketches and enjoys figurative painting, Susan likes to experiment with a variety of mediums including charcoal, mixed media, acrylics and inks, many of her paintings reflecting, "the dramatic influence of abstract expressionism". Susan says she has grown to love the fluidity and combination of different mediums and strong colours to produce what she describes as evolving pieces of art with a unique "experimental edge".

"I am very excited about my new range of resin art which I am currently working on and expecting to showcase at my studios in East Fremantle and Munster in the coming months."

Susan and her friend and fellow artist Bernadette McGill conduct after-school classes for children twice a week (Tuesday and Wednesday) at MovingArt on the corner of Marmion and Hubble Streets in East Fremantle. Together they support a number of local schools and charities including East Fremantle and Palmyra primary schools and Heartkids WA.

"I am an artist who is passionate about my art and my community," she says. "I love working closely with my clients to discuss their needs. I meet them in their home to help with their colour selections and the style of art they prefer. I am with them every step of the way to make sure that they love the finished piece of art as much as I do."

MovingArt is open Tuesday to Friday from 11am to 4pm. Susan's studio at her home at 18B Kotisina Gardens in Munster is also open to the public. If you wish to view Susan's art at either location, make an appointment on 0402508249, email susanb@westnet.com.au or Susan Biggins Art and Design Facebook. Readers will receive a 20 per cent discount off the price of Susan's art on display at the studio if they pop in to 99 Hubble Street East Fremantle during September.



'My work is a kind of meditation, when I paint I don't think of anything else.'

CHASING SOPHIA

FREO actor Frank Fazio is chasing a dream. Her name is Sophia Loren.

Speaking from Rome, he told Freo StreetWise he first met the Italian screen legend in May 2014 when the 81-year-old actress was the guest of honour at a Cannes festival screening of her son Edoardo Ponti's film, 'The Human Voice', in which she also starred.

"My Sicilian grandmother on my mum's side was born on the same day as Sophia," he recalls. "She used to always talk about Sophia this and Sophia that. Little did I know that in 2014 I'd actually meet her. After millions of emails and letters, I ended up sitting in front of her in Cannes.

"I didn't know what I was thinking, so after her son's screening I got up and shook her hand and said, 'it is an honour to meet you', before security escorted her out. I was also lucky to have taken her photograph." In December, the same year, Frank again met (albeit for a nanosecond) the Oscar, Grammy and Golden Globe Award winner at a charity gala ball in Melbourne.

"Again, I approached her hoping to get a few seconds with her. I said my grandmother was born on the same day as her and she replied, 'che bello' (how lovely)."



From that moment, Frank says he felt like he was "chasing Sophia", hoping she would one day appear in a film of the same name based on a brief romance he had in Italy several years ago. "It's a wild dream but I believe it's possible," he says. Until then, the award-winning actor is focused on building his career. A former professional soccer player who served coffee at Gino's while studying to become a performance artist, the 27-year-old pasta lover played the lead in 'Restare Uniti' (We Stick Together), the acclaimed 2011 drama that attracted attention to his screen presence as the son of a World War Two Italian internee in WA.

Looking for acting gigs in Italian theatre, film or television - as well as Sophia who lives in Switzerland - Frank says Freo, "is definitely a nurturing ground for young actors".

"Every time I come home and head into Freo, there's always a good feeling and great memories". Frank's acting bio at www.ffazio.com.

THE MANY FACES OF JACK

JACK Jovic loves a good story. The Spearwood actor who has starred in more than 20 roles in Australian film and TV in the past decade is riding high on a wave of popularity and string of awards.

Having grown up in Wattleup, Jack's roles have included a hardbitten ex-con looking for family redemption in 'The Brotherhood' (best actor 168 Film Festival 2015); an Eastern European mob enforcer in 'Lake of Fire' (nominated best actor 168 Film Festival 2014); a midget-throwing steroid-fuelled muscle man, Barry 'The Rhino' Magee in 'Thrown' 2007; and tattooed biker who drinks milk in Dairy Australia's 2015 'Cows Create Careers' winning video produced by students at the Roleystone Academy of Digital Media, 'Milk is Not Just for Pussies'.

Jack's latest role as forester Dan in the locally produced, 'The Voice in the Wilderness', has earned him and his film colleagues 12 nominations at the 168 Film Festival in Los Angeles. Jack and co-star Orlando Borg (who plays Dan's son Jake) are up for best actor and Jenelle Altinier (Jake's mum Carla) best supporting actress. Aaron Kamp is up for best cinematography and best editor.

"The Voice in the Wilderness' collaborators writer Troy Latto and Andrew Thorn (nominated for best director, best screenplay and best production design) told *StreetWise* the idea for the film was adapted from a real life drama in which a young WA girl saves her father pinned under their overturned 4WD near the Wagerup mine site.

Competing against 60 teams from around the world, the WA filmmakers had 168 hours to shoot and edit the short film based on a theme and a Bible verse. The film features scenes from South Beach, Pinjar pine plantation, Cardup sawmill and Fremantle Hospital.

"For me, what's attracted me all the time is the story," Jack told *Freo StreetWise* over a pint at The National before flying out to L.A.

