



FREMANTLE HISTORY SOCIETY

Established 1994

The Secretary, PO Box 1305
FREMANTLE WA 6959

Winter Edition, July 2022

<https://fhs.org.au>

VALE CATHY HALL

Cathy Hall sadly passed away on Monday 25th July. One of the speakers at her funeral described her as a woman warrior. A search for a definition found – *A woman warrior is someone who defends core feminine values. She may stand up in defence of children's rights, lead humanitarian efforts, go on peace missions or stand as a protector of the environment. Whatever her role, she achieves greatness by standing her ground and pushing for change.* (<https://www.keen.com/>) The source was a website focused on spirituality, psychic readings and the like but it felt like a good starting point to talk about Cathy and I think she would have liked it. Her achievements in life however, went a long way beyond this.



<https://www.facebook.com/CityofFremantle>
26.07.2022

After leaving school she worked as a secretary before changing course to train as a nurse in Leeds, UK. She worked as a nurse there and then in Perth after she and partner Jon immigrated, although the physical hardships of the job eventually forced her to discontinue. However, the end of one phase of our lives generally heralds the beginning of another and Cathy spent the next 40 years throwing her considerable energy into fighting for a vast range of causes. She fought against injustice to the marginalized, to women, to refugees. She was a strong advocate for reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. She practiced and promoted sustainable development, permaculture, recycling, upcycling, defiantly challenging the inevitability of climate change.

Cathy completed a Bachelor of Arts in 1995 in Politics, Philosophy and Sociology, and a Masters Degree in 2016 in Sustainability and Climate Policy. Her desire to affect change and her efforts to do that were recognized when she was granted the Premier's Active Citizenship Award in 2012.

Cathy loved her adopted Fremantle and an important part of the local culture for her was its history. She served as President of the Fremantle Society for a term and was on the committee of the Fremantle History Society from 2007 till 2020, thereafter an active member, always willing to volunteer at society events. She assisted with the rewriting of the constitution. She worked with other members of the Committee on various projects, including the Deck Chair Theatre archives. It was her tenacity and determination that saved the archives which are now held in the State Library of WA.

Cathy was such an inspiration, her enthusiasm, her passion, touched so many people. Hers really was an exceptional life and the world is a better place because of her. We will miss her.

MEETING REPORTS

St. Patrick's Basilica - 22nd May

Considering the appalling weather it was a very good turn-out that came to listen to Fay Campbell and Alan Kelsall talk about Fremantle's Basilica and its history this Sunday afternoon.

In the last newsletter we incorrectly said that the present church had been built in 1859-60. The Basilica is the second church to stand on the site. It was, in fact, the original church that was constructed in the 1850's by the Benedictines. From then until 1894 the parish was mainly served by Diocesan priests.



The first St. Patrick's Church Adelaide Street, Fremantle
c. 1860 Courtesy of Battye Library No. 66670 P.

In 1894 the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate arrived from Ireland to establish their first community here in Fremantle. They were accommodated at St. Patrick's Church and presbytery which by then were starting to show signs of wear.

The Oblates carried out necessary repairs and alterations, however, the town was growing rapidly and the old church had become quite inadequate for the congregation. Architect MF Cavanagh was instructed to design a very grand church in the architectural style of 14th century Gothic to accommodate 1000 people. "The windows, entrances, traceries, spire and internal columns of the nave are Sydney freestone, and the walls are of Cottesloe and North Fremantle stone." (*WA Record Saturday 25 Feb 1899*)

The Reverend Father Ryan, OMI, had the good fortune to discover a young, local stonemason, Italian Pietro Porcelli, to carve adornments. By June 1900 the building was still far from finished but had advanced to a point that on Sunday 3rd it was formally declared open for public worship before a crowded congregation. (*Northam Advertiser 6th June 1900*) The presbytery was built in 1916.

WW2 brought an influx of new of visitors to Fremantle with thousands of Australian and allied troops passing through on their journey to or from the war. The Catholic Welfare Organisation played a critical role in taking care of the welfare of these servicemen. (*Byrne 2000*) While many of St. Patrick's first parishioners were Irish, a further wave of migrants were driven from Eastern and Central Europe after the war. Victims of Nazi and Communist oppression came to start new lives in Fremantle from countries such as Italy, Portugal and Croatia, bringing their culture with them, their religious festivals, such as the Italian Blessing of the Fleet, becoming an integral part of the City of Fremantle. (<http://fremantlestpatricks.org.au/>)

The iconic tapestry (right) hanging above the altar was woven in Galway, Ireland and installed in 1994.



