

# Royal George Hotel

## East Fremantle



## Residents' Survey 2005



## Introduction

In 2005 the National Trust of Australia (WA) acquired the Royal George Hotel in East Fremantle. The hotel is a landmark in George Street and has been in continual use since it was completed in [DATE]. Its design is typical of gold boom hotels in Perth and it has been largely unchanged over the years.

Currently it is leased by the Town of East Fremantle who on-lease it to several organizations and individuals – the Old Royal George Artists’ Foundation (ORGAF) who utilize many of the upstairs rooms as studios, individual artists and the [NAME] art gallery. Previously it was also leased by the [NAME] Thai Restaurant.

In order that the building be utilized in a viable manner and its future protected, a use needs to be found for it which balances financial needs with community benefit.

In October 2005, the National Trust of Australia (WA) in conjunction with the Town of East Fremantle commissioned a survey of the residents of the Town regarding the future of the Royal George Hotel. The aim was to determine how residents would like to see it used and if there were any uses they would object to.

Approximately 3200 surveys were delivered and 347 were returned, making a response rate of nearly 11%. The deadline for completion of the survey was set for 4 weeks after delivery (14/11/2005). The chance to win a breakfast buffet for two, kindly donated by the George Street Bistro, was incentive for people to reply by the set date.

Helena Waldmann, Heritage Officer, National Trust of Australia (WA) November 2005

## Question One

Describe how you would like to see the Royal George Hotel premises used to provide benefit to the community.

Suggestions were:

- a centre where the community can meet and participate in various social art craft and community activities
- a combination
- a commercial draw card for the area
- a community building for East residents
- a community centre - art based for avid exploration
- a community hub - a gathering point for conversation and meeting people
- a cultural centre which generates a creative community
- a cultural venue promoting local arts
- a gathering place, mixed activities so more people use it, tavern - provides a link to its past, adds another layer to it's history.
- a local community-focused venue based on gallery/studio space with compatible food, retail and entertainment space, but low key, such as acoustic music, small pub/brewery and/or restaurant
- a masterpiece of a bygone era
- a meeting place for a range of purposes. It is essential that at least some of the building be open to the public and not restricted eg functions, businesses
- a meeting place such as small tavern/wine bar connected to an art gallery
- a mix of activities which enliven the street
- a mix of commercial and community use
- a mix of commercial and community uses, particularly supporting local arts and culture
- a mix of commercial and community uses, This will require an entrepreneur with a helicopter view and expertise in this field
- a place of interest and relaxation for the public, art, food and entertainment
- a place that can be used by people day and night, for a number of purposes, commercial and noncommercial
- a place to socialize, eat, drink, shop and view art
- a place where everybody of the E Freo community can enjoy
- a place where local people go and some tourist appeal
- a place where residents can get together
- a space where people can come together to discuss, debate, laugh with fellow citizens
- a vibrant and used feature of George Street
- a vibrant place that draws in local people

a vibrant place where arts and crafts can be seen and perhaps a coffee enjoyed  
access to all people café is a sociable atmosphere  
an area that's not too noisy and no encouraging late night activities  
any good mix of eating, gallery, retail, specialty workshops - anything to open up that section of George Street & help bring back vitality to suburb  
any usage which would ensure tenants and not ratepayers are responsible for its upkeep  
any use would be a bonus. It is a beautiful old building going to waste  
any way that would see the building and its features preserved  
art centre & gallery with a café  
art courses, restaurants, tavern  
art gallery, artists in residence, restaurant  
art gallery/coffee shop/community centre  
artistic outlet for artists to show their products, perhaps café/restaurant  
artists and crafts  
arts centre - food outlet  
as a 1st class exhibition space, to support artists - as it is currently used  
as a nice place to visit with a coffee shop gallery with working artists in residence and a shop selling their wares  
as a venue for exhibitions, workshops for learning, dance classes  
as an accommodation hotel and casual café/bar  
as an art centre, a bar & café or a coffee shop/restaurant. A space for contemporary art included in gallery  
as an attractive asset being used for both public and private purposes, adding interest to the sleepy George St precinct  
as an expanded art centre  
as is now  
as much diversity as possible without significant changes to appearance of internal arrangement  
as the "East Fremantle Arts Centre"  
available to everyone, not too exclusive or boring, a reason to go there, multipurpose  
be affordable for everyone  
bridge club  
business (as below) servicing the local area (walking distance to avoid parking problems)  
by using this fantastic building in a way that would protect and enhance its beauty  
café & specialty food e.g. [illegible], Toscanini as well as performance arts  
café, arts centre, performance studios  
café/bookshop

café/hub centre with complimentary uses to East Fremantle e.g deli, wine bar, art gallery, artists in residence etc  
café/restaurant, not tavern or hotel or pub  
café/wine bar with live music (jazz, blues)  
casual dining on w/e, function centre  
city club - bar, café, reading room & some art function; not shops  
Clancy's style jazz bar/restaurant - upstairs artists gallery  
combination of appropriate commercial /community use to bring life into George Street  
combination of community based space & a venue for weddings, or a small group meeting and some gallery or other use  
commercialized but low key a mix of health professional/retail/entertainment  
commercially functioning business (preferably restaurant) but perhaps with other add-ons  
community  
community and commercial use  
community arts centre  
community based - with a small space for commercial enterprise  
community groups, local artists, art classes, local food outlet  
community hall to house functions or events  
community service arts centre  
community spaces for groups to use  
community tavern, café, casual dining, w/e entertainment, English pub  
community use - meetings, weddings, café (one small one only), gallery  
community use and to provide a hub for the Plympton village  
community use of any sort  
community use, like Freo Arts Centre, occasional entertainment, alcohol free  
community workshop facilities available for hire if premises are suitable  
continue as arts centre  
continuing art exhibitions  
create it so its very East Freo! Local produce, talent, skill  
cultural and art venue  
cultural/commercial. Drawing tourists similar to Freo markets plus retail focus  
dance venue, b&b, book café/art gallery  
different facilities to appeal to wider cross of community  
East Freo needs a central & iconic hub for its locals - this place is ideal for that purpose. People only gather in significant numbers when there is food, wine

and music involved  
facilities that all people could enjoy/use  
focal point for the area - perhaps lectures on various subjects; health, environment, history of Fremantle, etc.  
focus on whole of community use  
for all types of entertainment  
for responsible adults with children - remembering my childhood days  
function centre  
function centre with maybe accommodation for people to stay after weddings etc  
greater public use, music on the veranda, children's art classes  
having a varied arts programme combined with café/bar facilities  
hospitality - something to compliment the current cafes and restaurants. Microbrewery and wine bar are the best  
I think it is ok being used as it is  
I would like the Royal George to continue to be a centre for artists  
I would like to see a mix of commercial and other uses with some public access (through commercial uses)  
in a manner that appeals to the broader community  
in a way that enlivens George St and adds to the food and wine feel  
in need of a spruce up, several facilities for public - preferably low noise  
increase awareness of its existence for future generations  
interactive culturally enriching entertainment space  
informal space with a few different options to see  
intimate performing space; flexible functioning for multi use  
It kept in its original design and state  
it needs people in it/using it/maintaining it  
Its already great as a gallery, I think a function space would also be good, as well as a workshop/education centre for the arts  
lightweight activity, but a lot of it  
local museum for Fremantle  
low cost meeting rooms for community groups  
maintained, grounds restores, a vibrant part of George Street precinct  
meeting place for drinks, casual dining & entertainment on a Sunday afternoon  
meeting place with community feel  
meeting rooms, exhibitions, seniors centre etc  
microbrewery

