

TOWN *of* CLAREMONT

# Minutes

**Claremont Museum Advisory Committee Meeting**

Tuesday 29 October 2024

Bree Websdale  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

**DISCLAIMER**

Persons present at this meeting are cautioned against taking any action as a result of any Committee recommendation until such time as those recommendations have been considered by Council.

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**1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS**

The Chairperson welcomed the meeting attendees and declared the meeting open at 4:10pm.

**2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES**

**PRESENT :**

Cr Kate Main

Cr Jill Goetze

Emeritus Professor Jenny Gregory AM

Ms Karen Kaard

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Fiona Crossan (Museum Curator)

Scarlett D'Agnone (Community Development Coordinator)

Georgia Kraljevich (Acting Manager Tourism and Events)

**APOLOGIES:**

Greg Simpson

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:**

Nil

**3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

Nil

**4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION CMAC 24/9**

**Moved:** Cr Kate Main

**Seconded:** Ms Karen Kaard

That the minutes of the Museum Advisory Committee Meeting held on 16 April 2024 be confirmed.

**For:** Cr Kate Main, Cr Jill Goetze, Emeritus Professor Jenny Gregory AM and Ms Karen Kaard

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED 4/0**

**5 PRESENTATION**

Nil

**6 REPORTS OF THE CEO**

**6.1 CLAREMONT MUSEUM OPERATIONS REPORT FROM APRIL TO JUNE 2024**

**File Number:** GOV/00050-03  
**Author:** Fiona Crossan (Museum Curator & Coordinator)  
**Authoriser:** Liz Ledger (Chief Executive Officer)  
**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE**

To advise the Committee of the Claremont Museum’s activities for the period of April to June 2024.

**BACKGROUND**

The Museum provides the following services:

- Seniors Programs
- Children's Programs
- Collection Management and Exhibitions
- Research requests
- Volunteer Management

This report provides an update on those services for the quarter.

**DISCUSSION**

Seniors Programs:

The popular History in a Coffee Cup (HIACC) was implemented each month as detailed below.

Date	Topic	Detail	Attendance
<b>History in a Coffee Cup</b>			
4 April	Ros Thomas	The audience heard from award winning Claremont journalist, reporter and author Ros Thomas.	69
2 May	Waves of Change	Local historian Sue Freeth shared her research on the story of Cottesloe Beach and how it changed over the decades.	62
6 June	Churches of Claremont	The event explored several of Claremont's most notable churches, including the 125 year history of Claremont’s Baptist Church and the 100 year history of the Church of the Resurrection.	58

Date	Topic	Detail	Attendance
<b>Claremont Boat Shed Tours</b>			
9 April	History of boat building on the Swan River.	The Museum has developed a regular program for tours of the historic Boat Shed. It is one of the last original boat building sheds on the Swan River and is of National heritage significance.	13
19 May (as part of Day on the Bay)			30
2 July			21

Children’s Programs

Term two was a busy time for the Museum’s education program. 364 students participated in the program from schools such as Christ Church Grammar, John XXIII College, Methodist Ladies’ College, Dalkeith Primary, St Augustine College, Craigie Heights Primary, East Fremantle Primary and a home schoolers group.

On Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, the Museum had a work experience student from Christ Church Grammar School spend the day with us. Year 12 student Jack spent the day learning about the behind scenes work at the museum and completed tasks in digitising documents and images, as well as accessioning objects.

The Town of Claremont hosted the Day on the Bay at the Museum on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. The Museum was open to all visitors on that day and offered special activities for children including badge making and a cuddly animal farm.

193	Topic	Detail	Attendance
<b>Sunday Fundays</b>			
5 May	Creative card making for Mother’s Day	Children made special Mother’s Day cards with old fashioned techniques, paper cutting and lacy crafts.	38
26 May	Autumnal Crafts	Kids made the most of autumn leaves with this crafting session. They did rubbings, made skeleton leaves, and created beautiful autumn mobiles.	35
9 June	Art in Nature	The children joined a local Perth artist for a special kid’s workshop on nature painting around the Swan River.	24

Exhibitions

The last day of the Fashionable Stories exhibition was Sunday, 7 April 2024. Staff spent two weeks disassembling the exhibition and arranging for articles on loan to be returned.

