



MOUNT LAWLEY SOCIETY

Life Membership Award AGM 4 December 2017

Terry Tyzack

Terry Tyzack migrated to Perth from the UK in the mid 1960's and first lived in Rookwood Street, Menora.

In 1968 Terry and his wife Pat bought a lovely, newly built home opposite bushland on Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine.

However, that pristine environment was soon ruined with the sound of bulldozers clearing land and excavating soil for the Shire of Perth's newest rubbish tip, directly opposite.

A successful architect with 3 young daughters, Terry found that the only way he was going to close the tip was to run for the newly created City of Stirling in its first City wide election in 1971. Terry ran for the Lawley Ward but lost on his first attempt. He then lost on his second attempt in 1972 but won on a third attempt in 1974.

Pleasingly the tip was closed and today that tip site is the wonderful Yokine Reserve enjoyed by hundreds of thousands of residents every year. For that alone, Terry could be called "Mr Yokine"!

Terry represented the Lawley Ward until 1982 and during his tenure assisted the Lawley Ward residents in saving their heritage suburbs of Mount Lawley and Menora from the ravages of the Stephenson Hepburn Plan where demolitions and high and rise units were the norm.

The Mount Lawley Society was formed in 1977 with one of its first aims being to save the Perth College playing fields on the corner of Regent Street East and Beaufort Street from being sold to developers. Terry tells me Multiplex were in discussions with Perth College to buy the land and build high rise units on it.

Terry was instrumental in convincing Council to buy the former playing grounds for public open space which was lacking on the east side of Beaufort Street. The park today is the beautiful Copley Park.

Terry worked to develop and implement the very first heritage guidelines for Mount Lawley. Terry and Cr Barry Britton met with the City of Fremantle's Heritage Officer to learn about the City of Fremantle's heritage guidelines.

In 1982, Terry took a principled stance by resigning from Council because of the City's spending practices he considered as irresponsible given its significant debt.

Terry then ran for the Inglewood Ward in 1983 and won. He was elected Mayor for the first time from 1984 - 1986, implementing a 10 year debt free strategy which the City successfully achieved in 1995.

The City's debt free status remains today. Achieving debt free status in 1995 very soon allowed for millions of dollars to be spent on upgrading Beaufort Street, Inglewood; the construction of the Inglewood Library and Civic Centre on Beaufort Street and the upgrade of Inglewood Swimming Pool which today bears his name as the Terry Tyzack Aquatic Centre, a fitting name as it overlooks Yokine Reserve.

The upgrade of Beaufort Street Inglewood in the late 1990's was particularly timely because it allowed for the small heritage shops to be rejuvenated which ultimately spared them from demolition.

Terry was also instrumental in extending the heritage guidelines into Inglewood.

It was during Terry's second term as Mayor from 2005 -2007 that the City of Stirling was under attack from the City of Vincent's land grab for Mount Lawley, Menora and Coolbinia. The Society at that time felt the heritage guidelines were a toothless tiger and were open to Vincent's salutations.

Whilst the attack from Vincent was rebuffed with overwhelmingly community support, Terry together with his fellow Lawley Ward Councillors Rod Willox and Trevor Clarey and Inglewood co-ward Councillor Bob Daniel recognised the Community's desire for more robust heritage protection. In consultation with the community and the City's planning officers, the ward Councillors developed the most robust heritage guidelines ever to be passed by any Council in this State. Known as the Character Retention Guidelines they were enforced in the Planning Scheme, rather than existing as a mere policy. Effective from 1 July 2007, they had an immediate effect in preventing demotions.

Since then Terry has continued to support revisions of the Guidelines to improve their effectiveness. Terry also supported, the first ever 'demolition by neglect' provisions implemented by any local Government body in WA, since copied by the WAPC and included in the model scheme text for all local authorities.

Terry Tyzack has been a supporter and friend of the Mount Lawley Society since its inception. Terry actually answered his Council phone, returned calls and replied to e-mails.

Terry always put the community first, spending enormous amount of voluntary hours serving his constituents for many decades when Councillors received no pay at all. Terry's personal work often came before his career and this may have had consequences for him but Terry is someone who would have it no other way.

The Society was sorry to see Terry narrowly lose the recent Council election in the Inglewood Ward by a mere 141 votes as we will miss the close working relationship developed since the Society's inception.

Terry Tyzack and Rod Willox

Terry and Rod over many decades helped develop a cultural change within the planning department at the City of Stirling in favour of heritage protection. In 2012 the Mount Lawley Society nominated and the City of Stirling won the Western Australian Heritage Award for Outstanding Heritage Practices by a Local Government Agency.

The Society's success as a continuing community ratepayer and resident based organisation for more than 40 years is unusual in modern times but it is due in a large part to the co-operation it has with its local government representatives with Terry and Rod at the forefront of that relationship over many decades. The heritage protection and community facilities we have today are due in a very large way to Terry and Rod's contribution and for this the Society is forever grateful and hereby awards them Life Membership.

Moved – Barrie Baker, Patron

Seconded – Ian Merker, Life Member

Passed without dissent and with affectionate applause.

Above citation prepared and read by Paul Collins, President.