mix of professional art space (i.e. resident artist and commercial art gallery) craft shop, restaurant  
mixed use facility appealing to the wider community  
mixed use for eating/drinking - artists, performance and visual  
mixed use i.e. small pub type venue, gallery, live performances  
mixed use to complement existing George St precinct  
mixed use to spread visitors throughout the day and week  
mixture community (cultural) and commercial (hospitality, performance)  
more events and classes where art and communication is involved  
more than artist's studios, a true community facility, cafes, plus adult learning, galleries, some retail to bring people in and make it viable  
much as it is at the moment  
multi use  
multi-purpose community activities, small commercial enterprises, Council services, History centre,  
music venue  
museum/gallery showing pictorial history of East Fremantle  
needs opening up  
non-commercial, multi-faceted meeting place for all ages  
not to be a burden to maintain, remain in public ownership, opened up and used, give it life  
offices for community groups  
ongoing community space with a café, similar to Freo Arts Cent. Studios remain, weekend monthly market home made gifts. Lots of advertising & promotion  
opened up to thriving multi business premises  
part commercial and part community access  
place of history for the area  
present studios satisfactory but a café or restaurant would definitely be a plus  
preserved/restored community asset  
provide a place for the community to meet and socialize  
provide facility that is used. Maintained to good standard - setting standards for community to follow with renovations etc  
provide operations to attract cross sections of local and outside communities  
providing services otherwise not found in the area  
range of services, not offices  
reflect our diverse local culture and how this enriches us all. Develop and promote spirit and local talent  
renovated with some facilities that would benefit the area

restaurant that serves organic meat and poultry  
restaurant/tavern  
restored and used for public benefit  
restored and used for up market venue  
retained as a gallery, art centre and meeting place  
retained as art centre  
room for community support groups to use at little cost & function venue  
rooms for artists; gallery; rooms for musicians; restaurants; cafes  
short term holiday venue i.e. up market hotel/motel, food, wine  
should be used on a regular basis, as a hotel/bar  
similar to the Fremantle Arts centre  
small café, art gallery - something arts related  
small tavern or wine bar/café with restaurant view to light entertainment [illegible]  
social centre, place to meet, dine, see entertainment, socialize  
social hub, maximize spaces, variety of uses  
something lively and beneficial to the community and area  
something that brings in community both day and night  
something whole community can use.  
somewhere for us to socialize that will compliment existing restaurants  
support for the arts  
tavern (small) and general public use  
tavern, licensed venue, and accommodation  
the broadest mix of contemporary life outlets  
The E Freo community would benefit from a cultural site  
the premises must be self supporting and pay its own way  
to be a fantastic space full of artists studios and a contemporary art gallery  
to enliven the community through gathering spaces, open often  
to provide a forum for local artists to sell their work by subsidized rent  
to use the space to attract people to the beautiful George Street i.e. casual dining, bar, café & great space for functions  
up market eating and cultural centre. Trendy and relaxing.  
use should benefit all of community not elite groups  
used on a regular basis by the community as social meeting place

uses need to be inclusive of the public rather than exclusive  
varied, viable, vibrant mixture of uses  
variety of purposes to appeal to a range of people  
various outlets to cater for a broad spectrum of the community  
venue to promote community participation in the arts & assoc activities, should be affordable not elite  
we would like to see the Royal George form a vibrant hub in our community eg wine bar  
welcoming space for community use or viewing  
whatever the locals feel will get support without making existing places struggle  
whatever the use it should be open 7 days a week  
wine bar and jazz etc. opportunity for poets and musicians to perform  
would like a mix of café/restaurant/retail that preserves the presence the building has  
[illegible] supports community run projects

151 participants did not answer this question.

Generally, respondents support the idea of a variety of uses in the one building – words such as “mix”, “mixture”, “variety” and “various” appear frequently. It is also revealed the idea of the Royal George being used as a “hub” is popular – illustrated as it being an “iconic” focal point within the community, a place that is “vibrant”, a place to “socialize” and “gather”. The focus on arts, culture and community is also clear; as is the concept of inclusiveness – meaning, the place should be accessible to all, not just a limited sector of society. There were only a few responses (6) from respondents who would like to see it remain as it is now, which seems to indicate a high level of support for opening the place up to new options.

## Question Two

Please tick what you would like to see at the Royal George Hotel.

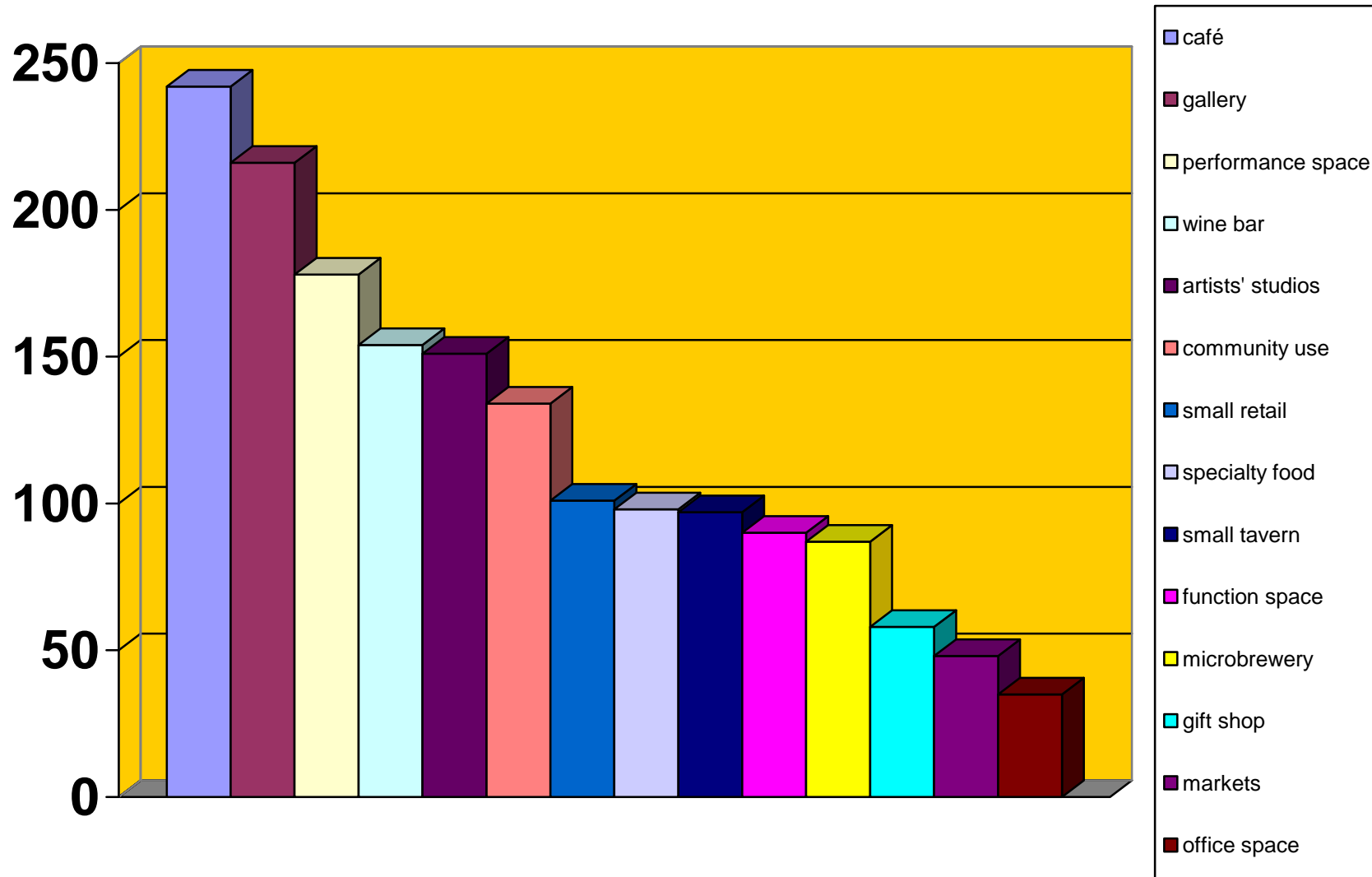
Participants were offered a selection of possible uses in no particular order. They were asked to tick which ones (multiple selections permitted) they would like to see at the Royal George Hotel and had opportunity to provide their own options underneath. The results from the options provided (in the order they were offered in the survey)\* were:

