

FREE

Issue 20

December 2022

FREO

StreetWise

Fremantle's independent
print & online magazine



Celebrate 20 editions of Fremantle's free independent
publication at streetwisemedia.com.au. Enjoy!

Freo snapshots

Pages 14-15

Bingles & bumps

Pages 26-29

Sea monsters

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Noel

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THANK YOU

A community-driven initiative by WA journalist Carmelo Amalfi, *StreetWise Media* attracts thousands of print and online readers interested in local news, the arts, film, history and tourism. *StreetWise* stands out for quality and affordable rates, producing high quality content and images designed to boost your business profile and online presence. Join Freo's independent media group and advertise your business, people and special events in 2023. All stories and contributions are welcome at 0468608503 or melnet@westnet.com.au.

STREETWISE Media thanks sponsors and advertisers who have supported the publishing success of its flagship magazine, launched in High Street in 2015. *Freo StreetWise* is a FREE print and online publishing platform showcasing the people, places and rich history of the port city. Distributed in Fremantle, Melville, Cockburn and select sites in Western Australia, *StreetWise* is linked to a growing social media community at streetwisemedia.com.au.

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Cover Image: Leith Phillips

STREETWISE #20!

TWENTY editions. Thousands of stories and images of the city, its people, places and rich history. *StreetWise* has been fortunate to enjoy a growing print and online readership since 2015. Welcome to the 20th edition of *Freo StreetWise*, our previous issues at streetwisemedia.com.au. We thank the many businesses, individuals and volunteers who continue to support and sponsor the unique stories and images brought to you by Fremantle's independent print and online publication. This special issue features some of our news exclusives, the faces of Freo's business community, religious festivals and events planned in 2023 including the annual Charity Car Cruise.



We honour our local Anzac legends and revisit 18th century Swedish plans to colonise the Swan River; and explore Indigenous observations of meteorite impacts in WA. A safe and happy holiday season to all.

Carmelo Amalfi

Publisher
Carmelo Amalfi

Designer
Beau G'Froerer

Freo StreetWise is a free publication produced in Fremantle. Supported by local businesses and community groups, the independent publication launched in 2015 is distributed in Fremantle, Cockburn, Melville and select sites in Perth and WA.

StreetWise also is available at www.streetwisemedia.com.au.

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STREET COVERED

FREE
12th October 2015

FREO
StreetWise

STREETWISE Media was launched in Fremantle in 2015 by multi award-winning journalist Carmelo Amalfi. Working out of the old South Fremantle FC administration building on Norfolk Street (now SCOOP Property), the debut issue featured the cover image of the WA Maritime Museum by local snapper Amerigo Carrello (opposite). Free and fiercely independent, its print editions reach readers in Fremantle, Cockburn, Melville and select sites in Perth and WA where *StreetWise* was fortunate to visit during the COVID19 pandemic. Online readers can access stories, images and special news reports and features on the people, places and rich history of the much-loved city. In 2016, *StreetWise* Media's flagship magazine launched a Facebook page and the following year its own site at streetwisemedia.com.au. There you will find exclusive content published over the past seven years.



WA Celebrates 400 years since Hartog
PAGES 2-3
Xmas indigenous style
PAGE 22
Freeo's street car charity cruise
PAGES 18-19
Free San Churro voucher
PAGE 26

Join thousands of *StreetWise* readers who are part of a growing community looking for independent news stories and the latest developments. Enjoy the rich social fabric of Freeo through the stories of its people, annual festivals and special events.

SEVEN summers ago, I cruised into Freeo looking for stories in a beat-up ute that failed to impress at auction. I found Dutch-born furniture 'king' Rudolf Raats enjoying coffee at the Mill Bakehouse on Norfolk. Inside the glovebox of his furniture delivery truck, a 1971 photo the former Freeo scout snapped of the 124th Japanese emperor's family in 1971. Published for the first time in 44 years, the image captured on Fuji film is available at streetwisemedia.com.au. Enjoying lunch at Victoria Quay, I noticed workmen preparing to move the 1931-built Swedish boat *Beth* to Wood Street. I caught up with its original owners Don and Lena (a former Fremantle sailing club cook) in Clarkson. The couple sailed into Freeo in 1974, having survived the 25,000km journey from the UK, its double decker bus engine stuck in first gear carrying a young family with no sea experience. The exclusive interview was republished by Milton Keynes's weekly media service, *MK News*. In my annual search for Anzac stories, I visited Fremantle RSL's oldest member, the late and much-loved WW2 veteran Bill Renton at his home in O'Connor.

Bill's extraordinary story of bravery and courage, published for the first time by *StreetWise*, attracted media attention and a family photo shoot at Princess May Park (Page 24). Australian and NZ media also picked up our exclusive that Oscar winner Russell Crowe's L.A. company held the rights to film the 1629 *Batavia* tragedy off Geraldton based on WA shipwreck hunter Hugh Edward's 1966 best-selling 'Island of Angry Ghosts'. Russell still holds the rights.



StreetWise is what it said it would be. A celebration of people, places and local history, festivals and religious events (Pages 44-49). It is independent and driven in its coverage of local news and developments at a time when now, more than ever, readers demand high-quality content. That's what they tell me on the street. It's where the real stories are. In cafes, bookshops, markets, art galleries and museums. At South Mole. Fishing Boat Harbour. Monument Hill. South Beach. This is where *StreetWise* readers live and work. In Freeo.



STREETCAR CHARITY

ARMED with a camera, water bottle and megaphone, *StreetWise Media* publisher Carmelo Amalfi has turned a motoring tradition dating back to the 1950s and 1960s into Perth's biggest 'bog lap'. Raising funds for the Cancer Council, the annual *Freo StreetWise* Charity Car Cruise is supported by local businesses and 'bogans' including the former owner of a rebadged HQ who, on Father's Day 2015, decided it was time to muster the troops and channel their fuel-injected energy into fundraising. The same year, *StreetWise* unveiled a new horse memorial at CY O'Connor Reserve to commemorate the history of horse training in Cockburn and Fremantle. The unveiling was attended by horse training legends and raised funds for the Injured Jockeys Fund. In 2018, *StreetWise* also released a commemorative booklet honouring 90 years since the opening of Fremantle's war memorial at Monument Hill.



Car enthusiasts in WA and interstate are expected to attend the 8th annual charity car cruise in Freo. The morning muster will be followed at noon by 'bog laps' through the CBD and South Fremantle where people can enjoy the colourful motoring spectacle. Join *StreetWise* and register your support for a worthy cause, Freo style. Images of previous car runs available at streetwisemedia.com.au. Our special feature on Freo's first car 'bingles' on pages 26 to 29.

Horseback Beach 1833-2017



The 184-year-old story of racing and training on Western Australia's oldest horse exercise beach



Brought to you by *StreetWise Media*
www.streetwisemedia.com.au



MONUMENT HILL
1928-2018
The 90th anniversary of the Fremantle War Memorial

THANK YOU FREO

PERTH'S biggest charity 'bog lap', the *Freo StreetWise* Charity Car Cruise raises funds for the Cancer Council. Supported by local businesses and classic and vintage car owners, the 8th annual street spectacle is planned for February 2023. Images streetwisemedia.com.au.

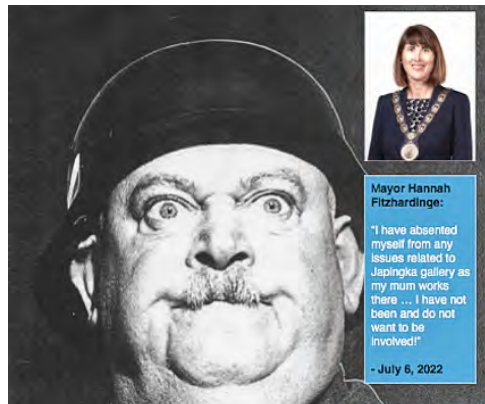


STREETWISE SCOOPS

BUDGET blowouts, local government election shenanigans, serial parking offenders, 'tent city' political stunts and a dumpster diving councillor. There is no shortage of news when it comes to the City of Fremantle. As *StreetWise* reported in issue #7 in December 2017, 'community journalism' plays a crucial role in keeping people better informed about decisions that affect the way they live and work in the port city. The ethical pursuit of news and the public's right to information are fundamental principles of journalism. Journalists search, disclose, record, question, entertain and comment. They inform and educate and scrutinise power with honesty, fairness and independence. Everything else is propaganda, PR and bad blogs. Stories and images published in print and online adhere to the Media, Entertainment & Arts Alliance (WA) Code of Ethics at meaa.org/meaa-media/code-of-ethics.