Clancy's Pub, conveniently across the road, seemed like a nice way to finish up the day and a number of us gathered there for fortifying refreshments.

Round About Coogee: Stories from colonial times to the present day – 28th June

The 28th of June's general meeting was enjoyed by around 25 members and guests, we changed our routine by having refreshments before the talk and it worked well within the time frame of access to the Mardoo Room at the Fremantle Library. It is a lovely private room for our general meetings and we will make use of it in future. Thank you to the Fremantle Library for your cooperation.

In addition to the welcome drinks, members enjoyed an entertaining and interesting talk by Maeve Harvey, a resident of Coogee, about the suburb she lives in and the history of the Coogee Hotel and Walter Powell and family who built the hotel and successfully ran it for nearly 30 years. Changes to the licensing laws in WA and the death of Walter Powell contributed to its closure.

Maeve is an entertaining speaker and she is obviously passionate about the history of her local area, admitting that she became obsessive with the topic during her research. We were treated to a comprehensive overview of the history of the Powell family from their arrival in Fremantle. "Walter, his wife Charlotte their son Walter Jr, and his sister Blanche arrived in Fremantle in 1881, and their younger brother Frederick followed in 1885."¹ Walter started out with a fancy goods shop in Fremantle and later bought land at Four Mile Well south of Fremantle. It took him some time to obtain a liquor license but eventually he was able to set up the hotel to serve food and drinks. It was a popular destination for day trips with Coogee Beach just over the road.

Walter Powell had many interests including horse racing and he wasted little time in turning the hotel's attentions to his own passions. On 26 January 1899, known that year as Anniversary Day, Powell hosted the first of many sporting carnivals at Coogee Beach, including swimming races, and a yacht race. He quickly turned to horse racing as a way of gathering large crowds, and had a racecourse marked out behind the hotel within a few months of opening. For the next twenty years Powell planned cycling, pigeon shooting, walking races, and in later years car and motorcycle races all to have their start and end points at the hotel, and provided rooms, dinners, picnics, and prizes for the competitions.² In addition he was actively involved in many community organisations.



Coogee Hotel 07.08.2022 K. McNulty

After the closure of the hotel, it was used for various uses including a holiday home for children who resided in orphanages, a home for the Coogee Progress Association and also mixed use retail. In 2017 the hotel recaptured some of its history being restored as a restaurant known as Coogee Common. If you would like further information about this research you can buy a copy of the book which Maeve has written about the area with a lot more information that wasn't provided at the talk. If you are interested please contact the Fremantle History Society and we can pass on Maeve's details.



FHS members Mattie and Jack Turnbull with President, Allen Graham

¹ <https://history.cockburn.wa.gov.au/Industry-and-Business/Hotels/Coogee-Hotel,-1898>

² <https://history.cockburn.wa.gov.au/Industry-and-Business/Hotels/Coogee-Hotel,-1898>

In conclusion Maeve's talk was a fine example of local history researched by a local resident of the area. It was also very relevant for one of our members, Beth Powell is a descendent of the Powell family.

Annual General Meeting – July 26th

This year's AGM was held in the Moodjar Room in the Walyalup Civic Centre in the new heart of Fremantle. Thanks to the City of Fremantle for making this room available to us; it is a nice space with good facilities. Thanks, also, to Local History Librarian Stewart Alger for allowing us access through the staff loading bay, and helping us bring all our books and food upstairs. It would have been very difficult otherwise. The unfavourable weather didn't deter a reasonable turnout of hardy members and guests, including contributors to the latest Fremantle Studies journal.

The FHS was delighted to welcome the Mayor of Fremantle, Hannah Fitzhardinge, to launch Fremantle Studies Vol 11. Mayor Fitzhardinge spoke enthusiastically about the articles in the journal explaining that they represented part of "the web that is Fremantle". She spoke about the growing recognition of Fremantle as a great place to visit and to live, referring to the recent visit by Leeds United football club and the selection of Fremantle as one of the world's top 50 cities to visit according to a recent article in TIME magazine. The Mayor referred to Fremantle's rich history, working history and community and cultural history, all coming together to build a really strong sense of place and community.

President Allen Graham delivered his Annual Report for the 2021/2022 period and Treasurer Terry Murphy, delivered his report; these should be sent out to members this week. Steve Errington submitted nominations for the election of the 22/23 committee with the following results:

President	Allen Graham will serve a final term
Vice President	Remains vacant
Secretary	Jude Robison
Treasurer	Pam Harris

We are sorry to see Terry Murphy step down, thanks for all your hard work Terry, and welcome back Pam.

