

Roscoe's Ravings

Well ... here we go again. It only seems like yesterday that I was having my rave and here we are again ... my, how time flies when you're having fun.

The Tinderbox rowing day was a cracker, we had thousands attend, but more about that later in this edition.

As President of the Wooden Boat Guild of Tasmania I was fortunate enough last week to be invited along to the handover of the *May Queen* from May Queen Pty Ltd to the Maritime Museum of Tasmania. What a splendid job has been done on her restoration. I could just see the *Terra Linna* on display, lying along side the *May Queen* in Con Dock ... yes, yes, I know we haven't even started yet, but we'll get there.

We all know, or should know, Bill Foster, one of our members and a past President, has been the guiding force in the *May Queen* project. The World Ship Trust has recognised the *May Queen* by placing her at

No. 22 on their Maritime Heritage listing which is granted to "those ships considered of transcendent importance in the context of maritime history and heritage". Many other Guild members were also very active in the early stages of the restoration project. These restoration projects, as impossible as they may seem at the time, are of the greatest importance to the maritime history of Hobart and Tasmania. That's why the Guild, along with others, are here to encourage projects like these, whether it be a ten foot dinghy or a fifty foot work boat.



Roscoe shows the flag

We've got a busy time coming up in the next two months with the Seafarers Festival (you can bring your rowing boat to this one) and the Huon Show. Thank you to all the members who were able to assist with the manufacturing and packaging of the boat model kits. Well done, we now have about 96 units complete in stock, with about 4 more needing one component only.

We don't usually have a meeting or outing in January, but, we are planning to visit the *Terra Linna* at Peter and Helen Lindsay's 'Brookfield' in Margate, for the new members and for other members to re-acquaint themselves with our "project", plus a BBQ lunch of course. I know it's only October, I'm giving you plenty of notice ... be there!

See you at the meeting on the 16th and the Seafarers Festival on the 29th

Roscoe

Invitation

The President hereby invites all members to the

President's Dinner

To be held at the Hope and Anchor Tavern on
 Saturday 11th November 2006, 6:30 for 7:00 pm

Two pre-dinner drinks by ticket from the Guild.

Meal drinks on your own.

Menu, 3 courses, 2 choices.

Entrée: Beef Salad or Seafood Chowder.

Main: Suffolk Shoulder of Lamb or Fish of the Day

Sweets: Black & White Chocolate Mousse or Apple
 Scroll.

Cost, similar to last year, \$28 - 30 per head.

RSVP to Penny & Chris 6295 0278 by 06/11/06

Wooden Boat Guild of Tasmania Inc.



General Meetings are on the 3rd Monday of each month, inc. public holidays.

The next general meeting of the Wooden Boat Guild of Tasmania Inc. will be held at the Mariners' Cottage, Napoleon Street, Battery Point commencing at 7:30 pm Monday 16th October 2006

There will be a committee meeting held at 6.00pm prior to the meeting. Members welcome.

Meetings calendar for 2006/07

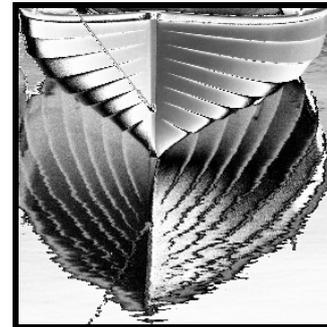
16 th October	19 th March
20 th November	19 th February
18 th December	16 th April
No meeting January	21 st May
19 th February	18 th June (AGM)

Notes from the September meeting

- The presentation of the Terra Linna model to the Maritime Museum of Tasmania took place (as reported in the previous *Skeg*) with the ABC broadcasting the event. Thanks were expressed again to all who were involved including Noel and Nolene. The ABC have kindly presented us with a recording of the whole morning's show, on 2 CDs.
- A working bee after the Museum morning saw most of the fund-raising model kits completed.
- The Guild has applied to the Australian National Maritime Museum for another Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme (MMAPSS) grant to fund an ongoing management and assessment plan for the *Terra Linna*.
- The Guild will also be looking for workable and accessible premises to work on the *Terra Linna*. If any of you know of an available large, empty, dry shed (she's 28' on the waterline), please let us know. Oh, and it should be cheap (preferably gratis...).
- The Terra Linna sub-committee will reconvene when Peter Higgs returns from leave.
- Andy Gamlin reported on the current state of preparations for next February's Australian Wooden Boat Festival. It's looking to be the best ever! The Festival committee has invited us to enter the *Teepookana*, rather than just

display her. Andy told us that AWBF is prepared to waive her entry fee for the Guild, and then it will go on the festival record and we will get a plaque for the transom.

