



FREMANTLE HISTORY SOCIETY

Established 1994

The Secretary, PO Box 1305
FREMANTLE WA 6959

Spring Edition, 2017

Editors: Ron Davidson, Anne Brake, Dianne Davidson



Samson House, 2010 (NTWA)

SAMSON HOUSE

The verandahs of Samson House will be the perfect place to celebrate Christmas with members and friends. Join us on Tuesday 28 November to learn about the history of Samson House gardens from the President of the Garden History Society, John Viska before enjoying suitably festive refreshments.

The evening starts at **5.30pm** on **Tuesday 28 November** so we can make the most of the sunlight and enjoy the dusk from the verandah.

Please RSVP to secretary.fhs@gmail.com by Friday 24 November. Friends welcome. A donation of \$5 per person will help cover costs of additional goodies on the night.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Executive:

Prof Bob Reece (President)	9335 7892
Allen Graham (Vice President)	
Pam Harris (Treasurer)	9432 9739(W)
Anne Brake (Secretary)	9336 5206

Committee Members:

Fay Campbell	9341 4102
Cathy Hall	0407 086 300
Ron Davidson	94306096
Jennifer Dudley	
Dianne Davidson	94306096
Greg Luke	9430 7899
Michelle McKeough	
Rob Fittock	0411 603 983

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.



COMING EVENTS

Christmas at Samson House

John Viska, Garden History Society (WA) and Kelly Rippingale, National Trust (WA) will take us on a tour of the Samson House gardens as part of this year's FHS Christmas Party.

Samson House was built by Michael Samson and his wife Mary. It was given to the people of WA by their son Freddy Samson, Fremantle's longest serving Mayor and keen gardener.

Enjoy festive celebrations with members and friends on the verandah of this significant Fremantle property following the tour.

Tuesday, 28 November, 5.30pm, Samson House, Cnr Ord & Ellen St, Fremantle (parking on Ord St)

RSVP: secretary.fhs@gmail.com by Friday 24 November



MEETING REPORTS

Pub Lunch

Our annual pub lunch had been organised for the Hamilton Tavern, but was cancelled at the last moment due to the televising of the Mayweather vs McGregor boxing match on 2 big screens in the area where we were to have our lunch. I went along to make sure no one had missed our notice about the cancellation and the place was full.

While this may have represented the true spirit of Fremantle pubs, it was probably not the atmosphere where we could have enjoyed our lunch. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Dalgety Building

Greg Luke

Nearly 40 members took up the offer to inspect the Dalgety building in Cliff St, recently renovated and redeveloped. Quite a few of those present commented that it was one of the best tours we have had. Many thanks go to the new owners Mediterranean Shipping Company. In particular Mr James Granville their National Marketing Manager, who welcomed us all and gave us a brief introduction to the Company and why they felt so committed to preserving and redeveloping this historic site. To an outsider it is obvious that they could have invested in a newer property at a far lower cost, and with less hassles.

MSC, the largest container shipping company in the world, based in Geneva, undertook this multi-million dollar restoration and redevelopment over several years and I believe the FHS should applaud their efforts.

On the day we were also extremely lucky to have Murray Slavin and Stuart Neal from Slavin Architects, the guys who did all the

planning for the redevelopment, talk to us about the process and the problems.

Stu led the tour showing us how different sections of the original building had been meticulously researched and restored, and how where needed compromises were made to retrofit all those essentials required for a modern international office and those required by current building regulations.

We saw the refurbished and magnificent old jarrah staircase, ornate tiles in many areas, and the locally commissioned replacement curved front doors. They wanted to replace the huge original doors that were falling apart with new ones of exactly the same type. However in order to enable the replacement doors to work, MSC had to install an airlock system for the front entry. Without that the old entrance would have been totally impractical in a modern air-conditioned office. A fine example of how willing MSC were prepared to go to enable the beautiful old building to remain true to its heritage. Pressed iron ceilings have been reinstalled and throughout the old and damaged features have been replaced as true to their original condition as possible.

