



Presidents report—"Roscoe's Ravings"

Christmas comes but once a year.... so have good fun and make good cheer !

Seasons Greetings and a Healthy and Happy New Year to all.



Well there we go....another year has just flashed by. It's been a busy and productive year. The Guild has had a year full of really great rowing days that have been very well attended along with other social outings along the way. We have gained some new members and sadly, we have lost some.

It's been an exciting year for the Terra Linna project. The Guild has increased the Terra Linna fund quite substantially through an immense amount of hard work from the members and we have had a substantial donation of timber from Nystar (the zinc works). But we still need more. We have also had the good fortune to have Noel and Noelene Hall donate space in their backyard to house the Terra Linna during the restoration period. The vessel will be moved from Margate where she is currently housed, early in the new year and the work should begin shortly after. Remember we are always looking for avenues to generate funding for the project....and of course willing helpers, once we get 'the show on the road' as it were!

The Huon Show in November went down well with many Guild boats on display, another successful raffle and plenty of merchandise sold. Well done to Jim Tayton and all the crew.

On the same weekend, on the other side of Tasmania, a first for the Guild to be in two places at once, was the Celebration of the Piners Punt. And what an assortment of punts and 'characters' there were! This was equally well attended by members. And yes, thankyou....Roscoe had no

wheel bearing problems!! There were some other matters but we won't go there!!

A successful weekend, more later in this edition.

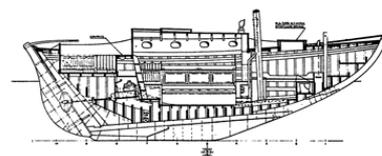
The Presidents Dinner at the Bellerive Yacht Club. What can I say! What a cracker evening. The venue was great, the tucker was great and the company was great. Thanks to our Mess Officers Cherelle and Robin. It was pleasing to see so many members in 'formal' attire....not to mention the 'frocks' that some of the boys wore....it was also necessary to fine many of these members as they did discuss, even after fair warning, the Federal Election that was to be held on the following day! It was also a great pleasure to have Bill and Sheila Mearns as our guests.

Our next outing was the Christmas rowing day luncheon at the Mariners' Cottage. We could not have asked for a better day....while many of the members went rowing on the River Derwent the remainder made sure that a feast was being prepared on the BBQ....well, you know what I mean! It was a fitting way to finish the year of well-attended activities.

Thankyou to everyone who helped, and those who wanted to help but were unable, there is always next year. Again have a wonderful Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

What's that Cheryl....all I want for Christmas is....no way!....oh!....a new clinker dinghy, "can I do a deal for yooouuuuuu"....

Roscoe



President's Dinner 23rd November 07

Well what a great night with great food and great company. Firstly many thanks to Cherelle and Robin, our Mess officers for persevering and making the booking at the Bellerive Yacht Club. Once again it proved a great venue.



Photo Peter Higgs

President Roscoe and wife Cheryll welcome guests to the Bellerive Yacht Club for the annual President's Dinner.

Also many thanks to our MC for the evening, the Right Honorable Lance Burns. Again it was great to see the tradition of the Scots performed so admirably by Lance and Robin, both in "full kilt"!



Photo Peter higgs

MC Lance Burn and Mess Officer Robin Singleton exchange the *Sgian dhu* in true Scot tradition

Whilst on that topic there were many comments on the high standard of the attire the gentlemen wore at this years President's Dinner. Again it was only surpassed by the ladies accompanying them.



Photo Peter Higgs

Now that's how guests should dress Ros!

Some of the years reflections saw some members ducking for cover but the fines did top off a great night!



Photo Peter Higgs

President or is it Father Ross fining members!

WBGT Christmas Bar B Q and Boats 2nd December 07

Well we had the Scot's *Sgian dhu* tradition in November but I am sure the WBGT Christmas Bar B Q was ushered in by the Irish Prayer as the weather was just glorious, *the little wind there was at our backs and sun was warm on our face.*



Photo Graeme Hunt

And there were more boats in the water!

We had a record number of boats launched and many enjoyed a great row or sail. It was great to the President's Dinner MC Lance rowing Yuki around Battery Point in the *Teepookana*.



Photo Henry using David's gear

Many stories were told in this corner



Penny and Cherelle listen intently to Robin whilst Victoria tends the Barbie!