He says his gift for switching accents is a result of growing up with 'interesting' characters he met at barbecues and nightspots in Perth. His work experiences also help, the 50-year-old actor

having worked as a chef at Pier 21, merchant mariner of 14 years and stand-up comedian in Darwin.

Only four and a half years old when he arrived from the former Yugoslavia, where he was born in the Dinaric Alps near Knin, Jack settled in Mandogalup (his mum worked for Sumichs) before moving to Wattleup. The box office attraction also played footy for South Coogee and later Cockburn juniors then joined South Fremantle Colts and Southern Ports.

He says Freo is a great training ground and source of inspiration for writers and actors, one of his fondest memories cruising the Cappuccino Strip in his two-door cherry-orange HK Monaro.

"I love bringing to life the characters I've met on my amazing journey," the director at Welshpool aircon company Living Comfort says. "A lot of my roles are based on people I know."

'Freo is a great training ground and source of inspiration for writers and actors.'



INSIDE ART REVISITED

FREMANTE Prison hosts a new season of 'Insider Art' and 'A Quiet Conviction' until November.

'A Quiet Conviction: Photographs of Decommissioned Prisons' by Brett Leigh Dicks runs until November 6 and includes a selection of photographs taken at Fremantle Prison in 2015.

Exhibited beside a selection of Dicks' photographs of American prisons and penitentiaries, the collection is described as "a reminder of past penal philosophies and testify to a rich social history".

Dicks is a US photographer who shares his time between the US and Australia and employs black and white photography reflecting the fragile ties between landscape and human history.

Limited edition framed and mounted prints are available for purchase.

'Insider Art: Spring 2016' runs until November 27, having run over autumn with an exhibition of serpents protecting waterholes and wildflowers to flightless emus and honey ant trails featured in the April edition of *Freo StreetWise*.

It provides visitors with the chance to see the current collection of artworks and creative projects produced inside WA prisons.

The Department of Corrective Services and the State Heritage Office are proud to give visitors an insight into the creativity and ideas of those who are incarcerated and an opportunity to catch a glimpse of an integral part of prison life and education.

Some of the pieces reproduced on the *Freo StreetWise* Facebook 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 paintings and art objects.

Details at info@fremantleprison.com.au, www.fremantleprison.com.au and on the *StreetWise* Facebook site.

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INKED UP IN BALI



IF his Facebook posts from Bali are anything to go by, Spearwood boy Anthony Joseph Capelinha is living the dream in "the paradise of the gods".

The 34-year-old former trucker and mining driller told *Freo StreetWise* he moved to Indonesia three years ago to challenge himself, "I wanted a change in lifestyle".

Living near Seminyak, Anthony runs Inked Up Tattoo Parlour and Chunky Chunks, both businesses based in Kuta just a few minutes walk from each other.

"I've always loved tattoos and have been around that industry most of my life," the father of three says. "I also love cooking so I started up my own restaurant here. "It's fantastic here, the Balinese have been good to my family."

Anthony says his 60-seater diner has become a meeting place for Australians travelling to Bali, particularly from Freo, his tattoo shop a "rite of passage" for people visiting for the first time.

"A lot of people are looking for that unique look," he says, his parlour employing nine staff while Chunky Chunks employs 11 staff.

"Tattoos are big here. We still get people in their 40s and 50s coming in, I even had three ladies in their 60s asking to be inked together."

'I even had three ladies in their 60s asking to be inked together.'

He says chicano and Japanese style tattoos are popular, as are black and grey religious themes. For those who prefer a fork and knife over a needle,

dine out on Anthony's Portuguese specials including skewered lamb or chicken with peri peri sauce and Capo's steak sandwich.

Anthony urged travellers to pop in - either for a tatt or meal, or both. He will offer *StreetWise* readers a 20 per cent discount for a tattoo and a 15 per cent discount at Chunky Chunks.

Both businesses are available on Facebook, images of his work and crazy party nights at Chunky Chunks on the *StreetWise* Facebook site.



SPRING POET

COCKBURN scribe Sabrina Carbone has written 1619 poems.

"I love poetry because it has the power to heal yourself and others, and because it has always been my way of reaching out to others, figuring myself out, and expressing myself."

The 16-year-old Hamilton Hill High School student who writes under the name Crimsy says her inspirations include Lang Leav (Love & Misadventure, Lullabies), Christopher Poindexter (Naked Human, The Universe and Her, and I), Erin Hanson (The Magic of Believing, Heartbeat), and Nikita Gill (If He Truly Loves You, Tiny Stories).

Freo StreetWise asked her to pen a poem for spring:

Dancing With Spring

I will turn away from the shadows,
and listen to the birdsongs

And I will long for the spring,
instead of longing for you.

Because spring plants seeds in
roses that thought they could never bloom again,
spring makes every flower precious, so they learn
not to wait for bees
to realise they are worthy.

I will dance with daffodils
in a luminous field,
free of deceit,
free of white lies and bored sighs,

Free of fake "I've missed you",
free of you.
The fields to heal my blues,
those fields with swaying trees;
they dance with me.

The place where the entire earth is so alive
it has no time to think of harsh winters.

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