Entry type: Person
Entry ID: AWE4801

Furia, Lina

(1891 - 1970)

Born	18911104, Grosotto Tirano Valtellina
Died	19701231, Coolgardie Western Australia Australia
Occupation	Hotel owner

Summary

Lina Furia owned and ran the Cornwall Hotel in Boulder with her husband Charlie Furia and her son Jack Osmetti from 1926 -1970.

Details

Lina Robustellini migrated to Western Australia in the early 1900s. Her first husband Jack Osmetti was killed on the Golden Horseshoe Mine and she supported her family by running a boarding house. In 1924 she married Charlie Furia and using the compensation money paid out after the death of Jack Osmetti, they purchased the Cornwall Hotel in Boulder. Young migrant miners stayed at the Cornwall, and dances were held for the community every Saturday.

During the Kalgoorlie riots in 1934 the Cornwall was among many buildings belonging to migrants which were burnt down. Lina continued to sell alcohol to her customers and operated a bar from a corrugated iron shed next door to the remains of the hotel until it was rebuilt with compensation money from the government.

Lina Furia provided employment for many young migrant women and men, including Nerina Beccarelli, who worked as a waitress in the dining room.

Published resources

Resource
Trove, National Library of Australia, 2009

Book
One Hundred Women of the Eastern Goldfields, 2000

Site Exhibition
Karlkurla Gold: A History of the Women of Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Criena Fitzgerald and National Foundation for Australian Women, 2012,
http://www.womenaustralia.info/exhib/wikb/wikb-home.html

Archival resources

National Library of Australia, Oral History and Folklore Collection
Tess Epis interviewed by Criena Fitzgerald [sound recording]

Nerina Beccarelli interviewed by Criena Fitzgerald [sound recording]

Author Details
Criena Fitzgerald

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