

Goldfields Diggings

Eastern Goldfields Historical Society 20223-12

February 2023

February Dates to Remember:

1st Feb - Volunteers Morning Tea

11th Feb - Explore the Goldfields KBCCI Expo

15th Feb- General Meeting - Speaker to be advised

Welcome 2023

After a short break the EGHS is back open and we have hit the ground running.

Over the break we had two of our wonderful volunteers give talks on water at the Museum of the Goldfields, the Australia Day Awards have just wrapped up and the EGHS was lucky to have two of its volunteers nominated for the Kalgoorlie-Boulder Awards.

Research requests have been steadily coming in. Volunteering in the research department of the EGHS is extremely rewarding and we are always on the look out for people willing to come in and have a go.



EASTERN
GOLDFIELDS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY INC.

Preserving & promoting Goldfields history

Can You Help?

We are looking for a volunteer to help in the Bookshop. This will include jobs such as dusting the displays, keeping the book shelves stocked and keeping our Hesperian Books in alphabetical order. Ideally it would be great if you could come in once or twice a week and spend about half an hour keeping your eye on things .

If this sounds like something you would be interested in doing please call in and have a chat.

A willingness to learn how to post to our social media feeds would be also be appreciated.



Eastern Goldfields Historical Society
presents Ursula Brimble with the story of

Silvina Lanyon

Business woman and theatre proprietor tracing her
footsteps into Western Australia 1903 - 1960

15th March 2023 @ 7pm
Old Boulder Power Station, Hamilton St, Boulder
RSVP: eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au
Phone: 9093 3360



Preserving & promoting Goldfields history
EASTERN GOLDFIELDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC



a free event

☒ VOLUNTEER

dreamstime.



Why not make your new
year's resolution to
volunteer.

Contact Details

Phone: 08 9093 3360

Email:

eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au

Website:

www.kalgoorliehistory.org.au

Donations

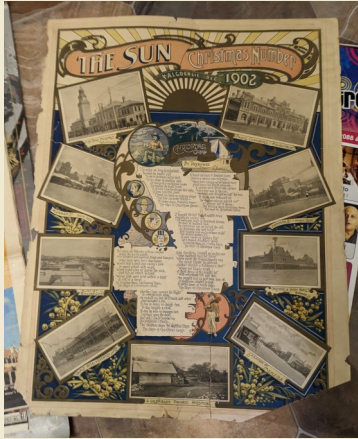
BSB: 066514

Account: 00900580

Reward Offered

A reward has been offered for anyone who can supply a copy of -

The Sun Annual from 1902.



If you have one that you are willing to share please get in contact -
eo@kalgoorliehistory.org.au

Vale



**Iryna Barnes
1959-2023**

It is with great sadness that we wish to announce the passing of one of our friend and volunteer -
Iryna Barnes.

We will miss you.

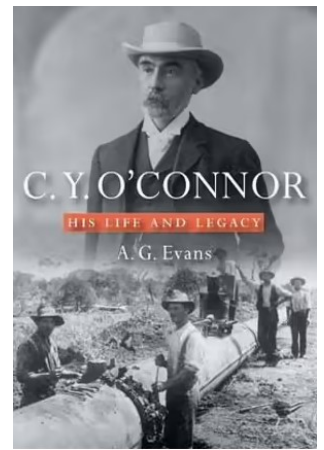
Book Shop News

O'Connor's life was both a triumph and a tragedy. He pulled himself up from disadvantaged beginnings in a famine-torn Ireland to become a master of his profession, inspired and inspiring to others.

By his own energy, probity, vision and application, it could be written of him at his death that 'no engineer [had] done more than he for an individual colony'.

Charles Yelverton O'Connor is a legendary figure in early colonial civil engineering. But the fame of his great works, particularly the Goldfields Pipeline Scheme, which \$30.00 brought water 560 km to the Eastern Goldfields of Western Australia, has almost been matched by that of his enigmatic death. O'Connor's work, now revered and celebrated, was misunderstood and undervalued by many of his contemporaries.

This new biography by Tony Evans introduces fresh research material in examining O'Connor's character, influences and background.



Research Rewards

The EGHS is still looking for someone to join our team as the Research Co-Ordinator. This is a rewarding position and comes with full training and support.

Recently we received some feed back on some research we completed looking for a long lost uncle who died in Kalgoorlie in 1915.

" I am lost for words - that was so kind of you - you have gone way beyond anything I would have hoped for I am travelling here in U.K. & return to Ireland later this week - I'll drop you a line again

With very best regards
John "

Monthly Meetings & Guest Speaking

Are you an aficionado on anything Eastern Goldfields? Do you have a great story to tell about growing up, living on or anything Eastern Goldfields. Are you looking for a forum to share your information or story? Do you have an historic building you would like to show off?