Photo by Henry using David's camera gear

There was the usual exchange of traditional food and beverages with the odd boating yarn spun. Noel brought along his and Noelen's latest model the *May Queen* commissioned for the Maritime Museum Tasmania. The Model was handed over to Bill Foster for the Museum at our December meeting.



Noel being congratulated by Bill Foster for his accurate model of the *May Queen*

Photo Penny Morton

Celebration of the Piners Punt— Strahan 17th and 18th November

The following members saw value in the "Celebration of the Piner's Punt" as organized by Dianne Coon and a band of volunteers in Strahan for the weekend 17th and 18th of November. Those attending included Bill and Shirley Foster, Graeme and Lyn Dudgeon, Adrian and Peggy Dean, Millard Ziegler and Amanda Stark, Peter and Dallas Higgs, Roscoe Barnett, Graeme Hunt and Brian Marriott.



Admirers of Roscoes Piners Punt

Photo Peter Higgs

The members towed to Strahan the *Teepookana*, Adrian Deans punt *Princess*, Roscoe's punt, Brian's Canadian Canoe and the Higgs' *Éltin Ronan*. Despite any real trouble Roscoe experience a little trailer trouble in losing the bolts to the trailers guide poles. On loading the Guild's trailer for the Christmas **Bar-B-Q**. Peter also noticed that the Guild's trailer coupling hitch had worked loose, obviously on the return trip from Strahan. Both incidents are warnings that vigilance regarding trailers during long hauls is critical for safety reasons.

As well as the Celebration of the Piner's Punt" weekend the Fosters, Dudgeons and Deans were intent on renewing acquaintances

in Strahan from previous visits and occupations on the West Coast. Most of this group arrived on the Thursday and have reported a delightful time fulfilling their expectations. The rest of the team traveled over on either the Friday and or Saturday with Graeme and Roscoe stopping off at Bronte lakes to visit Graeme's sister and have a fish. They obviously enjoyed it because they repeated it on the way home but we believe that is the only time fish were caught!

Photo Peter Higgs



Some non Piners Punts at the celebration

We met at West Strahan Beach at 12 noon on the Saturday where Dianne Coon had made arrangements for the use of the local yacht club facilities and beachfront change rooms and shelters. It was not long before Guild boats were unloaded and prepared on the beach. Adrian had been working on *Princess* in preparation for her sale so she was gleaming and looking a real picture representative of Adrian's high skills in wooden boat building. So *Princess* stayed on the trailer and attracted many viewers and connoisseurs of fine wooden boats. There were also a variety of cray dinghy's, piner's punts and other craft starting to arrive for the celebration. Soon we could see 2 larger craft motoring across the Macquarie Harbour with piner's punts in tow, 3 in all. It turned out to be "Shorty Halfacre" and family and Graeme Hunt's mate Steve Newett, his Dad and 3 brothers and one young son. Steve had 2 piners punts in tow just for the celebration of *Piners Punts*, well done Steve! Next into the car park rolled Bryan Jessop's new 30ft Steam launch from Launceston. The work on this wooden boat was incredible and only surpassed by the engineering feats achieved building the steam engine. Just to cap it off it was towed on a

purpose built trailer that had engineering design equivalent to the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Well the scene was set for a great celebration and most boats took to the water despite the feisty sea breeze that was picking up. The effort put in by young Lauren, whom Dianne gained access to the yacht club through, was incredible. I don't think there was a boat Lauren didn't help unload or launch. The proposed row past (some called it a race but Dianne Coon insisted it was a row past) was cancelled due to the stiffening of the breeze. This did not stop a lot of on water fun and *Eltin Ronan* (Celtic for *Frisky little Seal*) lived up to her name.



Photo Peter Higgs

Whilst all this was going on Dianne had a band of people helping her judge the boats for presentation and authenticity. The two Strahan identities

Competition winner

sporting the Nordic costumes and regalia on their punt were the winners of the first prize for the punts and received a voucher for \$100 worth of boat building timber. Adrian Dean, showing *Princess* received the second prize for the day which also was a \$100 voucher for boat building timber from Bern Bradshaw's Timber Mills. Many thanks to Dianne for arranging this, what a great surprise to all who attended and very worthwhile prizes.

