

PICTURE OUR PAST: CELEBRATING JOONDALUP'S PAST TOGETHER

The City of Joondalup has published a book recounting the fascinating history of the region through historical photographs, oral history interviews, maps, newspaper articles, collectables and memorabilia from the City's local history collection.

Launched last December by Joondalup Mayor, Troy Pickard, *Picture our Past: Celebrating Joondalup's Past Together* documents the development of a once isolated settlement that grew to become the modern Cities of Joondalup and Wanneroo in Western Australia, currently home to about 350,000 people.

The idea for *Picture Our Past* originated after the City completed a four year award-winning heritage digitisation project, which included the oral histories, historical maps and the creation of an online pictorial catalogue, Picture Joondalup.

Each photograph, quote or historical record captures a moment in time that shaped the history of the area and the lives of the people living there.

The book comprises eight chapters: Settlers and Pioneers, So Far Away From Home, School Days, Winds of War, Romance and Religion, Livelihood, Leisure and Lifestyle, and From Settlers to City. Each chapter documents the history and development of the Joondalup/Wanneroo region from the 1850s through to the establishment of the City of Joondalup in 1998.

The City received a \$25,000 Federal Government Grant (Your Community Heritage Grant) for the publication, which was designed and produced in-house. The City covered the cost of graphic design, staff research and the production of promotional materials.

Research, selection and scanning of images, writing and editing of the text, graphic design and marketing strategies were all essential parts of the project. Four drafts were written, and a historical consultant, external proof-reader and editor were engaged to ensure consistency and quality throughout the publication.



Private Wesley James Cockman, 44th Battalion, 1916.

Chapter Four details the commitment made by the local community during the two World Wars. It tells the story of how members of the sparsely populated community came together to do whatever they could to help the First World War effort. On Sandbag Day, for example, locals gathered at the Wanneroo Hall to make the sandbags used to help protect troops fighting in the trenches. Readers will also learn that 23 men from the area enlisted in the army during World War I, nine of whom would never return.

Publishing a book is a unique experience, and one which the City and the project team are very proud to have accomplished. An ebook version of *Picture Our Past* will be available soon.

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