

*Celebrating  
100 years*

**FREMANTLE WORKERS  
SOCIAL AND LEISURE CLUB**



## Billy Clare 1862-1940

William Howard Clare born in Lancashire

Arrived in Coolgardie during the 1890s gold rush

Founded the "Coolgardie Miner" daily paper

Published newspapers in Kalgoorlie, Bunbury and Fremantle

A lifelong supporter of rights of the suffering and oppressed



*"Our Club is a home - practically the only one they know- to some of our associates who like myself are quietly slipping away on the ebb tide of life to the inevitable Bourn, and who are meanwhile finding restful sanctuary within this comfortable and spacious edifice."*

**Billy Clare in 1933**



# History

**Billy Clare** founded the Fremantle Workers Social and Leisure Club in February 1914

198 founding members - President **Billy Clare**

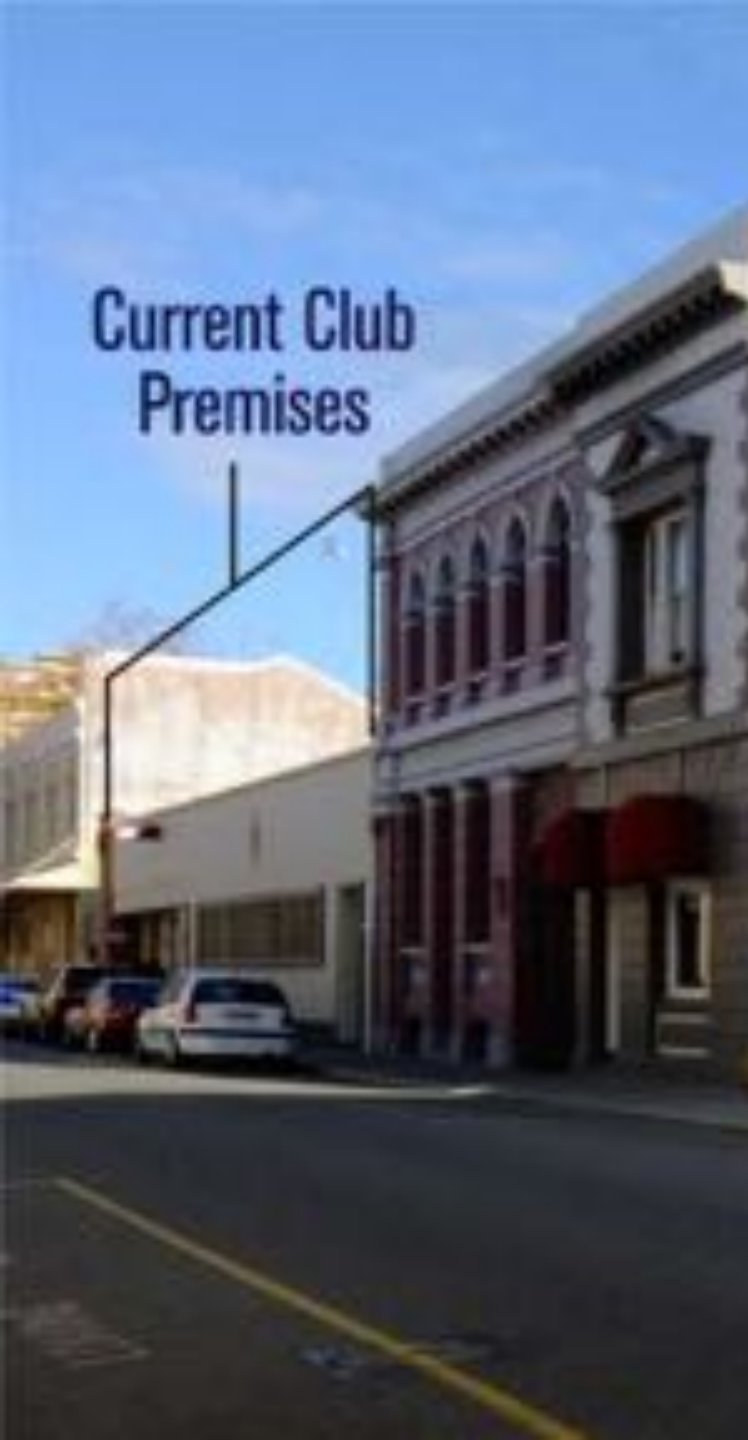
Lodges Hotel, Henry Street purchased at a cost of 2,000 Pounds, payable in a weekly rental of 5 pounds

Granted a Club Licence June 1914

Official Opening September 1914



Current Club  
Premises



Lodges Hotel  
Original Club  
Premises



# Original Club Premises 1932







# Fremantle Lumpers Picnic

*Photo: "OLD FREMANTLE", John Downson, 1964*



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SENDER'S CITY, STATE = FREMANTLE

FREO WORKERS' SOCIAL & LEISURE CLUB  
RECIPIENT'S ADDRESS = 9 HENRY STREET

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE FORMATION OF NEW CLUB.