Highlights of *StreetWise Media's* news exclusives include the decision by the Barnett Government to move into the new Walyalup building (formerly Kings Square). At the time, Fremantle State Labor MP Simone McGurk posted, "I hope you're right Carmelo". She need not fear. Six months later, the State Government announced the move, formally. *StreetWise* also called out a candidate posing as a Fremantle resident in the 2017 local government elections. And more recently, *StreetWise* exposed the hypocrisy of the City's parking policies that allowed the mayor's mum to park behind Japingka Aboriginal Art gallery for more than a year and City Ward Cr Rachel Pemberton's dietary preference for food waste from the local Woolies (pictured below).

Visit streetwisemedia.com.au to read hundreds of news stories and images published since 2015.



COMMENT: THE disgrace that was 'tent city' is a sad chapter in the history of local government in Fremantle. What was to be a Boxing Day lunch in 2020 for the homeless turned into a political campaign held outside State MP Simone McGurk's office. The City said it did not give activists Freo Street Kitchen approval to occupy Pioneer Park beyond Boxing Day, contrary to WA Police in Fremantle who told *StreetWise* that staff and elected members had given FSK approval to occupy Pioneer Park. What the City refused to say is why after 28 days it did not move to close down the unlawful camp despite up to 80 calls for police help, including the assault of two teenage girls. The Government forcibly closed tent city on January 22, 2021.

StreetWise revealed organisers stored their tents in office space shared with South Ward Cr Andrew Sullivan, who denied being involved in the political stunt. The sorry saga at streetwisemedia.com.au.



WINNING RECIPE



- A JOINT venture with Silverleaf, owners of the police complex site
- Designed Slavin Architects
- Built Buckingham Redevelopment Company



HIGH tea and heritage have served up a string of awards for National Hotel owners Karl and Janine Bullers. The National took out the much-coveted AHA Gold Plate for the Best High Tea in WA, competing with some of the State's finest restaurants including QT, Crown and C Restaurant.

- The Old Courthouse in Henderson Street won five awards:
- State Heritage Council award for Conservation or Adaptive Reuse of a State Registered Place
 - Australian Steel Institute Steel Excellence – Small Projects
 - Master Builders Association of WA Best Historic Restoration \$1.5m-\$5m
 - Master Builders Association of WA Best Retail Building \$1.5-\$5m
 - Fremantle Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Commercial/ Residential Property Development

Not ones to rest on their laurels, the ever creative and innovative Bullers also are bringing back to life the Exchange Hotel in Pinjarra. The original Exchange on the banks of the Murray River opened in 1866. The Bullers hope to open the new hotel by late next year.



CLAUDIA'S VIEW

THE State Government wants to cut the number of Elected Members in Local Government and change the way Mayors and Presidents in WA are elected. Political commentator Claudia Green says in Fremantle, according to the City, "this means the single biggest change the City will be required to make in response to the reforms will be reducing the number of Councillors from 13 (including the Mayor) to between five and nine Councillors (including the Mayor)".

THE Mayor, currently, is elected by the people or a third of them under a non-compulsory system of local government in WA. Under the State's proposed reform model, the City could lose one or more of its six wards and four of its 13 councillors. But the City's 'My Say Freo' community survey fails to tackle the big question - the election of Mayor. A Mayor can simply be a matter for the Council to determine, among councillors, or the electorate. The election of a Mayor by the community is a grandiose, highly political affair, which involves Party politics (not 'acknowledged' but blatant) and rarely an independent. If this position was simply bureaucratic and coordinating, which it is in practice, then the position would become one of the five to nine, and a Mayor chosen from among the other Elected Members. The removal of the community election and the position chosen from within the governing body has the potential to change the game in Fremantle.

However, it is not under consideration. While this may seem pedantic, the difference of maintaining the broad election of a mayor does have implications for the functioning of the Council and its priorities. A Mayor gets broadly elected because of a so-called platform, which is political, and that agenda is significant in the direction and operation of Council, the Elected Member alliances and the 'realpolitik, which is "a system of politics or principles based on practical considerations". Removing the status quo of electing a Mayor by popular vote would have allowed the current Deputy Mayor and other Elected Members to challenge. Under the proposed reforms, 22 local governments, "will need to change to electing the Mayor or President by a public vote of ratepayers". The reforms proposed by the State could encourage some real change or simply just more change that remains the same.



MARIJA VUJCIC SOUTH WARD

WHAT an awesome privilege it is to have notched up three years of service. "Duly, honestly and integrity" is my Oath. I share three highlights that made an impression and would count as positive wins for ratepayers. The South Fremantle Festival of Lights in 2020 smashed attendance records with 15,000-plus people coming to enjoy food, music, and dance. The festival was repeated in 2021. The event demonstrated Fremantle has the capacity to be a major festival destination. The Tent City incident in 2021 during a State election demonstrated the most vulnerable in our community were used for political purposes. The City, in my view, failed the homeless through a lack of transparency by not calling out the politics and the individuals. Fremantle needs a comprehensive strategy that will provide long term solutions.



During the Mayoral campaign last year, I advocated for an Integrated One stop Fremantle Destination Engagement Hub such as those in Perth and the Peel region. These centres provide a safe engagement hub during the day, assessments and support services to get the homeless into meaningful actions that will lead to housing, job assistance and better lives.

As a newly elected Councillor, I trusted that the monthly financial reporting was correct. The financial questions were adequately answered and there was a level of comfort that the city's financial health was sound. In April 2021 upon reading the audited Annual Financial Statements for June 2020, I discovered the City had made a net operating loss of \$8.5m and that the land and buildings were devalued by \$24m. A total comprehensive loss for that year was just under \$33m. This was a light bulb moment for me that the financials were not transparent. At the Ordinary Council Meeting of the 24 April 2022, I presented a narrative that basically pulled the financial bandaid off the Civic Centre cost overruns. The narrative commenced with the Kings Square Business Plan 2012 which stated that the total project cost would not exceed \$45m. The narrative ended with the prediction that the cost overrun was in the vicinity \$61m or \$67m. The audited financial figure for 2021-2022 was \$63m.



THE Civic Centre was supposed to be the building financially giving back to the ratepayers. Instead it is the building that takes back \$1.2m a year just in loan repayments to the State Government. There are still millions earmarked for the building in the next few years. The balancing of this year's budget is predicated on the sale of Quarry Street for \$4.9m. The budget is not balanced. In my view, the level of transparency is "misinformation verses truth in the numbers provided". In my view, going forward, "the same level of thinking" is the issue. We are destined to repeat cost overruns with poor accountability to the ratepayers.

"We cannot solve our problems with the same level of thinking that created them"
- Albert Einstein

On a positive note, I will continue to work towards better financial accountability by encouraging greater transparency and better financial reporting. Twelve months ago, I had total hip replacement surgery which has given me a new lease of life. I am back into the hard yakka of gardening, walking, cycling and wrestling my two little grandsons. At my review last week, the surgeon said, "your next appointment is in 10 years". I skipped out of his office with gratitude for my many blessings and with enough mischief to keep my oath to the ratepayers. A safe and happy Christmas to all.

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TASTY LEGACY



SOUTH Freo Continental builds on a rich family tradition based on fresh food, good coffee and friendly service at the hands of owner Sergio Noto.

The 318 South Terrace cafe is a favourite among local breakfast and brunch lovers. Eggs your way. Eggs Benny. Kale and ricotta smash. Spanish omelette, Turkish eggs, taco sliders and a choice of fresh juices and summer smoothies.

Enjoy weekend pizza nights, a quiet corner to catch up on emails or read a book and shop around for the night's groceries.

Check out South Freo Continental's latest menus and events on its Facebook page.



PORT JARRAH FURNITURE

CUSTOM made, handcrafted jarrah and marri furniture made by local artisan and owner Clint Clarke. Visit the 45 High Street gallery open seven days. Phone: 0893362225.



SHOOTERS



EVERY edition of *Freo StreetWise* has featured images by amateur and award-winning photographers in WA. Tony Ashby, Leith Phillips, Patrick Baker, Hugh Edwards, Geoff Vivian, Roger Garwood, Paolo Gumina, Peter Zuvella, Amerigo Carrello, Bob Sommerville, Graeme Phillips and photography students at Notre Dame University in Fremantle and TAFE students in Karratha.

Through the lens, they evoke emotion, colour, black and white and beauty. Storm clouds over Fremantle harbour, bus travellers in the COVID pandemic, religious olive harvests and thirsty crested pigeons. Drum rust. Ship anchors. And a child in a field. *StreetWise* readers are invited to share their family 'snaps', past or present, to our Facebook page and streetwisemediacom.au.



