

ESPERANCE MUSEUM

THE BEST SHOW IN TOWN IS AT

AFTER MANY YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS, THE ESPERANCE MUSEUM WAS OFFICIALLY OPENED ON OCTOBER 9TH, 1976 BY ORLANDO STUART, A PAST PRESIDENT OF THE ESPERANCE SHIRE COUNCIL.

THE MUSEUM PARK WAS THE TOWNS ORIGINAL RAILWAY MARSHALLING YARDS, AND THE MAIN BUILDING, CONSTRUCTED SOON AFTER THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, WAS THE GOODS SHED AND OFFICE.

THE INTERIOR OF THE STRUCTURE HAS SOME MAGNIFICENT TIMBER BEAMS, SOMETHING RARELY SEEN THESE DAYS.

THE MUSEUM, FROM IT'S INCEPTION, HAS RELIED ON A SMALL GROUP OF DEDICATED PEOPLE WHO PROVIDE VOLUNTARY LABOUR TO BOTH DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN THE COLLECTION.

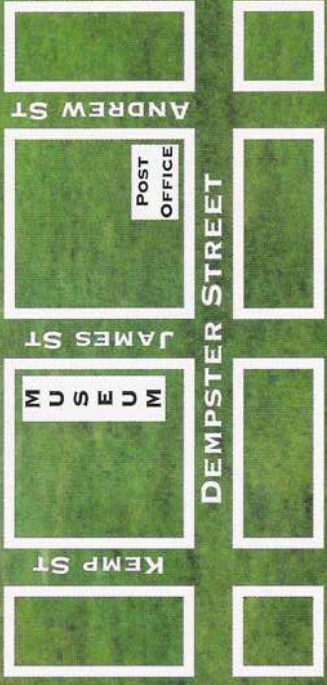
IT IS OPEN EVERY DAY FROM 1.30PM - 4.30PM OR BY APPOINTMENT.

WHILST IN ESPERANCE, DONT MISS SEEING THIS FASCINATING COLLECTION ... IT'S THE ONLY ONE OF IT'S KIND IN THE SOUTH OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA.



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THE ESPLANADE



THE ESPERANCE MUSEUM

The Best Shows in Town are at The Museum

The French Connection

While Esperance was named by the French in 1792, they appear to have left nothing of value other than their reports on the region.

Our early settlers however, left us a lot of memorabilia - and it's all on display in our local museum.



Locomotive W919

W919 steamed along the track between Kalgoorlie and Esperance between 1951 and 1969, burning 6 tons of coal and using 8000 gallons of water on each trip.

Throughout her career she travelled 559 076 kms. Her load capacity was 442 tonnes over a 1 in 80 grade. The Esperance Bay Historical Society raised the money to purchase her from Westrail.



Voyage to Disaster!

When the Sanko Harvest took a short cut into Esperance and smashed onto a reef off Cape Le Grand, the pristine beaches in the area were soaked in thick black oil. For all the wildlife and the tourism industry it was a disaster. Various pieces of gear and a lifeboat from this once proud ship are on display in the museum. Today the wreck is a divers paradise and home to many fish.

Close Encounters of a Skylab Kind



On July 12th 1979, the first American space station "Skylab", crashed out of control through the night sky and slammed back to Earth near Balladonia. As it moved through the atmosphere pieces tore off and fell to Earth throughout this region. Large pieces of it are now on display in the museum along with a scale model and other material from NASA.

From Our Selection

The Museum is proud of its collection of material from the 1800's including unique early machinery, furniture, glasswear, clothing and other valuable memorabilia.

Re-live the charm of the 1800's - in Esperance!



Nothing Over A Shilling!

Ladies, have a browse through our period style "supermarket" and check out some of the old familiar brands of baby foods, laundry detergent and soap.

The museum also has on display old phonographs, furniture and clothing and even an 1820 piano!