Café	241
Restaurant	181
Wine bar	153
Small tavern	93
Microbrewery	87
Performance space	178
Specialty food outlet	98
Artists’ studios	150

Gallery	216
Community use	133
Function venue	98
Small retail facility	100
Office space	35
Gift shop	58
Markets	48

\*This information is reproduced graphically in order from the response with the highest number of responses to the lowest on the next page.

Question Two cont.



## Question Two cont.

As the options offered in question two were by no means definitive, respondents were asked to fill in their own ideas. Options suggested were:

a combination of options ticked would be wonderful and would bring even more life into the precinct  
a gym, renovate the ground floor courtyard area and open up the area into a much larger area. Then a number of options can be considered rather than one only. For example, a café could then lead into a wine bar.  
a place where community can meet - bar, tavern, restaurant, coffee shop including art space  
a) Glyde in b) groups eg probos 3) youth club 4) internet for public use  
adult education - art classes, writing etc  
affordable meeting place for non-profit groups e.g. creative writing groups  
all types of arts and crafts  
along the lines of Sail and Anchor Fremantle  
an example could be the Queen Victoria Building in Sydney  
any combo of options chosen, local history (photography display), book café with office above  
any or all of the options in combination  
artists studios managed by Artsource  
as a venue to pursue arts & crafts and maybe retail supplies  
as it is the caliber of exhibits has not been great, the standard would need to be lifted  
backpackers hostel  
backpackers, community learning centre (residential w/e venue for specialist courses)  
bakery, bookshop, retail boutique  
book café, small movie theatre  
book shop, gallery café with small performance area - retaining space for artist's studios and room for community to hire out  
bookshop  
bookshop  
bookshop  
bookshop café  
bookshop, WA art & craft, café - enhancing artists studios  
bookshop/café, microbrewery in keeping with original use  
boutique hotel

boutique hotel (up market accommodation)

brothel, bordello

café open daily 9-5pm (there isn't one open these hours in the area). Evening opening too, café to suit all ages

café/restaurant downstairs/office upstairs

café/restaurant would be great. Council needs to address parking and other issues as current cafes are great but bring parking/noise problems for Duke St

cheap liquor store, tavern, TAB

cloth doll shop, more workshops for art and craft

combination

combination of a few different uses

combination of options picked

combination of options ticked

combination of options ticked, similar to Freo Arts Centre

combine café & bookshop, room for talks on local history with morning tea

comedy café, wine bar/tavern/restaurant, organic grower direct markets (all organic products - like City Farm)

community drop-in centre, learning centre, local museum

continue small changing exhibitions

could be a small boutique b&b type hotel = more guests for local eateries etc. Wine bar would be great for locals and the Freo public

craft market - high end, like craft council wa

dance space (it has beautiful floors!)

dance studio

definitely a venue for good music (jazz/classical/folk/funk (not rock) perhaps in basement wine bar restaurant type setting also gallery space

deli, bakery

discuss with Artsource need for studios

East Fremantle mementoes and early photographs etc. displayed and copies for sale at the small retail facility

ensure planning condition limits opening hours to 10pm weekdays & 11pm Fri & Sat. All All customers to have left the premises by 15 minutes after closing.

extension space for Glyde Inn, yoga, Buddhist, meditation

facility just needs to be used

fine art photography emphasis

food/wine business & gallery or public space area - a balance

generally, service oriented uses

good quality café with quality coffee and teas being main attraction  
happy for Mon-Sun operation - prefer [illegible] hours or usual restaurant hours  
high quality restaurant rather than something ordinary  
historical site - focal point for walking tour of area  
I believe the artists' studios are integral to contributing to the local diversity of art in the greater Fremantle area  
I would like to see the Royal George Hotel revert to being an operating hotel again or if not, a private hotel catering for tourists  
if tavern or brewery best not to be any bigger than Freo markets tavern  
it cannot operate in isolation, this wonderful building can only 'act' if involved in a variety of activities at any one time. Enormous community support needed.  
it is a large building should be multi use  
it would be great if the performance space could include theatre facilities and perhaps film screenings  
jazz bar  
local schools to use, district PEAL centre (gifted talented student w/shops), Fremantle Ed Centre  
low key community space  
mainly artists studios  
mainly as artists studios, gallery, café and restaurant  
many of the above would be good for the community as long as the building and interior are kept in original style. Please don't butcher this building as they did with the Sail and Anchor  
mix commercial and residential  
mixed new options and artists space  
mixed use - high quality but comfortable - not slick  
needs to be the heart of East Freo again  
obviously you could not fit all of the above in, we miss John's Thai Kitchen restaurant, something along those lines would be good, not against retail outlets but keep the quality high like the Freo arts centre, please not another tourist rubbish gift shop.  
orchestra, bookshop  
piano bar  
post office which people use regularly as it is walking distance for many in East Freo  
private tourist hotel and café/bar  
residential - i.e. temporary stay guesthouse style accommodation for upper floor  
restaurant/wine bar complex would be excellent! Or alternatively a jazz bar!!  
rooms for community groups to have meetings etc  
secondary gallery or small shop if space allows  
sharing of local talent, music, readings, art, theatre etc.

small hotel

small intimate wine bar downstairs. A café in a gallery would be nice upstairs

some office space for non-profit/community groups, small gallery, book café, wine bar

something commercial that attracts a cosmopolitan "buzz" to the street

something like 'Kulcha' (a venue in Freo), fashion or design centre, art house cinema

something that brings people to George St and makes it a vibrant and happening place

specialize in local music and art. Open mic night for local artists. Plus café and bar for financial viability. Perhaps workshops to encourage local youth and develop their talents

street market

surf or other hobby shop

the building on the whole is empty and underutilized, potentially it could be a vibrant space if restored to multi use facility

the junction between George Street and Duke Street is already identified as a black spot for accidents

there is only one good café on George St and it is closed Mon/Tues and does not open till 11.00 Wed to Sun

to spend more time and have a wine or two

tradesmen's workshops

use the balconies as part of café or restaurant, use of the gardens for weekend markets (improve the garden)

vegetarian café - BYO not licensed, café-bookshop

vegetarian café, café/bookshop, must be child friendly

vegetarian café/restaurant BYO

viable community/commercial mix

visitor & children's centre to NTWA to showcase historical displays, available for school visits

wedding venue with all the trimming

why do we have to add microbrewery etc restaurant and café too many already. For the people.

wine bar or small tavern with cozy intimate feel where public can drop in - locals can use as their 'local'

wine bar with food and gallery

wine bar with jazz/acoustic music would work

writers' centre

yoga, quiz nights, play practice, meeting place for volunteer groups, youth club, drop-in, musicians practice, Glyde in

224 participants did not add any extra suggestions.