- There was no speaker following the meeting; instead, members busied themselves productively and packed the model kits that had been completed at the previous working bee. We now have 96 kits awaiting sale.



Officers of the Guild contact list

<i>President</i>	Ross Barnett	03 62233451
<i>Sen. Vice President</i>	Robin Singleton	03 62439033
<i>Vice President</i>	Graeme Hunt	03 62278652
<i>Secretary</i>	Peter Higgs	03 62491695
<i>Treasurer</i>	Brian Marriott	0419 877 684
<i>Flag Officer</i>	Peter Higgs	
<i>Mess Officers</i>	Penny & Chris Morton	62950278
<i>Committee</i>	David Gatenby	
	Jim Tayton	
	David Barnes	

Photographs in this issue are by David Morton, Brian Marriott and Graeme Hunt unless otherwise credited

Andy Gamlin's rowing trip

The guest speaker at the next Guild meeting (16th October) will be Andy Gamlin, who will regale us with stories of his rowing trip on the Viking replica ship *Havhingsten fra Glendalough* (*Sea Stallion from Glendalough*).

To whet your appetite, here are some details of the vessel and the voyage.

Havhingsten fra Glendalough is a reconstruction of *Skuldelev 2*, the 30-meter-long warship exhibited in the Viking Ship Museum. The original vessel was built by Vikings in Dublin and was scuttled in the late 11th century in Roskilde Fjord, where she was preserved for about 900 years.



Havhingsten fra Glendalough was built at the Viking Ship Museum's boatyard in 2000-2004. She was built with replicas of Viking tools, using the same methods and materials as in the original ship (as far as we're aware of them). She is now being taken to sea to test and document the seaworthiness, speed and manoeuvrability of the ship on the open sea and in coastal waters. Of particular interest is how the long, narrow, flexible hull behaves in ocean waves. The initial voyages are around the Danish coast in the North Sea.

Next year it is planned to row and sail her across the North Sea, around the Scottish coast and down to Dublin.

Another aspect of interest is the number of people involved. The ship has a mixed crew of 70. Not only do they row, but they also have to live together on board the open, narrow vessel. She is a "very big ship with very little space for the crew". Interesting social and organisational dynamics...

We await Andy's stories with interest.

If you can't get along to the meeting, check out the vessel's website at www.havhingsten.dk If you look closely, you might even find a picture of Andy, just to prove he really was there!



Missing!

Does any member know the whereabouts of the videotape of archival film showing Scallop and Couta fishing in D'Entrecasteaux Channel area? The video was shown to members (on DVD) late last year, but the original tape seems to have been misplaced. Its owner would dearly like it returned.



Photographs by courtesy of the Viking Ship Museum

Hughie Came to the Party

Tinderbox Rowing Day, 17th September 2006

Well, what a cracker of a day.

There was cloud cover when I woke which the weather man had not told us about but 'crew' assured me that it would be 'alright on the day' ... as they say in the classics. And it was.

I arrived at Tinderbox beach nice and early with the BBQ, table and all the associated gear along with



We started on the nibbles...

our little *Bumtickle* only to find the Mortons were already there, damn, as Cruise Captain I was supposed to be there first. They, the Guild members came streaming in,

we set up the tables, chairs and BBQ, started on the nibbles, but no boats...well, not yet anyway.

A couple of days earlier I had gone out to Peter's place to retrieve the *Teepookana* only to find that he had very carefully parked it in behind a tree and the ute in his backyard. Bugger. No *Teepookana* for the rowing day.

Slowly some dinghies arrived. Brian and Eva's *Trafalmore* followed by David and Barb in *Daisy*, insufficient dinghies for the number of bods there ... oh well, we could take it in shifts.

