

Goldfields Diggings

Eastern Goldfields Historical Society 2022-04

April 2022

April Dates to Remember

20th April - General Meeting

11-25th April - School Holiday Program

15th/18th - April Closed for Easter Public Holidays

25th April - ANZAC Day public holiday



EASTERN
GOLDFIELDS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY INC.

Preserving & promoting Goldfields history

Bill Bunbury

Wednesday the 18th May 2022 we will be hosting Bill Bunbury as our guest speaker. If you have never heard Bill speak you are in for an absolute treat. Reserve your spot now by contacting the EGHS on 9093 3360 or emailing eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au.



Image by Emma Wynne,
ABC Radio Perth.
<https://www.abc.net.au/radio/perth/bill-bunbury/9130516>

Eastern Goldfields Historical Society Presents

BILL BUNBURY

The Master Storyteller

Renowned broadcaster, documentary maker, historian, writer and speaker; Bill Bunbury OAM returns to Kalgoorlie-Boulder to present a selection of intriguing stories from over 50 years of research

WITH DOLLYPOT PICK & SHOVEL
Early days on the W.A. Goldfields; Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie and Kanowna

A BAD BLUE
The Goldfields race riots of 1934

TIMBER FOR GOLD
The Goldfields Woodlines from Kurrawang to Kambalda, Widgiemooltha and others

Wednesday 18th May
Doors open at 6pm for a 7pm start

**WMC Conference Centre,
MacDonald Street, Kalgoorlie**

Followed by light refreshments

Free event but seating is limited
DON'T MISS OUT!
RSVP by 16th May to book a seat
email: eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au

Coming up Around Boulder

Bounce into Burt Street

SUNDAY 10 APRIL 2022
10AM - 2PM

SHOPS OPEN WITH
EASTER SPECIALS, GIVE-AWAYS, FUN FOR THE KIDS
#BETTERINBOULDER

If you don't get a chance to call in during the working week we will be open on Sunday the 10th April. Drop in and take a look around.

For the Kids

HELP! THE EASTER BUNNY HAS LOST SOME EGGS

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO FIND THEM!

Monday 11th to Thursday 14th
Tuesday 19th to Friday 22nd April
10am - 2pm

**START AND FINISH AT THE BOULDER TOWN HALL
\$3 PER CHILD**

Follow the trail, visit all of the participating businesses listed on the card, write down the number of eggs on each poster and return to the Boulder Town Hall to collect a prize!

No need to register
Children must be accompanied by an adult

Contact Details:

Phone Number: 08 9093 3360

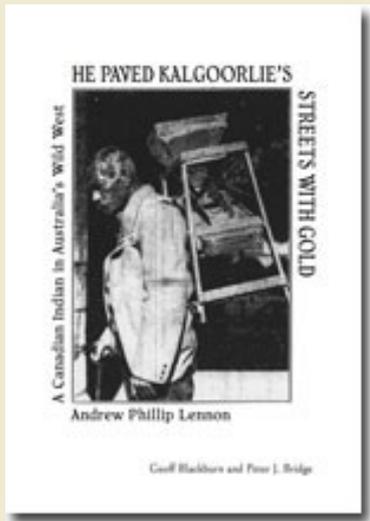
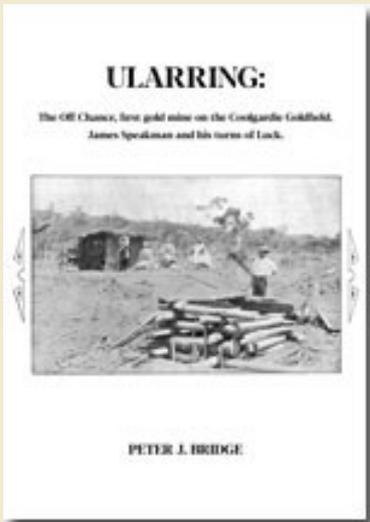
Email: eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au

www.kalgoorliehistory.org.au

SAVE THE DATE

18th May 2022 - Guest speaker for our general meeting will be Bill Bunbury. Bill Bunbury is an ABC broadcaster and documentary maker with 40 years experience in both Radio & TV . Some of the books Bill has written include - Timber for Gold and Reading Labels on Jam Tins .