The Claremont Museum has lent artefacts to the Mundaring and Hills Historical Society for a temporary exhibition they will be running from 12 July 2024 to 28 February 2025. The exhibition 'Return to Sender' explores how post offices played an important role in the social and economic development of local communities. Items on loan include a postal workers jacket, letter scales, satchels and a telegram bag.

Museum staff are sourcing artefacts to display as part of our 1970s exhibition. There will be two 1970s household scenes set up (a kitchen and living room), that require us to borrow objects from the public. Artefacts already sourced include: a kitchen table and chairs, a kitchen benchtop, a sofa, and a tv.

### Collection Management

The Museum has a new volunteer photographer who is taking professional photos of artefacts newly donated to the Museum along with artefacts that need updated photos. Photos of objects in the collection are a vital way to monitor for any possible deterioration and storage needs. All photos will eventually be uploaded to the Collections WA website for members of the public to view. An example of one object already uploaded to the site can be viewed [here](#).

Work is continuing at the off-site collection storage facility to enter locations in the museum's database and identify artefacts that need preventative conservation work. The task of updating artefacts to have final accession numbers instead of temporary receipt numbers also continues.

### Group Tours

The museum continues to be very popular with tour groups. For these visits, groups are first seated in the schoolroom where they receive a brief history of the site. Then after some question time, they wander through the buildings looking at the exhibitions. Often the most popular area is the education kitchen where so many of our visitors recognise objects on display as ones they once used. This quarter the museum hosted a group from Selby Lodge and 3 groups from Umbrella Group.

The Museum also hosted one of the library's organised activities. Approximately ten people participated in an art class held on the grass quad area run by artist Colin Montefiore.

Total Number of Visitors (including HIACC attendees) for each month is provided below.

	2023	2024
April	193	380
May	173	140
June	191	145

### Volunteers

The Museum's operations are supported and enhanced by the support of several volunteers.

The hours of volunteer work for the quarter are provided below.

	2023	2024
April	40.25	93.75
May	72.25	130.5
June	62.75	116.95

The historic walking tours, 'Claremont Meanders' is led by volunteers, the details of these for the quarter listed below.

Date	Topic	Detail	Attendance
<b>Claremont Meanders – Historic Walking Tours</b>			
23 May	Rediscovering the Terrace	The tour was enjoyed by all as a volunteer guide delved into the early development and history of the central business district of Claremont.	11

Research Requests

Public research is another service offered by the Town’s Museum staff. During the quarter, the Town received requests and provided information to the following items.

April	Land of Make Believe	External	20 minutes
	Bropho Family	External	10 minutes
May	19 Central Avenue	External	20 minutes
	St Oswald’s	External	15 minutes
June	Bay View Record Centre	Internal	10 minutes
	Cherry’s Dry Cleaners	Internal	10 minutes

**PAST RESOLUTIONS**

Claremont Museum Advisory Committee Meeting 16 April 2024, Committee Recommendation 007/24

1. *That the Claremont Museum’s Operation Report from January to March 2024 be received by the Museum Advisory Committee.*
2. *That the Claremont Museum Advisory Committee wishes to thank the Museum Curator for consistently providing an informative and well put together report for the meetings.*

**CARRIED**

Claremont Museum Advisory Committee Meeting 16 April 2024, Committee Recommendation 008/24

*That the Museum Advisory Committee offers their congratulations to Claremont Museum for winning ‘new building in a heritage place’ in the recent Claremont Civic Design Awards.*

**CARRIED**

**FINANCIAL AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS**

Resource requirements are in accordance with existing budgetary allocation.

**POLICY AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

*Local Government Act 1995*

**COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION**

Listed on the Town’s website on the ‘Community Events’ page.

**STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN**

**People** *We live in an accessible and safe community that welcomes diversity, enjoys being active and has a strong sense of belonging.*

- Facilitate opportunities for social participation, health, learning and inclusion through programmed activities and events.
- Develop and implement services and activities that supports services for seniors and youths.
- Recognise and celebrate the Town's history and culture through arts and events.

