

Goldfields Diggings

Eastern Goldfields Historical Society 2022-08

September 2022

September Dates to Remember:

7th September - Volunteers' Morning Tea

09th September - Fish & Chips Night

15th September - James Murray Aitken Talk

21 September - General Meeting Guest Speaker to be advised

30 September - Around the Blue Laminex Table Book Launch

AGM - Committee

The Eastern Goldfields Historical Society held a very successful AGM on the 17th August. Scott Wilson stood down as President (remaining on the committee) and Tim Cudini was elected into the position. Ken Needham was elected to Vice President. Returning office bearers are Rob Wall (Treasurer), Robin Bowden (Secretary) Jan Lamont (Librarian), John Rees (Curator), Helen Sheehan (Social), Ethel Chinnery, Gwen Brown, Claire Weir. New to the committee are Cate Smart (Photographics) and John Fanetti.



Also at the meeting Mrs. Janet Lamont was made a Life Member. Jan has been the Librarian at the EGHS since 2008, during her time here she has also been the second vice president and the research coordinator. Jan is an icon at the Society, her Knowledge of local history, assistance to customers and library skills has certainly been an inspiration to us all.

We are very grateful to Scott for the past 17 years of dedicated service as President. Scott joined the Society in 1994, and started serving on the committee with the next few years.



**EASTERN
GOLDFIELDS
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY INC.**

Preserving & promoting Goldfields history

Can You Help?

Do you purchase the newspaper every day and then put it in the recycling bin? The Society collects articles from the Kalgoorlie Miner for future reference. If you would be willing to donate your read newspapers to us, we can put them to good use. You can drop them off or we will collect fortnightly. Please, let us know.

Save the Date

**Book Launch - Around the Blue
Laminex Table
Wayne Lamotte
Hannans Club
5:30 - 7pm**

**Spring Festival
Sunday, 9th October
8am - 3pm.**

All hands on deck!

Contact Details

Phone: 08 9093 3360

Email:

eghs@kalgoorliehistory.org.au

Website:

www.kalgoorliehistory.org.au

Donations

BSB: 066514

Account: 00900580

2022 Affiliates State History Conference

September 9th — 11th

The Royal Western Australian Historical Society Annual State History Conference of Affiliated Societies is being held in Denmark this year. For more information please contact the Denmark Historical Society.

info@denmarkhistoricalsocietywa.org.au

Armadale Writers' Award

This is a creative writing competition open to adult writers living in Western Australia.

Works must be original unpublished prose and have a 1000 - 3000 word count.

The Armadale Writers' Award accepts online entries only. Open from 1st - 30th September, 2022.

1st Prize - \$1000

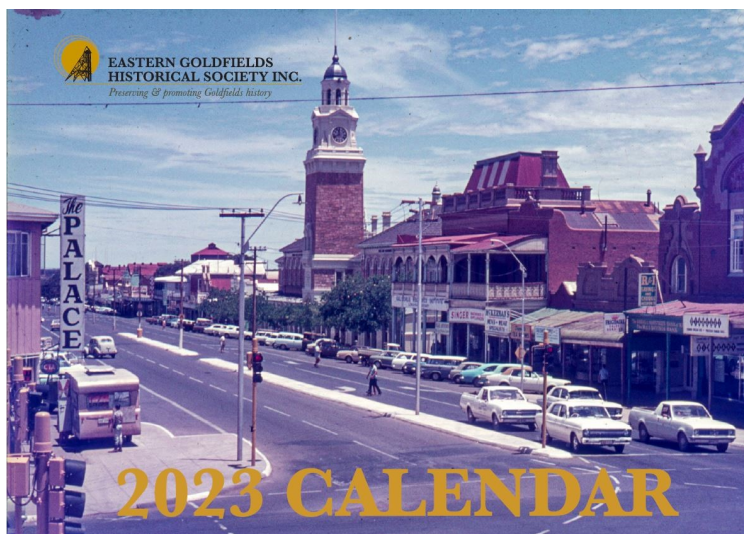
<https://library.armadale.wa.gov.au/armadale-writers-award>

We are looking for some history of the old well located in John Morgan Park on George Cowcill St Kambalda (Image below). Do you know anything about this well?



