

# THE MARY DURACK MEMORIAL LECTURE



**KIDOGO ARTHOUSE**  
Bathers Beach, Fremantle  
Sunday 22 April 2018 at 4p.m.

**Admission Free**

Complimentary tea in the Ocean View Studio

## ‘Governor Charles Fitzgerald and the convict system in Western Australia’



*Charles Fitzgerald of County Clare, an Irish aristocrat and former Royal Navy officer, made his mark in the fight against the slave trade and as a colonial governor and reformer in Gambia (West Africa). He served as governor of Western Australia from 1848 to 1855 during a period of expansion and economic growth, in part generated by the arrival of British convicts. Fitzgerald was pressured and cajoled into introducing convicts. How that happened and how he dealt with the situation is worth examining in the light of his career and attitudes.*

Presented by: **Peter Conole**

**Peter Conole** was born in Fremantle, WA in 1948. He is descended from a Clare family with connections to Ennistymon and Ballyvaughan traceable back to the early 1700s. He obtained the degrees of Bachelor of Arts (1<sup>st</sup> Class Honours) and Master of Arts (with Distinction) from the University of Western Australia. After working as a tutor at the University of Queensland he returned to WA and joined the State's Public Service. He was recruited by way of a public examination in 1986 –a system abolished just one year later. He worked in several departments, the last of them being the WA Police. He was selected to write a large scale formal history of the WA Police and, after its successful publication in 2002, was appointed to the position of Police Historian. He retired in 2013. He has authored nine books on public administration or WA history, sections or chapters in other books, several minor specialised monographs, entries in encyclopedias and a biographical dictionary, historical introductions to books, numerous book reviews and nearly 300 articles in West Australian, Australian, British or European journals.