The old attic which the office boys had to scramble through over ceiling joists, to gain access to the corner turret to raise and lower the flags every day, have been converted into a new executive meeting room. It is now complete with small meeting areas in the corners of the old turret, and a rooftop entertainment area. Items left by the original builders and some original Dalgety documents, recovered from behind walls, under floorboards and in tucked away corners are on display.

We heard how the old caretaker's apartment has been converted into a usable office and how original strong rooms and small bathrooms have been restored and reused. Murray and Stu also pointed out the newly added section which is in the old car park and how they were able to blend the older high ceiling building with the new office and

in the process gain an extra floor while not raising the overall height.

The process was obviously extremely complex. To quote Murray Slavin:

Being invited to help restore the great Dalgety building was a once-in-a-career opportunity. Not only that, but having a European client with an expansive understanding of the value and significance of history, resulted in a synergy well beyond the scope of most heritage projects. If it had not been for the Mediterranean Shipping Company, the Annex would never have been constructed. In fact it's likely it would have been another faux heritage façade as has been the case in most recent additions to the West End.

The path was arduous. Despite unanimous support by City's Planning Committee and then full Council, the process was dogged by negative reports by the Design Advisory Committee, and the Planning Department. Onerous, and questionable conditions were placed on the development that were eventually waived at the Development Assessment Panel – which congratulated the design team on the outcome. The State Heritage Office was complimentary about the proposal, and the public comment period demonstrated overwhelming community support. What this demonstrates is a serious disconnect between public expectation and the processes of assessment and approval at the local government level.

There was a great deal of research prior to commencing the design process. Despite carrying the many names of transient tenants over the years, the original building – a courageous pioneering development project of its day – should carry its founder's name. It would be a crowning achievement to have it renamed and publicly recognised as the 'Dalgety Building'.

Murray's comments have raised some interesting points. One of which is the "negotiations" which go on behind the scenes between developers and various levels of government about what can be done with heritage buildings. Your committee is presently looking at arranging a visit to another site to continue this discussion in more depth.

In conclusion, Murray is interested to hear from those who attended just what they think of the work and any comments they would like to make on what was successful and what might have been done differently. As you can see in his words he is also very keen to see the original part of the building, which is variously known as the Wilhelmsen or Elders Building in official documents, properly acknowledged as, and called, the Dalgety Building. Again he would like our comments and support on that. Please pass your comments to the Committee (see pg 2 for contact numbers or collar them at the Christmas party).

Information on the history of the Dalgetty Building can be found at <http://fremantlestuff.info/buildings/dalgetytour.html>

Fremantle Studies Day 2017

Pam Hartree

Once again, the Fremantle History Society provided an excellent day for members and guests with a series of interesting and informative papers relating to Fremantle's cultural institutions.

Able chaired by Allen Graham, the first speaker Bob Reece, Fremantle History Society President, provided an insight into the early institutions which served to educate the working class in the late nineteenth by providing access to literature and the opportunity to attend regular talks from experts in a wide range of topics. Bob's research included the Working Man's Association, the early Fremantle Literary Institute. Bob also included an interesting analysis of the class structure in Fremantle and how it didn't conform to ideas from the

eastern states at this time being published in the Bulletin which were promoting the ideas of Australia's national identity as egalitarian with opportunities for all. I will be looking forward to reading the published article in Fremantle Studies.

The next speaker was Sheridan Coleman, Sheridan is a practicing artist and freelance arts writer. Sheridan's paper provided an interesting insight into the connection between heritage and art by discussing various exhibitions which have been produced at the Fremantle Arts Centre. Intelligent and insightful interpretation of heritage sites is essential in ensuring the sites remain relevant and valued in society. Sheridan's analysis certainly examined and illustrated how artists have used the history and atmosphere of the building, particularly its original use as a lunatic asylum, to show how art and heritage can meld to provide an emotional and educational experience which benefits both artists and heritage.