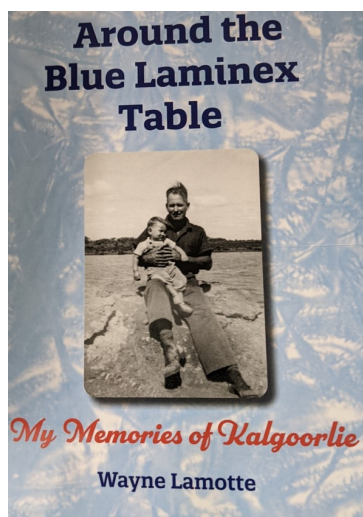
Book Shop News

2023 Calendar



**Available
Now
\$15.00**

New to the Book Shop

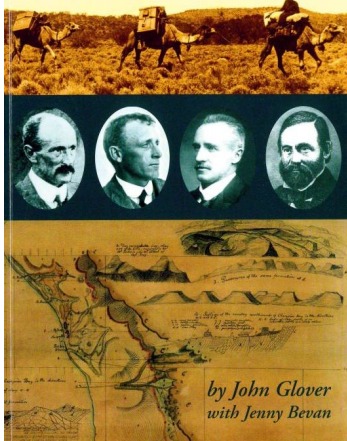


A memoir that deals with the events and people that Wayne Lamotte met in Kalgoorlie-Boulder in the 1950's and 60's. Centered around his father who regaled his family his stories around the blue Laminex table in the kitchen with compelling and unforgettable stories of his years as a woodchopper, gambler and the contractor who supplied the sheep stations north-east of Kalgoorlie,

\$35.00

The Forgotten Explorers

The Forgotten Explorers:
pioneer geologists of Western Australia, 1826-1926



The Forgotten Explorers - pioneer geologists of Western Australia, 1826 - 1926 by John Glover with Jenny Bevan. Available in the book shop for \$40.00.

A complimentary resource available on line is a talk by Jenny Bevan based on the book. See link below.

https://www.web.uwa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/2586608/UWAHS-Member-Presentation-July-2014-Forgotten-Explorers.pdf

The Alberts of Athetlstone - John Rees

TO-DAY. TO-DAY.

At corner of Ward and Thurmott streets.
At 11.30.

MESSRS. H. D. PELL and CO. have received instructions from **A. H. Albert** (who is rebuilding in brick) to sell, on the premises—

- 1 Villa (4-roomed Iron House), on blocks, easily removed
- 2 12 x 10 Rooms
- 2 15 x 12 Rooms
- Kitchen, Verandah
- 2 1000 gal. Tanks and stand.
- All in Beautiful Order.

TO BE REMOVED.
Ward-st. Trams stop at Corner.

Kalgoorlie Miner (WA: 1895 - 1954) / Fri 13 Mar 1903 / Page 7

Albert Herbert Albert and Georgina Louise Albert purchased 55 Ward St (Lot55) in 1900 and she requested storm water drainage on the lot which was done for approximately £3 by the Kalgoorlie Municipal Council on the 25th September 1900. On 20th April 1904 Albert applied for a gold dealers' license, giving an address of 4 Thurmott St, and business premises in Trafalgar.

His house at 55 Ward St receiving building permission on the 22nd April 1903. By the 31st May 1903 he was living in that, on return from the Eastern States, meaning a very short building time, perhaps it was already

built to some degree. Further he advised that he was putting in plant and on arrival of a German steamer the machinery would be ready to treat Slag, Concentrates or Slime.

The Police had intelligence enough to bring a charge of buying tailings from a person other than a lease holder or gold mining company and of buying sweepings from a jewelers shop. The first was dismissed the second warranted a small fine. The police continued to watch A. Albert and indeed jeweler store sweepings seemed to be stooping low. By 1905 he was advertising the Piccadilly Ore Works, at his home address, adding magnet iron to his list of purchases.

His gardens were described as "Windermere" and he won many awards and special mentions for his ability to grow grapes, figs, nectarine, oranges, apricot and peach trees.

March 1906, saw a Sergeant Kavanagh execute a search warrant at Albert's premises.

A. H. ALBERT

Has returned from the Eastern States. He informs us he is erecting a Treatment Plant in Piccadilly, and on the arrival of the incoming German steamer, in which he has the necessary Machinery, he will be ready to Treat or Buy Slags, Concentrates, Slimes, &c.

At present he can be found at his private house, corner Ward and Thurmott streets.

The Sun (Kalgoorlie, WA: 1898 - 1929) / Sun 14 Jun 1903 / Page 6

Gardens.—It is pleasing to note that around the outskirts of Kalgoorlie a fair proportion of the residents have gone in for gardening, and, despite the unfavorable conditions which pertain, have succeeded in transforming the arid surface into smiling gardens. One of the most successful is Mr. A. E. Alberts, Ward-street, Piccadilly, who has gone in for kitchen gardening, has succeeded in attaining gratifying results, and nearly every kind of vegetable in common use is to be found in Mr. Albert's garden. Among other products are to be found mushrooms, which grow in such profusion that within the past three weeks no less than 150 lb. have been cut. As mushrooms have a good market value and find a ready sale, their cultivation is very profitable and should well repay Mr. Alberts.