Returning committee members include Alan Kelsall, Tania Heyne, Fay Campbell and we welcome Mattie Turnbull to the team.

The business of the evening concluded, members were free to enjoy the usual luscious light supper.



COMING EVENTS

PUB LUNCH – OLD COURTHOUSE

45 Henderson Street, Fremantle
Sunday 28 August 12.00 noon

This year's annual pub lunch will be held at the recently opened Old Courthouse. The Fremantle Police Court was held for the first time 15th June 1899, the attractive limestone building a vast improvement on the previous primitive structure in Marine Terrace. The building has undergone a complete refurbishment by Janine and Karl Bullers who were responsible for restoring the National Hotel in High Street. Karl Bullers will give a talk on the history of the Court House.

Please rsvp to the secretary.fhs@gmail.com no later than **21st August** so we can let them know how many to expect. Members can order lunch from the menu if they wish and drinks may be bought at the bar.



Courthouse, Henderson Street, 1985

FHC ref. E000254

TENSIONS ON THE WATERFRONT

Walyalup Civic Centre – Mardoo Room

151 High Street, Fremantle 6160

27 September 5.00 – 7.00 pm

Local historian, Daniel A Elias, is writing a thesis on Fremantle's waterfront history, exploring the relationships and difficulties between the maritime workers, shipping companies and state institutions, and how this has shaped Australia's maritime sector.

His research will investigate four periods over the 100 years from the lumpers' strike of 1899, to the tensions leading up to the 1919 Fremantle Wharf riot, the Cold War era and containerisation, ending with the waterfront dispute of 1998.

Daniel is reaching out to the Fremantle community hoping to locate anyone who had a connection to any of those periods, to collect some memories, letters, photographs, any information that will contribute personal experience to give life to the history.

He is happy to talk to the Fremantle History Society about his ambitious project, maybe even make some useful connections. We will be meeting at the Mardoo Room in the Walyalup Civic Centre at 5.00 pm. Refreshments will be served before the talk.

FREMANTLE STUDIES DAY

Sullivan Hall

2 Nannine Avenue, White Gum Valley, Fremantle, 6162

30th October 1.00-4.00 pm

We will be presenting four speakers delivering a diverse range of papers. Dr Dorothy Erickson - Fremantle Artists, Bob Gordon – Music in Fremantle, James Paratore – history of Commercial Fishers who have lost their lives and Joseph London - the Orange People.

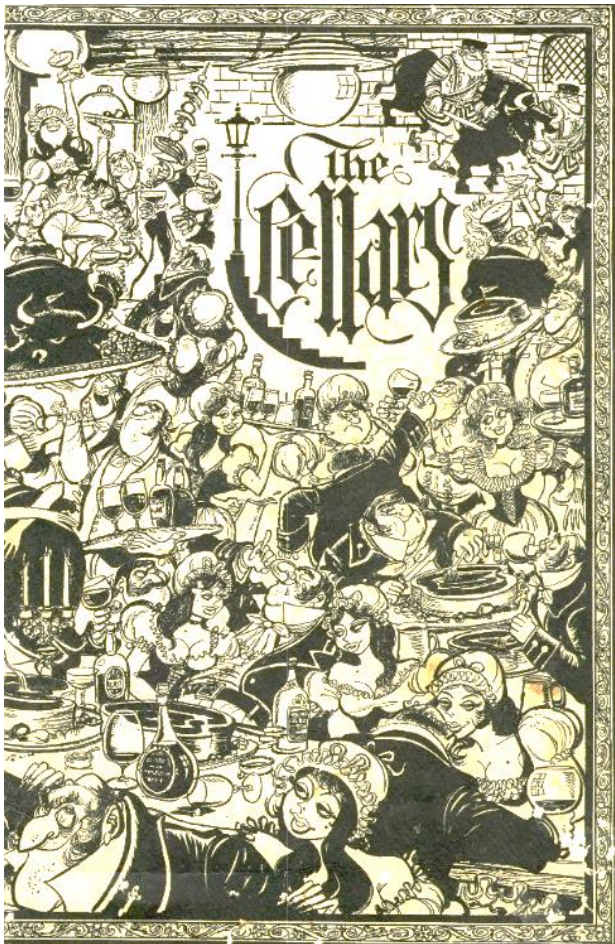
It's an interesting line-up so put the date in your diary. The event will start at 1.00 pm.

