

Pratique

Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp
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Email: friends@woodmanpointquarantinationstation.com



<http://www.woodmanpointquarantinationstation.com>

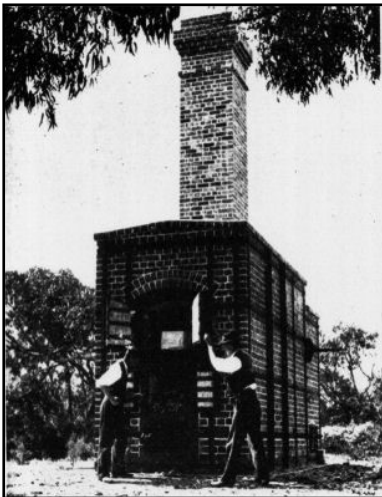


<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofwoodmanpointrc/>

SPRING 2020

UPGRADES TO THE CREMATORIUM

The Woodman Point Crematorium holds particular historical significance to our site. Not only was it the first crematorium constructed in Australia when built in 1901, but it remains the oldest existing crematorium in the nation.



During our busy bee held on Sunday 23 February, it was observed that the front doors and frames of the crematorium were peeling and weathered and they were

subsequently given a freshen-up paint. Not only were the doors looking a little rough, but the internal metal frame work, which was painted in a light baby blue, was showing heavy signs of rust and discolouration.

Because of its historic significance, a decision was made to obtain some local quotes for the internal painting of the building and present these quotes for City

Pratique - just what does it mean?

Pratique is the license given to a ship to enter port on assurance from the captain to convince the authorities that it is free from contagious disease. The clearance granted is commonly referred to as *free pratique*.

A ship can signal a request for *pratique* by flying a solid yellow square-shaped flag. This yellow flag is the **Q** flag in the set of international maritime signal flags.



From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

of Cockburn grants to assist FOWPRC in funding the painting project. Two local painting companies were duly contacted and both agreed to a site meeting to inspect the painting task. It was during these visits that the question of also freshening up the external brick work of the crematorium was raised. As a result, it was agreed to provide separate quotes for the internal and external painting of the building, both of which were to be tabled at our March FOWPRC meeting.

Unfortunately, due the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, our March meeting was cancelled, but as City of Cockburn grants were closing off, Ainslie Poore progressed and submitted our grant submission on 30 March. In early May, Ainslie was notified that FOWPRC were successful with their submission and would receive a grant of \$1500 towards the painting of the building. Congratulations and many thanks again to Ainslie for the submission of yet another successful grant for FOWPRC.

The most competitive quote was from local painting company Antonelli Painting and Enzo, the owner, and his singing side-kick Paulo enthusiastically prepared for the job. Neither previously knew of the



quarantine station site and were astounded at the rich history they were helping to preserve.

Work commenced on 7 July with high

pressure washing of the building. This process used over 5 x 30 metre joined-garden hoses from our water supply to the crematorium. It was during the cleaning process that the painters called Mike Poore, our Treasurer and officer responsible for the overseeing of the project, to ask if Friends would want the internal brick work and large metal doors prepared and also painted. Following a quick consultation with Committee members, it was agreed to also undertake a full paint job within the internal coverage of the Crematorium with internal frame work to go from its baby blue colour to match the grey/blue of the internal brick work.



After two days of thorough pressure washing, wire brush cleaning on metal structures and rust preparation, painting commenced. With the winter weather playing its rainy part and other pending

jobs to complete, the painters had a few enforced breaks, but on 12 July, the painters called Mike again and asked him to come down to look at the outer crematorium building, repainted as per its previous colour. They had a further query: the metal strap banding on the external crematorium building walls



Interior after

didn't replicate the black seen in the original photos so these and the cremator fire doors were, in turn, painted black to replicate the original colour scheme.

During this visit, the painters also brought to Mike's attention the state of the crematorium chimney, which is missing some bricks and showing signs of fretting grouting. This is a renovation that also requires urgent attention and is currently being investigated by Camp Manager Matt Hayes.



Following metal preparation and the whole building being primed with rust protector and two coats of paint, the job was completed on 23 July.

