

# Heritage achievements 2023

## The importance of heritage

The unique and rich history of the City of Subiaco is woven into the built fabric of our buildings and places, as well as our cultural institutions. The community highly values its rich history. The City recognises the importance of protecting places of cultural heritage significance. Together with the stories of our City, this enhances our sense of identity and preserves it for future generations.

## This year at a glance

### Subiaco Museum



- 4087 Visitors (Museum closed in January for shop fit-out)
- 52 Research enquiries
- 146 Events including 30 school visits (Subiaco Primary School, Jolimont Primary School and 8 external schools)
- 12 Objects of the Month
- 4 Exhibitions:
  - Community Artist Exhibition – Helen Street "Up Close and Personal"
  - Community Artist Exhibition – Myra Staffa "Life's Objects"
  - Historic Subiaco Interactive Spaces – Ye Olde Corner Store
  - Historic Subiaco Interactive Spaces – 1900s Schoolroom

### Planning services



- 1 Local Heritage Survey progressed (Daglish Precinct)
- 25 Development approvals for heritage-listed places granted
- 1 Existing heritage area reviewed
- 1 Proposed heritage area progressed
- 3 Heritage grants approved
- 5 Residents accessed the heritage advisory service

## OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE

### Museum Shop

This year we launched Subiaco Museum's new shop. The shop offerings include tea towels, puzzles, cards, notebooks, earrings, and prints based on the museum's Heritage Map and original artwork by artist Jane Coffey.

Local artists Buffie Creative (a local Noongar jeweller) and Olive Cheng have collections for sale on commission. A small collection of local history books and photographs from the museum's collection are also available to buy.



### Museum storage gets an overhaul

In another life, the old maintenance shed at Theatre Gardens housed tractors and gardening equipment, but these days it protects around 12,000 objects for the Subiaco Museum, including delicate items such as century-old photographs, large architectural plans, and a pair of original seats from the iconic Regal Theatre.

After heavy rain in April, part of the store's ceiling collapsed, providing an opportunity to undertake some much-needed works to improve the store's ability to preserve and showcase the museum collection. Improvements made include the installation of a rubber floor; lining of the walls to help keep the room cooler; and new shelves and space-saving drawers to store objects off the floor and improve accessibility.

The new storage area allows the museum team to more easily manage the tracking and conservation of the collection, ensuring the collection is protected for future generations to enjoy.



### Digitising the Oral History Collection

Subiaco Museum has more than 180 oral histories in its collection, which include stories from people who have lived, worked, or volunteered in the City of Subiaco.

These recordings have now been digitised and uploaded to the Subiaco Museum's digital database on **CollectionsWA**.

One of the recordings is that of George Douglas Sedgwick, who moved to Subiaco with his family when he was four years old. He recalls thoughts of Subiaco as a farm kid, and the games he played with local kids in the street.

Another recording is that of former Regal Theatre owner Paddy Baker. Paddy owned and managed the theatre from 1946 to 1986, and many items from his personal Regal Theatre collection now belong to the Subiaco Museum.

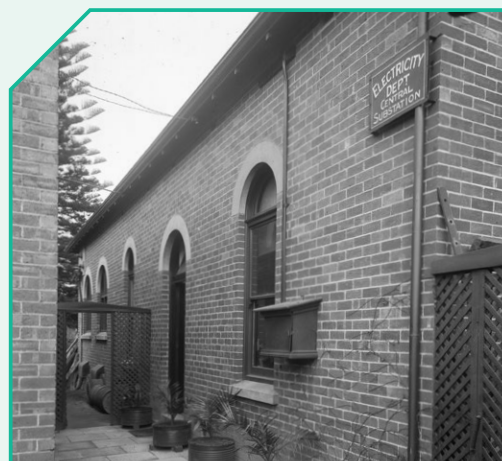


## OUR BUILT HERITAGE

### Subiaco Museum building

The Subiaco Museum building turned 100 this year. Built in 1923 to house the No. 2 Substation for the Subiaco Municipal Electric Light Supply and the offices of electrical engineer Walter Groom, the substation was operational until 1949. From the 1950s the building served various functions until the museum was officially opened in 1975. Remnants of its original use are still evident in the building fabric, including the three insulated power points on the front of the building.