FREMANTLE HISTORY CENTRE

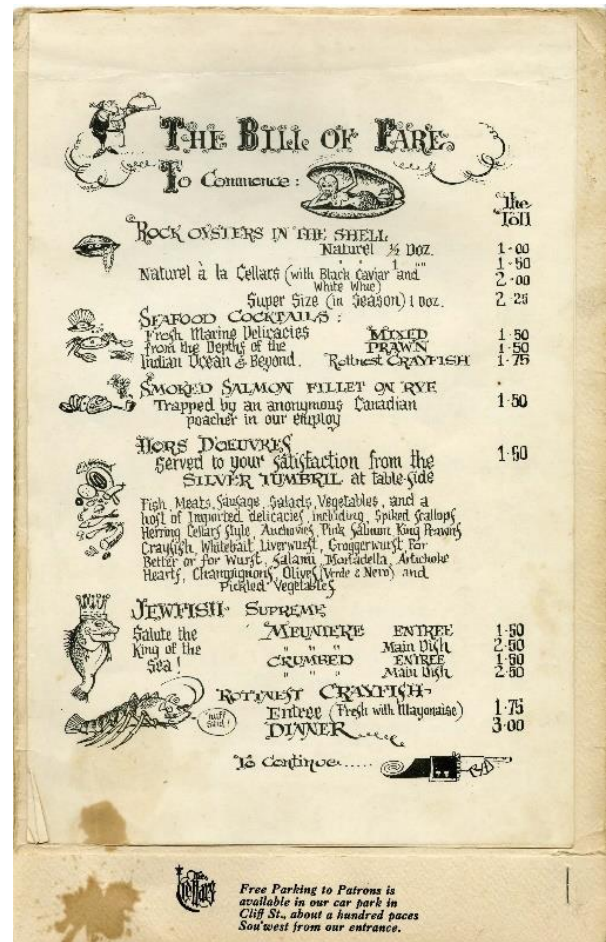
Heather Campbell and Stewart Alger

Number Ten High Street and The Cellars

The Fremantle History Centre recently received a menu originating from The Cellars Restaurant, from the Mandurah Historical Society, as it did not fit into their collection. The bawdy scenes displayed on the large four-page card menu are more reminiscent of Elizabethan times than of respectable Fremantle in the 1970s-1980s, when the restaurant was operating 'under number ten High Street'. The detailed artwork on the menu is similar to the style of Paul Rigby, a cartoonist, who regularly featured on the back page of the now defunct *Daily News*. A good time was probably had by all, as evidenced by the stains (red wine?) on the bottom LHS of the list of starters.



Cover and Bill of Fare from the Cellars Menu



Fremantle History Collection

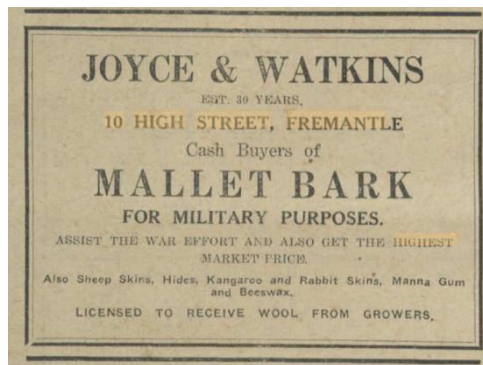
Interestingly Paul Rigby's 'Roo on the Roof' Restaurant was located at 10 High Street, Fremantle in the 1960s and later became (or possibly was also) known as 'The Cellars'.³ The Cellars appears to have been operated by Laurence, Gerald, Barry, Paul and Ian [no surnames given] with hosts 'Cellarmaster Ian, Foodmaster Pierre, Captain Alfred, and most co-operative serving wenches: Guinevere, Drusilla, Marion, Constance, Samantha and our Most Excellent Manservants'.

Number 10 High Street, was designed by architect EH Dean Smith and built in 1900 for Frank Craig. It is a three-storey tuck-pointed building, with a basement below ground level. It features

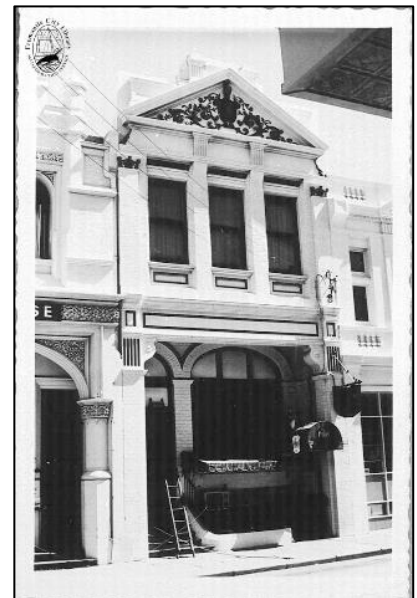
³ [Fremantle Stuff](#)

stucco brackets and a highly decorative stucco pediment and first floor sash windows with decorative stucco above.⁴