LOCALLY MADE

STREETWISE Media would not have rolled out 20 editions since 2015 without the support of local business and sponsors of Freo's independent print and online publication. John and Diane Da Luz, the Merenda, Mondello and Noto families, Portorosa Fremantle's Joe Napoli, The National's Karl Bullers, Bullocks International Freightmaster's Ivan Bullock and Anthony Paratore and The Hair & Barber Room's scissorhand sisters Lucia, Vanessa and Rosaria. There are many others, including local students and volunteers who have devoted their time and energy to support *StreetWise*.

Doing business in Freo can be tough, as COVID-19 proved, but traders say they are confident they can make up for a cruel couple of years over Christmas and New Year. Summer months are always good, but most businesses in 2023 will be watching interest rates and rising fuel costs. Finding staff and retaining them. Rates. Leases. And local marketing. The road ahead is bumpy, but business owners are resilient and innovative in the face of rapidly changing markets. Sponsorship and advertising packages at streetwisemedia.com.au or call 0468608503.





FREO FACES

IT really is the people you meet on the street. Since its launch in 2015, *Freo StreetWise* has given voice to people from all walks of life, their stories and images at streetwisemedia.com.au.

Artists, cafe and restaurant owners, war veterans, car lovers, scientists and the homeless. We met local award-winning actors Jack Jovicic and Frank Fazio, who managed a selfie with Sophia Loren. On most Saturdays, Bentley enthusiast Jure Sain can be spotted cruising through Freo with both his wives.

In South Freo, the Noto family carries on a tradition to provide quality food and service at South Freo Continental while Frank and Rob Di Tullio embrace the organic food revolution at Peaches. On the Cappuccino Strip, diners experience authentic Italian cuisine at Portorosa Fremantle where owner Joe Napoli often shares a coffee with friends and visitors.

StreetWise Media is humbled to have shared their stories and images.

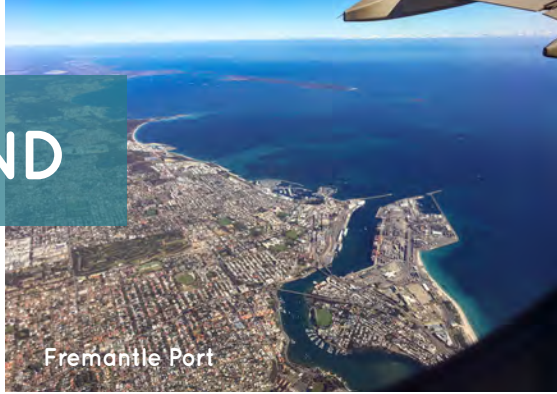


FREO UNBOUND

THE *StreetWise* search for local Freo stories has taken this independent publisher to remote locations in WA. Hamelin Pool near Carnarvon, home to 'living' fossils called stromatolites which represent life forms which evolved more than 3500 million years ago.

We visited the early 17C Shark Bay site (below) to celebrate 400 years since Dutch explorer Dirk Hartog recorded his historic visit to the unknown west coast on a pewter plate nailed to a post on the island named after him. Point Gantheaume, Broome, where we followed in the footsteps of dinosaur tracks tens of millions of years old.

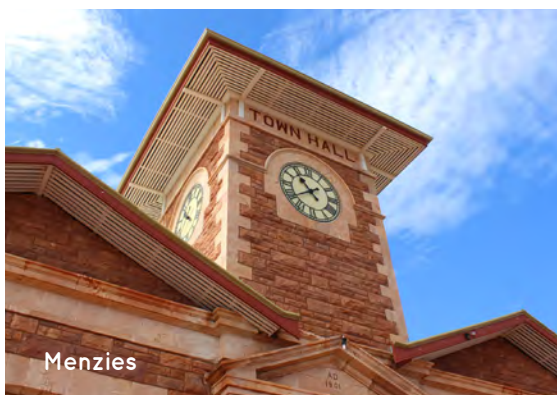
To remote Menzies, where time is calibrated against the new town hall clock to replace the original lost at sea off Fremantle in 1905. And historic Cossack near Roebourne, where *StreetWise* spoke to local land owners whose families have been paying rates since the late 1800s (page 37). More *StreetWise* stories and images at streetwisemedia.com.au.



Fremantle Port



Image: Leith Phillips



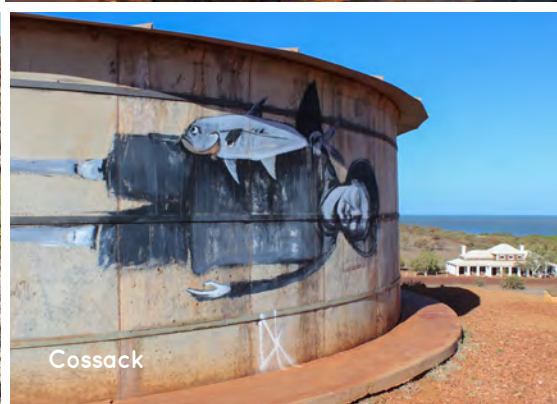
Menzies



Broome footprints



Dirk Hartog Island



Cossack



SUPERYACHTS, new public spaces and improved access to the Fremantle CBD. Released in July, the State Government's draft 40-year masterplan for Fremantle Fishing Boat Harbour includes extending Norfolk Street into a new mixed-use waterfront precinct and converting the northern section of Mews Road into a shared plaza accommodating festivals and events. The draft covering adjoining Challenger and Success harbours also includes improved pedestrian connection to the city centre and along Bathers Beach to historic Victoria Quay. Additional details streetwisemedia.com.au.

HORSE BEACH HERITAGE



IN 2016, *StreetWise* and the City of Cockburn unveiled a new horse memorial at CY O'Connor Reserve. The historic event was followed in 2017 by a family fun day attended by horse trainers, jockeys, farriers, blacksmiths and stable owners from around WA. The idea for the memorial belongs to Terry Patterson, who runs the only remaining horse stables at the end of Daly Street.

The 600kg concrete plinth and plaque was installed with the support of the Samson family, Seacorp's Craig Thompson, Perth Racing WA, City of Belmont, 10th Lighthouse Memorial Group, SCOOP Property, Homestyle Salads and the many families and individuals who shared their stories of "life in the stables". Horse heritage at streetwisemedia.com.au.

THE first horse race on the WA mainland was held at 'South Beach' in 1833. Six imported Timor ponies lined up for the State's first race meeting at 'South Beach', the October 2 event reported by the then *Perth Gazette*. The first race in WA was held on Garden Island in 1829. Since then, the heritage-listed South Beach Horse Exercise Area between South Beach and the old South Fremantle power house in Cockburn has been used continuously by champion riders and trainers, including members of the Australian Defence Force, 10th Light Horse and WA Police mounted section. The site has produced Perth Cup winners and, "various winners of every major State and national event other than the Melbourne Cup having trained at the place and numerous trainers and jockeys of State, national and international repute having worked horses there". Until his death in 1902, Engineer-in-Chief CY O'Connor and local riders and trainers also used the beach which includes areas of Aboriginal significance, including mythological sites pre-dating European settlement.



HONOURED ANZACS



“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; Age shall not wear them, nor the years condemn. We will remember them.”



ANZAC Day. Remembrance. Reflections of wartime and courage. A crimson pin bought at the local RSL poppy appeal. And minutes of silence.

Since its launch in 2015, *StreetWise* has brought readers stories and images of treasured veterans in WA; Geraldton, Carnarvon, Karratha, Roebourne and Whim Creek where names of soldiers feature on cenotaphs, obelisks and commemorative plaques.

Fremantle RSL's oldest member, the late WW2 legend Bill Renton, 92, spoke exclusively with *StreetWise*, his story of war service having attracted WA media attention at a family photo shoot at Princess May Park.

In 2016, we met Koorda's last WW2 veteran, the late Paddy Alford, 96, who offered *StreetWise* a can of beer during a visit to the wheatbelt town to commemorate Anzac Day.

Paddy led the parade in his gopher, close friend South Fremantle horse trainer Terry Patterson following close behind.

Terry invited *StreetWise* to visit his family's former home, 236km east of Perth, where a rusty baby's cot is all that remains of his family heritage, the current property owners steering clear of the abandoned cot site - out of respect for his family.

StreetWise also visited the *HMAS Sydney* memorial in Geraldton; attended the Anzac Day dawn service in Roebourne and visited the lonely grave site of the five Indigenous Lockyer brothers at Whim Creek. In 2018, *StreetWise* with the support of the City of Fremantle, sponsors and public donations published 'Monument Hill 1928 - 2018: The 90th anniversary of the Fremantle War Memorial'.

The publication, republished in 2019, is available at streetwisemedia.com.au.