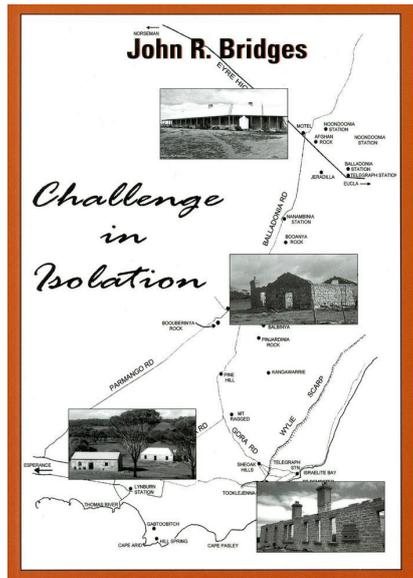
Coming soon to the book shop both \$22.00 each.



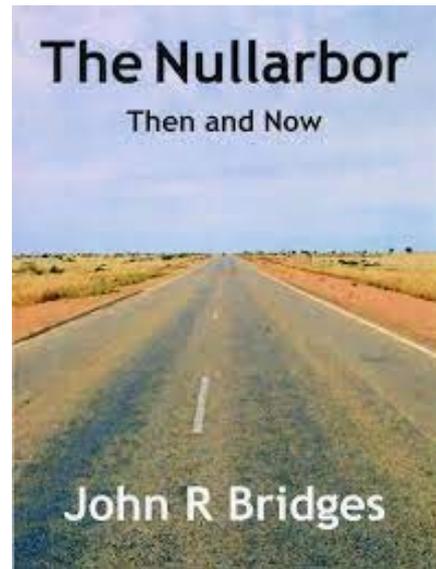
The society is always on the lookout for collections relating to the history of the Eastern Goldfields.

Book Shop News

New to the book shop two books by John Bridges.



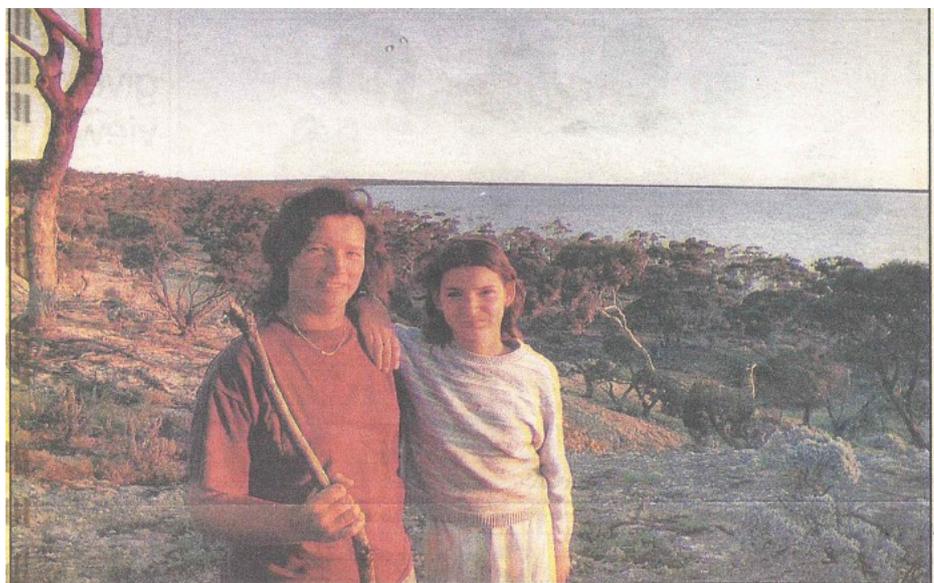
\$25.00



\$35.00

From the Library

The article below was taken from the Kalgoorlie Miner 1st September 1995.



Water walk: Judy Swan and daughter Tammy, 12, of Kanandah station, walk to check the rising waters of Lake Boonderoo.

Exotic lake brings fire, flowers

NULLARBOR pastoralist Russell Swan, 38, of Kanandah station 300km east of Kalgoorlie, will remember 1995 as a year of ecstasy and agony.

A freak of nature has created a vast freshwater lake on Boonderoo station, part of the 1.2 million hectare operation he manages, after incredible rains in February. But he knows the flush of flowers and grass, which erupted to provide one of the best seasons in memory in the arid land, will also lead to fierce spring and summer bushfires. Some will be caused by lightning from thunderstorms, others by careless campers.

Then the rare treat of a cooling "backyard" swim or boat run will have to make way for searing, exhaustive fire-fighting.

"It has been a bit of magic, a feature year," he said. "But it is drying out quickly now, even though there is still a lot of water about and I expect the lake not to dry out for 10-12 years."



Picture: Guy Magowan Report: Michael Zekulich

The rains, caused by major climatic depressions and cyclone Bobby, doubled annual rainfall in some areas within hours. Flooding cut the Eyre Highway and the trans-Australian railway line, causing extensive traffic delays.

