

Mount Lawley Matters

Mount Lawley Society

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WEBPAGE: www.mountlawleysociety.org.au

MLS PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Paul Hurst



Secretary/ Newsletter

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CONTENTS

Pg. 1 President's report.

Pg. 2: Items of interest Inglewood Police Station

Pg. 3; Fez café Mt Lawley

Pg. 4 Early policing in Mt Lawley pt 9 by Peter Conole

Pg. 5: Early policing in Mt Lawley continued

Pg. 6 Can you help? The Faull family; Graeme Sissons

Pg. 7 Can you help? The Porteus family of Mt Lawley

Pg 8: The Birch family pt 1 by Barrie Baker

Pg. 9: Birch family cont

Pg10: Birch family cont/ Photos taken at Royal Wedding dinner

Pg. 12/ 13/14 35 Wasley St (my grandmother's house) by Theo Bredmeyer

Committee and new members

The MLS would like to hear from members who would be interested in contributing to the newsletter.

Views expressed by members are not necessarily those of others or of the committee.

Dear Members,

I hope that this newsletter finds you well.

This morning I was woken by the sound of an excavator and bob-cat on my street. Normally, such an event would make me quite anxious and hopeful that we are not losing another precious character dwelling. However, this time the machinery was for our house. Today signalled the start of some long-awaited renovations to the back of our 1930's bungalow to remove the leaky unsympathetic 1980's fibro extension and replace it with a seamless full-height extension that will cater for our growing family. Now that we have spent the past 12 months in designing, scheduling and gaining council approval for this work we feel that we have a better understanding about what many property owners in Mount Lawley, Menora and Inglewood go through. I am pleased to report that almost all of the builders and tradespeople that we talked to about our works were familiar with the "strict" heritage protection regulations that apply to the HPA. Even the young assistant to the demolition sub-contractor this morning commented that he thought it was; "good that they kept all the old houses hey". It seems that there is generally an awareness in the community of the importance of retaining the existing stock of character buildings. I believe that this awareness will grow as each year passes with fewer demolitions and more renovations of character dwellings, the propensity to preserve rather than demolish gains strength.

To further increase general awareness, (at least about the existence of the Society and what we aim to achieve), the MLS Committee has resolved to conduct a membership drive later this year. Our last drive in 2008 was a huge success and we substantially increased our membership and support base – some members even joined our committee and provided some much needed assistance. We propose to carry out a letter-box drop of our membership flyer across Mount Lawley, Menora and Inglewood. Please don't get annoyed if you see another flyer in your letterbox – it will be difficult to avoid circulating the flyer to those who are already members across the three suburbs. Thanks to those of you who volunteered to assist with the membership drive as well as our local member Michael Sutherland MLA and Phillipa O'Reilly from Inner City Settlements who assisted with the printing costs.

The Royal Wedding Celebratory Dinner held at the Mount Lawley Bowling Club on Friday 29th April was a wonderful success, (see photos in this newsletter). Once again the committee put in a huge effort to sort out the logistics before and during the event – Thanks Beth, Charlotte, Ian, Barrie and Jan for all your time. Michael Sutherland kindly donated a lunch at Parliament House for 8 members of the MLS which was drawn from a raffle during the festivities. This wonderful prize drew considerable interest and successfully raised more than \$600 for the Society. Thanks Michael!

Finally, many of you would have seen the various media articles about our Patron Barrie Baker who, in April this year, won an award for his outstanding individual contribution to heritage in Western Australia at the WA Heritage Awards. We are thrilled that Barrie received this recognition as his efforts over the past 3 decades which have helped preserve the wonderfully intact heritage area that we enjoy today. Well done Barrie – we owe you so much!

We hope you enjoy the newsletter!

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Notice is hereby given in accordance with section 47(5) of the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990*, the Heritage Council hereby gives notice that it has advised the Minister for Heritage regarding registration of crown property that it has resolved that—

1. the place listed below is of cultural heritage significance, and is of value for the present community and future generations;
2. the protection afforded by the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990* is appropriate; and
3. the place should be entered in the Register of Heritage Places on a permanent basis.

