

Queenscliffe Maritime Museum Inc Committee of Management 2009/10

At the Annual General Meeting held on October 17, 2009, the following members were elected to the Committee of Management for 2009/10:

President	Les Irving-Dusting	Vice-President	Tony Cavanagh
Secretary	June Negri	Assistant Secretary	Joan Brennan
Treasurer	Colin Cairns	Assistant Treasurer	John Barratt
Ordinary Members	Alex Campbell, Jennifer Gilbert, Henry Hudson, Val Lawrence, John Morgan		

QMM 2010-11 memberships are now due!

Membership forms are included in this Newsletter
New Members most welcome – please encourage your friends to join

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QUEENSCLIFFE MARITIME MUSEUM

Newsletter No 24

SPRING 2010



A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Even though the months of July and August are historically the quietest this year has been different. Our tour numbers were up considerably in August, helped along by International Lighthouse Weekend on 20-21 August, which was a wonderful success. Thank you to all who volunteered their time prior to the event and over the weekend.

A huge amount of work has been going on behind the scenes. The new paths are finished and our volunteers have been busy spreading soil and planting new grass seed. Volunteer Mary Gathercole has started planting small shrubs and trees in the Museum grounds and the bathing box has had its first coat of paint.

The display upgrade has been more work than expected but is now close to completion. Many thanks to our tireless volunteers who have been doing all the heavy work. We welcome aboard new volunteer Jim Tennant who is helping in all areas of the Museum.

Get well wishes are extended to volunteer David Francis who is recovering from surgery. David assists June in the office every Friday and is greatly missed.

As part of the 150th Anniversary Celebrations of the Military presence in Queenscliff Jennifer has prepared an exhibition of the defence support vessels in Southern Port Phillip. This unique collection of historic photos will be on display until the end of September.

We have recently received donations of some magnificent artefacts. In particular the skylight from the SS *Shandon* which was a huge job to install. I am grateful for the help of volunteers Paul, Barry, Peter, Barry and Brian - moving the skylight could not have been achieved without their help.

A model of the TSMV *Duntroon* will be arriving at the Museum in mid October, on loan from the Melbourne Museum for an extended time. The model will complement the *Goorangai* display which is to receive a minor update. This year is the 70th Anniversary of the sinking of the *Goorangai* by the *Duntroon*. The *Goorangai* Day Service held annually by the Minesweepers Association will be held on Sunday November 21. Watch for details in the Events page of the Museum website.

Our 4th Annual Maritime Swap Meet is on Sunday 5th December 2010 – see enclosed flyer. We are again seeking donations for the Museum Stall.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Museum on Saturday 16 October; details are given on the page opposite.

Les Irving-Dusting
President



The full colour version of this Newsletter is available on the web at
www.maritimequeenscliffe.org.au

Student Art Competition

In conjunction with International Lighthouse Weekend a student art competition with the subject of lighthouses was held amongst local schools. Competition winners were presented with lighthouse themed books and St Aloysius Primary School received a special prize for the largest number of entries. Prize winners are:

Kindergarten		Matilda Kidd	Queenscliff
5 – 8 yrs	1 st Prize	Harry Dean	Point Lonsdale Primary School
	2 nd Prize	Morgan Williams	Barwon Heads Primary School
9 – 12 yrs	1 st Prize	Nikolai Galloway	St Aloysius Primary School
	2 nd Prize	Sarah Coutin	St Aloysius Primary School
Grand Champion		Felicity Rush	St Aloysius Primary School
School Prize		St Aloysius Primary School	

The spot prize for lighthouse visitors donated by Sea-All Dolphin Swims was won by Margaret Holzgrefe, fiancée of Museum member and friend Dick Safstrom.



Gardner engine - drives the foghorn compressor



Capt Shennan raises the flag



Felicity Rush, art comp winner



Presenting the spot prize

We were pleased to see a 'bouquet' in *The Independent* newspaper of September 3, reproduced below.

buckets & bouquets

BOUQUETS to June, Aileen, Les Irving-Dusting and all the other dedicated volunteers at Queenscliff Maritime Museum. My wish of 50 years to climb Point Lonsdale Lighthouse was granted recently when we all viewed our magnificent coast. Then I became only the fourth person to activate the original fog horn.
Joan, Clifton Springs

We look forward to an even bigger event in 2011, on the weekend of August 20/21.

VALE

SIDNEY TERENCE WRIGHT
28.08.1925 – 07.09.2010

Museum members and volunteers attended the funeral of former Committee member and volunteer Sid Wright at St Georges Anglican Church Queenscliff on Friday September 10. Following the service the Museum was pleased to host afternoon tea for approximately 100 mourners in celebration of the life of a quiet unassuming character who will be missed by all.

Sid was born a Londoner and served with the Royal Navy in WW II. He was awarded the Legion d'Honneur by the French Government in recognition of his participation in the D-Day landings of 1944. After the war Sid migrated to Australia and initially lived near Ballarat. He worked in several different occupations including school teaching.

Sid's connection with ships and the sea was very strong and when he moved to Queenscliff with his wife Margaret in 1994 he quickly became involved with the Maritime Museum. Sid served on our Committee and was an enthusiastic volunteer both in the boatshed and the Museum until recent years when ill health forced him to stop.

Over the past three years the highlight of Sid's week was to come for lunch with the boys on Tuesdays. No matter how he was feeling he always turned up with a sparkle in his eye, a smile on his face, and a few wry jokes.