Later in the afternoon all boats were loaded and people prepared for the Beach **Bar – B - Q** also arranged by Dianne in the shelters. Tarpaulins were on hand to keep out the breeze which had intensified some what. Inside there was a feast that you could only get in Strahan. McQuarie Harbour sea run trout **Bar-B-Q'ed** to perfection, and for others of differing tastes there were sausages, steak hamburgers and onion. This was topped with a wide variety of Salads and pasta together with all the required sauces and bread. What a feast!! Only to be followed by deserts.

Photo Peter Higgs



Lynn Dudgeon admiring Adrian Dean's Piners Punt *Princess*

Following this we went to the Strahan Information Centre for a presentation of Piners Punts (most photos provided by Millard Ziegler) and much discussion about the probably only truly Tasmanian designed working craft! It did not take long for Adrian Dean to remind us that prior (well prior) to the Piners Punt there was the only Tasmanian Indigenous boat, the bark canoe! The night provided much discussion and note taking with the major outcome that the people of Strahan undertook to commence the process of creating a register of Piners Punts. Dianne and young Lauren have picked up the main responsibility for this and the Guild has offered on going support. Once the register is effected it is intended that it will be lodged with the Australian National Maritime Museum as part of their Register of Historic Vessels. This will be very fitting as no other working boat design can claim to be as authentically Australian as the Piner's Punt other than our indigenous craft.



Photo Dallas Higgs

Miss Davis telling her stories with Dianne Coon in the back-

Sunday morning dawned to be just another beautiful Tasmanian sunny day and we headed around to Risby Cove, Davis's Jetty, where Dianne had arranged a public opening for the replica of Mrs Lacey's Piners Punt built to the original lines by the Wooden Boat

School at Franklin. Forestry commissioned the building of the boat so it could be installed in Strahan as a reminder of the work of Piners.

Dianne arranged for the late Harry McDermott's wife Mrs McDermott and former Miss Davis to talk about her knowledge of the area and the work her late husband Harry did around Davis's jetty. The storey's were great to hear and it was very fitting that Mrs McDermott's daughter then asked some telling but beautiful questions of her mother's experiences in and around Strahan. Most were stories of how they, (continued page 6)n

Photo Dallas Manning



Adrian and Peggy Dean listen intently to Miss Davis

Calendar 2008

- Dec 27th to Jan 3rd tent at the finish of Sydney to Hobart yacht race—1.30pm—4.00 pm daily—Trip Leader Roscoe.
- *Terra Linna* Committee meeting at Margate 21/1/2008 6.00pm —Roscoe to arrange with Peter Lindsay
- WBGT General meeting 18/2/2008 7.30pm—6.00pm Com mtg
- Rowing and Camping trip to Marion Bay 23—24/2/2008—TBC big and small boats, G Burrows Trip Leader
- Barnes Bay weekend & Clean Up Australia 1st & 2nd/3/2008— big and small boats . Trip Leader Peter Higgs
- Geelong Wooden Boat Festival 8-10th March
- WBGT General meeting 17/3/2008 7.30pm—6.00pm Com mtg
- WBGT General meeting 21/4/2008 7.30pm—6.00pm Com mtg
- Green Island (Cremorne) rowing day & big boats welcome 27/4/2008. Includes tour of Oyster farm. Trip Leader Rolly 0408243883
- WBGT General meeting 19/5/2008 7.30pm—6.00pm Com mtg
- Wooden Boat Centre visit & rowing day 25/5/2008—Trip Leader hopefully Grahame Dudgeon
- WBGT General meeting 16/6/2008 7.30pm—6.00pm Com mtg
- Trial Bay rowing day 22/6/2008—Trip Leader Jim Tayton
- WBGT General meeting 21/7/2008 7.30pm—6.00pm Com mtg
- **New Norfolk Rowing Day 24/7/2008 Trip Leader Peter Higgs—There is another New Norfolk rowing day we have been invited to earlier in the year. More info to come.**

Trip Leaders responsibilities; the Trip Leader is to confirm meeting paces and times (including maps) for the Skeg edition prior to the event. Skeg closing time is 2nd Monday for text and 1st Monday for photos every month. Following the event the Trip Leader is to provide a short story and photos of the event for inclusion in the following Skeg.

General Meetings are on the 3rd Monday of each month, inc. public holidays, but not in the month of January.

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 21st February 2008

There will not be a committee meeting held prior to the meeting

Guest Speaker/s, 21st February 2008

Peter Higgs can show videos of the Strahan visit and some other outings of 2006 if there are no other takers.