BINGLES & BUMPY BYWAYS

THE first motor 'cars' did not receive the red carpet treatment when they took to WA roads at the turn of the last century.

Most people condemned the noisy fuel guzzlers as an expensive novelty and increasing danger to, "horses, dogs, trams, wagon drivers and pedestrians".

Little has changed in a century of car use. Motorised cars were defined as vehicles propelled by, "any volatile spirit or electricity or by any means other

than animal power". They also were required after sunset to have at least two lamps attached to the front of the car, one on each side and one at the back, "throwing a white light on the number of the car".

The transport landscape would change dramatically, paving the way for motor vehicle (and motorbike) registrations and insurance, new road rules, speed limits and the start of the secondhand used car trade.



WA's first 'motorist' was a Frenchman, Armand Bargigli, who arrived in WA in 1896 to sell the idea of using cement pipes for the Goldfields water pipeline. Bargigli in 1897 left Albany for London on a steamer with passengers including Sir John Forrest.

He returned the following March with a French-designed Leon Bollee tricycle made in London, "More like a buggy with three wheels, it was a sensation on Perth streets". The first four-wheeled car driven in

Perth is believed to have arrived in WA in 1901. It was a Gladiator bought by engineer John Banfield at the Paris Fair in 1900. According to The Royal Automobile Club of WA (Inc), the first petrol-driven car was sold in Perth in 1902 by self-taught engineer Claude Williams Deane. Deane was a member of a small group of motoring enthusiasts that would become the RAC in January 1905. "Cars might have been on the roads, but there was little in the way of garages or petrol pumps, or even people who knew much about repairing or changing tyres. The new club's members and motoring enthusiasts wanted to change that, supporting others that shared their passion for the automobile and making the roads safer for their new members, and others in WA," it says at rac.com.au/about-rac/our-history/the-early-days.



MOTORING historian Graeme Cox said of the first cars in WA, "when a noisy metal box rolled into the Wheatbelt without a horse in sight, it was like an alien craft had landed". Cox said in a 2018 RAC article the first automobile arrived in Beverley in 1903: "The strange contraption arrived in a crate and locals crowded around and watched with childlike wonder as this seemingly magical piece of machinery was driven out of a box." The 1901 Benz sported leather drive belts and, "something that resembled a park bench for a seat". It also had gizmos and levers which had to be adjusted to keep the car moving. Mr Cox said this, "automatic horse and cart" probably inspired the same sense of wonder and trepidation as today's driverless cars. But they were a 'great challenge'. The engine had to be cranked by hand, and since it barely travelled faster than a horse, "its rudimentary brakes were enough". Headlights and a windscreen were 'luxuries', vehicles fuelled by naphtha, "a mixture similar to dry cleaning fluid and petroleum".

The first motor cars were the exclusive domain of the rich and elite in WA. Avon Valley resident William De Lisle was caught driving his secondhand Benz at its top speed, about 30kmh, on the Causeway in Victoria Park and fined more than seven pound or \$6000. De Lisle's reckless driving earned him the title, 'furious driver', 'plutocratic motor-hog' and 'bloated motor-car owning gold bug'. In 1927, De Lisle's 1901 Benz was accepted as a gift by the RAC and restored. In 2017, it was moved to the Motor Museum in York where it was the first car driven in the Avon Valley nearly 120 years ago.



LEADFEET

CAR bingles were common in Fremantle and most parts of WA where horses and horse-drawn wagons were the main mode of land transport for most of the 19th century. Newspapers in Australia were filled with reports of motor cars versus horses, dogs, pedestrians, cyclists and public buildings (usually when the brakes failed).

One of Perth's first motorists to be charged with reckless driving soon after the motor car arrived in WA was East Fremantle car importer Harold Martin. Martin was ordered to pay three pounds 14 shillings in repairs after he drove his 1903 Detroit-made R-model Olds-mobile, the 'Curved Dash', through the entrance gate at Kings Park en route to Mounts Bay Road, which closed at 10pm, on December 13, 1907.



On January 10, 1926, a tram and car collided at the corner of Cliff and Phillimore streets: "The car was occupied by Mrs. Cecelia Davis, who was driving, and her husband, both of the Port, and Petty Officer Wilson of the *HMS Delhi*. All three sustained head injuries, those of Mrs. Davis necessitating treatment at the Fremantle Hospital, but the others were of a minor nature. The motor car was badly damaged."

In 1928, Frank Bousfield was fined four pounds for, "having driven a motor car negligently".

Sgt Donaldson said while driving along Canning Road, the defendant, "spoke to a person on the footpath, with the result that his attention was diverted from his driving. A collision occurred between the car and a horse and cart, the driver of the latter being thrown out".

In the same year, Edward William Jackson denied in Fremantle Police Court to having driven a motor car in a manner dangerous to the public. He claimed he was teaching another man to drive. When proceeding along Edmund Street in Beaconsfield, the car passed on the inside of a man riding a bicycle and struck a child who was standing near the footpath: "Defendant said that in endeavouring to avoid the bicycle he struck the child, who ran in front of the car. Jackson was fined five pounds."

Edward John Plumridge also was fined five pounds for, "having driven a taxi-car in a manner dangerous to the public". Sgt. O'Brien stated the defendant's vehicle collided with another car and then struck a post. Plumridge said, "the driver of the car in front of him did not signal that he was about to turn until it was too late to avoid a collision".

MABEL'S RUN

EAST Fremantle motorbike enthusiast Arthur Grady took on the new challenge in motoring in the 1920s - riding around Australia.

Born in 1901, Grady's first experience behind the wheel was at 15 when he drove a Model T Ford around the port delivering cakes and biscuits. He later owned a motorcycle shop in the building now occupied by The Home Provadore in Market Street. Grady completed the five and a half month, 10,000-mile journey and never lost a tyre or took a puncture. He arrived at the Fremantle Town Hall to a hero's reception on March 14, 1925.

The same year, NZ-born Mabel, 'Marion Bell', announced she was going to complete a motor tour of Australia with her 11-year-old daughter Marion, in an Oldsmobile Six. Bell's decision to take her daughter was widely questioned. But a telegram on October 21, 1925, stated: "Mrs. Bell's little daughter reported having killed a snake and shot a kangaroo, and said that she was very tired as she had had to open 47 gates between Mount Magnet and Meekatharra." In 1926, she became the first woman (and third person) to drive around Australia, having travelled 12,000 miles in five months. Marion also was the first woman to get a taxi licence in Perth and in the 1920s, with husband Thomas Henry Bell, ran the De Luxe Sedan Taxis Garage, at 6 Elder Place, Fremantle (opposite). Marion and her daughter (above) left on October 14, 1925, from Fremantle Town Hall.



Newspapers relayed their progress. Bell arrived back in Perth on April 7, 1926, accompanied by a convoy of vehicles. She died on December 3, 1982, aged 91.

Her son Cedric Cecil Bell served in W/W2 and returned to work as a taxi driver. In 1942, he was involved in a freak accident involving a milk cart horse. He died in 2008.



STREETWISE FEATURES

THE Swedish planned a new colony on the Swan River two years before the First Fleet arrived on the east coast. What happened? What could have been in WA on page 33. Ever wondered what it would be like to experience a 'falling star' strike the earth? Having occupied the continent for tens of thousands of years, Indigenous people observed and recorded such violent impacts in legends and traditions on page 39. Aboriginal people also shared the ancient landscape with megafaunal 'nightmares' including marsupial lions, giant goannas and thunder birds which went extinct after early communities were separated from the continent after the last sea level rise about 10,000 years ago.

Thankfully, Indigenous Australians never got to swim with WA's 'Gogo fish'. The extinct armour-plated fish, or placoderms, roamed what is now the Kimberley region about 350 million years ago. Incredibly, their fossilised remains have been unearthed in 3D, on pages 41 to 43.

StreetWise also brings readers images from WA's Pilbara and explores the real sea 'monsters' which lived on the WA coast.

A shark-like creature with a buzzsaw lower lip and 2m-long scorpions which occupied present-day Kalbarri.

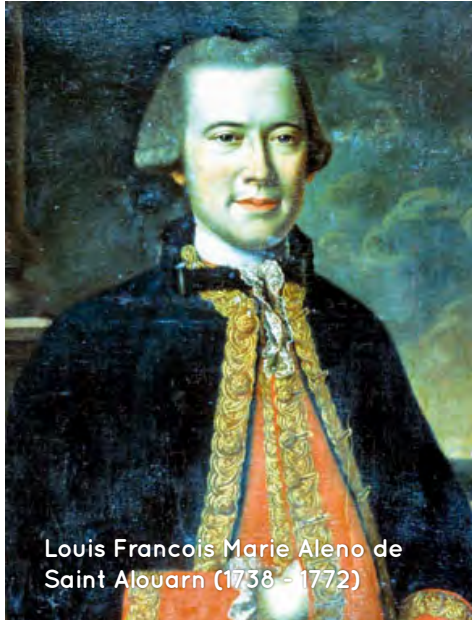
StreetWise Features ends with Freo's favourite religious festivals and French artist Gustav Dore's biblical images of Christmas, pages 48 and 49.

