

FACET

FORUM ADVOCATING
CULTURAL AND
ECO-TOURISM

UNLOCKING OUR HERITAGE

BRINGING HERITAGE PLACES TO
LIFE THROUGH TOURISM

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Join FACET for the return of our popular Heritage Tourism series!

Thursday 23rd April 2026 – 12.30pm – 5.00pm
followed by a networking sundowner until 6.30pm
With optional pre-event tour of the
Old Central Fire Station

FACET is delighted to relaunch this signature event at the newly
refurbished Perth Town Hall

Explore the stories behind the 2025 WA Heritage Award winners and discover
how heritage places can thrive as tourism experiences. Gain practical
strategies, fresh ideas, and inspiration to bring your own cultural and natural
treasures to life for visitors.

With sincere thanks to our major partners and event sponsors



Department of Biodiversity,
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HERITAGE
COUNCIL



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Matilda Bay

Program

- 11.00am **Optional pre-event tour: Old Central Fire Station (free, limited to 12 places) — meet 11.00am at 25 Murray Street; includes guided tour with Phill Cribb and escort to Perth Town Hall by 12.00pm**
- 12.00pm **Registration for event opens** Coffee, tea and refreshments on arrival
- 12.30pm **Welcome and overview**
Cath Sutherland – Conscious Business, FACET Board Director and Master of Ceremonies (MC)
- 12.40pm **Welcome to Country**
Steven Jacobs - In Culture Tours
- 12.55pm **Event opening address**
Bruce Reynolds, Lord Mayor of City of Perth
- 1.10pm **Winner – Heritage Tourism: Southern Forests and Valleys Heritage Festival**
“Unlocking Heritage Through Regional Collaboration: The Southern Forests & Valleys Heritage Festival”
Karen Hill, Coordinator of Culture and Tourism at the Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes and
Katie McDonnell, Executive Officer – Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils
- 1.35pm **Commendation: Conservation or Adaptive Reuse of a Local Heritage Place: Perth Zoo Gibbon Enclosure**
“Heritage Interpretation at Perth Zoo”
Marc Beattie, Director, Urbis
- 1.55pm **Joint winner: Contribution by an Organisation**
“Australia’s Largest Ghost Town – Bringing Kanowna Back to Life”
Scott Wilson, Vice-President and Life Member, Eastern Goldfields Historical Society
- 2.15pm **Afternoon tea and networking**

BOOK YOUR TICKET NOW

Register [here](#) by 22 April 2026
Or email admin@facet.asn.au for assistance.

Matilda Bay

Program continued

- 2.45pm** **Winner: Voluntary Individual Contribution**
"Advancing the discovery, documentation, and celebration of Western Australia's maritime heritage - a Twenty Year Journey"
Alasdair Cooke – Volunteer, Marine Discovery Foundation and
Sarah Stoneham – Owner, Dolphin Scuba Diving
- 3.10pm** **Winner: Heritage Interpretation – Professor David Dolan Award: Stepping Back With Fireman Jack Heritage Trail Owner, Scuba**
"Finding the Connections that Resonate with Your Audience"
Michael Van Tiel – Heritage Centre Coordinator, Department of Fire & Emergency Services
- 3.30pm** **Conservation or Adaptive Reuse of a State Heritage Place – Winner of the Gerry Gauntlett Award**
Rose Hotel & Sample Room, Bunbury
"Restoring an icon in the heart of the City"
Dinah Mujati – Director, Architect at Hocking Heritage + Architecture
- 3.50pm** **Commendation: Heritage Interpretation – Harvey WW1 Internment Camp Memorial Shrine and Detention Cells**
"From Community to Visitor Experience: A Collaborative Interpretation Project in Harvey"
Anton Fimmano – Economic Development Officer, Shire of Harvey and
Rikki Clarke – Director, Creative Spaces
- 4.15pm** **Panel discussion/questions & answers** – panel includes Graeme Gammie, Member, Heritage Council of Western Australia, and all speakers
- 4.40pm** **Summary, wrap-up and thanks**
- 4.50pm** **Networking and refreshments**
- 6.30pm** **Event ends**

We connect great minds to spark ideas, shape solutions and unlock new opportunities for outstanding natural, cultural and heritage tourism experiences.

SPEAKERS



Karen Hill, Coordinator of Culture and Tourism, Shire of Bridgetown-Greenbushes

Karen Hill is a passionate advocate for heritage, culture and community. She was the driving force behind the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Heritage Festival, which has grown into the region-wide Southern Forests & Valleys Heritage Festival. Karen brings extensive experience from roles with the City of Perth's Arts, Culture and Heritage team, where she managed the Boorloo Heritage Festival, and collaboration with the Western Australian Museum Boola Bardip, contributing to storytelling and interpretation for the new museum. Now leading the Bridgetown-Greenbushes Visitor Centre, Karen is focused on showcasing the region and creating a strong sense of place for visitors and the local community.