Natasha, Jane, Sheridan and Bob (Pam Harris)

Jane Fraser, CEO at Fremantle Press spoke about another topic which is always fascinating, to me at least – books! Jane discussed the history of Fremantle Press starting out as part of the Fremantle Arts Centre as Fremantle Arts Centre Press and over time reimagining itself to become a unique publishing house with a commitment to publishing Western Australian authors. Fremantle Press has introduced many new successful Western Australians over the years including Elizabeth Jolley, Sally

Morgan, Phillip Salom, Craig Silvey and Kim Scott to name just a few prize winning authors. Jane also acknowledged Ian Templeman, who helped set up the company and also Ray Coffey. It was a fascinating journey through over 30 years of publications. It highlighted just how many books still have to be read.

The final paper was by Natasha Metson, the winner of the 2016 Fremantle History Society scholarship who has recently completed an honours thesis on the fields of gender, biography and war. Natasha also has a passion for the Fremantle Symphony Orchestra as a French horn player. The paper provides an insight on the evolution of the orchestra from its early beginnings in Melville to its success as a musical institution in Fremantle. Natasha's passion for the orchestra was evident in the enthusiastic way she analysed the benefits of the orchestra to the audience as well as the benefits and support individuals gain from being a committed musician with the group. Natasha also discussed the inherent problems many cultural institutions face such as a lack of funding and the need for enthusiastic and dedicated participants to ensure the show goes on. The paper was an entertaining and uplifting end to the day.

Thank you to all our presenters and to the Fremantle History Society Members and Committee who helped to make it also happen. Special thanks to Bob Reece for organising the speakers, to Fay Campbell for organising the wonderful afternoon tea and Tania Heyne for recording the day.

Natasha Meston's scholarship was sponsored by **Fremantle Ports**. The Fremantle History Society thanks **Fremantle Ports** for their ongoing support of the work of the History Society and in particular, the Fremantle History Research Scholarship.



TREASURES FROM TROVE

Heather Campbell

THE DAVILAK HOTEL AND THE SOUTHERN TRAM LINE - newspaper cuttings 1903-1906

The Davilak Hotel at 306 South Terrace was built in 1903 during the gold boom years in South Fremantle and newspapers provide insights into life down that end of town when George Beard was the publican. George, a colourful character, was on occasions fined for selling adulterated liquor. He was also fined for opening the hotel illegally on a Sunday, but pleaded 'extenuating circumstances' stating that it 'was very hard to procure reliable doorkeepers' *Daily News* 3 March 1904, p 1

The Dav hosted political meetings, was the victim of numerous robberies, the site of disorderly conducts, assaults and altercations and on several occasions was mentioned when a South Fremantle scandal ended in the divorce court. Reports of cases relating to these are often too lengthy, and in some cases, a little too salacious, for this respectable newsletter – but you can look them up yourself at <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/> or just Google 'Trove'.

The South Fremantle Tram Service commenced in 1905 and included a city loop which ran past the Fremantle Railway Station bringing many people to the South Beach foreshore and to the heady pleasures of the Dav which was adjacent to the terminus.

Enjoy these snippets from newspapers of the day ...

ANOTHER BURGLARY AT FREMANTLE. NEW HOTEL PLUNDERED.

Another case of burglary was placed in the hands of the Fremantle detectives for investigation yesterday morning. The scene of the robbery was the Davilak Hotel, a new

residential house, erected by Mr. R. H. Holmes, on the Mandurah road, and licensed by Cr. George Beard. One of the employees rose at half-past 5 a.m. to begin his duties, and on going into the yard saw a stack of cigars, cigarettes, and liquor valued at about £25, which had been removed from the spirit store. An examination showed that the store had been broken into, and that the stock had been reduced considerably. Mr. Beard stated that he locked the store up early on the previous afternoon, and the burglars evidently gained access by means of skeleton keys. Nearly £80 worth of champagne, whisky, and tobacco was stolen. It is believed that two men were concerned in the affair, and that they had with them a horse and cart. Portion of the plunder had to be left behind, owing it is suggested, to the horse becoming restless and to the robbers fearing detection. No arrest has yet been made.