### Question Three

Describe the types of facilities you would like to see at the Royal George Hotel if they are not there already or describe which of the existing facilities need upgrading.

The question was intended to assess respondents views about the building itself – to determine what they would like to see upgraded within the building regardless of the uses specified in question two. Responses were:

a 'full-on' liquor outlet would lack support, but opportunity for a glass of wine/beer along with other activities most acceptable  
a local pub with facilities for the community  
a type of 'palm court' tea dance on Sunday afternoons  
Accommodation facilities?  
advertise what is going on so people can make plans  
all existing public facilities need upgrading  
all needed upgrading  
anything to make/maintain it as a hub of community  
art house cinema, theatre space. Make sure parking spaces are available or upgraded  
artists studios (ground level), restaurant/café in courtyard  
artists studios in need of repair  
arts centre in its broadest definition  
as above - basically the whole building needs upgrading, particularly the toilets.  
as broad a range of small/boutique type activities consistent with the scale of the remainder of George Street  
as it is + café  
ATM machine  
bar, tavern. We need an intimate space where not too much noise or consumer focus is the main [illegible]  
beautiful heritage building regardless of chosen upgrade should retain charm and character  
bookshop/café/wine bar - has a rotation of artwork represented on the walls - open up and revamp the downstairs cellar - perhaps as a performance space  
bookshop/gallery/café all in one  
building appearance upgrade. Office accommodation with meeting space/kitchens etc

building needs a new paint-job

building needs maintenance

café

café [illegible] restaurant with small function rooms, deli, bakery with some community facility e.g. artists in residence

café/bar with alfresco area, also performance i.e. plays etc

café/restaurant area needs heating, redecorating, new floor covers

classes for arts and crafts and arts and crafts gift shop

complete renovation

condition of whole building especially ceilings

cozy wine bar with children's movie area/computer games & paid supervision

courtyard could be used by café, hallway could also be utilized

create a bar & café to suit a more mature and family friendly clientele. Bookshop similar to New Edition.

currently the building is under utilized, the courtyard should be used.

develop the outside area into a type of beer garden

display (history east Freo), darkroom to hire, sauna, library

display/museum of East Fremantle

don't know

don't know what's there (didn't know it was open)

don't remember what's there already (doesn't look inviting)

everything needs upgrading

facilities

facilities for artists and general public and food and performance

facilities for community plays

food & bev outlets, not just alcohol related

full restoration required

function centre for weddings 21st birthday special occasions

gallery and restaurant a good combination

gallery as it is with a café with craft type/oriented shop

get rid of gallery, more activities/places to go!

good quality coffee shop, restaurant upgrade and re-open (Asian, Thai) a good idea as have other top class rest. In George St

have not been able to go inside for ages so don't know

have not been recently to comment specifically

I like to attend gallery openings there  
I love the gallery space and would be very upset to see it go  
I would like to see it similar to the Fremantle Arts Centre  
If the Thai restaurant still there - dispose of. Revolting food therefore never gone back to beautiful character building  
in gallery - toilet & air con; coffee/food - family oriented  
increased parking  
it is so quiet - needs to be filled with people and life  
it needs a paint. Retain the artists & gallery component but mix it up with a café &/or bar  
it seems to be under utilized  
it's a building so lets put people back into it  
just to keep it as it was years ago (without the horse troughs out the front)  
let's make it work  
licensed café/restaurant  
literature centre (info on WA writers), book shop, space for poetry readings, café, writer forums, workshop space  
live music venue, blues/jazz  
make use of great courtyard, lovely frangipani tree  
market type atmosphere with café and wine bar  
meeting place for the community  
mix of permanent(e.g.: tavern) and transient (e.g.: gallery) activities, permanent activities need to have street interaction  
more advertising through councils & local paper expressions of interest availability i.e.: exhibition space, events calendar  
more art or creative areas  
more artists studios and the gallery should show contemporary art  
more of a social centre like left bank or Sail and Anchor  
more open spaces e.g. sharing of artists' studios, café (the natural haunt of artists)  
more parking  
more rooms in use and open to the public  
more uses of second story  
multi purpose café/small retail  
music venue as there is a shortage. Cafes, restaurants, eateries are prolific.  
needs fire upgrade  
never been inside  
not familiar with facilities

not sure  
not sure - haven't been upstairs  
not sure what there  
obviously full restoration to the outside of the hotel  
outdoor facilities (e.g.: beer garden, seating)  
outdoor garden could be made useful  
overall upgrade of building exterior  
paintwork needs upgrading  
parking  
parking - on the Canning Hwy side  
parking space needs to be upgraded  
performance space - seating and acoustic  
performance stage  
performance venue upstairs  
perhaps shared office or meeting space for community groups but not a lot of small offices that would be closed up most of the time  
please bring the balcony back into use  
poor access for people with disabilities  
presently not being used to the buildings advantage  
public space for locals to gather day & night  
relationship to street is closed. Open up.  
renovating current rooms for artists and musicians  
restaurant flooring needed to be looked at - maybe restoring a little  
restaurant needs upgrading  
restaurant with improvements to streetscape usage, jazz evening for diners once a week and gallery incorporated  
restaurant, wine bar, [illegible]  
restaurant, wine bar, food outlet, markets, tavern, retail facility, microbrewery  
restaurant, wine bar, tavern  
restaurant/café, use of verandas, courtyard  
restaurants etc - anything that the whole community could gain benefit and use  
restore this lovely building to heritage standard  
small concerts and music workshops - possibly weekend one or two day workshops - art craft workshops  
small function room(s) at affordable prices for locals