Mr Swan, whose father Eric was a pioneering pastoralist of the area, said the country had never looked better. The lake was about 6m deeper than when it was previously filled, in 1975, and reached 20m depths.

Scientific assessment indicated that the filling of the lake was a twice in 200-year event. This was based on the age of the trees which had died after being submerged by the

1975 waters, which took 10 years to dry up. Mr Swan and his wife, Judy, manage 16,000 sheep and more than 1200 cattle. But they are moving out of sheep because of increasing dingo attacks.

"We estimate we have lost at least 3000 sheep to dingoes in the last year," he said. "I have killed about 40 in the last year, compared to an average of one to two. There was a major breeding year for dingoes in 1992."

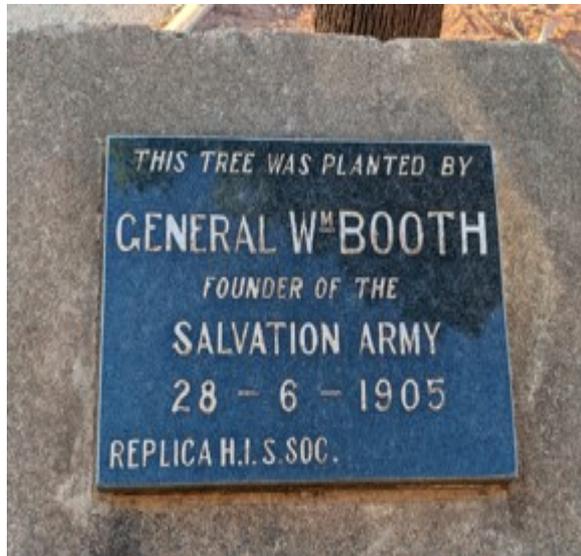
Mr Swan said he was also concerned about travellers and tourists in the area interfering with watering points, gates and fences, and leaving litter about. As well, it cost stations a lot of time and money to help out stranded motorists who had vehicle problems or were bogged.

"People do not realise there are just no services east of Kalgoorlie," he said. "A lot put themselves in dangerous situations."

"It would seem they expect us to care more about their lives than they do."

Eastern Goldfields Plaques & Monuments

We are on the look out for images of all the plaques and monuments around the Eastern Goldfields. If you are out and about and see one can you please take a picture and send it into us. We would also appreciate the GPS co-ordinates.



We would also appreciate any pictures of foundation stones. Please also photograph the building and make sure your GPS is turned on when you take the picture. .

Coolgardie Catholic Church

Father Stephen Goddard from the Goldfields Catholic Community is installing a display at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Coolgardie. Have you got any images or stories of the church that you would like to share.

Did you get baptized, married, make your Holy Communion or Confirmation at the Coolgardie Catholic Church? Let us know at eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au

You Tube - Oral History Recording

The EGHS is now on YouTube. Via video link only at the stage, members can listen to a selection of Oral History Recordings.

If you click on the link below you will be taken to a recording of G. Hayhow talking about the East West Airline.

<https://youtu.be/Y1NmgeFHikU>

Fun fact - we need these recordings transcribed. If it something you think you would be good at please get in contact.

DGR Status

Did you know that the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society is recognised as a DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) - an organisation that can receive donations that are tax deductible.

What does this mean?

If you make a donation to the EGHS you may be able to deduct that gift from your own income - claim the donation as a deduction when filing your personal income tax return for the year.

For more information please speak to your accountant.

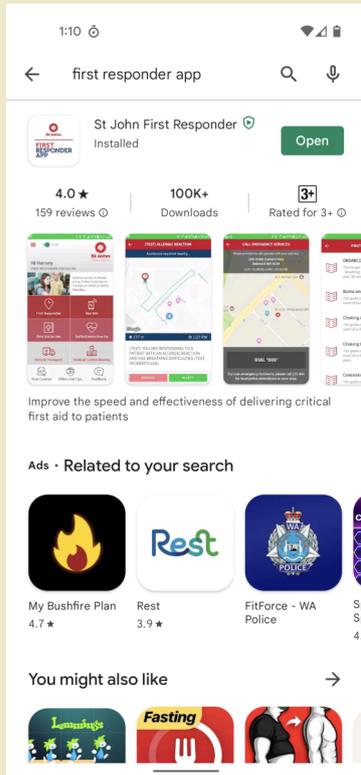
We are still on the look out for Boulder Speedway images. If you have any you would like to share please email eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au



Do you need help digitising old photographs from your own collections? Call in speak to the volunteers and we would be happy to help.