Notice is hereby given that the place will be entered in the Register of Heritage Places on an interim basis with effect from today in accordance with section 50(1)(b) of the *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990*. The place listed below is wholly or partly vested in the Crown, or in a person on behalf of the Crown, in right of the State.

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 49(1) of the Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990 that, pursuant to directions from the Minister for Heritage, it is proposed that the places described below be entered in the Register of Heritage Places on an interim basis. **The Heritage Council invites submissions on the proposal, which must be in writing and should be forwarded to the address below not later than 5 August 2011.**

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (fmr) at 867 Beaufort Street, Inglewood; Res 48841 being Lot 109 on DP 42543 and the whole of the land contained in CLT V 3140 F 120.

Inglewood Police Station & Police Quarters (Fmr) has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

- The place is a rare example of an extant c.1940 Police Station and Police Quarters in the metropolitan area;
- The place contributes to an understanding of the development of policing in Western Australia;
- The place is representative of the departmental practice of using domestic scale architecture in police places during the early to mid twentieth-century, and;
- The place is aesthetically pleasing in its domestic scale, architectural style and interior detailing.



Old Inglewood Police Station

MT LAWLEY, INGLEWOOD and MENORA: A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE
Support for our local businesses will help sustain and promote our area .



Fez Cafe

Sweet As



Fez became the the latest addition to the Cafe scene in Mt Lawley when it opened in September, last year. Whilst Fez is situated just off the main strip on the corner of Walcott St & Raglan Rd it is still very much part of the Mt Lawley coffee scene located in what was not so long ago a Peugeot Car Yard, the site now proudly houses modern apartments upstairs and retail shops on the street level, some locals refer to this building as "The Titanic" as it resembles the bow of a ship, Fez is located at the helm of the "Titanic" with seating inside and out just perfect if you wish to bring the pooch along whilst you enjoy your 5 Senses Coffee. One of the big drawcards besides the food and the coffee is the availability of parking and friendly table service instead of "at the counter" which has become the norm in the area.

Fez was the inspiration of Abdul and his wife Loubna who live in Mt Lawley with their two little boys. Previously they ran Casa-blanca Taste of Morocco in Mosman Park and after they closed it decided to come North of the river and open a new cafe with a Moroccan theme and be closer to where they enjoy living. The menu offers a small selection of traditional Moroccan dishes such as Lamb brochette - char grilled lamb fillet with a spicy broad bean salad, conventional breakfasts include eggs Benedict which are second to none or a mouthwatering omelette

The cakes are absolutely divine and are all made on the premises by Loubna, in particular the moist Orange Cake made with almond meal and served topped with candied orange and a side serve of cream. Fez offers a coffee card with every 10th cup free. The daily Newspapers are available whilst you sip away at your coffee and is a great meeting place for friends and family to enjoy a meal without being overly expensive

serve of cream. Fez offers a coffee card with every 10th cup free. The daily Newspapers are available whilst you sip away at your coffee and is a great meeting place for friends and family to enjoy a meal without being overly expensive

Crossing the line: early policing around Mt Lawley #9

By Peter Conole, Police Historian

The Old Hero in Walcott Street

A steady increase in the number of motor vehicles on WA roads from the early 1900s onwards was an important factor in helping Mount Lawley to become a popular and fashionable residential suburb. A few gentlemen in blue uniforms found the place congenial and they started to arrive there before and after World War I. The establishment of a new central police station in Roe Street, just north of the line, plus the Beaufort Street court building and the police commissioner's office, mark the beginnings of a process. In the years just after 1905 a lot of police officers made homes in and around the new complex, or not far away in North Perth.

The automobile era increased possibilities. Suburban spread grew apace and arterial roads were laid down to connect Mount Lawley and Inglewood to the city centre. Some residents of the former in particular soon found themselves with interesting new neighbours – especially more senior police officers who had salaries high enough to enable them to purchase motor vehicles. An unusually colourful man set up house with his wife Elizabeth Ellen (*nee* Smith) and a younger family member or two at Number 56, Walcott Street in 1918 or 1917. There is a bad printing or copying error on pages 430-431 of the Western Australia Directory [Wises's] for 1917, so we may never know the actual year. The gentleman in question was Chief Inspector John Stanton McKenna of the WA Police Force, appointed to the position from April 1, 1913 and second only to Commissioner Robert Connell in terms of his power and influence in the organisation.

