



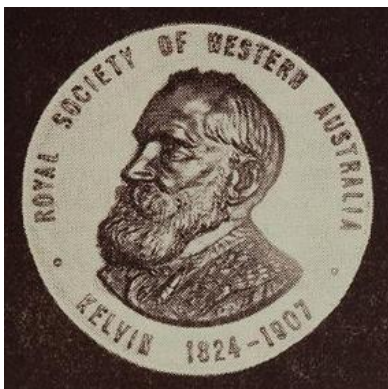
# The Royal Society of Western Australia

## RSWA Awards

### Medal of The Royal Society of Western Australia

#### History

The Medal of The Royal Society of Western Australia was instituted in 1924 to mark the centenary of the birth on 26 June 1824 of Lord Kelvin, the distinguished mathematical physicist who was President of the Royal Society in London from 1890 to 1895. The Medal, which bears in relief the head of Lord Kelvin, was originally referred to as the 'Gold Medal'. The original dye for the medal, first struck in 1924, remains in the safe-keeping of The Society. The first three medals were struck in gold, and all subsequent medals in silver. There have been 26 distinguished recipients of the Medal from 1924 to 2018. There were three recipients in 1979, two in 1997, two in 2005, and two in 2018.



#### Award for Medal of The Royal Society of Western Australia

In accordance with clause 63 of The Society's Constitution, "A Medal, for which Council will call for nominations through its Proceedings, shall be awarded by the Council every fourth year or at such other times or periods as the Council may from time to time decide for distinguished work in science connected with Western Australia. The Council shall appoint a Medal Committee consisting of five members of the Council to assess the nominations and recommend a recipient of the Medal. The recipient shall, on the awarding of the Medal, be requested to deliver a public address to be known as The Royal Society of Western Australia Medal Lecture".

#### Nominations

Nominations should include:-

- Nominee's CV
- a supporting statement from the Nominator
- supporting letters from three referees

Nominations should be sent to:-

The President, The Royal Society of Western Australia,  
PO Box 7026, Karawara, WA 6152.



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#### PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE MEDAL OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

1. 1924 [Dr William John Hancock](#): Radiography; medical application of X-rays
2. 1929 [Dr E S Simpson](#): Mineralogy and geology of W.A.
3. 1933 [Mr W M Carne](#): Plant pathology; the bitter pit of apples
4. 1937 [Mr Andrew Gibb Maitland](#): Pilbara survey and artesian water supplies
5. 1941 [Professor Edward de Courcy Clarke](#): Geology of W.A.
6. 1945 [Mr Ludwig Glauert](#): Natural sciences
7. 1949 [Mr Charles Austin Gardner](#): Botany, the flora of W.A.
8. 1955 [Dr Harold William Bennetts](#): Veterinary science; livestock diseases
9. 1959 [Professor Eric John Underwood](#): Animal nutrition and husbandry
10. 1966 [Mr Clee Francis Howard Jenkins](#): Agricultural entomology and natural history
11. 1970 [Professor Rex T Prider](#): Geology, petrology and mineralogy
12. 1979 [Professor Ronald Murray Berndt](#): Anthropology; aboriginal studies
13. 1979 [Emeritus Professor Brian John Grieve](#): Botany; ecophysiology and the flora of W.A.
14. 1979 [Dr Dominic Louis Serventy](#): Zoology; ornithology and nature conservation
15. 1983 [Dr John Stanley Beard](#): Botany; vegetation classification and mapping
16. 1986 [Professor C A Parker](#): Soil biology
17. 1993 [Professor John Robert de Laeter](#): Geophysics and geochronology
18. 1995 [Emeritus Professor Albert Russell Main](#): Zoology; ecology and nature conservation
19. 1997 [Professor Ernest Pease Hodgkin](#): Estuarine studies
20. 1997 [Professor Arthur James McComb](#): Plant growth and ecology
21. 2001 [Dr Phillip Elliot Playford](#): Geology and history of discovery in W.A. 2005
22. 2005 [Professor David I Groves](#): Economic geology and mineralogy
23. 2005 [Dr Kenneth J McNamara](#): Palaeontology and evolutionary palaeobiology
24. 2010 [Emeritus Professor Sidney Donald Bradshaw](#): Ecophysiology; wildlife conservation
25. 2018 [Emeritus Professor David Blair](#): Experimental physicist
26. 2018 [Professor Barbara York Main](#): Arachnology and zoology



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#### References

1. The Royal Society of Western Australia Journal Volume X, Pages xii, xiii, xv, 1923-1924  
General Meetings 8 April and 13 May 1924, including Rule 45 for awarding of a Gold Medal  
First medallist Dr W J Hancock, D.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.E.E.  
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2. AWR Bevan, History and roles of the Royal Society of Western Australia  
The Royal Society of Western Australia Journal Volume 97, Part 1, Pages 4 to 6, 2014  
[http://www.rswa.org.au/members/JournalCurrent/97\(1\)/1.%20ROY%20SOC%2097.1%20BEVAN%20HISTORY%201-12%20LOW.pdf](http://www.rswa.org.au/members/JournalCurrent/97(1)/1.%20ROY%20SOC%2097.1%20BEVAN%20HISTORY%201-12%20LOW.pdf)
3. Annual Report of Council for 2004-2005, Page 3  
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<http://www.rswa.org.au/aboutswa/reports/2005%2007%2018%20Annual%20Report%20of%20Council%20for%202004-2005%20to%20AGM.pdf>
4. Proceedings of The Royal Society of Western Australia, August 2005, Page 2  
Medallist Address by Dr Ken McNamara at AGM 2005  
<http://www.rswa.org.au/publications/proceedings/2005%2008%20Proceedings.pdf>
5. Proceedings of The Royal Society of Western Australia, July 2010, Page 1  
Medallist Address by Emeritus Professor Don Bradshaw at AGM 2010  
<http://www.rswa.org.au/publications/proceedings/2010%2007%20Proceedings.pdf>
6. At the RSWA AGM on 15/07/2013 the Annual Report for 2012-2013 (page 2) refers to Council deciding, as part of RSWA Centenary activities to change the name of the medal to the RSWA Forrest Medal. At the RSWA AGM on 22/09/2014 the Annual Report for 2013-2014 (page 2) states that "The first Forrest Medal will be presented in 2015". At the AGM on 20/07/2015 no Medal was presented and at that time the Constitution remained unchanged referring to "The Medal of the Royal Society of Western Australia". Given these facts, and the long history of presentation as the Medal of the Royal Society of Western Australia, at a Meeting on 20/03/2017 the RSWA Council revoked the 2013 Council decision and affirmed continuing the name in the current Constitution "The Medal of the Royal Society of Western Australia".  
<http://www.rswa.org.au/aboutswa/reports/2013%2007%2015%20Annual%20Report%20of%20Council%20for%202012-2013%20to%20AGM.pdf>  
<http://www.rswa.org.au/aboutswa/reports/2014%2009%2022%20Annual%20Report%20of%20Council%20for%202013-2014%20to%20AGM.pdf>