West Australian 7 Oct 1903, p 9

Buried Whisky. While playing in a vacant allotment in West Perth yesterday evening, a number of boys discovered a tank, containing 142 bottles of whisky, buried in the ground. The police were communicated with, and it was ascertained that the bottles of whisky corresponded in number and labels with those stolen from the Davilak Hotel, South Fremantle, about a fortnight ago.

West Australian 13 Oct 1903, p. 4,

Scotsmen and others who delight in the skirl of the pipes will be afforded an opportunity on Saturday night at the Davilak Hotel, when Piper McKinnon will play selections on Scotia's national instrument on the spacious balcony of Host Beard's hostelry.

The Fremantle Mail 17 Nov 1903, p. 3

Visitors to the seaside will find an ideal summer home at Beard's new Davilak Hotel on the Mandurah Road, Fremantle. A dip in the briny (which is only a stone's throw away), boating, fishing, and the usual round of summer pleasures are to be had in conjunction with an excellent cuisine, which latter luxury is too often denied the

goldfields tripper. The charges are moderate, and the proprietor enjoys the reputation of being a most competent manager, having been in the hotel trade for many years.

The Sun 20 Dec 1903, p. 11

AN IMPUDENT INTRUSION. Day was just breaking on Sunday morning when Mr. George Beard, licensee of the Davilak Hotel, South Fremantle, was awakened by the sound of falling glass. He made a hurried investigation, and descried the body of a man half-way through the leadlight window of the first landing of the back stairway. When asked what he wanted, the intruder replied. "I want to get in for a drink." Mr. Beard frightened the man away, and went out into the balcony from which he saw his unwelcome visitor deliberately smash a small window in the pantry, at the back of the hotel, and enter the room. After calling one of the barmen Mr. Beard quickly descended, but before he could get around to the broken window the man had made his escape. The barman followed him leisurely towards Beaconsfield, and when he overtook him asked him to return to the Davilak Hotel and have a drink. "No fear," was the reply. "but I will come to the Sea View." Meanwhile Constables Hughes and Plummer, who had been telephoned for, arrived on the scene, and they took into custody the man, who proved to be Robert Jackson, an old offender at Fremantle.

West Australian 28 Dec 1903, p. 6

FREMANTLE TRAMWAYS.

At the invitation of Messrs. Noyes Bros., the contracting engineers for the Fremantle tramways. a number of prominent citizens, including: the Mayor (Mr. M. Samson), members of the Municipal Council, and members of the Tramways Board, made a trial of the completed line to Mandurah road, on Saturday afternoon. Two of the fine cars were decorated for the occasion, and each was filled by the excursionists as, piloted by Messrs. McCarthy and Jolly respectively, they left the chief station, to the accompaniment of enthusiastic cheers from a large assemblage, of the populace, who

had gathered at the entrance. Numbers of tradespeople left their businesses to witness the passage of the cars, and cheering was continued for the length of High-street. The unusual sight caused much commotion amongst the horses met with and once or twice accidents, which might have resulted seriously, were only averted by the timely application of the brakes. Arriving at the Davilak Hotel an adjournment was made to the dining room where refreshments were dispensed at the invitation of the Mayor. The opportunity was embraced to propose the health of Messrs. Noyes Bros., which was entrusted to Mr. E. Solomon, chairman of the Tramways Board. Mr. McCarthy, in reply, said that the reason for the present outing was merely to show the townspeople that the wheels of the cars could be turned. Mr. Jolly also thanked the company for the toast. The cars were then boarded again, and the homeward journey was made. Arriving at the car-barn refreshments were partaken of at the invitation of the firm.
West Australian 2 Oct 1905, p. 4



Mandurah Road Tram Terminus
 with the Davilak Hotel in the background.
 Fremantle History Centre ref: 948D

AN "ELECTRIFIED" HORSE.