The first photograph attached is one from 1897 – a fine shot taken and later tinted to commemorate Queen Victoria's Jubilee, the 60th year of her reign. At the time McKenna was an inspector in charge of the Goldfields District based on Coolgardie. He was born at Perth in 1852, the son of an Irish immigrant boatman named James McKenna. The latter had married Catherine Bidey Stanton in 1849, the daughter of John Stanton (1794-1883), a soldier in his early years and later a police constable and settler of the Swan River Colony in the days of Governor Stirling.



Inspector John McKenna in Jubilee Year, 1897

It is doubtful if that was common knowledge among John McKenna's neighbours, but they will have certainly have noticed one key element of his life and work. He seemed to go on for ever. By the time he settled in Mount Lawley, John McKenna was in his mid-sixties and he did not retire until February, 1924 - in his 72nd year. That seems very unusual, but it was not impossible, as there was room for manoeuvre among the public sector rules and regulations of the age. In the case of McKenna the authorities had a living legend on their hands, a hero of all WA police officers and various sections of the WA community. We may well doubt whether anyone would have dared suggest the old warrior should leave before he was good and ready.

John McKenna had earned a lot of public respect by doing the hard yards all over the State. He joined the WA Police as a constable in 1874, soon after his marriage. Nine transfers, a couple of promotions and many adventures later, he was commissioned as a sub-inspector and placed in command of the Fremantle District. It is difficult to pick the best highlights of McKenna's career to discuss. He attracted wide attention and a high degree of press coverage several times.

One example was a bloody shoot-out with a gang of murderers near Beverley in 1884. The men were out on bail for minor offences when they decided to ambush and kill local constable Patrick Hackett, then arm themselves and go bushranging. John McKenna, working as a detective at the time, arrived in the district, received a report on their possible whereabouts and took prompt action. He got a couple of brave settlers to arm themselves and join him. They came across the outlaws in a grove of trees near the town – the resulting exchanges of bullets were at point blank range. Two gang members died on the spot and the third went to the gallows after recovering from a wound.



Inspector McKenna seated at an official function in Perth, 1900

For McKenna it was a near miss, as was a mounted expedition he led from Derby to try and catch the murderers of an isolated old settler named Poyton on the Robinson River in late 1886. A couple of years later he had the distinction of leading one of the most lengthy and hazardous manhunts in WA history. The target was Michael Griffin and his associate – they were wanted for murdering an aborigine in the Frazer Range. McKenna's three-man patrol crisscrossed the entire south of WA, a trek of 1500 miles in the old measure that took about three months. They arrested Griffin not far from Esperance. Within a couple of years, the two police officers who went with McKenna died as a result of the privations and illnesses they suffered during the business.

As a fairly young commissioned officer, John McKenna did well at Fremantle and received promotion to inspector and a transfer to the newly opened Goldfields in 1895. The police succeeded in upholding the law in those volatile times - the State was spared severe outbreaks of outlaw activities on the fields because of the skill and commitment of McKenna and his peers. There were other problems, such as the need to organise effective gold escorts to the coast, assist the health authorities during the terrible typhoid epidemics and prevent major civil disorder during management and labour disputes. McKenna and Inspector Charles Newland were later praised for their tact and skill in minimising violence during the Adeline riots of 1899.

By 1900 McKenna had such prestige that he was able to name his next posting after the tough years in the east. The second photograph shows him just before he chose Fremantle, where he spent a record twelve years and lived in a comfortable house in Swanbourne Street. He was a contender for the position of commissioner, but behaved with grace and tact when Robert Connell won out. In turn, the latter selected John McKenna as his number two man.



Chief Inspector McKenna in 1920

As hinted at earlier, the move to attractive Mount Lawley did not happen straight away. McKenna and his family lived at Number 12, Beaufort Street (close to police headquarters) for several years – the Western Australia Directory lists him there in 1916. His years in Walcott Street, Mount Lawley were doubtless rather restful ones, though it is not yet known whether he owned the house or leased it.