The WA Post Office Directories reveal that the building was originally number 24 High Street and was occupied by shipping agents, solicitors, insurance companies up until 1918 when it became known as Craig's Chambers. Numbering in High Street changed 1938-39. It was then occupied by Joyce & Watkins, importers, merchants and shipping agents, and by Marine Bi-



Products Ltd, manures. A perusal of Trove indicates that Joyce and Watkins were still at number 10 at least until 1954 and were quite entrepreneurial, advertising themselves in 1939, as 'Cash Buyers at full market rates of Emu Skins, Manna Gum, Horsehair, Beeswax, Sheepskins etc.' and seeking Mallet Bark for military purposes in 1941.⁵



10 High St in 1972
FHC Ref LH000878

Narrogin Observer 2 Aug 1941, p 2 Subsequent use of the building, apart from as a restaurant, includes by the Osho University of Unlearning in 1991, possibly at the end of the 'Orange People' era, with music workshops being led by Ma Deva Anuprada and a concert of spiritual music by spiritual master George Gurdjieff, and it was a jewellery workshop in 2002.

The façade of number 10 High Street was classified by the National Trust in 1974, added to the Register of the National Estate in 1978 and adopted on the Municipal Inventory in 2000.⁶



A WHALE OF A STORY

Anne Brake

It was such a delight to work with one of WA's most gifted artists and fellow Fremantle History Society member, Jo Darbyshire. Jo is both an exceptional visual artist, working in a variety of medium, and a social history curator. This work, like almost everything Jo does, brings together these two aspects of her life; driven by creativity and grounded in both social and environmental values and stories. Jo also has a strong commitment to recognising the importance and richness of Aboriginal heritage and its ongoing relevance and importance to our lives.

The Whalers Tunnel, built to provide easy access between High St and the whaling station in 1838, was closed to the public in 2018. This was due to concerns for public safety and to provide opportunity to undertake works to stabilise the badly eroded and unstable limestone cliffs.

A central part of the conservation works is a corten steel tunnel which extends out past the end of the tunnel and provides an opportunity for interpretation of stories associated with the site as

⁴ InHerit and NT of Australia files.

⁵ Sunday Times, 5 November 1939, p 9

⁶ inHerit: Our heritage places, place number 00904

well as acting as a shield for the public against any falling rocks. The steel was weathered off-site for eight weeks to develop a natural surface protection for corrosive environments.

Jo worked with Dr Noel Nannup to create the artwork and the associated interpretation panel. The two elements weave together stories of the whaling station and Whadjuk Noongar dreaming stories. Starfish and stars within and around the Mamong (whale), laser cut out of the steel, represent the Kulungas (little spirit children) that lived in the Mamong and were released when it died detailed in Dr Nannup's story 'Singing the Whales'. The interpretation panel close by tells this story and makes connections to the broader whaling story.

My part in the project was very limited, assisting Jo with the wording on the interpretation panel. It was such a pleasure to have had even this small role in this beautiful project which provides a glimpse into the stories of this very significant site while allowing this important place to be once again available to visitors.



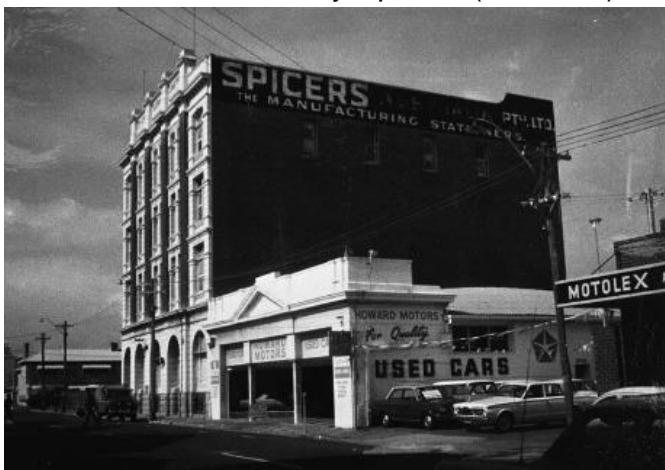
Heritage minister, David Templeman, inspects Whalers' Tunnel canopy with (from left) Fremantle Mayor Hannah Fitzhardinge, artist Jo Darbyshire and Simone McGurk MLA.
City of Fremantle media release 22.03.2022

If you haven't been to see it yet, get yourself down there soon.