At an early hour on Monday morning a tramway wire broke near the Davilak Hotel, Mandurah-road, South Fremantle, and fell on a horse, in one of Laudehr and Gillespie's sanitary carts, which was being driven by at the time. As soon as he felt the shock, the animal fell on the roadway, apparently dead. The police were informed by telephone, and Constable Sullivan went

out at once to see about the removal of the body, but before he got there the horse had changed its views on the subject of dissolution, and had consented to be driven home. Fortunately, the wire fell clear of the driver of the cart, and there was little harm done beyond shock to the horse's nervous system.

Beverley Times 11 Aug 1906, p. 6

The tram line finally closed in 1952, but the Dav is still going strong as The South Beach Hotel.



FREMANTLE HISTORY CENTRE

Pam Hartree

The Fremantle Local History Collection will be moving with the rest of the library and other Council admin services to the former Dockers administration building at Fremantle Oval from Monday 18 December. There is a mountain of work to do before the move. While tedious at times, it has also thrown up some treasures.

One of the enjoyable aspects of reviewing and assessing the History Collection for storage offsite has been the discovery of some wonderful materials which often don't get to see the light of day. In particular some ephemeral material which was donated by Mary Hogan some time ago. The short article below, an extract from Home Building Society Staff Newsletter, c1970s, gives a brief insight into Mary. Mary passed away in 2010 at the age of 88.

Miss Mary Hogan Branch Manager Fremantle Home Building Society

Some people have all the luck - like Miss Mary Hogan who has enjoyed quite a colourful career.

Before joining H.B.S. in June 1972, Mary had spent a good deal of her working life as secretary to three of Perth's leading

businessmen. In addition to that, Mary was Head Receptionist at Darwin Hotel for 14 months from where she went to Hong Kong to work for 3 months as Secretary to the Defence Secretary. After that she spent 19 months as secretary to the Commissioner of Hong Kong Police.

Mary joined Home Building Society as Supervisor of '66' in the days when Head Office was located on the upper floors. On her very first day there the late Sir Frederick Samson (then Chairman) remarked to his colleagues of the Board and Mr. Dolin - "I've just seen Mary Hogan - knew her before she was born!"

After seven months at 66, Mary was transferred to the newly formed Branch on the corner of Queen and Henderson Streets, Fremantle - her home town. Now she enjoys the comfort of the spacious new office at the other end of Queen Street into which the Society moved on 4th July last year.

Away from business Mary has had a long association with the Daughters of Charity Soup Kitchen in West Perth, the Stella Maris Seafarers Club and is currently active in Parish Council Activities. She enjoys gardening, travel, good company, a glass of cold ale and an occasional cigar.



Mary Hogan on the right, c.1950 (Fremantle Local History Collection E000792-03)



FREMANTLE STUDIES JOURNAL VOL 9 – THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Copies of volume 9 of *Fremantle Studies Journal* are now available at
 - the Fremantle History Centre

- Fremantle History Society meetings (including the upcoming Christmas party)
- The Royal Western Australian Historical Society
- WA Maritime Museum shop

The perfect gift for those who have everything!



CHRISTMAS IN THE COLONY

Heather Campbell

Heather has delved into Trove to learn a little more about Christmas in the early colony. The following article from the *Weekly Gazette* (Goomalling) on Friday 13 December 1935, p 5, casts its eye back over the previous 106 years. How different our Christmases are today.

People and Topicalities

(By "SCREW.")

....