Enjoy.



OUR maritime heritage pre-dates by centuries the arrival of British captain Charles Howe Fremantle in 1829. The Noongar word for both sides of the Swan River is 'Waylyup', meaning 'lungs'. Our biggest port, its heritage includes the story of the State's fisheries, defence services, ship building, immigration, surfing, sailing and swimming.

ST ALOUARN



Louis Francois Marie Aleno de Saint Alouarn (1738 - 1772)

DUTCH. Portuguese. French. Swedes. Europe's seafaring superpowers had colonial designs on the west coast of Australia long before the arrival of the British in the late 18C. Dutch explorers saw no prosperity in the arid 'southland' that since the early 17C claimed ships and hundreds of lives. With British interests in the east coast, French and Swiss aristocrats wanted to start a colony on the Swan River.



EUROPEAN explorers first set foot on 'southland' soil in 1606 when the crew of Dutch ship *Duyfken* visited Cape York, Queensland.

In 1616, Dirk Hartog left a pewter plate inscribed with details of his visit to the island named after him in Shark Bay. In 1629, Dutch ship *Batavia* sank in the Abrolhos islands off Geraldton.

In 1696, Willem de Vlamingh named Rottneest and the Swan River. British buccaneer William Dampier visited the west coast in 1688 and 1699, not to colonise but collect and chart the unknown coast for the British Admiralty.

The year before Dampier's first visit, French captain Abraham Duquesne-Guitton was blown off course on his way to Siam (Thailand) and noted his sighting of 'Eendrachtland' named after Hartog's ship. The same year (though disputed), his brother-in-law Nicolas Gedeon de Voutron claims to have visited the Swan River area and in 1699 (during Dampier's second visit to WA) urged the Minister for the Navy to establish a colony based on Guitton's glowing reports.

In 1772, King Louis XV sent *Fortune* and *Gros Ventre* to claim 'Terra Australis' for France.

Gros Ventre's captain Saint Alouarn anchored in Turtle Bay at Dirk Hartog Island and on March 30 sent a party to claim New Holland by burying coins and a bottle sealed with the text of the formal annexation by France.

The priceless artefacts including the sealed bottle were found by the WA Museum in 1998 (opposite). Unfortunately, no annexation claim was found, its brittle remnants lost to the sands of time.

Additional maritime stories at streetwisemedia.com.au.

THE SWEDES WERE COMING!

PICKLED eel and kringles at Christmas, clogs, akvavit and Abba. 'Sandgropers' today would be enjoying a Scandinavian lifestyle had King Gustav III pursued plans to colonise the Swan River.

In 1687, a year before English explorer William Dampier visited the west coast, French captain Abraham Duquesne-Guitton was blown off course on his way to Siam (Thailand) and saw on August 4, just north of the Swan River mouth, what he said was *Eendrecht Land* (after Dirk Hartog's ship which visited WA in 1616). He did not land. The same year, Duquesne-Guitton's nephew, Nicolas Gedeon de Voutron, reportedly landed at the mouth of the Swan River he recommended as a suitable location for a new colony. King Gustav subsequently engaged Dutch merchant William Bolts, a former employee of both the British East India Company and Austrian East India Company, to develop plans to establish a Swedish colony on a suitable island in the 'Eastern seas'. Bolts would be governor for life of what was to be called 'Boltsholm'. Self-sufficient after five years, Boltsholm would serve to refresh Swedish merchant ships sailing to the East Indies and China.

Bolts also envisaged it could become a 'free' port in time of war between European powers.

Bolts refused to disclose the site's precise whereabouts, stating only the land would be, "suitable for plantations producing silk, cotton and sugar."



Gustav III (1746 - 1792)

Gustav authorised the founding of a new Swedish settlement in WA in November 1786. The king ordered two frigates and a merchant ship to be equipped and armed for the journey from Gothenburg in August 1787. But Gustav postponed Bolts' plans after he invaded Russia. He released Bolts from his contract and paid him 250 pounds in compensation. Bolts tried to reignite Swedish interest in the project, reminding the ministry the English planned to settle Botany Bay. His appeals fell on deaf ears - and the rest is history.



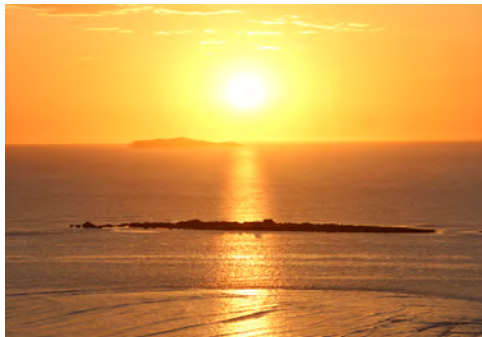
GOING BUSH



FROM Perth to Geraldton, Carnarvon, Shark Bay, Exmouth, Karratha, Menzies, Roebourne, Cossack, Port Hedland and Broome.

StreetWise has covered thousands of kilometres in search of stories since the COVID19 outbreak shut down 'normal operations'.

A few snapshots of the rusty Pilbara.



TONKA TOUGH

THE Pilbara is one of the oldest places on the planet.

Covering more than half a million square kilometres, the ancient landscape contains some of Earth's oldest rocks, some of which contain the oldest fossilised life forms on the planet.

Today, the area is rich in iron ore and natural gas and supports pastoral activities, fishing and tourism.

StreetWise visited the 'powerhouse of the Australian economy' in 2020 and 2021.

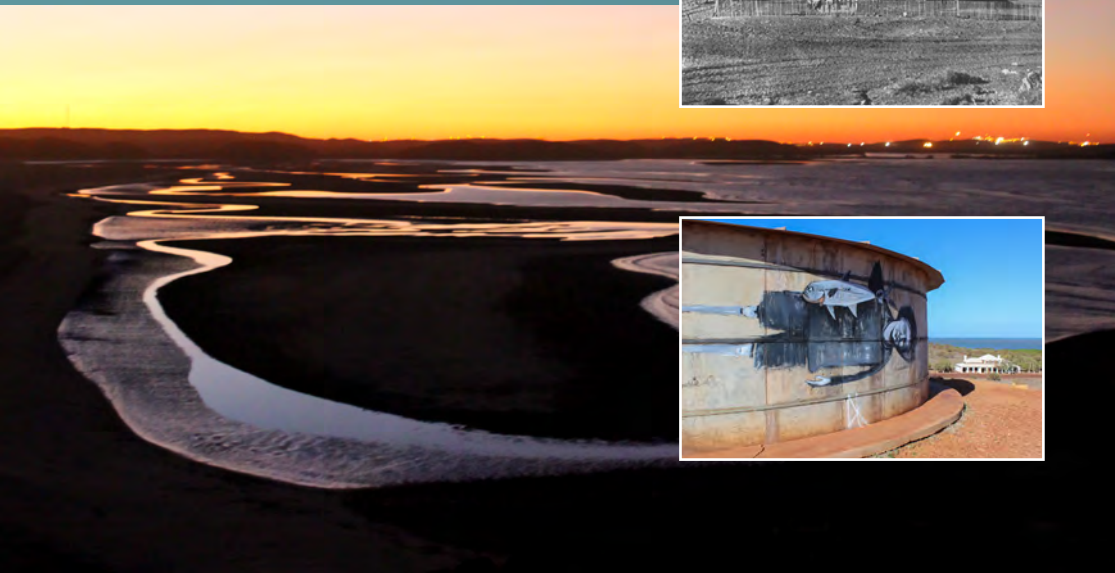
The rock art-rich Burrup Peninsula or Murujuga at Dampier and mysterious Depuch Island off Balla Balla between Karratha and Port Hedland (below).

Visiting Wickham, Point Samson and Cossack, *StreetWise* covered a number of local stories including for *Ngaarda Media* in Roebourne.

Pilbara stories at streetwisemedia.com.au.



COSSACK CALLS



ORIGINALLY known as Tien Tsin after the barque that landed Walter Padbury and his party at the mouth of the Harding River, Cossack was the original port of pearl production before luggers moved to Broome in 1886. An early hub for gold prospectors and pastoralists, the heritage-listed Pilbara town was dissolved in 1910 after the opening of nearby Point Samson jetty. Cossack was abandoned by 1950.

