

Pratique

Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp
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<http://www.woodmanpointquarantinstation.com>



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

SUMMER 2019

2019 has been a very successful and busy year for the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp. Many projects were initiated across the site and the popularity of our heritage tours reached new heights. The annual general meeting on 28 November 2019 reflected these achievements and saw a change within the group’s management committee with both President Jenni Carder and Secretary Melissa Jones standing down after three years in their respective roles. Vice President Gary Marsh was elected as the new president of the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp.

FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

I am delighted to take on the role of President of our group and look forward to working with you all over the coming years. But firstly, I would like to pay tribute to our outgoing committee members for the amazing work they have done over the past three years.

Our retiring president, Jenni Carder, is a very hard act to follow as is her passion to honour the heritage and share the history of Woodman Point Quarantine Station. With her tireless work co-ordinating tours of the site, our tour numbers have never been so high. Without exception, participants have commended our tours and have all enjoyed the homemade treats Jenni has prepared for the morning teas.



Jenni has also made contact with the descendants of many people whose family history is woven through a quarantine experience at Woodman Point. Their visits to the site have been both emotional and thought-provoking and we are looking forward to more such visits in the coming year.

Jenni has also actively initiated, organised and overseen a range of events and projects during her time as President. These include the remembrance service to mark the centenary of the 1918 Armistice, and the service to commemorate the centenary of the *Boonah* tragedy in December 2018, and the launch of the *Western Sentinel*, a history of the Quarantine Station written by Ian Darroch. Our constitution has been rewritten under her guide and she has actively applied for grants and awards to ensure that the history of this Quarantine Station is preserved and enhanced for generations to come. To Jenni, we owe a huge debt for her tireless work and, on behalf of our members, I sincerely thank her for all of her efforts.

Jenni is not lost though to our cause and in the future, we look forward to her continuing support of our tour program and various upcoming projects.

Melissa Jones is also retiring from her role as secretary. Mel has done a sensational job at our meetings, compiling minutes and agendas, and maintaining our members' records. It all the more amazing because Mel lives in Busselton and has been making a round trip of about five hours to attend meetings and the many other events she has actively supported. This is a huge effort and one we are all very grateful for so to Mel, our very grateful thanks for your work, support and involvement.

Mike Poore will continue in the role of Treasurer and I welcome Ainslie Poore as our new secretary, and Neil Wilson

as our new vice president. The new committee looks forward to working with our members and volunteers over the coming year to ensuring that the Woodman Point Quarantine Station remains an ongoing aspect of Western Australia's history.

At the end of the year, it is timely to once again recognise the huge support and contribution made to the Quarantine Station by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, and in particular to Matt Hayes, Kym Lawrence and the camp team. There is never a problem too large or too small for them to assist and we value their help and support immensely.

Thanks too to Daniel and his catering team at Accolade for the fabulous lunches they provide for our tour groups. They too are always ready to help out whenever we need their support.

To all of our members who have worked so tirelessly this year to support our group, I send our sincere thanks and our best wishes to you and your families for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Gary Marsh
President

2019 WA STATE HERITAGE AWARDS NOMINATION

In 2018, Woodman Point Recreation Camp completed the Woodman Point Quarantine Station Heritage Trail to

promote the historical significance of the site and its buildings, equipment and features.

Camp management worked collaboratively the Friends to develop content for the trail and source funding opportunities through various grants. NaturePlayWA were engaged in 2018 to develop multimedia content for a digital trail, which is hosted on the 'NaturePlayWA App' for mobile devices.

A nomination was submitted for consideration for the 2019 WA State Heritage Awards, held on Friday 29 March 2019, under the 'Interpretation Project' category. The trail was selected as a finalist for the award in its category, alongside Gwalia Townsite Leonora, Perth Railway Precinct (Yagan Square) and Swanbourne Hospital Conservation Area (Montgomery House interpretation).

We were delighted to receive a 'Special Commendation' award.

2019 WA State Heritage Awards Interpretation Project

Winner: Perth Railway Precinct
(Yagan Square)

Commendation: Woodman Point
(Woodman Point Quarantine Station
Heritage Trail)



L-R: Anne Arnold (State Heritage Council of WA), Matt Hayes and the Minister for Heritage, David Templeman

Special thanks to the Friends group for supporting the Heritage Trail project since Stage 1 was commissioned in 2011.

Matt Hayes
Camp Manager, Woodman Point
Recreation Camp

2019 TOURS: A SUMMARY

From February to December this year, Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp conducted 17 group tours at the Woodman Point Quarantine Station site. In total, 366 people participated in these tours. In addition, a further three weekend tours were conducted for 57 individuals and couples who could not participate in group tours.

Already there is considerable interest in tours for 2020. Two night tours are booked for next January and February. Such was the popularity of the first tour that it sold out within 24 hours. The second tour was equally popular and

only four tickets remain available at this point in time.



Group tours are also popular for 2020 with four already booked for the coming year.

NEW WEBSITE FOR FRIENDS

Thanks to the efforts of Ainslie Poore and Andy Percy at Mantaray Design and Technology, Friends' new website was recently launched. Go check it out at <https://www.woodmanpointquarantinestation.com/>

2020: WHAT DOES IT HOLD??

Expect to receive **Pratique** again sometime in March. It is anticipated that we will return to quarterly editions of our newsletter in 2020. In this edition, you will learn about the sensational new addition to the Boonah Room at the Isolation Hospital – another of the successful projects from 2019. There will also be a report on the upgrade of quarantine graves within the Station Cemetery as well as

upgrades at the *Boonah* centenary plaque site.

In March, we will welcome Sr Eugenia Brennan to the Station. Sr Eugenia is a sister of the Order of St John of God who is writing a paper about smallpox with a special focus on the compassionate care of smallpox patients. She will visit the Station to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the death of Sr. Barbara, the nurse who died in 1930 as a result of smallpox infection at the Observation Hospital, now known as the Jervoise Dormitory.

As always, voluntary groups such as ours rely on the goodwill and assistance of their members. If you are able to offer assistance in any way in 2020, please come forward. There is always a need for people to assist with morning teas for tour groups, to lead tour groups around the site and to help at busy-bees. Even if you can only help on the odd occasion, we would welcome your visit and any assistance you can provide.

Please make contact with us by email: friends@woodmanpointquarantinestation.com

To all our members and supporters, the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp extend seasons greetings for Christmas and wish you all health and happiness in 2020.