The third and final photograph dates from 1920 and shows him at the height of his authority. As Chief Inspector he looked after many difficult internal matters for the police and had the status of 'grand old man', a fine teller of tales and a man of wisdom who could be relied upon for sound advice and guidance at all times.

The strange thing is that, in spite of the huge contributions he had made to the WA community, John McKenna did not remain among us after he retired in 1924. During the late 1920s he disappeared, not just from his home in Mount Lawley, but from the State. By 1930 the only John Stanton McKenna in WA was one of his sons (born 1879), a stock inspector at Narrogin. It seems likely the former chief inspector had nursed a desire to return to the land of his ancestors. He died somewhere in Ireland on August 16, 1933.

CAN YOU HELP. Please contact the editor or Graeme if you can assist with more details

Faull Families of Mt Lawley Compiled by: Graeme Sisson, Unit 10 3 Park Road Midvale 6056 Email gjsiss@globaldial.com Telephone: 9274 2352 Sources: W.A. Newspapers, Victorian and W.A birth death and marriage records. National Archives of Australia Date: July 9 2011

With the same surname and numerous other similarities it appears that there were two Faull families with strong connections to Mt Lawley.

Samuel Faull J.P., was born in South Australia and married Mary Ellen Martin there in 1890 He was a member of the Lotteries Commission, prominent member of the Labor Party and for about 25 years a fitter with the "Railway Department". During this time he was active in the Amalgamated Engineering Union as Organising Secretary for about ten years. He was also a member of the Perth Road Board – (Inglewood Ward). He died in 1939. It is believed that Faull Park, in Central Ave Mt.Lawley was named in his honour.

At the same time, another Faull family was gaining prominence in Perth. **Samuel James Gordon Rodda [Gordon] Faull** was born in Victoria in 1891 and died in Mt Lawley in 1980.

His business career was primarily in the new motor vehicle sales, first in Bunbury and later he established Faull's Motors Ltd (in partnership with Mr E.A George) at the corner of Hay and Milligan Sts Perth in 1932. The company later relocated Hay Street Subiaco.

This is the Company by which he is best known was the W.A. distributor for British vehicles such as Rover and Landover etc

Faulls Motors Ltd was well known in the 1930s and 1940s for its support of numerous charitable organisations.

After Gordon retired, the exact date is unknown, the company continued to trade at the Subiaco address for many years before amalgamating with another well known Perth motoring company, Winterbottom Motors - forming Winterbottom Faulls Pty Ltd.

This company itself was subsequently taken over by Barbagallo Motors of Osborne Park and as late as the 1990s operated its British motorcar section – mainly Range Rovers and the Rovers under the name of Barbagallo Faull.

The continued incorporation of the Faull name is an indication of the "value" the brand retained over many decades.

Brief family history: - **Samuel James Gordon Rodda [Gordon] Faull.**

Gordon was the eldest of three brothers all born in Victoria in the 1890s to Cornish parents.

The second son, **Willy Claude John [Will] Faull** was the only one to remain in Victoria where he owned an engineering and pattern making company. He did have a close connection to W.A., as his company was responsible in part, for the restoration of the Light Horse Memorial overlooking Princess Royal Harbour in Albany.

The Memorial was relocated from the Middle East after it had been damaged in a bomb blast in 1956. Will's only son was killed in action during World War 2

Wilfred Lyell Faull [Lyell] resided in W.A. all his adult life, being employed by the then Post Master General's Department at Boulder as a Telegram Boy and then in Fremantle as a postman.

He subsequently transferred to what is now the Australian Electoral Commission where he retired as an Electoral Officer.

While little is known of the activities of Will in Victoria, Gordon, Lyell and their families were involved in a number of charitable organisations in Perth

Wilfred Lyell Faull was the grandfather of the author.

While it is yet to be confirmed, these two Faull families appear to be connected as there is a number common factors such as identical Christian names, the surname "Berryman" or Berriman" appearing in birth death and marriage records. South Australia is another common thread as Samuel James Gordon Rodda [Gordon] Faull's family arrived in Adelaide in 1857 from Cornwall before travelling to the Goldfields of Victoria.

CAN YOU HELP?

