

2012 Local History Awards Winners

Remembering the 1960s

1st prize **Ruth Venables, My Memories of Leederville in the '60s - with lots of help from my husband Ron.**

2nd prize **Geoff Venables Memories of Leederville in the 1960s**

Both winners wrote about their memories of Leederville, especially Oxford Street between Vincent and what was then Woolwich Street (now Leederville Parade) in the 1960s. The judges particularly liked Ruth's observations of life as a young married woman and her experiences of shopping in the area. Both noted the pressures the proposed freeway had on the area, especially from the perspective of their family businesses in Oxford Street.

History of a House

1st prize **Fred Brenna, Memories of Mount Hawthorn - Brennan and Brookes Families of 71 Hobart Street and 201 Anzac Road.**

This submission recorded the stories of Fred's parents' and grandparents' homes in various streets in Mount Hawthorn and Leederville. It also included the donation of original plans, brochures and other documents.

The history of 71 Hobart Street was particularly interesting as it is documented as the first reinforced concrete house to be built in sections flat on the ground and installed by a crane. This was in 1927! It was apparently a comfortable house to live in; cool in summer and warm in winter. One disadvantage was that it proved a nightmare for plumbers and electricians because the walls were so thick and hard. The original builder's brochure advertising an open day to show this remarkable new building technique was included.

2nd prize **Trish Andrews, The Presbyterian Church, Kalgoorlie Street, Mount Hawthorn**

Trish Andrews chronicled the life of the Kalgoorlie Street Methodist Church which was erected by the community using their own hand made bricks. This is now a residence.

Written Research

1st prize **Andrew Duckworth, The Rescue of Eliza Lockyer**

Andrew Duckworth entered an amazing story - presented as a piece of creative writing - about Eliza Lockyer of Pansy Street, North Perth, who fell into a well in her backyard and subsequently died. This was also about poverty and the life of a woman who was struggling to survive. The entry also included all of the original research documents. One judge commented that it gave her 'goose bumps' reading the story and that it was very evocative of the woman's life and the situation she found herself in.

2nd prize **Trish Andrews, From Scotland to Mount Hawthorn: Thomas Burton and Elizabeth Taylor Burton**

A well researched story of a family migrating from Glasgow to Western Australia between 1911 and 1912. There was good use of official records, early family memoirs, newspaper articles, photographs, and oral history to make an interesting document.

Personal Memoirs

1st prize **Bill Moore, Memories of My Lifetime**

Bill Moore was born in 1928 at Nurse Drakeford's Hospital at 14 Shaftesbury (now known as Franklin) Street, Leederville and was taken home to Dunedin Street, Mount Hawthorn where he spent his childhood. This memoir is presented in a very readable format, with chapters on: The Generations of the family, Childhood, Education, Employment, Church and Family. The memories contained in these chapters are detailed and evocative of family life and being part of the local community in the 1930s.

2nd prize **Richard Murphy, The Life and Times of Richard Murphy**

Richard Murphy was born in 1923 in Chamberlain Street, North Perth, which runs between Pennant and Loftus streets, close to the border of Leederville. Upon his marriage he moved to Daphne Street. He now lives in Mount Hawthorn. His detailed knowledge and memories of people, places and events in these areas is remarkable. Something that the judges found particularly moving was his writing about his father who was a WWI veteran who suffered post-traumatic stress disorder (which was not recognized at the time) and the effect that this had on the family and Richard's life as an only child. His memoir also describes his working life at WA Newspapers.

Photographic Memories

(Sponsored by Woodville Property, 365 Fitzgerald Street, North Perth. We thank them for their ongoing support since 2005.)

Bill Moore



40 Egina Street, Mount Hawthorn in 1914

Home of David and Elizabeth Gornall, The couple purchased the property on arrival from England in 1911. *Construction was galvanised-iron exterior with timber and hessian partitioning. The extension to the left is a small bathroom*



Left: Kathleen Gornall riding her bike in Egina Street, Mount Hawthorn
An old settler's building is in the background next to her home at number 40.
Right: Alex Gornall riding in a home-made "Billy-goat cart"

Bruce Cadee



Golden West Aerated Waters horse and cart delivering cool drinks, 1939-1945

Golden West originally made deliveries by horse and cart and this photo was taken during or after WWII when they went from trucks back to horses due to the shortage of petrol.

Bill Moore



The east bank of Lake Monger, near the bottom of Glenelg Street, Mount Hawthorn, c.1914
At the time it was developed as a recreational area with a jetty and seating.
(Now absorbed into the Mitchell Freeway)

John and Norma Ryan



Ryan's Garage located on the corner of Scarborough Beach Road and Shakespeare Street, Mount Hawthorn, 1950s

Victor Ryan was a self-taught mechanic who bought his own business (a blacksmith) on this corner in 1934. He set up his own garage and was very successful. He was known for his generosity and kept the cars from St Mary's Convent in good mechanical order and full of fuel at no cost. He was still working an eight hour day, at the age of 73, when he sold the business in 1970.

Fred Brennan



71 Hobart Street, Mount Hawthorn, 1930s

Reinforced concrete section house built in 1927 by the Rebell Building Company for the Brennan family. Owner Winnie Brennan with her daughter, friends and neighbours are in the photographs.

Fred Brennan



Eva and Roy Brookes outside family mixed business shop FN Brookes, corner of Oxford Street and Anzac Road, 1936 (This remains on that corner in 2012 and looks much the same. It is now a Thai Restaurant)

Richard Maiorana



Cars of the 1960s. Family car, a 1963 Ford Falcon, and Richard's first car, a Ford Anglia followed by his second car, a Mini.