Katie McDonnell, Executive Officer of the Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils

The Warren Blackwood Alliance of Councils (WBAC) represents five local governments in Western Australia's South West. WBAC drives regional collaboration, economic development and strategic initiatives across the Warren Blackwood region. Katie leads tourism projects under the Southern Forests & Valleys brand, including the Southern Forests & Valleys Heritage Festival, one of WA's largest regional heritage events and winner of the 2025 Heritage Tourism Award. With a background in project management and regional development, Katie is passionate about delivering collaborative initiatives that drive regional economic growth, strengthen communities, and support tourism, industry and investment across the WBAC region.



Marc Beattie, Director, Urbis

Marc specialises in guiding the evolution of our historic environment. He works closely with stakeholders to develop a strong understanding of the history and significance of heritage places, balanced with a pragmatic approach to development that supports ongoing viability and public engagement. Marc has extensive experience in heritage management in WA and the UK. He is a full member of ICOMOS Australia and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation, and an affiliate of the Australian Institute of Architects. His expertise spans town planning, building conservation, cultural engagement, heritage interpretation and character protection. His work has been enriched by living and working on Whadjuk Boodja with the Noongar community and contributing to major Western Australian projects including the WA Museum Boola Bardip, the New Norcia Conservation Management Plan and Boorloo Bridges. He also advises local and state governments and serves on several panels as a heritage expert.



Scott Wilson, Vice President, Eastern Goldfields Historical Society

Scott Wilson is a Life Member of the Eastern Goldfields Historical Society, its current Vice President, and served as President for 17 years. A full-time prospector with over 45 years' experience across the Western Australian goldfields, Scott is proud to say he has "never had a real job". He has a deep interest in Goldfields history, shaped by the stories, practical knowledge and bush skills passed on by old-timers in the back blocks during his early years—an experience that instilled a lifelong commitment to preserving and sharing the region's heritage. Scott is an Associate Member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and a past President of the Amalgamated Prospectors and Leaseholders Association of WA (Inc). In 2018, he was awarded the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder Mayoral Award in recognition of his community service and ongoing contribution to Goldfields Heritage.

SPEAKERS CONTINUED



Alasdair Cooke, Volunteer, Marine Discovery Foundation and Director, Mitchell River Group

Alasdair is geologist and spent much of his early career in geophysics, particularly airborne magnetic surveying with WA company Aerodata, later World Geoscience (now part of Fugro). An interest in WA history, as a descendant of families that were among the first Europeans to arrive in Western Australia, led to an interest in shipwrecks lost along our coast. The opportunity to use the knowledge and capabilities from the WA mining industry to find lost wrecks has been an interest for over 30 years, leading to the discovery of numerous wrecks along the WA coast.



Sarah Stoneham - Owner, Dolphin Scuba Diving

Sarah Stoneham an owner/manager of Dolphin Scuba Diving in Welshpool, where she focuses on providing reliable equipment, practical advice and high-quality training for the local diving community. As a scuba diving Instructor Trainer, she has guided divers from entry-level courses through to professional qualifications, with a strong emphasis on safety, confidence and steady skill development. Sarah's pathway into diving began in Egypt in 1994, leading to a decade working in the Middle East, including four years in Egypt and six years in Kuwait. In 2004, she and her partner moved to Australia to run and co-own Dolphin Scuba Diving, where she continues to apply a practical, hands-on approach to business. In her spare time, Sarah serves as an Elected Member with the City of Armadale and is a registered counsellor in part-time private practice. In her role as an Elected Member, she contributes to local decision-making with a focus on community wellbeing, practical outcomes and economic development.



Michael Van Tiel, Heritage Centre Coordinator, Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)

Michael Van Tiel is the Heritage Centre Coordinator for DFES, where he manages the Old Central Fire Station and oversees the Heritage Fleet of more than 20 historic fire appliances. In 2025, the Old Central team received the Professor David Dolan Award for Interpretation at the WA Heritage Awards for their Fireman Jack neighbourhood walk. Michael previously spent 15 years at the Powerhouse Museum, specialising in creative ways to make museum collections accessible particularly through performance. His interest in heritage places developed during his time with Sydney Living Museums before returning to Perth to work at the Western Australian Shipwrecks & Maritime Museums.



Phill Cribb AFSM, Volunteer Researcher and Tour Guide, Old Central Fire Station

Celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Old Central Fire Station with a special behind-the-scenes heritage tour led by Phill Cribb AFSM – retired firefighter, respected volunteer researcher, and co-author of 120 Years of Fire Service History. Step inside one of Perth's most treasured historic buildings and discover the remarkable people, innovations, and dramatic moments that shaped the early fire service in WA. Phill will share stories from the station's operational days, highlight fascinating details hidden within the building, and bring to life the characters who once lived and worked here. As part of the experience, participants will receive a complimentary copy of 120 Years of Fire Service History, offering a lasting insight into the legacy of the brigade and this iconic station.