small meeting room (10 people)  
small professional office space to attract people and produce an income.  
small retail facilities to complement the artists studios  
small rooms suitable for children's music lessons  
some studios are gloomy - need light  
stairways need repair, roof over courtyard in winter, wall to north of courtyard  
studio rooms improved  
studio space which is not fixed - could be used on a daily/hourly rate  
studios and building all need upgrading  
studios too small, poor ventilation  
studios, public space  
such a wonderful building. Access for restaurant would need to be improved  
supplying food & beverages  
sustainable/commercial accessible/community mixed/heritage use  
tafe adult education campus/community classes  
tasteful modernization of lofts and open spaces  
tavern  
Thai restaurant was popular with our family, book cafes, mix popular and historical and healthy home cooking  
the building needs upgrading and open it up for more community use  
the gallery is great but a little tired - maybe a revamp?  
the premises need painting and more lights - courtyard needs heaps of work  
the stairway, the balconies appear unsafe, the light switches appear old and dangerous  
the tower - currently unused should be renovated and brought into use - it is a shame to see it unused  
the whole building  
the whole building needs a re-vamp and made more inviting  
the whole outside of the building needs tuck pointing painting general renovations  
there are no real facilities there apart from the odd boring sub-standard art display. An outdoor seating area with access to sunshine.  
toilets  
toilets, kitchen  
upgrade old Thai restaurant, courtyard and basement areas  
up market café i.e. Swan Brewery, simple reasonable prices  
up market wine/jazz venue, fine dining

up market, luxury brothel with small casino and risqué shows  
upgrade artists studios and performance space  
upstairs rooms need an upgrade & parking in vicinity  
use of the outside area of the building and general maintenance  
user friendly connected to arts  
venue for special occasions  
vital that artists in residence remain including Kumara old Thai kitchen space - restaurant/function centre  
what is there? I walk past it twice a week. I thought it was closed up? Its hardly inviting?!

whole building needs serious upgrading  
whole building needs upgrading  
wine bar, café, restaurant.

182 participants did not answer this question.

## Question Four

Describe any uses you would feel are not appropriate for the Royal George Hotel.

a tavern or wine bar would be unsuitable  
activity at night but not a nightclub (?) [illegible]  
alcohol based venues (tavern), commercial businesses  
all of the options would be acceptable  
an office  
another bar or café - if it competes/undercuts others in George St  
another pub! Your usual shops, another restaurant  
antique sales  
any activity that excludes general public use or expensive to use (e.g. restaurants, offices, microbrewery)  
any community use that is not self supporting. Must pay its own way  
any food outlet would need to have a very special attraction to the wider community. We lack a lively 'organic market' outlet - eg the use of courtyard for produce at regular intervals, and a small supporting shop.  
any limited use only for a section of the community  
any specific use to accommodate a minority group  
any that bring lots of traffic or noise  
any use that is going to increase the parking problem.  
any use which could damage or detract from the buildings features/architecture  
any use which makes the building (in part) unavailable for public access  
any venue retailing alcohol  
anything besides café/tavern etc  
anything involving alcohol (except booked functions like weddings)  
anything that denies public access  
anything that doesn't breathe life into the Royal George - its so quiet most of the time  
anything that draws crowds to George Street  
anything that involves big crowds (except perhaps undercroft?) that would involve structural changes  
anything that panders to the vocal but often well organised minority  
anything that will financially exclude the majority  
anything that would keep smart, nice, young and elderly from visiting  
anything to not make the place a useable item. Rent should pay some needed renovation (upkeep)

anything which leaves it empty most of the time - should be hustling bustling used and enjoyed  
apartments, tavern, wine bar, function venue, micro brewery, gift shop  
art alone has limited appeal  
art gallery, office space  
artists and gallery  
artists' gallery (attracts small "clique" groups)  
bar of any description  
bar, tavern, night club  
bar/restaurant or anything that requires lots of parking, there is already not enough parking to cater for restaurants in the area and Duke St is a residential street with lots of children  
bars, nightclubs, shops  
bars, taverns  
bed and breakfast facilities for some of the rooms (bring more tourists into the area)  
booze outlets of any kind, definitely. There are enough booze outlets in Fremantle already. You only have to have the occasional fight or disturbance to knock the old place around and give it an unsavory reputation  
brewery (would rule out many other uses)  
brewery or office space  
brewery, alcohol related activity  
brothel  
brothel, office space  
business or government offices  
cabaret, tavern, hotel, nightclub - any business that operated beyond 10.30pm - limit alcohol service to with meals  
café  
café, restaurant, market, gift shop, wine bar - should be artists only  
commercial businesses  
commercial office space, anything that excludes the public  
commercial use  
commercial use like 'The Left Bank' - we were not envisaging a shrine to alcohol in a heritage building  
commercial uses  
commercial uses (retain for community use)  
commercial ventures, loud music, parking e.g. café/tavern  
community arts as now the facility is simply worth too much to subsidize low grade artists

community centers that do not enhance the streetscape vibrancy by not having both night and day pedestrian traffic  
community use, child care, old ages, office space, function venue, gallery  
current use is not useful. Art work is not to professional standard and gallery is rarely visited due to this. Upstairs 'studios' are not of benefit  
definitely not office or markets. Could be a small function venue incorporated with others as above  
demolition/left to rot; private ownership without strict council conditions  
disco  
don't need anymore nightclub facilities (George St full of parked cars nights & weekends)  
drinking  
exclusive/office/inaccessible use  
expensive restaurants, wine bars, microbrewery  
fast food or pub  
fast food, restaurant chains, corporate offices, private apartments  
food venue, café etc  
franchise or commercial ventures that exist elsewhere and therefore not offering anything unique or original  
function venue, markets office space  
function venue, wine bar, tavern, office, microbrew  
gambling, anti social  
government, council or business office space. Sole use as artists studios, medical centre.  
hippie type activities  
hotel, council building use, all office space  
hotel, function venue, pub  
hotel, restaurant  
I do not see food outlets as being a success as there is not enough through traffic.  
it is important that the George is available for use by a wide section of the community so private office space would not be important  
junk food shops  
junky markets selling cheap "Taiwanese" style new goods  
just another pub  
keep it for the community! There are enough markets/restaurants and alcohol outlets in Fremantle  
large crowd events  
large entertainment or drinking venue  
large hotel/pub  
late night pubs, night clubs

late night use (noise, traffic - generally a quiet close community)  
less space used for art and artists  
license to sell alcohol "absolutely out"  
licensed alcohol premises  
live rock bands  
loud music or drunks being discharged onto streets. Being a residential area a return to a drinking hotel or tavern is inappropriate  
loud music, pub style.  
market, microbrewery, performance space - nothing which needs local rates to subsidize usage  
markets  
markets  
markets and tavern could be too disruptive for this location - residential precinct desirable  
markets, craft, gift shop, tavern  
markets, microbrewery  
markets, microbrewery  
markets, non-community office space, tavern  
markets, office space  
markets, tavern, microbrewery, antique shops, total office space (crowds - parking problems)  
medical centre/natural medicine/Pilates etc (adequately provided for in East Freo)  
microbrewery, large hotel, backpackers, office space, markets, noisy concerts regularly  
microbrewery, live bands, pub  
microbrewery, small tavern, wine bar  
Microbrewery, so close to residential, the wind also sends the noise for kms. Drunks leaving at 12.00, possible additional vandalism.  
microbrewery/office space/restaurant/tavern - all will end up becoming exclusive to other members of the community (we don't need another antique shop!)  
microbrewery/tavern/nightclub  
night club  
night club  
night club  
night club  
night club  
night club  
night club or retail shop which would restrict public access