First Responder App

First Responder App - available in the iTunes or Google Play Stores. It is free and easy to use.



SICK AT THE SIGHT OF FOOD.

Martyr to Billiousness.

Kalgoorlie Woman Cured for Good

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills

"About three years ago I began to suffer badly from biliousness," said Mrs. M. Smith, 100 Lyall-street, Lamington Heights, Kalgoorlie. "Every morning I could not look at breakfast—just getting it ready was enough to put me right off. Everything I took repeated on me. For a long time I could not eat anything but eggs, and I could only take them lightly boiled. I had attacks of vomiting something dreadful. When I did retch the pain I suffered was dreadful. It would nearly shake me to pieces and often thought my whole inside was coming up. This brought on splitting headaches. The nasty gnawing aching across the front and back of my head nearly drove me mad. Bathe it as I would I could not get relief. I had to go and lie down, but even then I could not rest, and had to get up again.

"I could not sleep. All night I lay tossing about trying to doze off—in fact, I often said I would go out of my mind for want of a bit of rest. I could not work much. Things that ought to be done simply had to wait until I was better. Then one day I read how Dr. Williams' Pink Pills had cured a person of biliousness so I thought I would try them, and I'm glad I did. I got a couple of boxes from Hinde's Pharmacy, in Hannan-st., and they made me much better—I could eat more and sleep better. I kept on and took six boxes altogether, and now I can do my work as easy as anything, and I have not had the least return of biliousness for months."

- If you are in doubt about your own case, write for hints as to diet, etc., to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Perth. From the same address you can also order by mail at 3s. a box, or six boxes for 16s. 6d., post free, the genuine Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, if you have any difficulty in getting them from your local chemist or storekeeper.



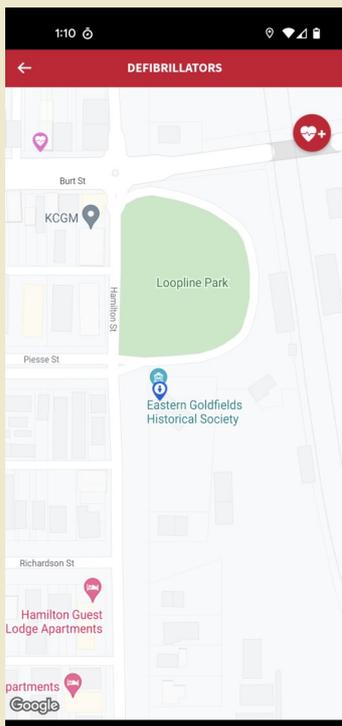
Submitted by John Rees

Defibrillator Installation



Thursday, 24th March 2022 the Society was lucky enough to have a defibrillator donated to us. Thanks to St. John Ambulance and The Rotary Club of Boulder for making this happen. The defibrillator is located just outside the side entrance gate and is available for anyone who might need to use it 24/7.

More locations can be found on the First Responder App.



Union Jack Gold Mine

Located in Norseman, the following men E. Woods, William Baker, James Waddington, Harry Pike and W.T. Pinkham McKenny applied for a lease on the 29th August 1900. The image below shows the erection of the winder at the Union Jack Gold Mine.



From the Archives

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED ?

IN ...

- INCREASING YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF LOCAL HISTORY
- EXAMINING AND PRESERVING HISTORIC BUILDINGS
- COLLECTING ITEMS FOR HISTORICAL DISPLAY
- DISCUSSING MATTERS OF HISTORICAL INTEREST
- RESEARCHING INTO ANY ASPECT OF GOLDFIELDS HISTORY
- PARTICIPATING IN HISTORICAL TOURS AND EXCURSIONS

THEN ...

JOIN ...

THE EASTERN GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE \$

MEETINGS HELD ON THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT THE FINISTON FIRE STATION MUSEUM.

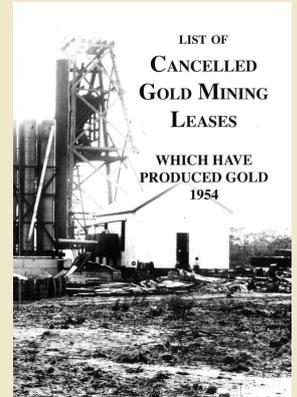
CALL IN AT THE MUSEUM FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

This early flyer for the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society was recently found. Now it is easier than ever to become a member of the Society. Simply log onto www.kalgoorliehistory.org.au or call into the Old Boulder Power Station.

We still hold our monthly meetings on the third Wednesday of every month.

If you are interested in volunteering at the Society please call in for a chat.