GREAT EXPECTATION THAT CLUB WILL HAVE LONG AND SUCCESSFUL DURATION. POSSIBLY 100 YEARS?

CRYSTAL BALL SAYS DON AND RUTH REACTIVATE CLUB IN 2012.

BEST WISHES FOR FUTURE.

FREMANTLE SOCIETY (FORMED IN 58 YEARS)



# The Fu Fu Band 1930





# The War Years



*Sixen Fogarty RAN*

# 'Bloody Sunday' Tom Edwards Funeral 1919



## LUMPERS V. POLICE

### THE EDWARDS INQUEST

#### VERDICT OF ACCIDENTAL DEATH.

Additional proceedings at the inquest on the death of Thomas Edwards, the lumper who died as the result of injuries received in the disturbance on the Fremantle wharf on Sunday, May 4, which were not included in our report yesterday (except in Stop Press) are given below. The inquiry was conducted by the Coroner, Mr. E. P. Dowley, B.M. Sir Walter James, K.C., appeared for the Crown, and Mr. Walter Dwyer for the widow of the deceased.

Continuing under cross-examination, William Rosten, president of the Fremantle Lumpers' Union, said he understood that it was the crowd that had followed him that had thrown the stones. Witness did not throw any missiles, but he saw the police pick them up and throw them back. When the crowd had exhausted their ammunition they commenced to retreat. Sir Walter James: The police drop-commenced to throw stones? Witness: No, it was not necessary for them to drop their stones.

To Mr. Dwyer:

# James Croll Esq.

President of the Lumpers Union in 1905

Member of the Club Committee 1919  
and 1921-1925

Dedication by the members of Fremantle  
Workers Social & Leisure Club as a mark  
of esteem for services rendered  
Oct. 31st 1924.



President Dan Whittington, September 2013

# Committee 1956



Back Row (L. to R.): A. V. Steadman, G. MacDonald [Trustee], J. Steadman, H. Clark, W. Hall,  
A. Hillbrick, J. Bove [Life Member].

Front Row: J. Lawrence [Treasurer], K. Hough [Secretary], N. J. Dixon [President], E. Bromley  
[Vice-President and Life Member], W. Loveday [Trustee].

# Christmas 1950s

Prior to acceptance of women  
as members of the club



*Photo: Izzy Orloff*

# What About The Women?

Women were accepted as members in late 1950s



Photo by Edna Jenkins 1933  
From OLD FREMANTLE, John Dawson, 2003



*"We may ask them back again"*

The club's solicitude for the welfare and the behaviour of its members is shown in the entry of August 17, 1919: "Mr. J. . . . was brought before the committee and severely spoken to by the president for his general conduct, both at home and also in the club."



July 4, 1926: Four members were charged with having played two-up. One defendant said that he could not have been playing as he was broke on the day in question.

August 29, 1926: The price of beer was raised to 8d. for a 20 oz. pot and 4d. for a 10 oz. glass.



### THE "CLOWN MACHINE."

In the same financial year, bar profits rose to £3,730/18/4; and an extra source of income was the "clown machine"—the forerunner of the one-armed bandits of today?



### A COCKATOO FOR THE DUCHESS.

On May 22, the secretary reported that he was negotiating for the purchase of a cockatoo "to present same to the Duchess of York."

On July 24, the private secretary of the Duchess of York acknowledged the receipt of the cockatoo.

Maintaining the delightful incongruity of the records, the next minute stated that the tan bark had been removed from the lane and replaced by cinders.



# The Club in Decline Late 1990s ~ 2011

General decline in Fremantle port and maritime workforce

Occupational Health and Safety - alcohol related

Changes in Fremantle demographics

Advancing age of members

Difficulty attracting new blood

Falling membership

**CLUB CLOSED in MAY 2011**





Lodges Hotel - Original Club Site

# The Club at Closure 2011

Proceeds from sale of car park gone

Over \$250,000 in debt

Membership down to 425

Liquor license was surrendered

Many of the assets were disposed of



# Don Whittington President

President of the re-opened and rejuvenated  
Fremantle Workers Social & Leisure Club  
2012 to present

Don and partner Ruth were pivotal in efforts  
to re-open and revitalise the club, backed  
by enthusiastic volunteers and supporters







Current FWSLC Premises

# Revival 2012

1. Get liquor licence back
2. Get financial help
3. Xmas sundowner held in Dec 2011 - members only
- 4. January 21 Club re-opened**
- 5. By June 30th 2012 over 800 members**











# The Trial of C Y O'Connor





LOOKING AHEAD

*Thank you*

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FREMANTLE HISTORY SOCIETY**

John Dowson

Izzy Orloff

Chris Gosfield

Roel Loopers

Bob Sommerville

Unknown

Graphic Design Bob Sommerville