Christmas in the Early Days. As the first newspaper published in Western Australia was not issued until the third year of the colony's establishment, there is very little to indicate how Christmastime was celebrated by our early pioneers. As they were English people, however, they most probably attuned their home and social hospitalities in the century-honoured English fashion. There would be the noble cake and plum puddings, the sherry and brandy (snapdragon) and little bits of treasured holly to remind them of the dear old Homeland they had left to colonise this outpost of Empire. The dances would be initiated with the Sir Roger de Coverley and the Minuet and other old-fashioned English terpsichorean movements added. No doubt, for all the feeling of profound isolation, those early Christmas gatherings lacked nothing in vim. The empty chair and the down-turned glasses would also remind them somewhat poignantly of absent and departed friends and relatives.

In this third Christmas the harvest was ripening, 160 acres of wheat awaiting reaping—only 200 acres had been put under crop in 1831—and the arduous labour ahead for the farm hands who had to wield the scythe, sickle and flail.

In the following year, the "Fremantle Observer" file tells posterity there were great Christmas rejoicings in Fremantle and Guildford. For the occasion of two Christmas trees pine trees were brought from Rottneest Island, where a stunted native variety of the English pine tree so dear to the hearts of these immigrants from the Old Country grew rather more numerous than it does today. Mr. McFaull, who planted in 1831 the first vineyard at Hamilton Hill, and was afterwards one of our first two postmasters, is recorded as having acted as "Father Christmas" at Fremantle, where, the Christmas tree was laden with delightful toys and confectionery for the children. The grown-ups had a public or community dinner and the festive season seems to have been rather a more wholeheartedly sociable affair than it is now possible for it to be for everybody concerned

*Gradually- Spreading.
Gradually the country was becoming more populous and the activities of the gallant band of pioneers extending both in value and scope. In January following this memorable Christmas tree the first sitting of the Legislative Council of the colony was held, and government by the people and for the people instituted. Although it was far from being what we know as a democratic legislative institution, that first Legislative Council, dominated as it was by the Governor and his nominees, was the first rung placed in the ladder of our administrative government functioning on the spot. As such it seems to have legislated with due regard to the needs of the time and the outlook of the people, despite the vitriolic attacks made upon it by the newspaper editor of the day.*

In 1833 the first newspaper for Perth was issued, but it had a wider outlook than Perth,

apparently, because it was called "The Perth Gazette and Western Australian Journal." A further evidence, of the budding freedom of the people is instanced in this same year, when the first horse race held in the colony was conducted at, South Beach on October 2. The recorder does not say whether the wagers were heavy or in money or in kind—but there were doubtless many bets. The hint of our coming agricultural destiny was evidenced in this same year, when the townsites of Northam and Toodyay were surveyed. These were gazetted late in the year and, in the then hinterland, another great Christmas epoch was celebrated. And in Northam Father Christmas appointed Mr. Morrel as his deputy. So were the Christmases of 106 years ago and the years that have sped onward till today.



ROBIN MCKELLAR CAMPBELL (1934-2017)

Ingrid van Bremen

Renowned Fremantle architect Robin McKellar Campbell (83) died unexpectedly on 20 October 2017. Mr Campbell restored a swathe of the city's heritage buildings, such as the Arts Centre, Round House, Fremantle Markets, St John's Church, Princess May Park and the Prison. He was a strident critic of recent developments around the city, particularly Kings Square. Feisty to the end, just two days before his death he penned a letter to the *Herald* flaying Sirona Capital's proposed FOMO in the square.