To ensure the ongoing conservation of this much-loved place, the City had a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) prepared for the building. The CMP documents the history and nature of the place, assesses, and records its cultural heritage significance to provide a framework for conserving its significant fabric and values.



## Rokeby Road and Hay Street Heritage Area

This year we undertook a review of the Rokeby Road and Hay Street Heritage Area to ensure that the heritage values of the area were accurately recorded, and that the provisions of the local planning policy for the heritage area was enabling ongoing development while retaining and reinforcing the area's heritage significance and traditional streetscape character.

The review resulted in an updated statement of significance for the area, amendments to the levels of contribution of several properties in the area, and the identification of laneways as contributing to the overall heritage values of the area.



## Local Heritage Surveys



A Local Heritage Survey (LHS) provides the City with a cultural and historical record of the area, and tells the story of the development of the district. This year saw the progression of the review of the Daglish LHS.

This process has had important input from a Heritage Reference Group which was established to help inform engagement and consultation on the project.

Keep an eye out for the draft Daglish LHS which will be presented to Council in early 2024 for adoption.

## ENGAGEMENT AND PROMOTION

### History and heritage of Daglish

Did you know that Daglish was once home to two cemeteries for infectious disease victims, an asbestos factory, poultry farms and egg laying competitions? The Egg Laying Competition, which ran from 1905 to 1911, was an annual event that showcased the industry and educated prospective poultry farmers.

This year the City has worked to raise awareness and appreciation of Daglish's heritage by sharing the important stories that have shaped this unique suburb. We prepared an **historical overview** of the suburb, produced a **short video** on its history, installed temporary interpretative signs in various locations around the suburb and organised a guided walking tour.



### Our online collection

The City now has over 4,500 records in its online collection via CollectionsWA including images, objects and a number of oral histories. Browse the **online catalogue** and engage with the City's collection.



## OTHER

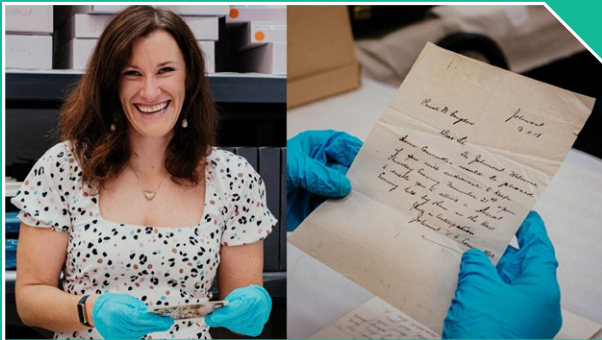
### Heritage Consultancy Grant

This year we successfully secured a grant from the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage towards the review of the Daglish Precinct Local Heritage Survey and the heritage assessment of the proposed Park Street Heritage Area.

## OUR VIDEOS



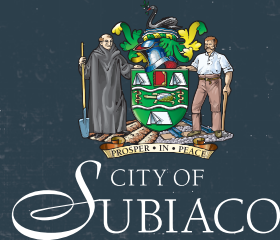
- > *Sneak peek of Subiaco Museum's school program*
- > *Behind the scenes as a Museum Curator*
- > *Daglish – A potted history of a garden suburb*
- > *The Regal Theatre turns 85*



## OUR HERITAGE STORIES

Rediscover some of the news we shared by clicking on the links below:

- > *Behind the scenes of construction at Subiaco Library*
- > *100-year anniversary of memorial*
- > *Subiaco Museum building turns 100*
- > *Daglish Local Heritage Survey now open*
- > *How to read a dress*
- > *Heritage contribution of town centre laneways recognised*
- > *Behind the scenes at the museum*
- > *Heritage grants approved*
- > *Museum rekindles the lost art of letter writing*
- > *Subiaco Museum to launch shop and new exhibition in February*
- > *Subiaco Museum oral histories preserved in online database*
- > *Night at the Subiaco Museum with artist Myra Staffa*
- > *OAM for City volunteer*
- > *Museum Storage gets some TLC*



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