So, we're finally off on our row heading towards Howden, (did I mention the beautiful weather we now had?), and the Lean family along with the new Headmaster arrived in their *Carmen*, *Carefree*, closely followed by Lew and Liz Garnham



Bumtickle looking lonely

and family in their very smart launch *Latura*.

Two of the three rowing teams head for and round the fish farm mark while the Cruise Captain and Senior Vice President go for the

shorter option round the rocks. On the return leg the teams encounter two lonely kayakers ...



Graeme Hunt looking very proud of his new creation

no, it was Judy and Graeme Hunt. Graeme was in his new, never been in the water before, and looking a million bucks, constructed by he, himself personally, kayak. Very nice Graeme.

Carefree, under sail, who had been keeping the rowing teams company, found a freshening breeze and headed off out into the channel for a bit of a 'burn' ... lucky bastards. As we returned to the beach we noticed Rob and Jo Nolan along with dog, heading in the other direction in their dinghy.

Andy Gamlin had just arrived, late, although his excuse was that he had rowed all the way from Kingston



Andy looked just a little bumsore after rowing from Kingston

... yeah yeah yeah. This was later confirmed by Yvonne. She had possibly been bribed, although he did have a blister. He must be missing rowing that Viking boat down the North Sea! [See P3. Ed.]

We had our lunch, drank our wine, told our lies and generally had a wonderful time. The day turned out to be a cracker. Hughie must be thanked. We had a visitor from the Vintage Cruising Club (I think that's their name) and from memory there were about thirty of us enjoying a beautiful spring afternoon. A much different day weather wise to

Where We're Going

(Continued from page 4)

the previous Tinderbox event.

As everyone started to drift off homewards, one particular rowing team headed out beyond the 'dive trail' to try their luck at fishing ... sometime later



Some wooden boats take in a little water

they returned with a Flathead ... I'm sort of pleased the 'fishing police' weren't there when they

returned, although I was

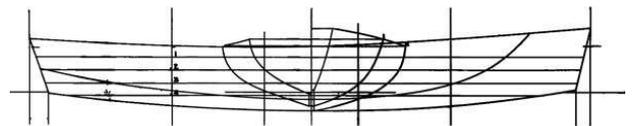
more than adequately informed that the fish in question was 'alright mate', what could I say ... he is the Treasurer you know! [*Slanderous inferences! It was legal—we measured it. And we were well beyond the Reserve limit. Ed.*]



It was a great day, thanks for your company.

Roscoe and Cheryl

1. Sunday 29th October 2006:
Clarence Seafarers' Festival, on the Boardwalk at Bellerive. We will have a display and you may have the opportunity to see (and even try) the prototype Derwent Skiff.
Cherelle Gadge (6295 1668) is organising a roster of people to staff the display/stall.
If you'd prefer to get to the Bellerive jetty by water, a group of members plan to meet at the Regatta Ground launching ramp at 10:00am and row across.
2. Saturday 11th November 2006:
President's Dinner at the Hope and Anchor. See separate invitation.
3. Saturday 18th November 2006:
Huon Show. We will have a display and a stall, sharing a "wooden boats" shed with the Living Boat Trust. The *Teepookana* will be there and a couple of other boats are required. Contact Cherelle (6295 1668) if you can help on the stall or with a boat for display.
4. More events — dates to be advised:
 - Christmas BBQ with CYC — more details to come
 - Australian Wooden Boat Festival 9th – 12th Feb 2007 (registrations close 31st October)
 - Pre-AWBF event on Thurs 8th Feb 2007
 - Wood Workers show DEC in March 2007



Gleuwein

Several people asked for the recipe for the hot mulled wine that was so popular at the Cygnet rowing day. So our Mess Officers Chris and Penny have kindly provided it:

GLEUWEIN

Hot Mulled Wine (12 serves)

- 1.5 cups boiling water
- 0.5 cup sugar
- 0.5 lemon, sliced
- 3 sticks cinnamon
- 3 whole cloves
- 1 bottle red wine (light or medium bodied)

Combine boiling water, sugar, lemon, cinnamon and cloves.