no answer - 83  
no bar before 6pm (not child friendly)  
no religious groups  
no restaurant or tavern - already in George Street  
noise and parking need to consider local residents  
noisy activities  
non hospitality businesses (e.g. legal office), medical/dentist, take away fast foods  
non smoking facility please  
non viable uses  
not a standard gift shop, loud music venue or pub, (residents nearby), commercial offices that would be dead after 4pm, or weekends only business.  
not an alcoholic venue. Not attracting those who would not respect the historical venue  
not an expensive fine dining restaurant (although thoroughly support some form of bar/eatery)  
not another pub/venue in the area  
not another restaurant, retail or food outlet  
not another soul-less supermarket with the usual crap, not another flea market  
not another South Terrace  
not antiques. If offices, they should not be street front.  
not just a tavern or artists studio or gift shop or office space (all boring)  
not retail, not another café or restaurant  
office  
office or private rental space for small businesses  
office space  
office space (impersonal), markets/functions (parking problems)  
office space or pub  
office space would be a shame or any trendy stainless steel clad bar would be heartbreaking  
office space, function venue (wasteful of beautiful building that should be used and enjoyed)  
office space, function venue, retail  
office space, liquor/bottle shop, not a tavern like the RG on Canning Hwy  
office space, market, community venue (trouble)  
office space, markets, artists studio  
office space, microbrewery, wine bar  
office space, pub or tavern

office space, residential  
office space, retail facility  
office space, small retail (antiques, bookshops)  
office space, small tavern, function venue  
office space/function venue  
office spaces  
office use, shopping centre, fast food outlet  
office, markets  
office, markets, retail  
office, shops (day time only, exclusive)  
office. To beautiful not to be public space.  
offices  
offices  
offices  
offices  
offices, apartments  
offices, commercial use  
offices, commercial use, pub of poor taste, accommodation or apartments  
offices, expensive restaurant  
offices, flats  
offices, franchise shops  
offices, function venue  
offices, functions, galleries, studios (closed off1)  
offices, gift shop  
offices, housing  
offices, residential  
offices, shops, retail  
offices, tavern  
offices, tavern  
office space, markets  
ordinary pub (as opposed to wine bar/music venue)  
palour

performance space  
prefer not office space only  
private residential  
profit driven ventures - other commercial space more appropriate  
pub  
pub  
pub  
pub - restaurant  
pub only (only caters for drinkers)  
pub or tavern (already 2 close by), youth/drop in centre (creates problems for those surrounding)  
pub or wine bar, antique shop, office space  
pub, markets  
pub, tavern  
pub, wine bar (there is enough emphasis on alcohol as it is)  
pub/tavern, microbrewery  
public bar  
public house, wine bar  
residential, housing  
residential, tavern  
residential; non-service uses such as estate agents, tax advisors, accountants or not another doctors or physios practice  
restaurant, wine bar, tavern  
restaurants, café, taverns - not antique shops  
retail shops, office space  
retail, gallery, exhibition etc. We need things open at night and weekends  
shopping mall  
shopping venue (enough around already), no big/noisy/late functions  
shops  
skateboard park, rock music, day-care/child-care, nightclub  
slick retail, noisy pub, overlap with existing George St businesses  
small tavern (already 2 in close proximity, insufficient parking)  
small tavern, markets, function venue, gift shop  
small tavern, microbrewery (noise factor, drunk people - family area)

specialized community groups that become territorial. No lock-up offices, no 'over-the-top' functions.  
specialized groups that become territorial or too 'arty' and alternative, needs to be made inviting to the general public.  
specialty food outlet would waste the ambience of the venue, I feel it should be a meeting place for people - the retail ideas seem stale.  
supermarket, fast food outlet  
tattoo/piercing place, gambling, pinball, timezone  
tavern  
tavern  
tavern (noisy, artists require quiet)  
tavern food outlets, microbrewery, markets, commercial use  
tavern or office space  
tavern or wine bar  
tavern, [illegible], gift shop  
tavern, bar (sufficient in the area e.g. Trade Winds, Royal George, Left Bank)  
tavern, brewery  
tavern, brewery  
tavern, brewery, nightclub  
tavern, hotel, retail  
tavern, microbrewery  
tavern, microbrewery (not appropriate for location)  
tavern, microbrewery (problems associated with unruly patrons)  
tavern, microbrewery, large function areas  
tavern, microbrewery, markets, backpacker hostel  
tavern, microbrewery, restaurant - enough in the area  
tavern, pub  
tavern, pub  
tavern, wine bar, markets microbrewery. See end --->  
tavern, wine bar, microbrewery. Think a gift shop, markets, small retail would not be commercially viable  
tavern, wine bar, specialty food outlet, markets, micro-brewery, function venue.  
the hotel must make sufficient money to ensure good quality maintenance can be conducted - not offices or markets  
there is no room for integrated traffic - this junction is already an accident hot spot - no parking available  
try to keep it as natural as it used to be – when I would go and get my father out of the Bar – rotten drunk  
uses that attract large crowds that interfere with residential use

we don't need more cafes on George St. Also late loud alcohol pub crowd would be unwelcome  
we probably don't need another pub in the area  
wedding chapel, wedding functions. Maybe use an old horse and cart for arrival...that is something different  
wine and beer brewery [illegible]  
wine bar, small tavern, function venue, microbrewery  
wine bar, small tavern, microbrewery, function, markets  
wine bar, tavern , microbrewery  
wine bar, tavern, microbrewery  
wine bar, tavern, microbrewery  
would like to see the courtyard developed as part of the coffee shop. The steps to the street are dangerously steep and slippery and are urgently in need of alteration and repair

83 participants did not answer this question

Generally, respondents repeated items from question 2, despite the fact that not ticking those items in question two clearly implies they do not support it as an option. This makes it difficult to interpret the results of this question - obviously, something like “office space” appears frequently in the response to this question as it was the least favored option to question 2.

There was not one overwhelmingly clear answer to this question, which would seem to imply there is not one specific use respondents would object to. Generally, anything disruptive to a residential neighborhood appears unpopular (“late night use”, “night clubs”, “live rock bands”, “loud music” or “drunks being discharged onto streets”) which is fairly predictable; but equally unpopular is the idea of exclusivity (“anything that denies public access”, “any limited use for a section of the community”, “specialized community groups that become territorial” “Art alone has limited appeal”).