SPEAKERS CONTINUED



Dinah Mujati – Director, Architect at Hocking Heritage + Architecture

Dinah Mujati is a registered Architect specialising in Heritage Conservation. As principal at Hocking Heritage + Architecture, she has an extensive portfolio of projects that revitalise Western Australia’s historic buildings while safeguarding their character, landmark status and heritage value. Hocking Heritage + Architecture is an award winning multi-disciplinary practice specialising in architecture, heritage, conservation, urban design and planning. The standards of the practice are based on detailed research, a keen appreciation of client and community needs and the application of best practices to heritage, conservation, architecture and urban design projects. Dinah has been instrumental in the delivery of many of the practice’s notable projects, working collaboratively and with integrity to champion the careful management and repurposing of older buildings.



Anton Fimmano, Economic Development Officer (EDO), Shire of Harvey

Anton has been the EDO at the Shire since mid-2023. He began his career as an accountant in Perth, working in the field for 10 years before returning home to the Harvey Region and transitioning into local government. Since joining the Shire’s Economic Development team, Anton has contributed to a range of initiatives aimed at supporting local business and regional growth. One of his first major projects was the upgrade of interpretation at the Harvey WWII Internment Camp Memorial Shrine Building, alongside the activation of the camp’s detention cells. The project provided a valuable introduction to project management and stakeholder engagement, particularly in managing community relationships and expectations. Anton has a strong interest in regional development, heritage, and creating opportunities that enhance the economic and cultural vitality of the Harvey Region.



Rikki Clarke, Director, Creative Spaces

Rikki is the Director of Creative Spaces and a specialist in interpretation and exhibition design, with over 15 years’ experience delivering projects in Australia and the UK. She is passionate about creating spaces and experiences that share meaningful stories of people and place – from permanent and temporary exhibitions to heritage trails, environmental experiences, and interactive installations. Drawing on her deep knowledge of design and project management, Rikki works closely with communities, councils, and stakeholders to uncover unique narratives and present them in ways that are engaging, memorable, and authentic to Western Australia’s character.



Steven Jacobs, Director and Tour Guide, In Culture Tours

Steven is a Whadjuk man with a passion for his people and a love for Australia. He enjoys sharing his Culture and instilling a sense of belonging and caring for Country within each tour. With a passion for promoting cultural awareness and education through storytelling and the arts, Steven encourages reconciliation through tourism and being a role model for his community. Steven has been a tour guide for many years, previously working for his aunt Kerry-Ann Winmar. In 2023 he took over In Culture Tours with goals to increase youth engagement and work towards making an impactful and meaningful change. When Steven isn’t guiding tours, he is providing cultural consultancy services such as the Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremonies, as well as private, educational experiences for corporate and school groups.

“Go with a Guide” to enrich your tourism experience.

SPEAKERS CONTINUED



Bruce Reynolds – Lord Mayor of City of Perth

Bruce Reynolds has been a part of the City of Perth community for over 30 years. He is passionate about giving back to the community and has assisted not-for-profits and charities as a board member, chair and a volunteer. These experiences have kept him grounded and given him an insight into the needs and wants of the City's residents and communities. He currently owns three businesses in diverse fields: Property, Sales, Marketing, Branding, Design and Hospitality. Bruce loves challenges, delivery and doing the right thing.



Graeme Gammie, Member, Heritage Council of Western Australia

Graeme has over two decades of experience in strategic leadership roles in the heritage sector, including as Executive Director of the former State Heritage Office and then as Assistant Director General, Heritage at the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. More recently, Graeme was the CEO at Landgate. Over his career, Graeme has developed expert knowledge of legislative and regulatory frameworks for heritage and developed extensive stakeholder relationships within the heritage sector. Graeme has previously been the Executive Manager at Fremantle Prison. During this time, he worked with State and Commonwealth governments to achieve the inclusion of the Prison on the National Heritage List - the 13th place in Australia to be included and later the World Heritage List - the only built heritage place in WA to be recognised at this level.



Cath Sutherland, Conscious Business, and FACET Board Member

Cath is a business facilitator, branding expert, keynote speaker, and author. For over two decades, she has supported businesses across a wide range of industries to develop practical, aligned business and marketing strategies. Through her revolutionary process, outlined in her book *Creating Brand Energy*, Cath guides businesses on a powerful journey to define who they are. Her *Conscious Business Blueprint* becomes a practical and energetic guide for everything a business does, ensuring alignment, clarity, and consistency. When a business is aligned in this way, it naturally attracts and sustains authentic relationships for business success. Cath is also a longstanding member of the FACET Board, where she has made a significant contribution to FACET's strategic direction and event delivery for more than 12 years.

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