Needed;

1. **Skeg articles by the 2nd Monday of each month.**
2. **Skeg photographs by the 1st Monday of each month.**
3. **Speaker/demonstration for next month**
4. **Volunteers for 27th Dec —3rd Jan contact Roscoe**

Try this link to our Web site to check our next function and the weather!

<http://www.maritimetas.org/taswoodenboatguild/>

Officers of the Guild contact list

<i>President</i>	Ross Barnett	Home 6227 1720 or mobile 0438 300 229
<i>Sen. Vice President</i>	Graeme Hunt	03 62278652
<i>Vice President</i>	David Barnes	
<i>Secretary</i>	Peter Higgs	03 62491695
<i>Treasurer</i>	Brian Marriott	0419877684
<i>Flag Officers</i>	Peter Higgs & Brian Marriott	
<i>Mess Officers</i>	Cherelle Gadge & Robin Singleton 03 62439033	
<i>Committee</i>	David Gatenby	
	Jim Tayton	03 62674051
	Noel Hall	

earlier days, relied on Harry and his boats to get them in and out of Strahan.

This topped off a great weekend with the local people picking up the responsibility of creating their Register of Piners Punts so the history is passed on. They will also lodge this with the Australian Maritime Museum as part of the Australian Historic Vessels register.

Photo Dallas Higgs



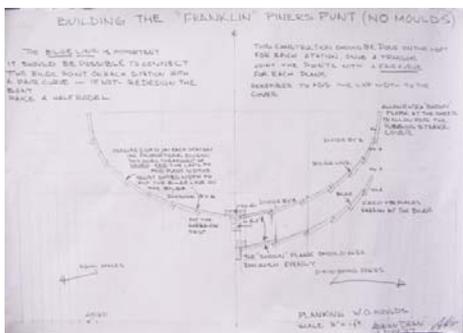
Graeme Dudgeon enjoying a chat at Davis Jetty with Mrs Morrison.

What a great weekend but it was now time to head home. On our way back we called in to "The Wall in the Wilderness" Lyall Highway Derwent Bridge. If you enjoy art and more specifically wood carving in Huon Pine this is a must see.

Peter Higgs

Adrian Dean's next project

Since our return from Strahan Adrian has been busy at work producing drawings of a Piners Punt that will be suitable to build without any moulds. This was the traditional way of building Piners Punts so



Copy, not to scale, of Adrian's plans

what a great gesture of Adrian to put some lines and offsets together. Adrian thought Millard had some instructions he was scribing but alas that is not the case! However, we may be able to get some instructions together. Once we have the plans and material together they will be available for a modest price from the Guild. Thanks so much Adrian.

Secretary's and Terra Linna report

Firstly I must apologise for having the December Skeg out so late but pressure at work with almost every week in November and December taking me interstate or intrastate. In regard to

the Terra Linna the TL committee will meet at Margate (pending arrangements) to discuss the moving of the boat to Noel and Noelene's Bellerive property where work can commence on her restoration.

Roscoes Sydney to Hobart tent roster

Roscoe has been successful in negotiating a tent site at the finish of the Sydney Hobart yacht race. The purpose is to raise funds for the *Terra Linna* project. If you can assist please contact the lead members.

1.00pm—4.30pm

Thursday 27th Dec Peter Higgs, Brian Marriott and David Barnes. Boat to be in tent by 10.00am.

Friday 28th Dec Graeme Hunt

Saturday 29th Dec Roscoe

Sunday 30th Dec Jim Tayton and Roscoe

Monday 31st Dec David Barnes

Tuesday 1st Jan Roscoe

Wednesday 2nd Jan Roscoe

Thursday 3rd Jan Roscoe

After each day merchandise can be stored at Maritime Museum of Tasmania and picked up from there on the next day.

Huon Show 17th of November

Able led by Jim Tayton members of the Guild not in Strahan set up and staffed our stall at the Huon Show. During the day they raised over \$200.00 so well done to all. This was topped off by the Huon Show organisers making a donation of \$200 to the Guild for the *Terra Linna* project.

Photo Jim Tayton



Members at the Huon Show

"Wooden' Miss This For Quids!"

The 2008 Whyte Just & Moore, Geelong Wooden Boat Festival!

Labour Weekend, March 2008

Why 'wooden' you put these dates in your diary? Contact the Royal Geelong Yacht Club

on (03) 52293705 or e-mail to info@rgyc.com.au





A collage of November and December Guild events— To all members and their families have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year