A MLS member recently found many many photos, postcards, letters and other personal memorabilia belonging to **Marjorie Porteus and her family**. Much is unmarked. They have given them to the MLS. We would like to hand them over to any relative who may be interested.

Below are some of the items that have been scanned.

Family

John Alexander Porteus, wife **Louisa** (John Alexander married **Louisa Madeline Hobbs**) in 1903 .

They had 3 daughters **Elsie Oonah Mary** born Kanowna 1905 **Alexandria Madeline (Lexie)** born Kalgoorlie 1906 and **Marjorie L E** born Nth Kalgoorlie 1909 .

The family lived in **61 Fourth Ave Mt Lawley** and **98 Ninth Ave Maylands** .

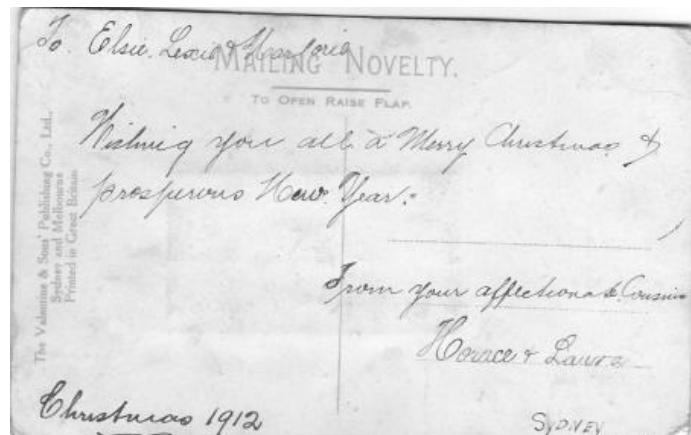
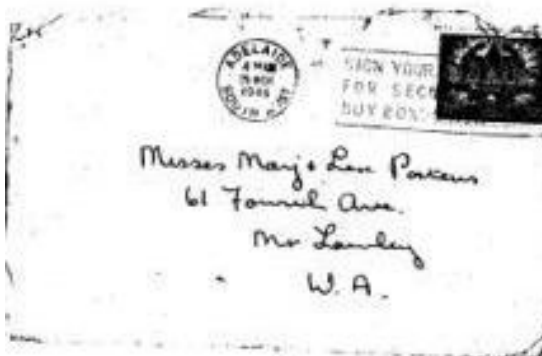
Elsie predeceased her parents.

John died in 1942 in Mt Lawley.

Marjorie in her later years lived at **49 Clotilde St Mt Lawley**.

They had cousins in the eastern States and in England and there are photos and correspondence from them.

It also appears Marjorie may have attended Perth College when it was in Parkerville



HERITAGE of Mount Lawley by Barrie Baker Pt 1 Birch family

THE BIRCH FAMILY OF 700 BEAUFORT STREET ("HAMPSTEAD") AND 48 QUEENS CRESCENT

THE BIRCH FAMILY TREE

Lewis Birch (1798 – 1862) = Hannah (1802 – 1878)

Edmund Birch (1831 – 1875) = Anne Hymus (1831 – 1906)

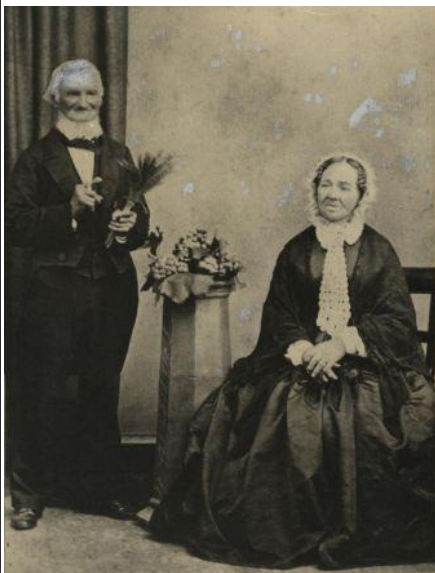
Albert Montague Birch (1870 - ?) = Eunice Halliday (1879 – 1925)

Arthur Seymour Birch (1873 – 1939) = Ada Halliday (1873 – 1952)