There are 21 blocks owned by 14 people at Cossack, including South Fremantle resident Terry Patterson. Mr Patterson, who is battling prostate cancer, has spent the better part of 20 years trying to develop land he hopes to hand down to his family. "We just want to be able to do what we want on our properties," he told *StreetWise*. Details at streetwisemedia.com.au.



"All we wanted was to be able to use and develop our freehold blocks"
- Alan Wilson



PASTORALIST, pearler, JP, London-born William Shakespeare Hall, 'the father of the north', arrived in Fremantle in 1830 on *Protector*. In 1863, he took up the first sheep station in Roebourne, Andover, and built relationships with indigenous people. He drowned in Cossack Creek in 1895, aged 69.

COSSACK land owners Alan and Linda Wilson are at home in the historic coastal town 1562km from Perth. Alan's great grandfather William Shakespeare Hall and his descendants lived and worked here from the 1860s until the 1950s, Alan's mother having wished in the 1980s that Cossack would be developed as a tourism precinct. The couple often drive up to stay at the former pearling town *StreetWise* has visited to report on WA Government plans to reactivate the oldest port in the North West.

"Development by private landowners at Cossack has been a contentious issue for years," Alan, 75, said standing at Nanny Goat Hill overlooking the historic townsite. "All we wanted was to be able to use and develop our freehold blocks." Alan's family holds the titles on four blocks owned between seven descendants, making it the oldest rate paying family in WA. They have held the original deeds since 1884. Cossack stories at streetwisemedia.com.au.

IMPACT WA!

WESTERN Australia has a number of significant and world-renowned crater sites. Their remains have given scientists a window into how our solar system of planets evolved.

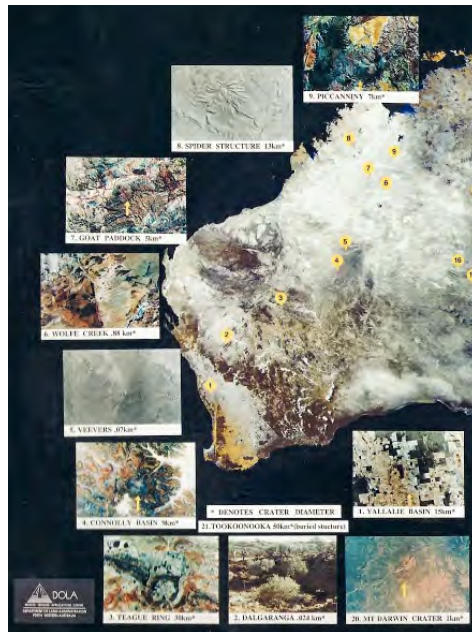
1. Yallalie: Buried 2km deep, the crater 200km north of Perth is about 12km in diameter and was created when an asteroid 500m wide struck 83 to 89 million years ago.

2. Dalgarranga: Discovered 1921 about 75km northwest of Mount Magnet, it is Australia's smallest impact crater, 20m in diameter and 3m deep, created about 3000 years ago.

3. Shoemaker: Formerly Teague Ring, it is the oldest impact structure in Australia estimated to be about 1.7 billion years old. About 100km north-east of Wiluna, the crater has a central circular uplifted area 12km wide and bordered by an outer disturbed area about 30km in diameter.

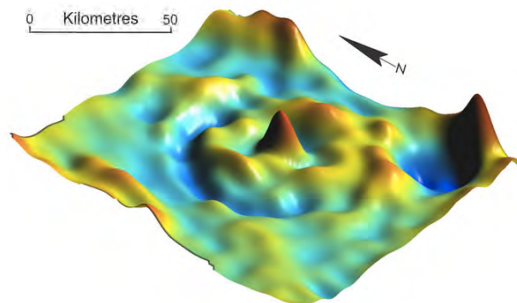


Wolfe Creek Crater - Halls Creek



4. Connolly: Identified in the remote Gibson Desert in 1985, the crater was created about 65 million years ago. This impact 167km north of the Gunbarrel Highway occurred just after a 10km-15km asteroid wiped out the dinosaurs after a 180-million-year reign on Earth. The crater is 9km in diameter and about 50m deep.

DOLA registered impact sites above.



Woodleigh Crater - Shark Bay

STARSTRUCK

OF the 27 confirmed terrestrial craters in Australia, it is highly likely Aboriginal people witnessed at least three of the violent impacts that created them.

The Henbury crater field was created when a meteorite struck 145km southwest of Alice Springs at 400,000km/h and fragmented to create 12 separate craters over hundreds of square kilometres. The other two include Boxhole crater, a 170m-wide impact structure 170km northeast of Alice Springs; and 70m-wide Veevers crater in central WA. According to researchers Ray Norris and Duane Hamacher in a 2009 paper titled, 'Australian Aboriginal Geomythology: Eyewitness Accounts of Cosmic Impacts?', the three WA craters would have caused widespread destruction extending several kilometres from 'ground zero'. The authors state while descriptions of cosmic impacts and meteorite falls are found in Aboriginal oral traditions, "currently there is no evidence connecting these accounts to impact events known to Western science".

Many of the bigger craters are either buried or eroded and other craters form bodies of water, such as Shoemaker Crater near Wiluna. Indigenous traditions describe such structures but not the actual cosmic impact that created them. For example, Wolfe Creek Crater 130km south of Halls Creek in the Kimberley was created about 300,000 years. First sighted in 1947, the 860m-diameter crater lies within the traditional lands of the Djaru people, who call the crater 'Kandimalal' (also spelt 'Gandimalal'). Late Djaru elder Jack Jugarie described the creation of Wolfe Creek:



"A star bin fall down. It was a small star, not so big. It fell straight down and hit the ground. It fell straight down and made that hole round, a very deep hole. The earth shook when that star fell down".

In a 2013 paper by John Goldsmith and Hamacher, 'Aboriginal Oral Traditions of Australian Impact Craters', no legend exists to explain the origin of Kandimalal: "However, Aboriginal communities continue to maintain various stories associated with Kandimalal."

One tradition describes a subterranean 'Rainbow Serpent' emerging from the ground to create the crater. Dreamtime Astronomy stories of the night sky at streetwisemedia.com.au.



DEEPSEA NIGHTMARES

GIANT squid, albino killer whales, sea serpents and Loch Ness-like creatures have occupied Earth's oceans, rivers and lakes for the past 600 million years. And while most 'monsters' on land have been found, much of the deep ocean remains unexplored. Most accounts of sea monsters were no more than exaggerated explanations, the imaginations of ship crews faced with the unknown. Old wives tales. But many were real, misinterpreted until modern science could explain their existence.

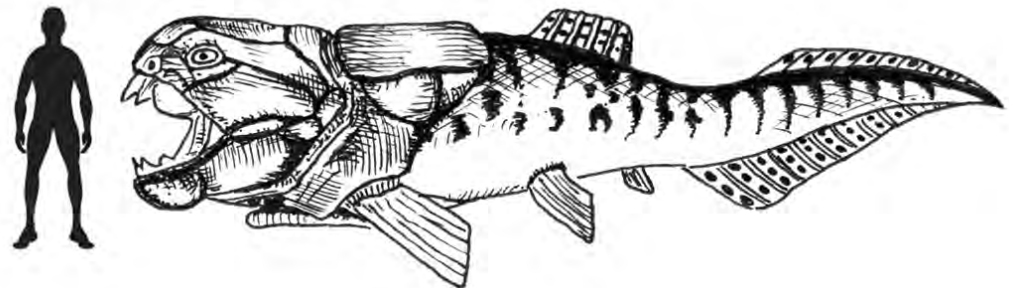
The emergence in the early 1800s of palaeontology (the study of fossils) confirmed the ancient seas were filled with monstrous creatures.

After the Cambrian explosion of life forms in the oceans about 570 million years ago, most major groups of marine animals emerged such as clams, snails and fish. And so did marine monsters such as extinct eurypterids or sea scorpions which lived 450myo in North America and Europe, and what is now Kalbarri. The first versions were just tens of centimetres in length.



By 420myo, the scary arthropods (invertebrates with exoskeletons, crabs, prawns and barnacles) grew up to 2m in length and could live both on land and in the sea (above). About 360myo, placoderms or armour-plated fish, appeared, growing up to 6m-8m long, having lived and died in the world-famous Gogo fossil fish site in the Kimberley (below).