Our sympathy goes to Margaret and the Family



Sid in Royal Navy uniform age approximately 17 years



Sid with his Legion d'Honneur

NEW EXHIBITS

HMVS *Lonsdale* - the display to mark the location of the *Lonsdale* hulk under the museum grounds is now complete. The interpretive panel includes text and illustrations of the role of the torpedo boats in Victoria's Colonial Navy.

A number of objects have been transferred to the Museum from the Polly Woodside collection which has been rationalised. They include:



Weeroona crest



Hygeia seat

Port Phillip excursion steamer artefacts - a magnificent crest from the side of the paddle box of the *Weeroona*, a name plate from the paddle box of the *Hygeia*, and promenade deck seats from the *Hygeia* and the *Edina*.

Shandon skylight - a surprising survivor in splendidly carved English oak, etched glass and brass. The skylight is in the only available space large enough to accommodate it, near the Sea Pilot display. The placement presented quite a challenge – fortunately an opening was provided in the external wall when this gallery was built.



Opening the wall for the skylight



Shandon deck skylight

Round Tasmania Sea Kayak – the first circumnavigation of Tasmania by kayak was made in by Earl de Blonville in 1979; Earl has now placed his kayak on loan to the Museum, to join the two round-Australia Kayaks currently on display.

More display changes

Further re-organisation of displays is needed to accommodate these new artefacts – work in addition to the re-organisation which has been under way for some months. The Bay Steamers section requires considerable change, as does the Sea Kayak section.

150 YEARS OF THE MILITARY IN QUEENSLIFFE

To complement the celebrations at Fort Queenscliff the Museum has mounted a photographic display to illustrate maritime aspects of the military presence in southern Port Phillip. The display tells of the defence service vessels located at Queenscliff and Swan Island from the late 1880s into the early 20th century, and of the role of Swan Island as a torpedo and mine depot.

Locals may have heard of the ships *Mars*, *Miner* and the *Vulcan* which were here during the early years of last century.

We are most fortunate in having access to a wonderful collection of photographs of these times from local people and the family of Mr Vickers who worked at the mine depot in the 1920s.



HMVS *Vulcan* raising fishing boat, Queenscliff harbour, 1904



SL *Mars*, Army 'rookies' loading up, Queenscliff, 1936



HMVS *Nepean & Lonsdale*, Swan Island harbour, 1880s

The display will be in place until the end of September. We hope to include some of the photographs in a permanent exhibit, to link with the HMVS *Lonsdale* panel in the Museum grounds.

INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND

The reinstatement of this event proved a great success. On Saturday and Sunday August 21 & 22 the Point Lonsdale lighthouse and the old foghorn shed were open for tours, and the old foghorn was sounded at the start and end of proceedings on both days. The official opening and flag raising at the restored flagpole on Saturday was made by Port of Melbourne Harbour Master Captain David Shennan, followed by a brief talk by lighthouse historian Donald Walker on the history of the lightstation including the diaphone foghorn – which uses the same mechanism as the Wurlitzer organ!

The foghorn shed, restored by QMM volunteers, was open for viewing for the first time and attracted many visitors intrigued by the machinery and the operation of the foghorn.

The Geelong Amateur Radio Club broadcast from the Toc-H Camp next to the lightstation throughout the weekend, linking up with lightstations and lightships from around the world. The International Lighthouse Weekend website lists the lighthouses which participated this year – a total of 447.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **30th Annual General Meeting** of Queenscliffe Maritime Museum Inc will be held as follows:

Date: Saturday October 16, 2010

Time: **9.30 am** for commencement **10.00 am**

Location: Queenscliffe Maritime Museum, 2 Wharf Street, Queenscliff

BUSINESS: Declare the 30th Annual General Meeting of the Association open:

1. Apologies.
2. Special Business.
3. Ordinary Business.
4. To confirm the Minutes of the 29th Annual General Meeting of Queenscliffe Maritime Museum Inc held on October 17, 2009.
5. To receive from the President the 2009-2010 Annual Report.
6. To receive and consider the Financial Statement of the Association for the year ended June 30, 2010 pursuant to the provisions of Section 30 (3) of the Associations Incorporations Act 1981 and Clause 9 of the new Association Rules and the Report of the Auditor thereon.
7. To elect members to the Committee:
Members eligible for re-election are: Alex Campbell, Colin Cairns, Tony Cavanagh, John Morgan and June Negri;
Continuing Committee members whose terms expire in 2011 are: John Barrett, Joan Brennan, Jennifer Gilbert, Henry Hudson, Les Irving-Dusting and Val Lawrence.
8. To determine the Annual Subscription.
9. To elect an Auditor for the 2010-2011 Financial Year
10. To deal with any other business as provided in Clause 8b 111, (10.2.3).

By Order of the Committee

June Negri, Honorary Secretary

September 15, 2010.

PLEASE RSVP for the AGM by Wednesday October 13, 2010 by phone to 03 5258 3440 or by email to info@maritimequeenscliffe.org.au

Nominations to the Committee of Management

Nominations are invited, and must be received by the Honorary Secretary 24 hours prior to the AGM.

NOTE: Current financial members are entitled to vote at Association meetings and to nominate for the Committee.

Members who are unable to attend are entitled to appoint another financial member as a proxy by notice received by the Honorary Secretary 24 hours prior to the advertised time for a meeting.

Proxies and Committee nominations must be lodged using the required forms, available from Hon Secretary June Negri, at the Museum, 2 Wharf Street Queenscliff.

AGM GUEST SPEAKER

A surprise speaker is promised for the AGM – so please join us for the meeting and light morning tea.