SPICERS AND THE PAPER TRADE IN FREMANTLE

Kristi McNulty

The Spicers Building was demolished in 1970 and has remained a carpark up until now. With plans for development in the wind it seemed like a good time to take a closer look at this building and the hugely successful business, initially William Detmold Ltd., then Spicer and Detmold Ltd. then finally Spicers (Australia) Ltd., which occupied it.



Spicers Building 1970

FHC ref: 2776A

William Detmold was born in Germany in 1828. He migrated to the United States in 1846 and to Australia in 1855 where he commenced business in Melbourne as a book binder. As a result of his remarkable energy and capacity for hard work the business prospered. He bought up a bill-posting business to run along with his own but the importing of paper for trade proved to be so profitable that the lesser lines were dropped to focus solely on wholesale stationery.

The Herald, Melbourne, 4.8.1884

As the business grew they moved to larger premises, firstly Swanston Street, and then Collins Street in Melbourne. They then moved further afield to open an office in London. William Detmold Ltd. was one of the largest and most successful businesses in Melbourne at the time of his death in 1884. Two of his sons took over the operations thereafter. *Evening News, Sydney* 04.08.1884

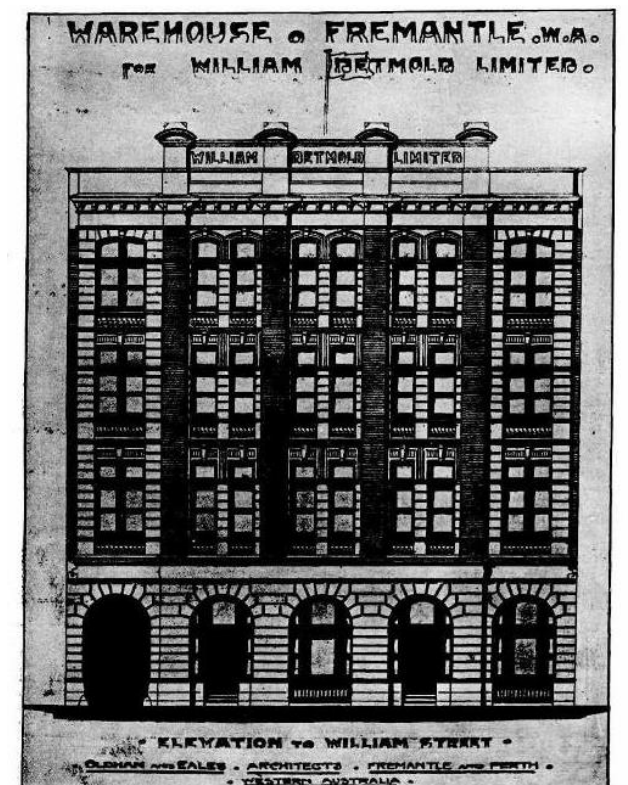
They established further branches in Sydney, Tasmania and Adelaide. An office was opened in Western Australia in 1894 at 40 Cliff Street and within a year they had secured the supply of stationery to the WA Government. Once again the business grew so rapidly that it became necessary to manufacture locally, and a factory was opened in William Street in 1897. Barely a year later the business had outgrown the factory and a much larger warehouse was needed. Land had been purchased in the same street some time earlier; plans were drawn up by architects Oldham and Eales and tenders were called upon to build "a splendid warehouse and factory... [to] occupy a fine site in William-street, just past the Federal Hotel". (*The Umpire* 04.11.1899)

In September 1900 William Detmold Ltd. advertised in the *West Australian* that they had moved to their new warehouse. Products at this time included "printing papers of every description, type-writing and cover paper, browns, cops, Royal Hands greaseproof, foolscap, letter, note ... printers' machinery and sundries... drawing papers and artists' materials" The firm still supplied to trade only. (*WA Record* 15.12.1900)

Spicers paper manufacturing has a history dating back to 1785 when the family founded their first paper mill in Alton, England. Spicer Bros was established in 1865 by James Spicer and his two brothers. Within a short time a split amongst them resulted in James forming his own company with his four sons - James Spicer and Sons, while his brothers continued with the original business, Spicer Bros. However, both companies did well, expanding without coming into competition with each other, establishing factories and large warehouses throughout the United Kingdom and setting up branches all over the world. (*Adelaide Advertiser* 20.07.1922)