[Continued next page](#)



MARSUPIAL LIONS, THUNDER BIRDS & ARMoured FISH

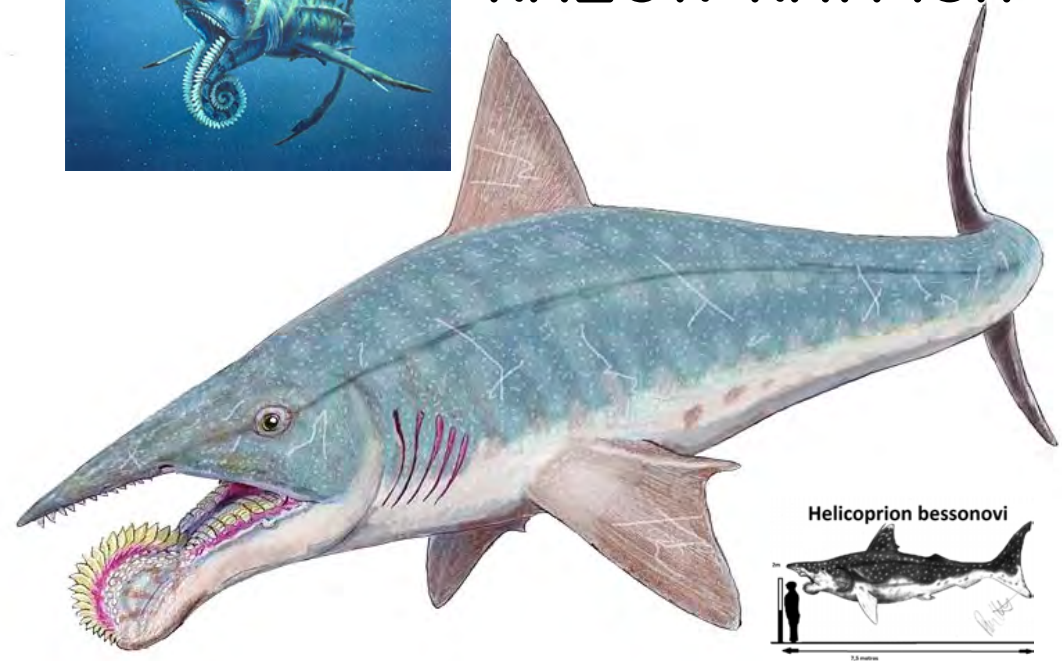


Thylacoleo carnifex roamed the Australian landscape until it went extinct about 45,000 years ago. Aboriginal people feared 'the marsupial lion-like predator, the continent's biggest carnivore and highly specialised killing machine.

In 2002, a WA Museum team working in Nullarbor caves near Mundrabilla unearthed a fossil treasure trove of megafaunal remains including several complete skeletons of 'Leo', 3m-tall flat-faced kangaroos and sharp sickle-clawed wallabies. Other megafaunal monsters include 'demon duck' *Genyornis newtoni*, a flightless bird weighing more than 200kg and standing 2m tall (below). The thunder bird went extinct about the same time as Leo. So did *Megalania prisca*, the biggest terrestrial lizard known, a giant goanna or monitor lizard that reached an estimated length of 3.5m to 7m and weighed between 100kg to 1500kg. *Wonambi naracoortensis* was a 5m to 6m-long constrictor snake given the name *Wonambi* from a description by Aboriginal people of a serpent of the Dreamtime. The Wagyl or Rainbow Serpent of WA's Noongar people correlates to the *Wonambi* of South Australia.

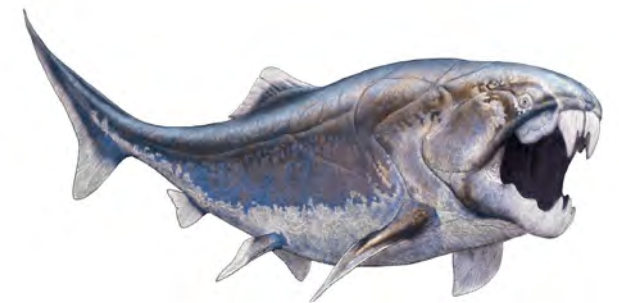


RAZOR 'RATFISH'



'JAWS' was a tooth fairy compared to the shark-like ratfish *Helicoprion besonovi*. Part of a fossilised tooth whorl from this bizarre beast with buzzsaw teeth was identified from Arthur River in the Pilbara. Described by Henry Woodward in 1886, the extinct eugeneodont fish had skeletons made of cartilage. *Helicoprion* went extinct about 225 million years ago.

Its fossils have been found in the US, Asia and Europe. Each tooth had a different function. Anterior teeth hooked and dragged prey into its mouth. The middle teeth pierced and cut the prey. The posterior teeth cut and pushed the prey into its oral cavity. More megafaunal monsters at streetwisemedia.com.au.



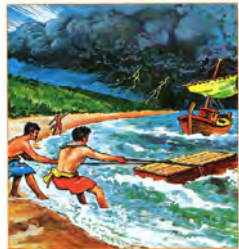
MIRACLE OF TINDARI



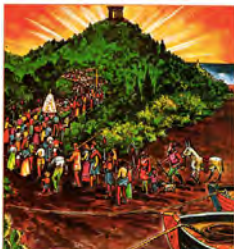
LEGEND says the lagoon here was created after a pilgrim who refused to pray to the black Madonna of Tindari accidentally dropped her baby into the ocean. The land rose and saved the child, the sands of Marinello still maintain the profile of the Madonna.

SHE can pull back the sea, bless newly married brides with fertility and protect new cars from danger. The 'Black Madonna' of Sicily is housed inside a custom-built 1950s basilica on Tindari overlooking the Tyrrhenian Sea in Sicily.

The Greeks founded Tyndaris about 396BC, the sanctuary dedicated to the fertility goddess Cybele. Pope John Paul II held mass there in 1988. In 1996, the inaugural feast and procession of the Madonna was held in Fremantle.



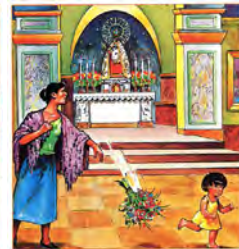
"...only when...the case containing the sacred effigy had been carried ashore, the ship began to sail".



"...The statue was then carried into the little church on the hill above".



A lady makes a vow to the Virgin Mary of Tindari for the healing of her little girl who is gravely ill.



"Having come to Tindari, but...disillusioned...by the colour of her face...exclaims indignantly! "The sight



"...The moment she muttered the irreverent observation the little girl she had left alone for an



"...In desperation the lady turned to the Madonna and praying to her said: "If you are the miraculous



"...But the miracle had already been performed: at the moment the child fell, the sea withdrew and there, on



"...Then the lady believed in the divine powers of the Madonna she had mocked, and as witness to the

HOLY TRADITIONS



St Anne and Joachim, grandparents of Mary, Mother of Jesus

CROATIAN tradition reveres St Anne as Jesus Christ's grandmother. Hebrew for Hannah, or 'grace', the mother and father of Jesus's mother Mary not mentioned in the Bible. Early Christian sources claim the couple were childless for many years until the angel Gabriel declared they would bear a child dedicated to God. Made universal by Pope Gregory XIII, the church celebrates St Anne's feast day with Joachim on July 26. Their story has been told in the 'Gospel of James', St. Anne often depicted as a seated woman with a book on her lap and the child Mary leaning against her, eager to learn. St. Anne is the patron saint of unmarried women, housewives, women in labor, grandmothers, childless people, equestrians, lacemakers, miners, the poor, and seamstresses. The most well-known patronage of St. Anne is that of grandmothers.

Continued next page.