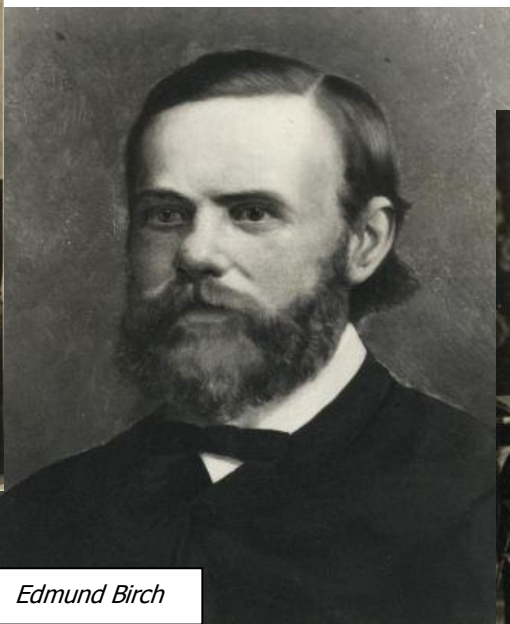
Harold Everard Reid Birch (1909 -) = Merle Thomas (1917 -)

Lewis Birch was born in Staffordshire and was a doctor and man of means. He migrated to the new settlement at Australind and set up as a doctor and pharmacist. He entered into a partnership with a Mr Penny which was dissolved soon after in 1841. In addition he was granted a publican's license in 1843. In that year he moved to a 70,000 acre property South of Peel Inlet. In 1851 he moved to Perth and set up as a chemist and druggist in a little cottage in Hay Street on the corner directly opposite the Town Hall. In 1853 he retired after setting up a partnership between his sons Lewis (Jr) and Edmund.

Edmund Birch had great drive and energy. Between 1852 and 1853 he was initially employed as an assistant at the Colonial Hospital before being apprenticed to George Shenton, chemist.



Lewis & Hannah Birch



Edmund Birch



Anne Birch

Having taken over the family pharmacy business he built a larger house and premises on the site of the previous cottage in 1859



Birch's Corner, 608 Hay Street



The first Congregational Church in Perth

In addition to his business, he was Captain of the Perth Company of Volunteers, Superintendent of the Sunday School of the Trinity Congregational Church, Vice-President of the Working Men's Association, director the Western Australian Bank and in 1862 a founding director of the Perth Building Society. Finally, between 1873 and 1875 he was the member for Perth in the Legislative Council of Western Australia. He died, in a fire at home, a very wealthy man. He and Anne had 8 children.

Albert Montague Birch was the sixth son of Lewis Birch. He was educated at Carlton College in Melbourne and then worked as a draftsman in the WA Government Lands Department. On the death of his mother he retired and his wife lived in great style until his money ran out around 1918.

Albert built the large two storied home, "Hampstead" , over page , at 700 Beaufort Street in 1907



Albert, with Eunice (centre) holding nephew Harold in 1910.



Albert Birch at the entrance of Hampstead



Note: Albert Birch lived in the house until 1914. Between 1914 and 1917 it was a rest and convalescent home; between 1917 and 1920 it was Kialia Private Hospital, from 1921 until its demolition in 1960, the house was owned and used by Perth College as an intermediate school) In 1914 the family sailed for London where they resided in style until the money ran out. The family then split and Eunice returned to Perth sick with cancer and died in 1925. Albert went to India for a time where one of his sons had a business

breeding racehorses. He later returned to Western Australia where he worked on a farm owned by a relative (also A M Birch) at Coolup where he badly burnt his arm. He later was renting a room in West Perth in straitened circumstances. The place and date of his death is unknown.

ROYAL WEDDING DINNER PHOTOS





**ROYAL WEDDING
DINNER PHOTOS
HIGHLIGHTS** cop-
ies available from
editor. Many others
available as well



TRIPPING DOWN MEMORY LANE or TIPS FOR RESEARCHING THE PAST

By Andy Ross, MLS member, Heritage Advisory Panel member, Geologist , Amateur Family Historian
will be continued next newsletter. .