Relationships between the families improved as the years went by and when the economic recession after WWI created a slump in the industry the two companies protected their interests by reuniting in 1922 to become Spicers Ltd. (*Grace's Guide to British Industrial History*)

On January 17th 1896 it was announced in the Melbourne paper *Table Talk* that the well-known stationery firm of Mr. William Detmold was to conduct its transactions under new auspices ... to acquire, by purchase or otherwise, the business of manufacturing stationers and paper merchants in South Australia and Melbourne. The first directors were Messers E Spicer, A Spicer and H Spicer, of the firm Spicer Bros. Thus at the amalgamation of Spicer Bros. and James Spicer and Sons in 1922, it brought into being as a subsidiary company in Australia, the firm of Spicer and Detmold, Ltd.



WA Record 15.12.1900 p. 55

The varied nature of the firm's business could be gauged from the following activities in which it engaged: Papermaking at the mills of Spicers Ltd, account book and wholesale manufacturing stationery, wax papers, picnic plates, drinking straws and lunch wraps. (*Brisbane Courier* 05.04.1927) On 20th Jan 1933 the Women's Interests pages of the *West Australian* promoted the new and fascinating hobby of crocheting hats, handbags, baskets, bags with coils of waxed paper in thirteen attractive shades, obtainable from Spicer and Detmold Ltd.

Another product line the company was famous for was playing cards. They produced a lot of attractive pictorial back designs in series such as Beautiful Australia, Dog Breeds and Popular Film Stars. Advertisements for alcoholic drinks were particularly popular in the 1930s. (World of Playing Cards (<https://www.wopc.co.uk/australia/spicer-detmold/>))

Spicer & Detmold split up in 1948, Detmold going on to become the Detmold Group, Australian owned packaging and paper products for the food and retail industries worldwide today. (<https://www.detmoldgroup.com/our-story/>)

Spicers became Spicers (Australia) Ltd and maintained occupancy of the William Street building up until 1970. Today they continue to manufacture and distribute commercial print paper products worldwide. They still produce playing cards (<https://www.spicers.com.au/about-us>)



The very imposing building fronting William Street was demolished in 1970 and the land left vacant. Some 50 years later, plans have been submitted to the City of Fremantle to develop the Spicer carpark. The proposal comes from Andrew and Nicola Forrest's Fiveight property company: a \$35 million, six-storey boutique hotel with retail space, a rooftop terrace with swimming pool, and basement parking. Possible future potential to include art gallery space, food outlets and bars.

[https://cdn.fiveight.com/content/uploads/2022/06/29104114/Spicers Corner View 220610-scaled-1600x900.jpg](https://cdn.fiveight.com/content/uploads/2022/06/29104114/Spicers_Corner_View_220610-scaled-1600x900.jpg)



TREASURES FROM TROVE – The ceremonial opening of the mouth of the Swan River

Taken from the *West Australian*, 5 May 1897, p. 2

Heather Campbell

'Yesterday an important ceremony was performed at Fremantle, when the first large ocean-going steamer, the Sultan, under command of Captain F. Pitts, steamed into the river in the smooth water which now lies where quite recently lay the formidable rocky bar of the Swan. Although the ceremony was not official, it was dignified by the presence of the Premier (Sir John Forrest) and Lady Forrest, Mr. F. H. Piesse (Commissioner of Railways and Director of Public Works) and many members of both Houses of Parliament and public officials. As the river is now practically open to ocean-going steamers it may be assumed that the gathering which assembled on board the Holt liner yesterday morning inaugurated the useful career for which the Fremantle harbour scheme has been designed. The three vessels alongside indicated by their display that they were, fully alive to the importance of the event of which the day, to witness the celebration. On the S.S. Sultan, which was moored at the outer berth on the north

side, was a magnificent display of flags, the harmonising of colour being most effective. Shortly before 11 o'clock, a large number of invited guests assembled on board, and were received by Mr. Charles Bethell, one of the owners of the *Sultan*, and by Capt. Pitts. ...