List of Cancelled Gold Mining Leases which have produced Gold (1954) by Mines Department of WA



In the bookshop now \$50.00

Aussie Bread Tags for Wheel Chairs - the EGHS is now one of the two collection points in the Goldfields. Don't forget to drop them off .

BREAD TAGS FOR WHEELCHAIRS



The EGHS has set up an account with containers for change. If you would like to donate to a worthy cause please consider us. Scheme ID: C10397895



Insights into Research - Gathering History

Di Stockdale

How do we gather History. Before Computers, we would perhaps go to the local Library, to the local Newspaper [if they had archived their papers], local identities and of course the people who may live or work in the building or house that you could be gathering information on. Of course for the last 20 years, we have had computers and by Googling the subject, you can hope, if there is anything written about the subject, that the information is right.



I was in a situation last month trying to find out the History on an iconic caravan/building that was at sometime, in a Goldfield's life. They had sat by the fires to keep warm, eating a Hamburger, late at night after being out to the local nightclub, hotel or cabaret.

I didn't think this would be a hard subject to find out about and to get photographs of the place, but then I suppose we didn't take our Box Brownies with us to the night club. Not like today when everyone has a Smart Phone and they can click off a photo or video in seconds.

I spoke to people about the Hot Spot, I went to John Matthew's and Sons, just in case they archived their properties they sold.



Photographic News

The photographic department is looking for a new leader. Someone who is keen to keep projects moving along. You will need a fair understanding of computers and scanning however we are willing to train the right person. If you are interested in getting involved please come in and have a chat.

125 Years of Boulder



BOULDER 1896. (Before being surveyed)

EG-N-105-003 Boulder 1896



BOULDER CITY, Oct 1897

EG-N-004-033 -Boulder City 1897



EG-N-105-012 Piesse St c1905

I would like some assistance to hang a white board if you can help please call in and let me know.

Images and stories from the 50's, 60's 70's, 80's, 90's until now (that pertain to the Eastern Goldfields) - if you've got them and you don't know what to do with them, come and see the volunteers at the Society.

Insights into Research - Gathering History

Di Stockdale Continued

I learnt by talking to one of our Monday Volunteer Ladies that Mr & Mrs Gordon Le Strange started "The Hot Spot" in 1948, cooking on a Barbeque over a drum fire, hence the fire remained until it closed down. Mr Le Strange would then take his basket full of Burgers and stand out side the picture theatres and hotels, selling his product.



That was as far as I got so I then turned to Social Media, yes Facebook. I put a request on Remember Back in Kalgoorlie When and Good Ole School Days in the Goldfields. I learnt from the last Owner that it closed in December, 1998, after an unsuccessful relocation to a shop in Hannan Street. I still couldn't get a photograph of the original premises.

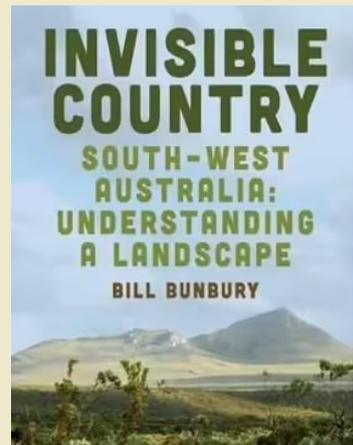
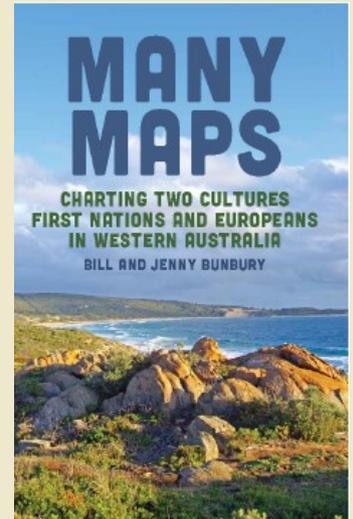
My Daughter remembered seeing a story from one of the owners, back in 2015, so she found it on another site called Where Are You? Help Reconnect with our Kalgoorlie/Boulder Past Friend and tagged me into that site. From there it began to fall into place. One of the Owners Steve Balaam had the whole story. I then contacted him and learnt he had bought the land from St John Ambulance, relocated the caravans, and built a small shop. He also had photographs of the old caravans and the building of the new building.

I had struck Gold.



Bill Bunbury Visit

There will be a number of books available to purchase on the night. These include -



We are also on the look out for a small garden shed. If you have one that you might like to donate to the Society please let us know.

Dryblower

Got an old dryblower laying around that you don't know what to do with. Contact the EGHS and we will take it off your hands.