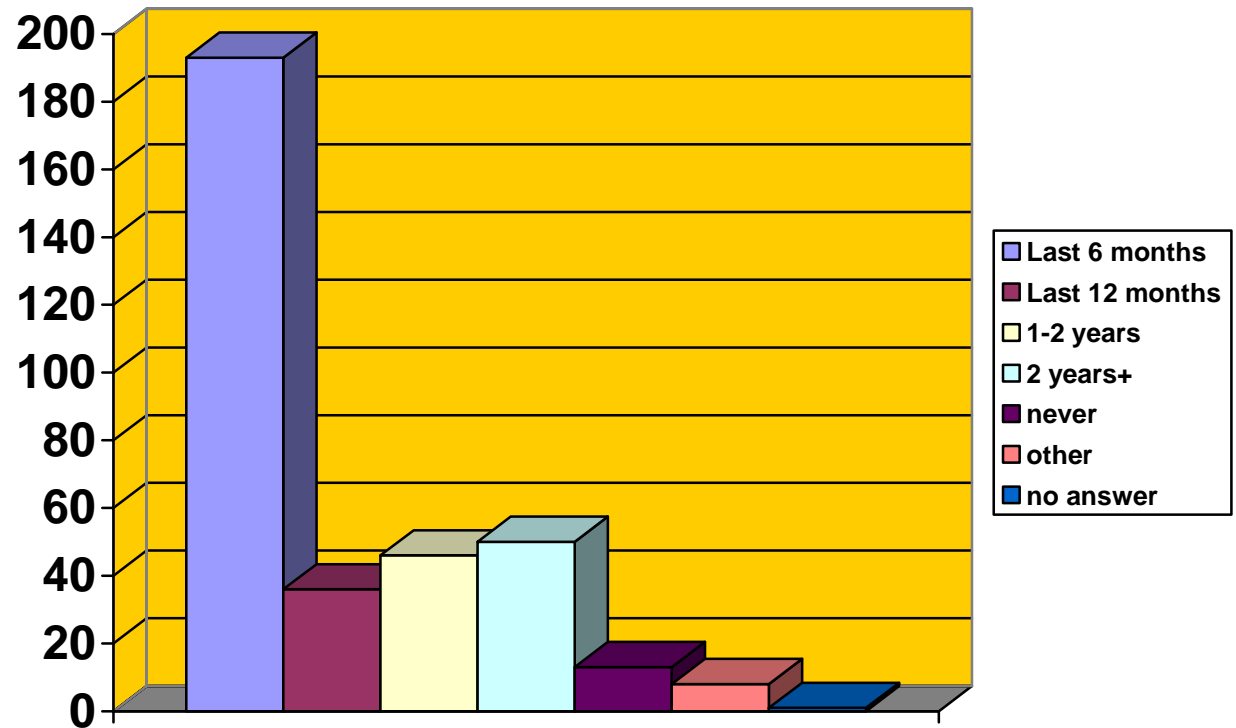
Question Five

When did you last visit the Royal George Hotel?

Answers were:

In the last 6 months	193
In the last 12 months	36
1 to 2 years ago	46
Over two years ago	50
Never	13
Other*	8
Did not answer	1

\*“Other” answers (where it was specified) included “today” (1), “constantly” (1), “twice in the last few weeks” (1) and one week ago (2).

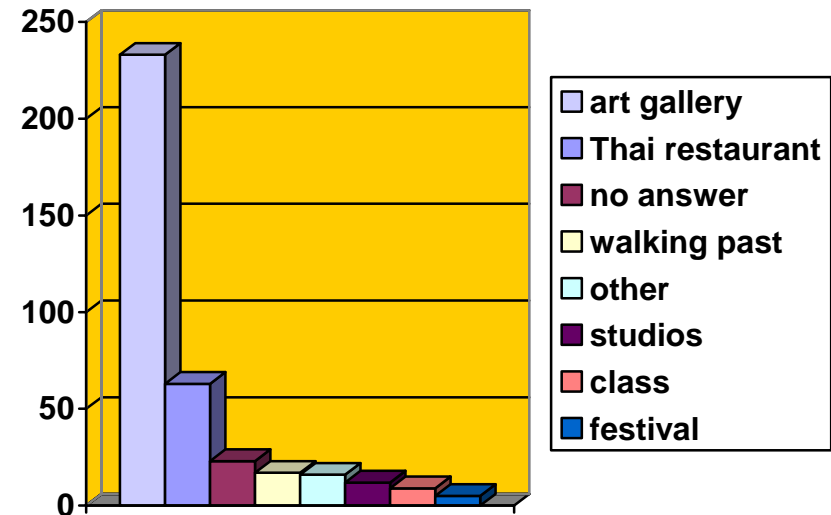


Question Five cont.

What was the purpose of your visit?

Although worded in a variety of ways e.g. “art exhibition”, “to visit the gallery” or “to see art”, responses could be split into a few categories. Please note many participants indicated multiple reasons for their visit.

Art gallery (including openings, exhibitions etc)	233
Thai Restaurant	63
Did not answer or has never been there	23
Walking past, curious, general interest	17
Other answer*	16
Artists’ studios (to visit friend or has own studio)	12
Class or workshop (doll making, yoga, music tuition)	9
George Street festival	5



\*Other purposes generally included various inspections/tours, a couple of “nostalgic” visits, couldn’t remember or illegible.

## Question Five cont.

If you have not visited the Royal George Hotel lately, why not?

because I don't get into that stuff  
been overseas  
can't see what's there, its not really [illegible]  
didn't know it existed  
didn't know it was open to the public  
does not seem to attract any value  
don't know what's on there  
don't know what's there - thought it was privately owned  
don't know what's there to visit  
every so often call in to see what's happening  
food not great, too hard to cross Canning Hwy  
forget that its there  
have not had an exhibition  
I am an art collector  
I used to go regularly to the Thai kitchen  
I'd just never thought of it  
insufficient attraction  
intend to go to current exhibition  
its never open when I am able to go  
its not open  
it's such a dead place  
just moved in to East Freo  
just moved to area  
keep missing opening times  
lived away for several years and recently returned  
loss of restaurant was obvious

## Question Six

If the Royal George Hotel offered your preference of use, approximately how often you would visit?

Answers were:

Once a month	219
Once a quarter	61
Once a year	8
Never	0
Other	52
Did not answer	9

## Question Seven

Do you have any information or objects connected with the Old Royal George Hotel that you would like to share with the National Trust of Australia (WA) and the Town of East Fremantle?

Participants were asked not to send anything to the Trust, rather to describe what they have and provide contact details so the Trust could get in touch with them. There were 11 “yes” answers. Listed here by their survey number so that contact details may be sourced, are the responses:

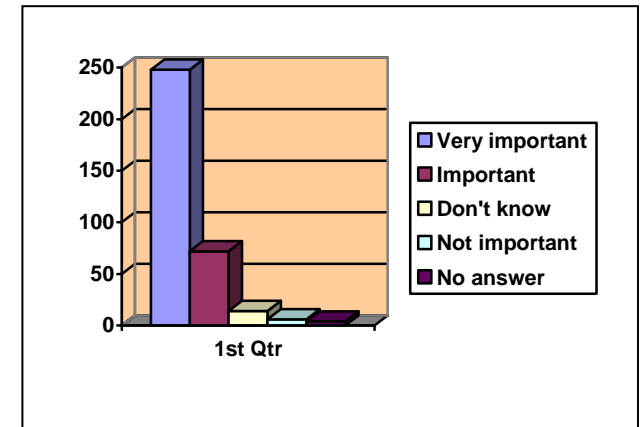
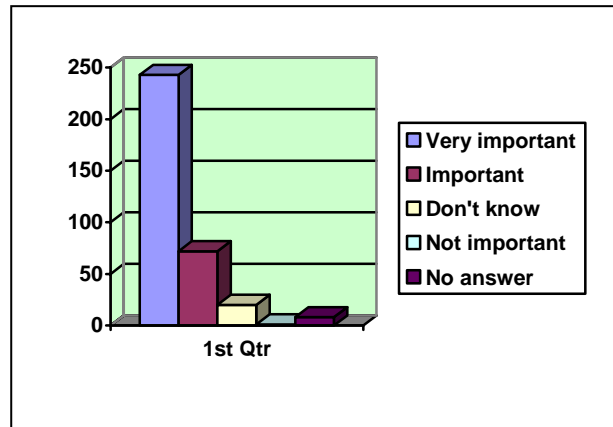
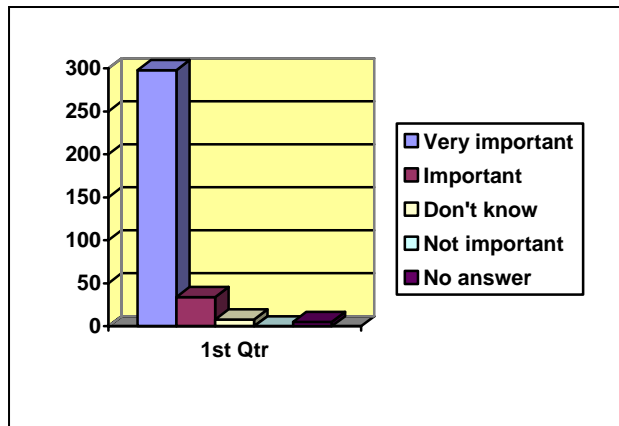
9	A painting I have done of the Royal George Hotel.	Sally Stoneman
35	I have spent 12 months working in basement on sculptures with various people.	Drago Dadich
55	NIL – photo taken of the east side c 1974.	Victor Hawke
115	My grandfather played darts there in the 60s’s & 70’s I am sure he may have some memorabilia. Although not 100% certain.	Justine Leavy
118	The Regans were born and lived in Sewell Street and had the Bakery there since 1926 and delivered bread to the whole of East Fremantle (- responded in other questions that has lived in Fremantle all of life and still does, used to get father out of the bar when drunk and remembers horse troughs out the front).	Michael Regan

202	a landmark to returning WWI men.	Rene Callaghan
268	The hotel opened during my childhood – my brother sold newspapers there (afternoon).	Peg Brown
288	New resident in a house built c 1900. So love the character of Plympton & don't want over commercialism.	Neville King
297	I was personally instrumental in saving this building from demolition when Mainroads had it within their road reserve for Stirling Highway.	Elizabeth Brice
338	Ross Bryant (grew up in hotel).	Julie Billing
340	Contact the Bryants also its not the Royal George it's the Royal – was the Royal Hotel go back to the correct name please.	Peter Le May

Question Eight

Overall, how important to you think the Royal George Hotel is to the commercial and cultural success of George Street, the Plympton Ward and the Town of East Fremantle?

	Very important	Important	Don't know	Not important	Did not answer
George Street	298	34	8	0	5
Plympton Ward	243	72	20	1	8
Town of East Fremantle	248	72	14	6	4



## Contact details

Participants were requested to provide contact details if they:

- Wanted more information about the National Trust of Australia (WA) – 53 said yes
- Were interested in participating in a workshop about the Royal George Hotel – 124 said yes
- Wanted to enter a competition to win a breakfast buffet for 2 from the George Street Bistro – 218 said yes

Nearly all respondents (314 out of 347) provided their names and addresses at the end of the survey. Nearly half of the total of people who replied to the survey provided email addresses (164). The web version of the survey, which was advertised in the paper version of the survey, was never activated, so there were no responses via this means.

## Other comments

A few respondents added additional pages with comments, these are in the file with the originals. Other comments written on the surveys that did not fit into the space for the questions provided included:

a leisurely afternoon could be spent at the RGH viewing art, sipping wine and going for a casual coffee or dinner - perfect scenario!

all bottle shops around here are too dear (pricey) for pensioners - we have a right to live and go out for a beer and a bet

any facilities need to be in keeping with heritage of building

as a small business owner I would consider renting small amount of office space

Could not find survey on website (added page with comments). I would like to see continued and perhaps expanded, affordable space for creative endeavor of any kind - as we move up market, space for creativity dries up, much to the detriment of our community

currently as an art gallery we feel it looks cheap and devalues the area. Bring the RGH back to its original glory. Bring more people to George Street.

East Fremantle needs a heart, George St is the obvious place

enterprises that are likely to fail would upset the upkeep of the building, which should be kept in prime condition for the benefit of George Street.

fabulous iconic building needs to be restored and preserved

I assume you are talking about the pub on Canning Highway

I think the key to the Royal George Hotel success lies in effective marketing of the functions and services it provides

I would like to see an organized arts centre with public facilities i.e. café, shops etc.

if it was to be used for more than one purpose it would be good if it was a full time operation, not sporadic like exhibitions i.e. if it had a restaurant or café that was open regularly you would see what forthcoming events were planned

it also needs better security and lighting and lighting in underpass

it should be financially independent of council funding and fully maintained from rents received

multi-purpose community activities which ensure patronage, small commercial enterprises which are really different from local offerings, Incentive and guarantees are difficult but necessary. Perhaps transfer of some E.F. Council services? More space? History centre? Historical records languish in Town Hall, this building could provide 'show space' and stimulate interest in local history - volunteers needed! It should/could be a focus for/in East Fremantle - road planning is a disaster!

needs to be creative and innovative space. Would be great!

no way to a tavern, too much noise

not very exciting, lacks atmosphere, lacks quality, needs landscaping, needs outdoor space, needs vibrancy, needs people other than artists

parking and safety issues caused by traffic is always a problem for Duke Street residents

parking may be a problem

President Fremantle Bridge Club: Fremantle needs a venue for playing bridge which means a permanent room for bridge. We play 5 times a week. The large gallery room would be perfect and we would be happy to interact with other groups etc. We could help financially with the upkeep of the building.

Bridge is a very popular recreation and our members range in age from 49-94 yrs, please give this your consideration.

some good ideas mentioned

the area around the Royal George has a special, old village atmosphere, anything to enhance this could create a very special little haven that would be a unique asset to the area

The impact on the neighborhood is too great just for an exhibition opening. We cannot get into our own driveway

there is not enough parking for a function venue its bad enough that the Tradewinds can't get council approval to extend their parking

tried to find link to survey on website but could not

upstairs is not a viable option due to the steep difficult stairs so keep them as they are unless there becomes access via some outside additional stairs.  
(the offices for artists)

we are new to the area but love the landmark old building already - it's a great asset so it can be used and preserved

would be happy to have a mix of commercial/retail and not for profit - children's literature centre. Fremantle Arts Centre Press

would visit frequently if to learn a topic/skill

## Conclusion

Willingness to open up – within reason. Can not remain artists only (too exclusive), people accept needs to pay its way

A few reservations about competition with local businesses – cafes etc, but general support.

Longer opening hours, with out being too late at night.

Place to gather, socialize but very low key – not noisy, not late at night.

Arts focus to remain – community, culture

Café ideal – highly supported – right opening hours, not exclusive. Can include the gallery (although will have to increase professionalism). Performance space, small wine bar also good option. Has enough space for various uses.

Art gallery obviously a set draw card as 67% of respondents said they had been there – but how to draw a wider audience?

Office space not supported (10%)

Thanks to

The George Street Bistro

Tony Jones and the George Street business community

Barry Sanbrook and the Old Royal George Artists' Foundation

Stuart Wearne

Mike and Janine at the Town of East Fremantle