DGR Status

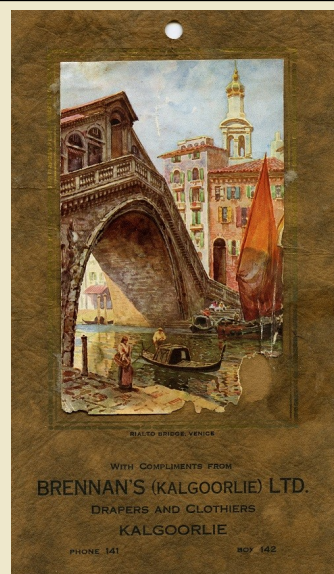
Did you know that the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society is recognised as a DGR or Deductible Gift Recipient?

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.



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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THE BOULDER BUTCHERS.
OUR BURT AND PIESSE
STREET SHOPS WILL BE
CLOSED ALL DAY WEDNESDAY
(September 4th), BOULDER CUP
DAY.

OUR SHOP WILL BE CLOSED
ALL DAY WEDNESDAY (4th
September), BOULDER CUP DAY.

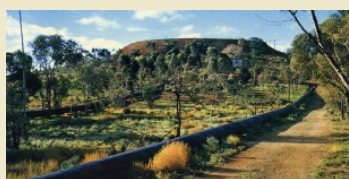
JAS. GRAY AND CO.,
BUTCHERS,

BURT STREET.

Goldfields Water Supply Scheme

Submissions are being sought for 22 historic sites on the Goldfields Pipeline. Everyone with an interest in the Golden Pipeline should complete the short survey and make their views known. You have until the 2nd September to make a comment.

More information can be found at: <https://consultation.dplh.wa.gov.au/heritage/goldfields-water-supply-scheme/consultation/intro/>



The Alberts of Athetlstone - John Rees cont.

The owner stated that the four just walked through with no search warrant. At The Gold Commission on Gold Stealing, Albert replied to Kavanagh's accusation of bribery as follows. Kavanagh had given him information on a racehorse named Radical. Which he backed for a profit of £30 from £3. He then offered a £5 to Kavanagh as reward for giving him a tip. Kavanagh refused. Later he stated that he followed Kavanagh to the tote and when Kavanagh left, asked the operator what horse Kavanagh proposed to bet on - Radical. Albert bet and won. This was later supported by the operator. The stories don't quite match. Kavanagh denied that he picked a winner and that Albert had made money by following him. It is true that he had bet 10/- on a place, not a winner. Albert's comment on this was "That man would sell his soul".

Police accusations against him he attributes to the fact that he had reported one or two of Sergeant Kavanagh's men to the Commission. It was also suggested that gold obtained from the slugs and residues was sweetened with stolen gold.

Albert hotly denied this. He stated that he travelled as far as Laverton and Lake Way, where it was not always possible to assay and agreed that in the great majority of cases he trusted to his sight and judgement of his purchases. The questioner later confirmed that qualified men took years to get this ability.

When the Commissioner remarked that Albert had secured a return of £7000 from an expenditure of £700, he said it only showed what could be done by men like himself who were willing to go out into the mulga.

Another doubtful explanation of £1000 obtained from chipping scales of Ivanhoe tanks and a fowl house tank from a miner's yard. The Ivanhoe manager later said that he had the tanks chipped and that £1100 of gold could not have been gained from the drippings of those tanks. The fowl house tank drippings must have been particularly rich. Although he was given only a small fine he must have decided that it was time for a change.

In November 1906 the house was sold to the Montgomerys of draper shop fame and by August 1906 he was living in Bondi, Sydney. The entrepreneurial drive displayed in the West was evident in his profitable consignment of horses taken to Manila. By October 1906 he was quoted as being in the Butterine (Margarine) business in Sydney.

This however was too tame for the man as in 1928, he added contract diving to his resume. He took a Japanese boat, the Tango Maru to Hong Kong intending to carry out salvage work in Japan, however as he was required as a witness in a trial of one S.Y. Maling. His passport was cancelled, he was stopped at Thursday Island and returned to Sydney. The NSW Attorney General would leave not stone unturned to secure Mr Albert's presence at the appeal. Albert was obviously a person of interest.

"Misconduct", with a Martha Gordon precipitated wife Georgina to divorce him in 1929 and she obtained a settlement of £7 a week, not much when according to her his income was £3000 a year.

He may have retained a connection with the Butterine industry as in 1934 he was given a resounding farewell as the Manager of the Bowthorne Butter Factory by the Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Co Ltd. He declared that he was going to Forbes where he would enter business. And so he passes out of history, a likable rogue. I like to think of him continuing on the edge of the law dipping either side in his projects.

Yard Workers Needed

If anyone could spare some time to help with the maintenance on some of the wooden structures in our yard it would be greatly appreciated.



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?

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



FAMILY RESEARCH IN GERMANY



Sven Grewel Genealogist

 contact@svengrewel.com
www.svengrewel.com

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.

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



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.

Photographic Images

Digitisation continues with the Tom Williams Collection.



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.

