

MEDIA RELEASE

RE: PERTH KNIFE SHOW

As technology propels our society through the 21st century, surrounded social media, smart devices, and electric vehicles there's a growing desire for quality products made by expert craftsmen. Likewise, a desire to craft and create is driving more and more of us to make something tangible with our hands to remind us that life exists outside our screens. We know that art and craft is good for the mind and the soul, but knife making takes it one step further – creating a tool we can use in our daily tasks and even an heirloom that can pass through generations.

From 1990's till 2002, Western Australia was a thriving community of some of Australia's finest knife craftsmen. However, annual knife shows which have always had strong local following had eventually given way to the Eastern States. Now, after a 17-year absence, the Knife Art Association re-established the Perth Knife Show as the premier weekend for knifemakers and suppliers in Western Australia. Held at the Fremantle Prison, the 2019 show was a huge success attracting over 2000 visitors and providing a gallery setting for the public to view and purchase knives, tools and metal art from local and national makers, suppliers and resellers. In 2020 the Knife Art Association continued to build on that success, moving the venue of the show to the Esplanade Hotel allowing for more exhibitors, more displays and more knives. The show grew by 40%, attracting the leading local talent and suppliers from the Eastern States to display alongside the strong local contingent. As the interest in the Perth show continues to grow through comprehensive marketing campaigns, next year's show is promising to be the biggest ever!

So what can you expect to see if you go to a knife show? National distributors bring with them utility and kitchen knives from Japan, US and Europe, providing the visitors with a rare opportunity to feel and compare the World's leading brands and Australian Made invest – all under the one roof. This is also the place to ask the experts on the advantages of today's "super steels", edge geometry and construction techniques. For the fans of "Forged in Fire", keen to try their hand at the craft, this is the place to be to get started or get advice. Numerous specialty knife making suppliers bring popular varieties of blade steels and handle materials to choose from, as well as every bit of equipment you could possibly need, including grinders, forges, anvils and all the consumables to go with them.

However, the true "rock stars" of the event for many visitors are the custom makers. The calibre of the craftsmen and women in this country rivals the best in the world, and the variety of styles and materials is simply staggering! This year's Perth Knife Show will host Mastersmith - Thomas Gerner (only one of two Australian Mastersmiths) and Journeyman Smith - Bruce Barnett, both Western Australian and both with international accreditation from the American Bladesmith Society. Journeyman Smiths Keith Fludder and Jason Weightman, from the eastern states, will also be in attendance adding to the fine artistry of knives on show.

Other local Australian makers of custom hand crafted knives that will be in attendance include Mark Sinclair, David Brodziak, Bruce Schubert, Jeremy Wheaton, Gerry Pearsall, Adam Rogers, Matt Brook, Travis Bowral, Mert Tansu, Adam Fromholtz, Jake Rhodes, Matt Lacarnus, Samuel Towns, Warren Bristow-Baohm, Francois Mazieres, Dominic Binkert and many more.

The Next Perth Knife Show:

6th – 7th of February, 2021

9am – 4pm

Esplanade Hotel Fremantle

Cnr Marine Terrace & Essex St, Fremantle WA 6160

Website: www.perthknifeshow.com.au

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/perthknifeshow>

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