

## IS DEEMING - JACK THE RIPPER ?

Fredrick Bailey Deeming was a globetrotting murderer, who killed two wives and his four children. Deeming is suspected by some to be the Whitechapel murderer 'Jack the Ripper'. Captured in the small goldfields' town of Southern Cross in Western Australia, his transfer back to Melbourne, involved a night spent at the Albany Convict Gaol.

Deeming was transported by train to Albany and transferred to the care of the Gaol Warden, McGovern. Come morning, to the disbelief of his minders, Deeming was missing his most distinctive large moustache. In Deeming's prison clothes, they found a piece of glass from a medicine bottle that he used as a razor, it was also apparent that Deeming had plucked most of his moustache out during the night. To the concern of Detective Cawsey, the missing moustache made Deeming look completely different and that the moustache could decide the prosecution's case.

The last few days before Deeming was executed rumours of his possible connection to the Whitechapel Murders in London's East End continued. There was also rumours that Deeming had confessed to two of the Whitechapel Murders but was ignored as police believed he was trying to stall the date with the gallows.

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- Visitors to Albany Convict Gaol should note that the surfaces you walk on are not always even. Please watch your step.
- It is a condition of entry that visitors observe all warning signs and follow instructions provided by the Albany Convict Gaol staff, at all times.
- Albany Convict Gaol accepts no liability for any loss or damage of personal items arising from a visit or whilst on the premises of Albany Convict Gaol.
- The Albany Convict Gaol staff retain the right to deny access and / or remove visitors who are being a public nuisance, appear to be intoxicated, acting recklessly or failing to observe directions from Albany Convict Gaol staff or signage.
- No shoes - no entry.
- Children under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult (18+).



ALBANY CONVICT GAOL  
267 STIRLING TERRACE,  
ALBANY WA 6330



# SELF GUIDED NIGHT TOURS

WALK ALONE BY  
CANDLELIGHT AND EXPLORE  
THE DARKER SIDE OF THE  
ALBANY CONVICT GAOL.

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## DID YOU KNOW ?

### THE LAST HANGING

There was only one hanging at the Old Gaol in 1872. Peter McKean alias William McDonald, murdered his neighbour at Slab Hut Gully between Mt Barker and Kojonup. To save ten witnesses travelling to Perth for the trial, they held the proceedings in Albany.

McDonald had a dubious record and was the only felon hanged at the Old Gaol. The hangman as well as the portable gallows came from Fremantle to do the court's bidding.

### THE BLACK HOLE

The paranormal activity in the Gaol's Black Hole – a name given to the cell used for solitary confinement with no windows or light and once held up to 20 drunken soldiers at one time and they were kept in the 'hole' for 24 hours in which it is reported that up to three died.

Could the inmates, that once wandered the cellblock, be returning with a message, for a chosen few ?



## NOT EVERYONE GETS IN, IN THE DARK!

### SELF GUIDED NIGHT TOURS

The Albany Convict Gaol is thought to be one of the most haunted places in Western Australia and for many who have been brave enough to visit - have reported having experiences that they... could not quite explain.

Join us for a night in the dark as you explore the darker side of the Gaol, where walls echo the stories of inmates, pain and suffering.

**Be warned - these self guided tours are not for the faint hearted.**

### NEXT TOUR DATES

SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY 2025

SATURDAY 19TH APRIL 2025

SATURDAY 31ST MAY 2025

SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 2025

SATURDAY 27TH DECEMBER 2025

7:PM - 11:PM

## GHOSTLY ENCOUNTERS

You never know what ghostly things, you may encounter at the Albany Convict Gaol, but it has been reported that unexplainable sounds both from visitors and the museum staff include, wailing to taps and knocks echoing, doors shutting with no draft, to tiny whispers and the sound of footsteps on the old wood floorboards.

A truly tragic story is of an Aboriginal woman in Cell 25 who lost her baby during childbirth, only to pass away herself. Many have claimed to hear a baby crying in the area and others have said to have heard her sad sobs and that she is distraught.

People who have worked in the Albany Convict Gaol and some visitors have related experiences of ghostly happenings around the female cells. These include the sound of a baby crying. Several of Warden McGovern's children died while living at the Convict Gaol, there are theories that the ghosts belong to them.

When entering the Gaol, you may have an encounter with a black cat when walking by Room 5 and hear the faint sound of a purr or a slight rub against your leg.