RENOVATIONS 18 ALMONDBURY RD will also be continued next newsletter

35 WASLEY ST MT LAWLEY MY GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE by Theo Bredmeyer

My grandmother Florence Bredemeyer purchased 35 Wasley St, North Perth, in 1905. The transfer was registered on 24 November 1905. She bought it for 120 pounds from Daniel Bevis described on the title as a carpenter. I assume that he built the little weatherboard house on it. He also owned the lot next door (now No.37) and built a similar wooden house on it which he sold on the same date for 100 pounds. The property is now in the Mt Lawley part of Wasley St.



Florrie moved in with her husband Ernest and their son Reginald who was born on 27 October 1901. Prior to that date, the Bredmeyers had lived in a rental house at 64 Charles St, West Perth.

Florrie and Ernest had come from Melbourne.

The population of Perth grew from 8,447 in 1891 to 27,553 in 1901 mostly by migration from Melbourne. Victoria had a recession following the boom of the 1880s, whereas Perth prospered following the discovery of gold in Kalgoorlie in 1892.

Ernest, born in 1870 in Melbourne, a single man, came to Perth to work for Sands and McDougall, Melbourne printers, who opened a printery in Perth. He was employed as an artist. Florrie Gathercole was born in Melbourne in 1879. When she turned 21 she came by boat to Perth and married Ernest a few days after her arrival. They had grown up together in Adderley St, West Melbourne, where their parents lived in adjoining houses. She was one of twelve children. He was one of four children.



The 1905 wooden house was primitive by modern standards. There was no electricity or scheme water. The house had a well and a hand pump. The internal walls had wooden studs covered with hessian and wallpaper. The toilet at the rear was serviced by a night soil man. There was no lane. The footpath and roadway were made of dirt.

Wasley St was part of North Perth marketed for sale as the "Forrest Estate". Forrest St was named after Sir John Forrest the Premier between 1890 and 1901. The parallel adjoining streets of Shenton, Burt, Marmion and Venn were named after the first four of his 1890 cabinet ministers. George Shenton's post in the cabinet was Colonial Secretary. Burt, whose father had been Chief Justice, was the Attorney-General. Marmion, a Fremantle merchant, was the Commissioner for Lands. Harry Venn was the Commissioner for Railways and the Director of Public Works. He had been a northern pastoralist and later a southern landowner. Shenton St was later renamed Wasley St after Arthur Wasley who was the last mayor of North Perth when it was absorbed into the City of Perth in 1914.

What was it like living in Shenton St in 1905? It was a long and dusty walk to the tram which then terminated at the corner of Fitzgerald and Bulwer Streets, but the next year the terminus was extended to the corner of Fitzgerald and Forrest Streets. The Town Hall was already in existence as was North Perth State School. People went walking in Hyde Park on Sunday dressed in their best clothes after church. The band played in the rotunda.

The baker and the milkman visited Wasley St daily by horse and cart. There were Chinese market gardens in the swampy land near Browne's Dairy in Charles St and the Gooley family delivered fruit and vegetables to residents by horse and cart. It was their practice to give a gift, such as a jar of ginger, to their customers at Christmas. There were also shops in Fitzgerald St. and "corner shops" in various side streets. These included butcher shops.



In January 1909 Florrie borrowed 100 pounds from the Metropolitan Starr Bowkett Society on mortgage. She spent this money on adding two brick rooms and a bullnose veranda to the front of the wooden house.

This photo showing the new addition was taken in late 1910. Harold, her second son, seen in this photo, was born on 27 October 1909 and I estimate he was about one in this photo. It was a Victorian practice to sometimes dress little boys as girls.

Ernest took the photos. A plaque was later added to the house giving it the name "Adderley" after Adderley St in Melbourne. The house was connected to the sewer in 1916 and had been connected to

scheme water a little earlier

Ernest left Sands and McDougall in 1919 and was given a gold fob watch. There was no superannuation at that time. He started to practice on his own. His letterhead read :

E.A.Bredmeyer[sic] Litho-Artist (over 20 years with Sands and McDougall Pty Ltd) Designer of Commercial Letterhead, Invoices & Cheque forms etc either for Copperplate or Process engraving, Labels of any description, Showcards, Illuminated Addresses, Posters etc.

We have very few examples of his work. One is an illuminated address given by the Perth City Councillors to the Mayor of Perth, Thomas George Molloy, on the occasion of his visit to London, with his wife, to attend the coronation of King George V.