Then we have the place for you. Every third Wednesday from 7pm the EGHS holds a general meeting with a guest speaker that presents talks to our members and visitors. They are always interesting and entertaining. If you have something to share please feel free to get in touch. We would love to hear your story.

Curatorial News

The curatorial committee meet regularly to discuss objects and items that members of the community would like to donate to the Society for safe keeping. It is a great committee to be on as there is always something interesting coming in to look at, discuss and research.

If you are interested in all things curatorial we would like to invite you to the next meeting. Please send me a quick message and I will email you the details of the next scheduled meeting.

We were recently contacted by Jo Pearson who has this lovely little pram which she wanted to donate to the Society.



Story of a Pram - by Jo Pearson

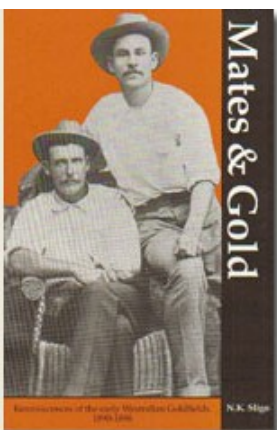
It was played with, (perhaps made), in the Goldfields ca1890's. It is not a standard commercial toy, but an individual piece of engineered industrial metal, (possibly from a mining site).

The carriage sits on a set of 4-spoke wheels (still fully functional and undamaged in any way) and has a high, curved handle. The original red calico fabric sun hood (in working order) is edged with original lace. I should mention measurements. It is quite

small, possibly toddler sized. It is 30cm in length, 20cm wide 36cm high (to hood) 45cm handle top - all approx.

It was given to the donor in the early 1970's by a family friend, Mr. Paul Wood. I had a small collection of Victorian/Edwardian dolls at the time, and he thought it would add to the history of my collection. Paul told me the pram was a childhood toy played with by his Aunts in the Goldfields in the c1880's.

Paul was born in Kalgoorlie in 1912. His full name was Paul Angelo de May Wood. He enlisted 1939-45. Early in his career, he worked for local government and as a journalist on the Kalgoorlie Miner newspaper. He then moved to Bunbury, and worked for the South Western Times newspaper both as a journalist and its Chief-of-Staff. Paul passed away in 1999.



From Hesperian. *The greatest of the Western Australian 1890's gold rush reminiscences.*

Mates and Gold tells of bush life in the Western Australian desert, dangerous journeys and lonely deaths by typhoid, thirst, murder, spearing and retributational massacre. Vast new goldfields, gold won - and lost. Of bush mates and memories of a life long past.

Mates and Gold is an insight into the fortitude and humour with which the early prospectors faced the harshness of the goldfields. It is one of the few books on the great 1890s goldrush written by one of the original prospectors. Available in the bookshop. \$30.00

DGR Status

Did you know that the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society Is recognised as a DGR or Deductible Gift Recipient?

A DGR is 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.

Dryblower

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

Do you need help digitising old photographs from your own collections?

Call in and speak to the volunteers. We would be happy to help.



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Can you help?

We are looking for images of headframes from WMC Mines (any and all) but specifically any images of winders or headframes from the **Oritava** from 1939. The mine was previously called the **Adeline**.



If you were wondering who our page 4 girl from the December newsletter is. It is super star volunteer Di Stockdale!!

Thanks to Kalgoorlie Salvage & Demolition and Gerry & Jan Lamont for the donation of the gates. The gates will be going to be used at the original Kanowna Cemetery.

Saturday Night in Boulder

Saturday night was for the families to get dressed up in their best clothes and catch up with relatives or friends. The women and children usually strolled around into Piesse Street, onto Hamilton St and then back down Burt St. The men usually went into one of the liquor outlets to quench their thirst. When the husbands and fathers met up with the family again, they strolled down Burt St, listening to the bands playing.

At the top end of Burt St, the Boulder Mines Band was the centre of attraction outside the Metropole Hotel. The Boulder City Brass Band played outside the Albion Hotel, while a well known trumpet player rendered his best effort of The Blue Danube.

Also near the Albion Hotel a mobile snack bar operated. A horse drawn vehicle taking up quite a stretch of the road way, with its wooden floor, canvas roof and walls. Food consisted of pies and peas, soup and snaggers with mash. All these goodies were kept sizzling hot and particularly relished by the miners going to and from work.

Orr's Corner as it was well known, was an extremely busy place. Trams from Kalgoorlie unloaded passengers in front of the Tatts Pub, it crossed over Burt Street, switched tracks and came back on the opposite to pick up passengers.