So, from an initial scope of repairing internal rusted frames and an external single colour paint job, the work turned into a paint of the full metal frame, brick work, large metal doors and metal strapping. When viewed by Committee members prior to our July



Outside before



Outside after

meeting, everyone agreed that the decision to extend the scope of the works was absolutely the right one, and that this historical site looks fantastic.

Antonelli Painting has done sensational work painting the Crematorium. Enzo and Paulo actually loved doing this job. They took a real pride in what they were doing, knowing it was such an historical heritage building and this pride shines through in their finished work.

FOWPRC are extremely grateful to Enzo and Paulo for their efforts and look forward to providing them with a personal tour of the historic site as additional thanks for the work they have undertaken for us. And special thanks once again to Mike Poore and to Ainslie Poore for their stellar efforts to ensure the

success of this important 2020 project for FOWPRC.

FROM THE PAGES OF HISTORY

The first in a series of articles of sites at Woodman Point that may no longer exist or may have faded from our memory.

Plague Road

What would be more appropriate than to commence this series of historical articles remembering the original land entrance to the Woodman Point Quarantine Station site, known then as Plague Road.

Patients being placed in quarantine at Woodman Point entered the grounds by one of two means:

- via the sea jetty if disembarking a ship or sailing vessel; or
- via a very sandy dirt track that connected the Quarantine Station to Cockburn Road (at that time called Marmion Road).

There was much concern in the later years of the nineteenth century regarding the difficulty traversing the track with desperately ill patients. Of similar



concern was the poor state of Cockburn Road which provided access to Fremantle and the rest of the colony.

Indeed doctors reported to the government that they had no desire to undergo the ordeal of using that road again.

Following various representations in local newspapers, money was set aside to upgrade Cockburn Road with a further £520 to improve the road connecting the quarantine area to the main road.

Built of limestone in 1901, numerous outbreaks of bubonic plague and smallpox at the time soon gave the road its more widely used name: Plague Road.

Plague Road remained the official land entrance to Woodman Point until 1909 when a new road and entrance was constructed on the eastern boundary of the Station site.

Only a small section remains of the original Plague Road remains. It can be seen to the east of the current camp manager's home, heading towards the military cemetery.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Great news! As from Sunday 20 September, Friends will recommence public heritage tours. These tours will be limited to 16 people and booked through our website. We have had many enquiries about tours and our Tour Co-ordinator, Jenni Carder, has been busy advising the enquirers of our situation.

I have been away in Exmouth for 12 weeks and during that time, things have been quiet at Woodman Point. We had a first for Friends setting up a video

link so I could visually attend our last meeting. It went very well, thanks to Matt Hayes and Ainslie Poore.

A couple of things did happen whilst I was away. Thanks to Mike Poore for supervising the completion of the restoration painting of the crematorium. It looks fantastic. Things are in the pipeline to have the fretting chimney brick work restored.

Also, thanks to Jenni Carder, Mike Poore and Greg Ireland for planting a sixth tree at Arthur Dumble's remembrance plaque. I have since heard this one is not looking too good either. Mr Dumble must have some past demons to burn.

Friends were recently contacted by Mr Patrick Adlam in relation to tours. Patrick's father Mick was a Quarantine Officer at Woodman Point in the 1940/50s. He was then posted to Bicton Animal Quarantine Station. I have asked Patrick to contact me to arrange a meeting. Hopefully, he will have some photos and information in relation to Woodman Point. You never know when historical information will appear.

Gary Marsh
President

LATEST NEWS FROM FRIENDS

- ❖ Our sincere thanks to Enzo and Paulo from Antonelli Painting for their superb painting of the Woodman Point Crematorium.
- ❖ Many thanks to Barry Ireland for his kind donation of an early 20th century doctors' medical box, similar to those used during World War I. It is now proudly displayed in the WWI Room

at the Isolation Hospital.



- ❖ The next meeting of Friends will be held on Thursday 24 September 2020 in the Isolation Hospital, commencing at 6.30pm. All members are welcome to attend.

UPDATE FROM THE CAMP

Spring has sprung and campers are back at Woodman Point Camp!

Since late July, we have seen a steady increase of returning client groups as Western Australia continues to emerge from COVID-19 restrictions. It is wonderful to have the camp full again and see so many kids having fun.

