



Preserving & promoting Goldfields history

EASTERN GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC

MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

Revealing Hidden Treasures

Recently digitised photographic gems from the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society's collections revealed at a presentation at the Hannan's Club, 17 May 2018

Since 1946 the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society (EGHS) has been dedicated to the collection and preservation of Goldfields history. Throughout this time there have been many acquisitions, none more meaningful to our community than the various photographic collections which hold Eastern Goldfields' memories.

In 2017, the EGHS embarked on a digitisation project of their substantial negative collection, which was made possible with assistance from the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. With over 60,000 images in care, comprising negatives, albums, slides and photographs, it was crucial to start work on the most critical collections in care, namely the Dwyer, McKay and Williams Collections. All three photographers were well known in their eras and contributed significantly to creating the vision of Goldfields' life.

Pioneering photographer J J Dwyer is by far the most iconic of all photographers over the history of the Goldfields. His images are etched onto delicate glass plates and portray a wealthy and bustling early days of our Goldfields district. As technology progressed in those early days for photographers, more efficient methods and materials were introduced making photography more accessible to the masses. By the 1920's cellulose negatives coated in nitrate solutions were the preferred negative of choice; they were light in weight and easily processed.

Little was known of how these negatives would age, and as the decades passed by, it was soon discovered that they were a ticking time bomb. As EGHS makes progress on preserving these delicate and volatile memories of our past, community members are invited to join us as we reveal these recently uncovered hidden treasures Goldfields history.

A special presentation will take place at the Hannan's Club, 44 Brookman Street, Kalgoorlie, on Thursday 17 May 2018, from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. There will be light refreshments available.

Guest Speakers: W Scott Wilson, President EGHS & Claire Weir, Digitisation Project Officer EGHS

The presentation is generously supported by HAMR Engineering.

RSVP Essential | T: 9093 3360 | E: eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au

FURTHER INFORMATION?

Contact Executive Officer Lucia Pichler

E: eo@kalgoorliehistory.org.au T: 9093 3360 M: 0498 067 556