The Salvation Army Band strutted its stuff in front of the Court Hotel where Paddy Landis a well known and loved Irishman, kept the crowd entertained.

The Boulder Town Hall dance was always a very popular spot. Music was supplied by Harry Fellows and his Blues Boys. The Old Caledonian Hall, sometimes referred to as "the home wreckers" had musicians Essie Thompson, Eddy Stevens and Anne Maxwell.

Burt St was unlike any street anywhere. Indeed where did you find laughter, good humour and back chat? Yes Burt St was a happy, friendly street. Greetings were brief and to the point, like "G/day you old bxxxxxxded, come and have a pot."

Then there was "White City". This was famous for gambling, dancing and boxing.

The dance floor at "White City" was a great attraction, and all for free. To strains of good music, one could do the Charleston or whatever, in competition with one of Boulder's best known heroes Horace Thorn. Horace always danced with a chair instead of a woman. Apparently he had 2 left feet.

Saturday Night in Boulder continued

Boxing was a huge attraction and chaps like Sol Taaffe, Dusty Brown and Graeme Evans were at their best as were referees like Bruiser and Walter Wilson.

Another high spot was the Palace Picture Gardens, you could pay for a pricey deck chair or if preferred something cheaper, then a garden seat which sat 6 or you could go cheaper still and climb up the stalls to the top of the steps. Many lads found it cheaper to climb the old Peppercorn tree, which grew outside. The view was excellent until the Coppers chased them away.

Yes those were the nights to remember. I wonder if they will ever be repeated? Possibly add more about White City, with their Carnival nights and money raised going to Childrens Ward, and the Fresh Air League. Laurel Park was where it was held.

Facebook Stats

We recently took a look at our top 8 Facebook posts for 2022. The highest performing post was Saturday Night in Boulder from 24 July 2022. We had a total of 10,311 people reached with this post, 37 shares and 120 comments.

See post is on previous page - Saturday Night in Boulder

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to help as "greeters" at the Society. This will involve greeting people on arrival and helping in the bookshop. If you are interested in helping out for an hour or two one day per week (or more), please get in touch. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

The Eastern Goldfields Historical Society is looking for volunteers.

Can you spare an hour or two once a week?

Do you have a passion for local history?

We can help!

Phone, email or call in.

08 9093 3360

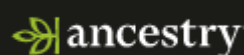
eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au

Old Boulder Power Station. Hamilton St. Boulder.



Members' Corner

Did you know that the EGHS has a subscription to Ancestry.com? Members are welcome to come down to the Society and search for information on Ancestry. Non-members are also welcome, for a small fee.



YouTube - Oral History Recordings

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

Do you have time to come down to the Society and help upload some of our oral histories?

BREAD TAGS FOR WHEELCHAIRS

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!



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



Help Wanted

Volunteers are needed to help with the stall on Saturday, 11th February 2023 at the Explore the Goldfields Community Expo. Time slots available are 9-10 and 11-12. If you can spare an hour please let me know.
eo@kalgoorliehistory.org.au



We still have lots of books that we would like someone to read and write indexes for. If you are interested, please get in contact with us.

The plant display is looking a bit empty... If you have any plants you would like to donate to the Society, that would be greatly appreciated. Please drop them off.

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.

We are always interested in images and stories from the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s and up until now, that pertain to the Eastern Goldfields.

If you have them and you would like to share them, come and see the volunteers at the Society.

Australia Day Awards

The Eastern Goldfields Historical Society was proud to nominate two of our volunteers for the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Australia Day Awards. The awards are designed to recognise community members that have made an outstanding contribution to the community. John Rees was nominated for Senior Citizen of the Year and Robin Bowden, Volunteer of the Year awards.

The competition was fierce, all nominees were of a extremely high caliber. Congratulations are extended to John Rees who was awarded the inaugural Senior Citizen of the Year award and to all the winners on the day.



We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers at the Society, you do an amazing job and we couldn't do it without you.

Congratulations are also extended to Jan McLeod for her nomination in the Shire of Coolgardie Awards.



Library News - Genealogical Magazines

The Society was recently been given a box of old genealogical magazines that can now be used in the library. They date back to 2013 however the researching tips are still very relevant.

We are hoping to add to these magazines to our selection of resources that can be borrowed from the library but we need your help. If you are interested in learning how to catalogue library items please call in and have a chat.

We would also like to add to this lending resources, so if you have any old genealogical magazines lying around that you would like to rehome, please call the Society.



Ora Banda

We are still looking for images of the Ora Banda Hotel, inside and out, to help build a pictorial history of the hotel.

Please forward your images to:
eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au