The *Sultan*, under command of Captain Pitts, who had as pilot Captain McDonald of the dredge *Fremantle* now at work in the river, left her moorings at Fremantle pier at a few minutes past 11 o'clock, and steamed slowly round the entrance to the harbour. An excellent view of the now open river could be obtained from her forward decks and bridge, and the day being invigorating and clear the cruise was much enjoyed by all on board. The small craft in the river were gay with bunting,



Fremantle Harbour being built, 1897

FHC Ref: FL000097

while the tower of the harbour works offices gave a greeting by a display of the house flags of all the shipping companies trading to Fremantle, the central flagstaff bearing the flag of the harbour works staff. On approaching the entrance the helm was taken by Lady Forrest, under whose guidance the *Sultan* steamed accurately along the new channel, and amidst the cheers of hundreds of spectators arrived at the south quay at noon. Here she was readily swung in 300 feet of channel and moored alongside. The brilliant spectacle created by the unusual display of flags and the majestic appearance of a large steamer at a spot so recently a sandbank, attracted crowds of people to the wharf during the day, and among the townspeople many mutual congratulations were exchanged.

THE LUNCHEON: An excellent luncheon was provided in the luxuriously appointed saloon amid-ship, after which, Mr. C. Bethell, in proposing the health of Sir John and Lady Forrest...

The toast was enthusiastically honoured. Sir John Forrest, in reply, said that it was a proud day for the people of Fremantle, the people of the colony, and for himself and the other members of the Government in having the privilege of coming into the Fremantle harbour in an ocean-going steamer. They all knew the history of the Fremantle harbour works. They had been talked about for almost a quarter of a century. Various schemes had been propounded for making a safe harbour in the vicinity of Fremantle, and eventually that within the river and its mouth was approved by Parliament.

As everyone knew, the chief credit of the scheme, in so far as its recommendation to Parliament and its effective carrying out were concerned, was due to the Engineer-in-Chief, Mr. C. Y. O'Connor. [Hear, hear.] He could not speak too highly of the conduct of this gentleman with regard to this work, because Mr. O'Connor had taken upon himself a great responsibility and risked his reputation as an engineer by proposals in opposition to, or at any rate not in accord with those of engineers of world wide reputation. The success of the scheme had been assured in the minds of many who had watched it closely. To-day there was the best evidence of all that they were a success : the fact that an ocean going steamer had been piloted safely within the river without accident or difficulty. (Applause) What had been just done would be done from day to day as time went on, and from that day onward the arrivals of steamers in the river would be a matter of course....

PROGRESS OF THE SCHEME

When, in August last Mr McDonald, then resident engineer in charge of the Fremantle Harbour works, stated that 1000ft. of wharf would be constructed long the South bank of the river, with a navigable waterway of 20ft deep leading to it from the Indian Ocean, within 12 months, the public generally accepted the prophecy with a good deal of skepticism, and said that it was another Government promise thrown out to stop the clamouring of those who at that time were suffering from the historical Fremantle "block." This promise, however, has been more than fulfilled, for though only eight months have elapsed since authority was given for the construction of the wharf, yesterday the first large ocean-going steamer came into the river through a channel dredged to a depth of 80ft., and made fast to a wharf 1,800ft. long from end to end. ... The channel leading up to the wharf where the Sultan is moored is well defined, and, having permanent lights, it is possible for a vessel to enter or go out of the river at night. The captain of the Sultan states that the entrance to the harbour is a great deal easier to negotiate than the one at Albany, and any ship-master can enter without a pilot with no trouble whatever. The steamer Bullarra, from the Eastern Colonies, will take up a river berth to-morrow, and on the departure of the Sultan the vacant berth, it is expected, will be occupied by the Adelaide Steamship Co.'s new boat Allinga, now en route to Fremantle from Glasgow and Liverpool.'

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Executive:

Allen Graham (President) 0412 933 360
Judith Robison (Secretary) 0434 571 666
Pam Harris (Treasurer) 0408 092 100

Committee Members:

Fay Campbell 0419 969 678
Tania Heyne 0419 197 116
Alan Kelsall 9336 4573
Mattie Turnbull 0409 200 157

Ordinary meetings are generally held on the 4th Tuesday (or Sunday) of the month. Details of these meetings can be found in your newsletter. Be sure to check details as meeting days and times may vary.

FOR YOUR DIARY

August Sunday 28th, 12.00 noon RSVP secretary.fhs@gmail.com by 21st August
Pub Lunch
Old Courthouse
45 Henderson Street, Fremantle 6160

September 27th, 5.00-7.00 pm
Tensions on the waterfront
Walyalup Civic Centre – Mardoo Room
151 High Street, Fremantle, 6160

October 30th, 1.00 pm – 4.00 pm
Fremantle Studies Day
Sullivan Hall
2 Nannine Avenue, White Gum Valley, Fremantle 6162