**URGENCY**

Nil

**VOTING REQUIREMENTS**

Simple Majority decision of Council (*More than half the Council Members present are required to vote in favour*).

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION CMAC 24/10**

**Moved:** Cr Jill Goetze

**Seconded:** Ms Karen Kaard

**That the Claremont Museum's Operation Report from April to June 2024 be received by the Museum Advisory Committee.**

**For:** Cr Kate Main, Cr Jill Goetze, Emeritus Professor Jenny Gregory AM and Ms Karen Kaard

**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED 4/0**

**6.2 CLAREMONT MUSEUM OPERATIONS REPORT FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2024**

**File Number:** GOV/00050  
**Author:** Fiona Crossan (Museum Curator & Coordinator)  
**Authoriser:** Liz Ledger (Chief Executive Officer)  
**Attachments:** Nil

**PURPOSE**

To advise the Committee of the Claremont Museum’s activities for the period of July to September 2024.

**BACKGROUND**

The Museum provides the following services:

- Seniors Programs
- Children’s Programs
- Collection Management and Exhibitions
- Research Requests
- Volunteer Management

This report provides an update on those services for the quarter.

**DISCUSSION**

Seniors Programs:

The popular History in a Coffee Cup (HIACC) was implemented each month as detailed below.

Date	Topic	Detail	Attendance
<b>History in a Coffee Cup</b>			
Thursday, 4 July 2024	The Summerhayes Architects	Three generations of the Summerhayes were architects living in Claremont who built notable buildings and houses around Western Australia.	63
Thursday, 1 August 2024	Love amongst the Gumnuts	Local Historian Anthea Harris agave a talk about J O Kelly husband of the famous author May Gibbs.	70
Thursday, 5 September 2024	Shipwrecks in the Swan River	Maritime Archaeologist and Assistant Curator of Maritime History at the WA Musuem, Patrick Morrison gave a fascinating talk on the shipwrecks in the Swan River and how technology helps to find them.	65

Date	Topic	Detail	Attendance
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Boat Shed Tours			
Tuesday, 2 July 2024	History of boat building on the Swan River.	The Museum has developed a regular program for tours of the historic Boat Shed. It is one of the last original boat building sheds on the Swan River and is of National heritage significance.	23
Wednesday, 21 August 2024	History of boat building on the Swan River.	This Tour was specifically organised for members of the Showgrounds Community Men's Shed.	14

#### Children's Programs:

Several, largely local schools attended the Mrs Herbert's Museum Program. Year Ones came from Freshwater Bay Primary, Melville Primary, St Dominic's Primary, Cottesloe Primary and St Hilda's Anglican School for Girls. While Year Twos came from Dalkeith and Swanbourne Primaries. A Total of 302 students came this quarter.

Date	Topic	Detail	Attendance
Sunday Fundays			
Sunday, 7 July 2024	NAIDOC	This event focussed on Noongar culture with Belinda Cox, a proud Kangeang / Bibblemun Noongar woman (Yorga). Belinda began the event with a traditional fire ceremony and then invited participants to join her in singing and tapping. She also shared her ancestors' stories of creation that have been told for over 80 thousand years.	15
Sunday, 14 July 2024	Christmas in July	Kids learned about how families in the olden days used to celebrate Christmas (in December) and then they made some decorations for Christmas in July.	21
Sunday, 28 July 2024	Old fashioned toy making with the Showgrounds Community Men's Shed	Children learned how different generations of Claremont families made and played with toys and then they made their own with the support of the Showgrounds Community Men's Shed.	13

<p>Sunday, 29 September 2024</p>	<p>It's Showtime</p>	<p>The Perth Royal Show has been held in Claremont since 1905. The children explored some of this local history and then made their own showbags. They also made the most of the baby farm animals available for cuddles.</p>	
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Exhibitions:

This quarter, Musuem staff have been researching, writing text and sourcing images for the upcoming exhibition *Made in the 70s*. In addition to artefacts from the Musuem’s collection, this exhibition will feature items on loan from members of the public. A large moving truck was organised to transport all the large pieces of furniture from people’s homes to the Museum for set up. The exhibition will open Thursday, 3 October 2024 at our monthly History in a Coffee Cup. Freeman of the Town and original Curator of the Claremont Musuem, Sally Anne Hasluck OAM will be speaking.

