



Sir Walter Murdoch Lecture

Murdoch University's premier public lecture was inaugurated in 1974 to mark the centenary of the birth of the University's namesake, Sir Walter Murdoch. A respected academic, Walter Murdoch successfully bridged the gap between academia and the wider community – thereby establishing a tradition for the University which was named in his honour just days before his death in 1970.

Through his teaching career as Foundation Professor of English at the University of Western Australia from 1913 – 1939, he influenced generations of young Western Australian scholars. But it was his journalism career, which lasted until he was in his 90s, which enabled Walter Murdoch to reach and influence a much wider audience.

In his regular newspaper columns he would comment on all manner of issues with an economic eloquence; frequently with healthy scepticism, and often with sharp wit aimed, quite deliberately, at deflating pomposity.

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Sir Walter Murdoch Lecture 2016





Josh Byrne

Josh Byrne is an environmental scientist, author, television presenter and research academic. Well known for his work on ABC TV's Gardening Australia program, Josh is also Director of Josh Byrne & Associates - a multi award winning Fremantle based consulting practice integrating the fields of landscape architecture, built environment sustainability, media and communications.

Josh is a Research Fellow with Curtin University's Sustainability Policy Institute where his research activities span high performance housing, low carbon residential precincts and water sensitive urban design. He recently submitted his PhD at Murdoch University and holds the position of Adjunct Lecturer with the School of Engineering and Information Technology. Josh is a recipient of the Australian Water Association's WA Water Professional of the Year Award, and Murdoch University's Distinguished Alumni Award for Science and Engineering. He is Patron of the Conservation Council of WA and an Advocate for the national collaborative 2020 Vision urban greening initiative.

A Water Sensitive Perth

Perth is experiencing a rapidly drying climate yet we continue to be amongst the highest water users in the world. Our dams now function as reservoirs for desalinated seawater rather than rainwater storage because catchment run off is so low. In some years, more water evaporates from the dams than flows into them.

As Perth continues to grow and densify, we need to rethink how we use water in our homes, buildings and suburbs. Josh will showcase innovative approaches to water management at a range of scales, drawing on his doctoral research and consultancy projects from around Australia. He'll argue that continued reliance on large-scale centralised schemes alone results in missed opportunities for increasing water security and community resilience. Josh will also discuss the importance of urban vegetation for community health and wellbeing, and present this as a driver for taking a localised, fit-for-purpose approach to water supply to support sustainable urban landscapes.

Vice Chancellor Professor Eeva Leinonen cordially invites you and your guest to attend the 2016 Sir Walter Murdoch Lecture –

A Water Sensitive Perth Presented by Josh Byrne

- Date** Tuesday 20 September 2016
- Time** 6.00pm
- Venue** Kim E. Beazley Lecture Theatre, Murdoch University, South Street Campus, Murdoch
- RSVP** Friday 16 September 2016 to rsvp@murdoch.edu.au
- Parking** Free parking is available in the University's car park 3
Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the lecture

