



THE MASONIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

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**JOHN (JIMMY) HILL
ANTI - BOXING BOXER**

John began boxing in the 1930s as a 12 year old schoolboy at the Prahran Technical School and in 1940 at the age of 15 became the Victorian Schoolboy Champion and at 16 became Victorian Amateur Champion.

In those days what is now Festival Hall was the old West Melbourne Stadium, colloquially known as the 'House of Stoush'.

Fifty Saturday nights a year the Stadium was packed with 10,000 fans and pro boxing boomed.

John boxed as 'Jimmy Hill' in those days and had about 45 hard fights over five years against such opponents as Mickey Tollis, Norm Gent and Archie Kemp in 12 round bouts.

Following the death of Archie Kemp in the ring John gave up boxing at the early age of 21 years.

Some years later after observing the brain damage suffered by some of his contemporaries John commenced an Anti-Boxing campaign which eventually resulted in several safety measures being introduced.

John has no personal complaints against boxing; it bought him his first home at a very young age but feels that by its very nature it has to be carefully supervised.

John is in good company at the Victorian Boxing Hall of Fame which includes such former greats as Ambrose Palmer, Jack Carroll, Eddie Miller, Kid Young, Johnny Famechon, Frank Flannery, Mickey Tollis and Lionel Rose.

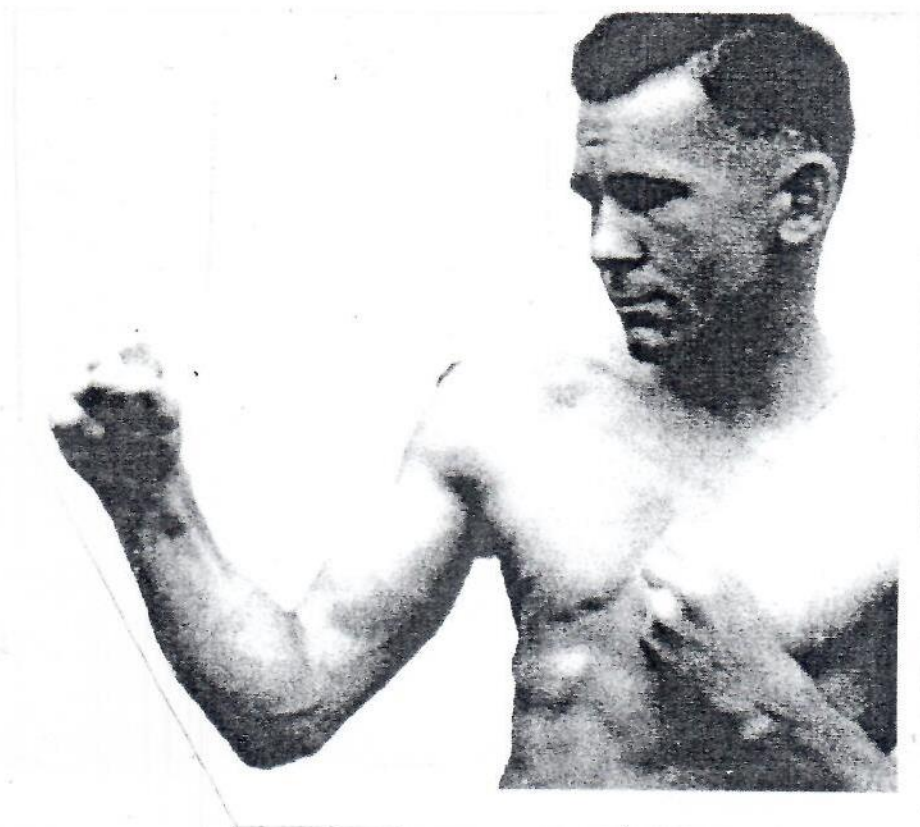
Jimmy Hill's full record is:

Total Bouts	101	Lost on Points	11
Won by K.O.	13	Lost by K.O.	22
Won on Points	43	No Contest	1
Won by Foul	1		
Draw	11		

Wor. Bro. John (Jimmy) Hill is a Past Master of Henty Lodge No. 279 United Grand Lodge of Victoria.

He holds the rank of Past Junior Grand Deacon.

A few days after he received his 50 years membership certificate in late 2009, he was inducted into the Victorian Boxing Hall of Fame.



Pictured. John in his boxing days as Jimmy Hill.