Collection Management:

Work continues to be done by volunteers scanning documents and photos, photographing objects and accessioning artefacts into the collection.

Group Tours:

The Museum continues to be popular with senior’s tour groups. This quarter Hammond Park Mercy Care and Alzheimer’s WA visited while the East Fremantle Neighbourhood Link came twice.

International students from UWA CELT visited again this quarter to learn about the history of the local area and heritage archaeology students from UWA came to do a building recording exercise on the museum. Both teachers expressed an interest in making these visits a regular occurrence within their programs.

Statistics:

Total number of visitors (including HIACC attendees) for each month is provided below.

	2023	2024
July	188	235
August	150	191
September	151	199

Volunteers:

The Museum’s operations are supported and enhanced by the support of several volunteers.

The hours of volunteer work for the quarter are provided below.

	2023	2024
July	85.75	143
August	89.25	117.25
September	92	93.75

The historic walking tours, ‘Claremont Meanders’ is led by volunteers, the details of these for the quarter are listed below.

Date	Topic	Detail	Attendance
<b>Claremont Meanders – Historic Walking Tours</b>			
Thursday, 25 July 2024	Trail of Memories	Participants wandered through the heritage area bounded by Mary, Guger, Melville and Loch Streets looking at some of the historical federation houses and landmarks such as St Thomas Church, the Claremont Train Station, Pool and Tennis Club.	18
Thursday, 19 September 2024	Art Trail	Tour of public art works in the Claremont CBD.	14

Research Requests:

July	Cr Ernest Warne	External	20 minutes
	2 St Quentin Avenue	External	20 minutes
	Swanbourne Shops and Surrounds	External	20 minutes
	70s research	Internal	Hours
	McQueen Family	External	30 minutes
	Reginald and Edwin Summerhayes	Internal	20 minutes
	May Gibbs	Internal	15 minutes
	Images of Claremont Brides	Internal	15 minutes
August	Dairy cans at the train station	External	20 minutes
	O'Beirne Street images	External	20 minutes
	Image of William George	External	15 minutes
	Claremont Hotel	External	15 minutes
	Aboriginal Artwork	Internal	15 minutes
	70s research	Internal	Hours
	Thomas Briggs	Internal	20 minutes

	Throwback Thursday posts	Internal	20 minutes
September	Dinghy in the boatshed	External	15 minutes
	70s Research	Internal	Hours

## PAST RESOLUTIONS

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*CARRIED*

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*That the Museum Advisory Committee offers their congratulations to Claremont Museum for winning 'new building in a heritage place' in the recent Claremont Civic Design Awards.*

## FINANCIAL AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS

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## POLICY AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

*Local Government Act 1995*

## COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

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## STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN

**People** *We live in an accessible and safe community that welcomes diversity, enjoys being active and has a strong sense of belonging.*

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## URGENCY

Nil

## VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority decision of Committee (*More than half the Committee Members present are required to vote in favour*).

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION CMAC 24/11**

**Moved:** Cr Kate Main  
**Seconded:** Ms Karen Kaard

**That the Claremont Museum's Operations Report from July to September 2024 be received by the Museum Advisory Committee.**

**For:** Cr Kate Main, Cr Jill Goetze, Emeritus Professor Jenny Gregory AM and Ms Karen Kaard  
**Against:** Nil

**CARRIED 4/0**

**7 OTHER BUSINESS**

Nil

**8 NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE APPROVED BY THE PRESIDING PERSON OR BY DECISION OF MEETING**

Nil

**9 FUTURE MEETINGS OF COMMITTEE**

To be advised.

**10 DECLARATION OF CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business, the presiding member declared the meeting closed at 4:45pm.

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**CHAIRPERSON**