

## The City of Albany Council Crest



### Traditions of Crests

Historically, crests were first used by feudal lords and knights in the mid-12<sup>th</sup> Century on battlefields as a way to identify allied from enemy soldiers. Crests were placed on helmets, later on armour, garments and then to insignias and common seals in more modern times.

Traditionally, the crest is used to identify place, family, religion or educational institutions and other organisations. The colours and symbols in a crest can also carry specific meanings that may originate back to the 12<sup>th</sup> Century.

Today, the crest has a modern use to identify organisations, buildings and places. The City of Albany is amongst several government agencies that use a crest to identify the importance of place, history and heritage for the City residents.

### The City of Albany Crest

The crest was established in February 2005. The Council agreed to commission the Graphic Design Group, Bicton WA., to work with artist Mark Sofilas to develop a crest that best represents Albany's heritage and foundations.

This is reflected in the Crest's elements of: Anzac Connection – Horseman, Maritime, Agriculture, Bays, Oceans and Town Hall. It is a decorative emblem representing the City of Albany.

The original brief was to create a classical style paying attention to historical accuracy while using vibrant and contemporary colours and focused on three elements:

- Albany's Anzac connection, exemplified by the Desert Mounted Corps memorial;
- Maritime history, exemplified by the Brig Amity; and
- Built heritage, exemplified by the Town Hall.

The formal heraldic theme follows the character of a coat of arms, crest or shield. The design retains enough formality to have a strong weight of imagery denoting the City of Albany.

### **About The Artist**

Mark Sofilas was born in Western Australia in 1961. His career began in Perth as freelance artist and illustrator. He worked in Perth, Melbourne and Sydney in advertising, publishing and editorials before relocating to the UK in 2008. Today, he works as a full time artist painting from his studio in Leeds, Yorkshire England.