The original is on display in the Perth City Council.



The title to the land was transferred from Florence to Ernest in 1922. Ernest died on 16 January 1930 aged 60. The title passed to Reg the eldest son. In 1930 he bought a piece of land from the adjoining owner which enabled him to drive his car up the side of the house to a garage which he built at the rear.

Florrie continued to live in the house. The two sons continued to live with her until they married in the late 1930s. Harold, the youngest son, always slept on the front verandah, summer and winter. There was a canvas blind fixed to the floor with two tags to give some privacy and protection from the elements. Florrie lived in the house until she died in 1956. She was a happy, contented lady mildly eccentric in her dress.

In the 1950s many of the houses in the street were sold to European migrants. They Italianised the architecture. My father copied the trend to some extent. After Florrie's death he painted the brickwork, threw out the stained glass front door because the coloured glass rattled and installed French doors. He bricked up the fanlight above the front door probably because it was part of the old door-frame. He replaced the tall sash windows in the front rooms by shorter, wider, double-sash windows. The wooden part of the house was replaced by brick. The kitchen wood stove was replaced by a gas one. The configuration of the back-rooms was changed a bit. An art deco lounge fireplace was installed in the lounge. The wash troughs and the toilet were removed from the back yard and installed on the concrete back verandah. No new rooms were added. The alterations were made within the same roof line.

My Grandmother's house cont. by Theo Bredmeyer

The property was gifted to me in the 1960s. It was rented out for 40 years after my grandmother's death. The Jackson family stayed 30 years. They wanted to buy it. Neither I nor my sisters ever lived in it due to the fact that my sisters and I lived overseas or interstate in this period. My son Mark is now living in the house with his wife Patricia. My daughter Avianne also lived there for a while.

My family has made a number of repairs and improvements. The aim has been to restore it to a Federation style. The French doors at the front were replaced by a wooden panel door. The jarrah floors have been sanded. Cornices, dado lines and picture rails have been added. The walls and ceilings have been painted in elaborate Federation style by my wife Audrey. A plaster arch was added. Audrey restored the woodwork and coloured glass panels in the door between the passage and the lounge. That door was found out in the open in the back yard. The 1950s fireplace was replaced by a Federation one. A new timber kitchen was installed. The back verandah was enclosed and made a dining room. Side windows were added to one of the front bedrooms and three skylights added.

The house has not been enlarged. The house is very cold because, although the two front rooms face north, they are protected from the sun by the bull nose verandah.

I have very happy memories of my grandmother whom we called Mardee which was a contraction of "Ma B". Children in the street had trouble pronouncing her proper name. She never had a car or phone. She walked everywhere and went to town occasionally by tram. She made some good friends among the neighbours. Some of the time she had her son Harold, his wife Jean, and her grandsons, Richard and Robert, living next door in No.31. She was friendly with the Chamarettes over the road. They seemed to us to be very exotic and interesting having come from India. Mr Chamarette was a Brigadier in the Indian Army. He trained as a cavalry officer. My grandmother was friendly with a Mr and Mrs Parker who lived in Burt St. They owned the Rosemount Picture Theatre and they gave my grandmother a free gold pass to the pictures. I do not think that she ever used it.

For some details of the early history of North Perth I have relied on "Daphne St" subtitled "The biography of an Australian community" by Geoffrey Bolton published by Fremantle Press

New Members

Theo and Audrey Bredmeyer

CORRECTION

In the December newsletter we mentioned the grant we had received from the WA history Council that had allowed us to undertake our photographic exhibition. The grant was in fact a WA History Foundation Grant which was offered by the WA History Council. We apologise for the mistake and thank the WA History Foundation for their support.

MLS Committee 2011

Paul Hurst : President

Beth McKechnie : Secretary

John Wreford ; Treasurer

Jan Wilkie

Ian Merker

Charlotte Christo

Barrie Baker : Historian/ reports on City of Stirling/ Town of Vincent matters

John Baas :Represents Ratepayers Assoc

Neil Hodgkinson ; Inglewood representative

Committee meetings are held 1st Monday of the month at the Mount Lawley Bowling Club at 8.00pm.

All members are welcome to attend.