Stir until sugar dissolves.

Add wine and simmer for 20 minutes (**Do not boil**).

Strain and serve hot with a sprinkling of nutmeg. (Or decant into thermos flask to supply chilled rowers...)

Boat Soup

Your editor happened to be listening in recently to a conversation between Noel and another member about the merits of sundry clear finishes. The consensus was that Deks #1 was good stuff. My interest was caught then, when I came across this article on 'Boat Soup' in a website devoted to the boats in Arthur Ransome's *Swallows and Amazons*.

[If members have other (traditional or innovative) 'trade secrets' that they'd like to pass on, please forward them to Peter or myself Ed.]

Stuart Wier's Boat Soup

'Boat Soup' is a finish for unpainted wood on boats, such as the interior of sailing dinghies. It looks fine but is much easier to apply and maintain than varnish. It is not maintenance free; the only finish for wooden boats that is low-maintenance is a quality application of primer and paint.

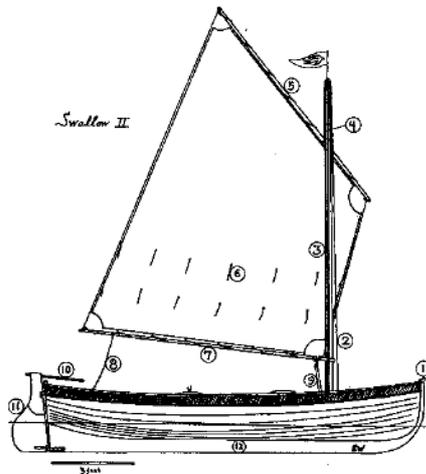
My boat soup when applied looks much like oiled wood, with a bit of gloss on some woods such as pine. It has the advantages of not cracking like varnish. It is simply applied with a rag. Abraded spots are easily repaired, and it's not very expensive. You can renew it at any time (except in rain) by wiping on more. You never need sand!

This boat soup has the disadvantage of not looking so glorious as gloss varnish, but it is a decent seamanlike finish made of materials available for the past two hundred years and hence suitable for traditional wooden boats. It is not a thick top surface like varnish, and since it soaks into the wood better than varnish it is a good coating for the wood, if maintained. It will not last a long time in sun and rain; don't

depend on this protecting wood that is constantly exposed to the weather unless it is constantly renewed. If you renew it, it will do fine for a summer mooring.

The recipe is one part by volume good traditional resin varnish (any traditional marine 'spar' or 'captains' varnish -- but not polyurethane varnish), two parts linseed oil, and three parts real turpentine (not paint thinner). Mix and apply with clean cloth.

Put on two or three coats to start with, letting each layer dry well before applying the next. Drying may take from 3 hours to three days, depending on the wood and the weather. Repair faded or worn spots by rubbing on more boat soup as required. Remember the drying boat soup is sticky so don't expect your best friend to sit on it 3 hours after you apply it! Generally once the base coats are established any spot of repair will be ready in a day or two.



Adding "a dash of Japan driers" is specified in some boat soup recipes and that may speed the drying. I have not tried it.

There are other boat soup recipes that include pine tar, a black gooey substance. They are good too, maybe more long lasting, but not so attractive for pleasure craft. They are typically used for outside hull surfaces you don't walk or sit on.

Thanks to Stuart Wier for permission to reproduce the recipe and for the use of the *Swallow* drawing. The full article is at: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~ransome/wier/sanda.html>



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MEMBERS YEAR BOOK AND REGISTER FORM

Please fill in and bring to a meeting or return it to PO Box 28, Battery Point 7004

BOAT NAME.....

CLASS.....

DESIGNER.....

BUILDER.....

YEAR BUILT.....

WHERE BUILT.....

TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION.....

LENGTH.....BEAM.....DRAFT.....DISP.....

LENGTH OF BOWSPRIT.....RIG TYPE.....

ENGINE TYPE.....HP.....No CYLINDERS.....

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

MEMBER NAME.....DATE.....

SIGNATURE.....



If undelivered within 7 days please return to:
Wooden Boat Guild of Tasmania Inc.
PO Box 28 Battery Point TAS 7004