

Mandurah Museum Heritage Month 2025

18 April – 18 May 2025



The Australian Heritage Festival is an annual event that immerses us in the rich and diverse heritage of our country. In Western Australia, the festival is both a celebration and reflection on the natural and cultural heritage of the state, taking place during April and May each year.

The festival theme for 2025 is Unearthed – revealing the past, bringing to light lesser-known histories and stories, and unearthing knowledge to empower younger generations as custodians of culture and tradition.

This year, from 18 April to 18 May, Mandurah Museum invites you to explore a series of exciting events for all ages. Immerse yourself in the vibrant cultural and historical heritage of Mandurah through a variety of engaging experiences.



Exploring Mandurah's Past: Archaeology and Heritage

When: Tuesday – Friday

Dates: 9 April – 20 June

Time: 10am – 3pm

Cost: Free

To celebrate the Australian Heritage Festival 2025 theme Unearthed, Mandurah Museum will host a special exhibition, that explores significant archaeological discoveries from local historical sites. The exhibition will feature artefacts uncovered during

excavations at the 2008 Police Barracks, the 2020 School Room, and the 2024 Halls Cottage dig. Visitors will gain insight into the cultural and historical importance of these sites, as well as the meticulous process of discovery and preservation.



Guided Heritage Walk

When: Thursday, 8 May

Time: 2pm - 3.30pm

Ages: 18 years and up

Where: Christ's Church
Anglican Parish of
Mandurah, Corner of
Sholl Street and
Pinjarra Road

Cost: Free

Bookings:

Essential via
Eventbrite



Embark on a guided walking tour through Mandurah's historic heart of iconic buildings and sites. Covering a 1.2 km route, this tour begins at the Anglican Church and winds through key landmarks such as the first post office, the Brighton Hotel, Hall's Cottage, and War Memorial.



Build your Own Wooden Sailing Ship

When: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Dates: 15, 16 and 17 April
22, 23 and 24 April

Time: 10:30am – 11:30am

Ages: 5 – 12 years (Children must be accompanied by an adult. Adults do not require a ticket.)

Cost: Free

Bookings:
Essential via
Eventbrite



Set sail on an exciting adventure these April holidays! Discover the fascinating story of the James Service shipwreck and craft your very own wooden sailing ship to take home. After the workshop, you are welcome to join us for a short walk to Christ's Church, where you can see the historic James Service anchor up close.



Archaeological Adventure Quiz

When: Tuesday – Friday

Dates: 15 – 24 April

Time: 10am – 3pm

Ages: 5 years and up

Cost: Free

Embark on a quest to uncover images of famous archaeological sites hidden throughout the museum!

Solve the puzzle by filling in the missing letters to identify the countries where these sites are located. Place the correct letters in the spaces to reveal a hidden message. Once you've cracked the code, submit your details for a chance to win a **Dinosaur Fossil Dig Kit!** The prize draw will take place on Thursday, 24 April at 3pm.

Bonus Chance to Win!

Visit the museum on Saturday, 17 May or Sunday, 18 May (10am–3pm), for another opportunity to win a **Dinosaur Fossil Dig Kit!** The lucky winner will be announced on Sunday, 18 May at 3pm.

Author Talk - Sandra Playle

When: Thursday, 1 May

Time: 2pm – 3:30pm

Ages: 18 years and up

Cost: Free

Bookings:

Essential via
Eventbrite



Archaeology Presentation

When: Saturday 17 May

Time: 12pm - 1pm

Ages: 18 years and up

Bookings:

Essential via
Eventbrite



Renowned WWI researcher Sandra Playle will present *They Went with Songs to Battle*, exploring Australia's role in the war, focusing on the exhumation and reburial of soldiers at Pheasant Wood. The presentation will be split into two parts:

- **Part One** covers the lead-up to the Battle of Fromelles, the battle itself, and insights from research and the 2009 Dedication Ceremony.
- **Part Two** explores the battle's aftermath, including burials, excavations, and artefacts, and concludes with a letter from a Corporal to his family.

A light afternoon tea will be provided.

Note: Some images may be distressing.

Dr Fiona Hook from Archae-Aus will share the fascinating findings from last year's excavation, focusing on the artefacts uncovered and their historical and cultural significance. Dr Hook will discuss how these objects were used, what they reveal about life in the region, and how the excavation process itself unfolded. This workshop offers participants a unique chance to engage with the archaeological process and the uncovering of history.

Archaeological Dig Experience

When: Saturday, 17 May and Sunday 18 May

Time: Session one
10am - 11am

Session two
1pm - 2pm

Ages: 13 years and up

Where: Leslie Street Centre,
7A Leslie St, Dudley Park

Cost: Free

The Museum will be open on 17 and 18 May from 10am - 3pm

Join the expert team from Archae-Aus as they excavate the grounds near Leslie Street Centre—once home to the original Soldier's Barracks from the 1830s.

This hands-on experience invites community members to take part in real archaeological digs, helping to unearth and analyse historical artifacts under the guidance of professional archaeologists. Don't miss this rare opportunity to dig into Mandurah's history.

Bookings:
Essential via
Eventbrite



Archaeological Digs for Kids

When: Saturday, 17 May and Sunday 18 May

Time: Session one
11am - 12pm
Session two
2pm - 3pm

Ages: 5 - 12 years (Parental supervision required)

Where: Leslie Street Centre,
7A Leslie St, Dudley Park

Cost: Free

Do you love digging in the dirt? Finding lost treasures? Solving mysteries from the past? Then you might be an archaeologist in the making!

Join expert archaeologists from Archae-Aus for a hands-on kids' excavation workshop on the grounds near Leslie Street Centre—once home to the original Soldier's Barracks from the 1830s!

Bookings:
Essential via
Eventbrite



The Museum will be open on 17 and 18 May from 10am - 3pm





For more information, contact us at museum@mandurah.wa.gov.au or 9550 3683
3 Pinjarra Road, Mandurah WA 6210

Regular opening hours

Monday: Closed

Tuesday - Friday: 10am - 3pm

Saturday - Sunday: Closed

Public Holiday hours

Friday, 18 April 2025

Closed - Good Friday Public Holiday

Friday, 25 April 2025

Closed - Anzac Day Public Holiday

Archaeological Dig weekend

Saturday, 17 May and Sunday, 18 May 2025

Open: 10am - 3pm

Hall's Cottage is open every Sunday during Heritage Month

When: 20 April - 18 May

Times: 10am - 3pm

Where: Leighton Place, Halls Head

Accessibility

Mandurah Museum offers an ACROD parking bay at the rear, a ramped front entrance, and an accessible toilet. While some areas are not accessible due to its heritage-listed status, many spaces provide universal access for all visitors. The museum can also be accessed easily via the Mandurah Bridge underpass.