We aren't completely out of the woods yet, and restrictions are still in place for indoor spaces (1 person per 2 square metres), which is still impacting the capacities of some of our camp buildings. The Dining Hall precinct is the area of most impact for our camp, and we have had to hire a marquee to extend the available undercover dining space for groups staying at camp. This marquee will be in place until Phase 5 of the COVID Recovery Plan commences.

We have had a successful start to our improved 'Quarantine Station History Tour' program trials, incorporating access to the Isolation Hospital. We are

still trialling different ways of implementing access to the building, to ensure that not only are we keeping the building and its contents safe, but the participants also have a rich experience at an age-appropriate level. Feedback has been very positive, and all the teachers have praised the inclusion of the building in the tour program and credit the FOWPRC on an impressive collection.

The restoration project for the 'administration and doctors precinct' area has commenced, with Hocking Heritage and Architecture commissioned to provide architectural documentation to plan to works. All going well, we hope to be able to seek quotations from local builders by the end of the year, with works to be commenced early 2021. I'll keep you posted on the progress of this important project.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank Gary Marsh for assisting me and my family in Exmouth earlier in July. Gary provided local expertise and even a parcel delivery service from his 'lush digs' at Ningaloo to town and back. Thank you Gary!!

Matt Hayes
Camp Manager

TRIALLING STUDENT TOURS

The revamped history tour made its debut in August, now named the Quarantine Station History Tour. The first group of Year 6 students were taken through the program, over the week, with the assistance of the digital content on a device. On the days when the weather wasn't so good the digital content allowed us utilise the Dining Hall screen to still go through a virtual tour.

This is some of what they had to say:

"It was a great tour with excellent information of the hospital. It was great to see the different equipment and beds and the contrast between the 1900s and now. It was good to be able to relate this to the Pandemic that is currently happening in the world."

"I felt the historical value of the hospital was immense. The light horsemen was a great piece of history also. The hospital photos and museum pieces were of such a great quality."

The 360 tour video has been produced, but was no easy task, as the camp had to be completely empty and looking fabulous. The first video was disrupted by a car driving into camp right by the Isolation Hospital so Kym was sent up to staff the gate and ensure no one else entered. After that, there were people dancing on the beach, a local swimmer taking her clothes off just as the video started and several camp staff members hidden in various locations around the site.

Luckily the second take was perfect and will be used for the promotion. It is now in the hands of the DLGSC Communications team to work on the script for the voice over and decide on the best background music.

Michelle Young
Camp Event Coordinator

NEW MEMBERS

Friends welcome the following people who have recently joined our organisation.

- Barry Ireland from Morley
- Greg and Kath Ireland from Melville

HERITAGE TOURS

Friends of Woodman Point Recreational Camp operate regular heritage tours of the former Quarantine Station and the Isolation Hospital Museum for community groups.

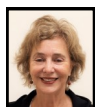
Morning tea is included in all tours, and if required, lunch can be provided at an additional cost.

Periodic open weekends provide tours for members of the public to visit the site and to learn about this important Western Australian heritage site.

We acknowledge the contribution of our valued volunteer tour guides who lead our heritage tours of the former Quarantine Station.



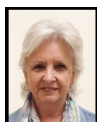
Jenni



Chris



Ian



Karen



Suzie



Gary



Neil

We also acknowledge Daniel and the staff of Accolade Catering who provide the delicious lunches enjoyed by our tour participants.

**In light of the COVID-19 alerts, the
heritage tours below were suspended.**

UPCOMING HERITAGE TOURS

August 2020

September 2020

Whitfords Probus
Rockingham Autumn Club
Kwinana Salvation Army
Girrawheen Probus

20 September Public open tour

COMMITTEE 2019 – 2020

PRESIDENT
Gary Marsh



TREASURER
Mike Poore



PAST PRESIDENT
Jenni Carder



**SECRETARY/
MEMBERSHIP**
Ainslie Poore



VICE PRESIDENT
Neil Wilson



EX-OFFICIO COMMITTEE MEMBER
Matt Hayes



MEMBER SERVICES

HERITAGE TOUR BOOKINGS
Jenni Carder



PRATIQUE
Neil Wilson



WEBSITE MAINTENANCE AND DESIGN