Mr Campbell went to hospital expecting a stay of a few hours, but an undiagnosed infection took a turn for the worse. Born in South Africa in 1934 and graduating in architecture from the University of Cape Town in 1957, Robin McKellar Campbell was employed in general practice in South Africa, Rhodesia and the United Kingdom (RIBA 1959). He moved to Australia and completed a master of architecture degree at the University of Melbourne and on arrival

in WA in 1964 joined the firm of Oldham Boas & Ednie Brown. In 1966, Rob Campbell started his own and began specialising in restoration work. Research on the old Lunatic Asylum in Fremantle began in 1968, and the project to bring it back into use as the Fremantle Museum and Arts Centre was completed in two stages by 1972. The quality of the project was recognised by a RAIWA Chapter Bronze Medal (1977), and it remains a landmark in the conservation and adaptive reuse of historic places in WA. In the 1970s, working with the Fremantle City Council, Rob compiled some of the first reports aimed at recognising and protecting the historic buildings and valuable townscape in Fremantle, as well as completing projects such as the consolidation of the Round House (1973) and the restoration of the Fremantle Markets (1975).

A Churchill Fellowship allowed a study break at the University of York (UK 1976), followed by restoration projects such as Claremont Railway Station, Christchurch in Claremont, St John's Anglican Church Fremantle, and the reconstruction of the street-front verandahs to the Fremantle Markets (1981). His work on the Old Courthouse on the Esplanade and Princess May Park won Fremantle awards and he completed the first detailed research and report on the value of the Fremantle Prison while it was still in use as a prison.

His commitment to the special character of Fremantle and his work on the history and cultural values of the West End (which included at that time the Round House and Arthur Head, the Railway Station, Kings Square and the Prison) led to its listing as a Conservation Area in the Fremantle Town Planning Scheme, its classification by the National Trust, and listing on the Register of the National Estate. He has understandably been critical of recent developments that

have reduced the included protected area, particularly the act of omitting Kings Square from the Stage Heritage Register in 2016.

In the 1980s and 1990s, major projects included restoration of Guildford Grammar School Chapel, adaptive re-use of the Perth Mint Factory Buildings (with OB&E-B 1994) and the Perth Police Courts (with the Building Management Authority 1995). His expertise in the conservation of stonework was brought to the task of managing repairs to the historic buildings on the University of WA Campus, from Hackett Memorial Buildings to the Arts Building. He was also consultant architect to the Benedictine Community of New Norcia, providing conservation advice on some 24 significant buildings from 1986 to his retirement from professional practice at the end of 2012.



Through all this time, Rob supported the people in Fremantle who have been trying to protect the cultural values of the Town during its development phases, and has inspired generations of students with his knowledge and passion for the unique history and townscape of the

place. He was a severe critic of proposals for change that did not, at the same time, respect the cultural values.

On Friday, October 20, *The Herald* and its readers lost a keen contributor to the debates about the future of Fremantle: his last letter was dated October 18.

This obituary has also appeared in the *Fremantle Herald*, 27 October 2017

Rob Campbell presented a paper at the 2015 Fremantle Studies Day titled 'The Prehistory of Conservation in Fremantle, Revisited'. Sadly, it is unlikely this will be published.



NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER

Dr Michelle McKeough joined the History Society committee at the last AGM.

Michelle is an Historian working in Western Australian history. She is a contributing author of *Voices of the West End* (Fremantle: Maritime Museum of WA, 2012) and author of *Rescues, Rogues and Rough Seas 150 years of Water Police in Western Australia*. (Fremantle: W.A Water Police, 2000).

Michelle's thesis (Murdoch University, 2016) examined three times of crisis in Fremantle during the twentieth century: The Bubonic Plague; The Great War and the Depression Era. She is currently developing her post-doctoral work on the Depression Era and researching the Barrowmen of Fremantle.



For Your Diary

28 Nov, Christmas at Samson House, 5.30pm. Join members and friends as John Viska and Kelly Rippingale take you on a journey through the Samson House garden followed by Christmas repast on the beautiful verandahs of this significant property. Cnr Ord and Ellen St, Fremantle. **RSVP secretary.fhs@gmail.com by Friday 24 November**

Christmas and other greetings

Pam and Kristi found some beautiful cards during the packing and sorting work they have been doing over the last couple of months. Some are shared here. All cards from the Fremantle History Centre collection.