Madonna dei Martiri (Our Lady of Martyrs)



Our Lady of Fatima

FLEET BLESSINGS

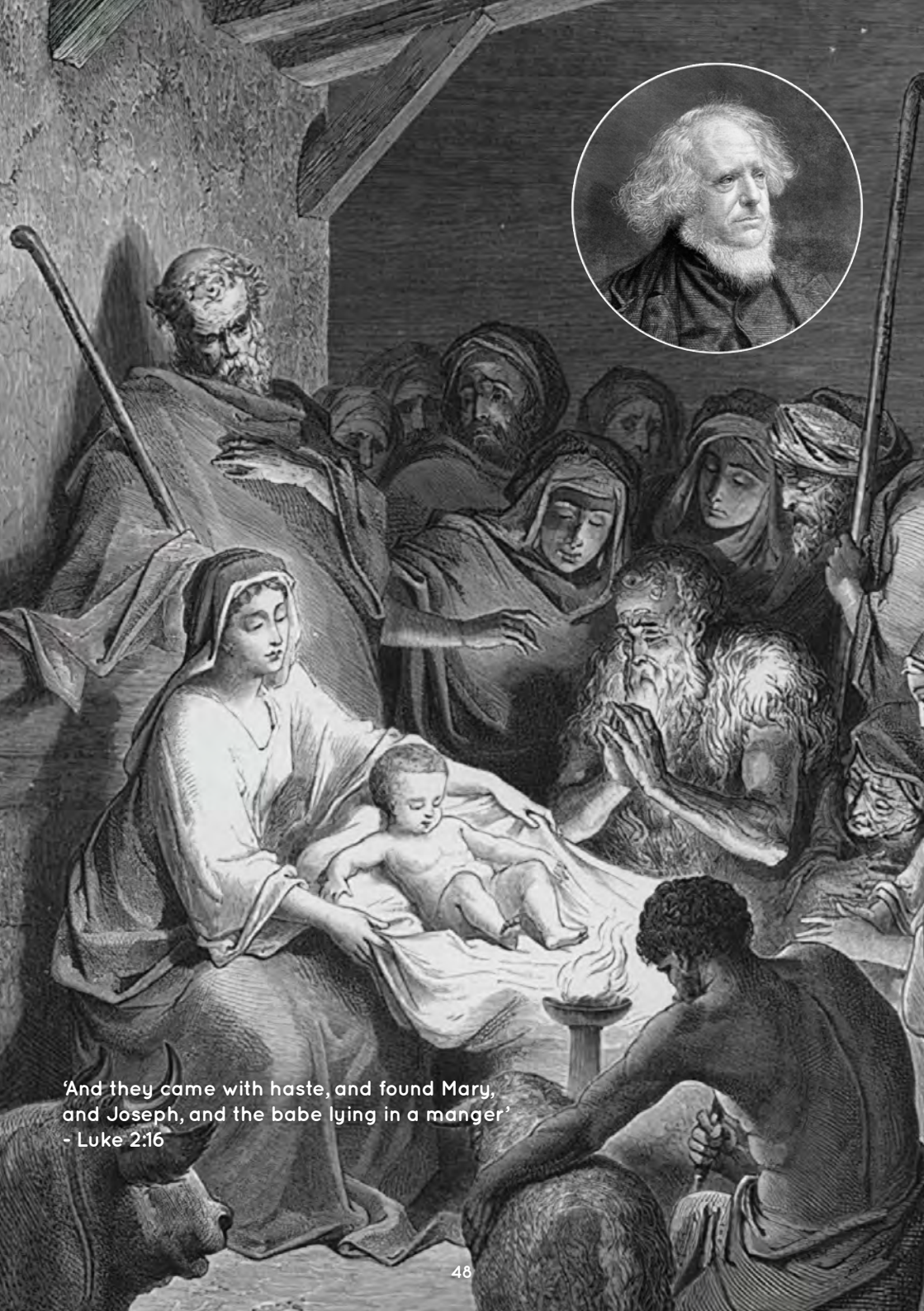
THE 'Blessing of the Fleet' is celebrated in Fremantle each October (weather permitting). The tradition dates to the European Crusades when Christian soldiers carried into battle images of the Madonna and Child. That faith is reflected in the two statues carried each year from St Patrick's Basilica to Fishing Boat Harbour where the 'Queen of the Sea' blesses the fishing fleet for a rich harvest and safe return. Blessed fleet history at streetwisemedia.com.au.



FATIMA FAITHFUL

CANDLES and fluorescent crosses. The Feast Day of Our Lady of Fatima is celebrated on May 13 and marks the day in 1917 on which the Blessed Mother is said to have first appeared to the three shepherd children of Fatima in Portugal.





NOEL

FRENCH artist Gustave Dore produced hundreds of Bible story illustrations, including the birth of Jesus Christ (opposite).

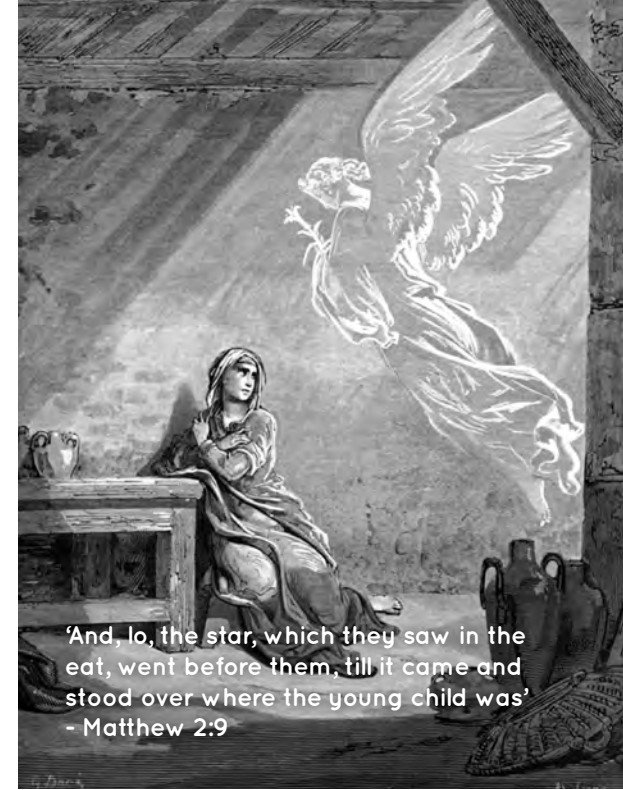
The illustrations for Dore's *'La Grande Bible de Tours'* are a series of 241 wood engravings published in 1866.

Dore is famous for illustrations he produced for other books including *Milton*, *Dante*, *La Fontaine*, *Don Quixote* and *Baron Munchausen*.

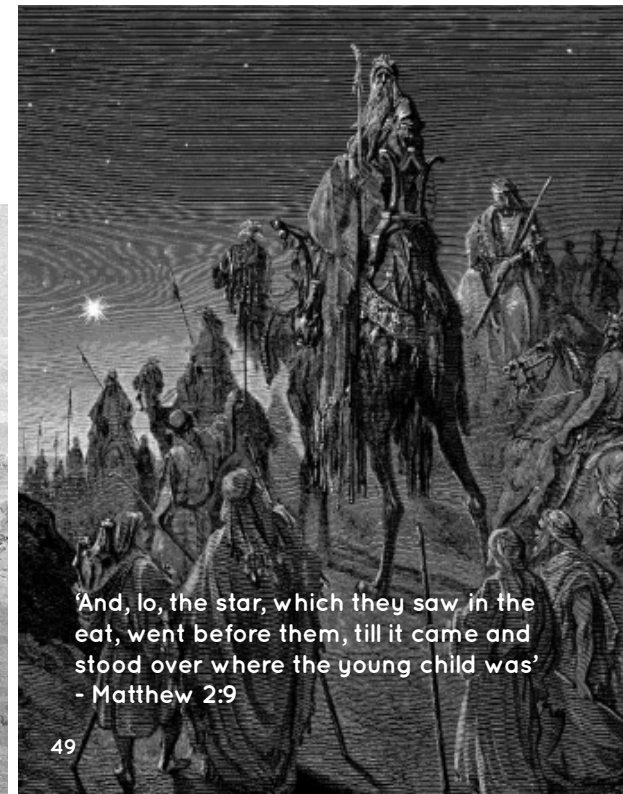
His artistic style also influenced early biblical films including those of directors D. W. Griffith and Cecil B. DeMille.

Some scenes from *'The Ten Commandments'* look similar to Dore's illustrations.

A safe Christmas and New Year from the crew at *StreetWise*. See you in 2023.

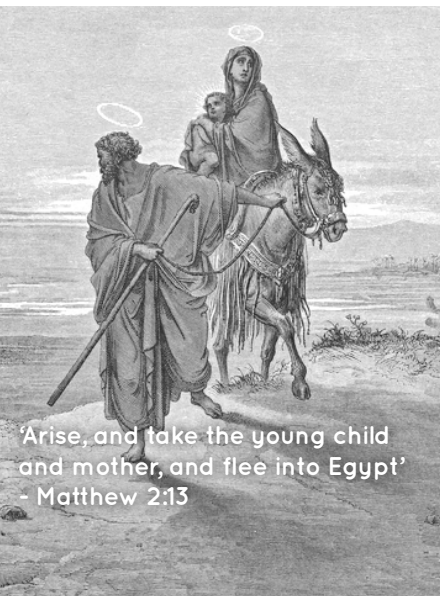


'And, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was'
- Matthew 2:9



'And, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was'
- Matthew 2:9

'And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger'
- Luke 2:16



'Arise, and take the young child and mother, and flee into Egypt'
- Matthew 2:13

*Wishing you a safe and
happy festive season!*



Simone McGurk
State Member for Fremantle

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Authorised by S McGurk, Shop 2, 8-12 Market Street Fremantle WA 6160



CAFE TIME

