



Presidents July report—“Roscoe’s Ravings”

Last month’s Skeg caption was supposed to read; *Presidents Annual Report 07/08* but owing to a technical hitch in the editorial computer- machine-thingy, it was billed as the May report...again. (editors apologies and let’s not make excuses it was an oversight that has been fixed. Not the technology!)

A new Wooden Boat Guild year is with us again. The AGM was well attended and after the ‘dust had settled’....or the ‘wind had dropped’....or the ‘tide had turned’.... you have been lumbered with me again as President for the next year. It is again, a privilege to be at the helm of such a diverse and forward moving group, promoting the art and craft of the wooden boat phenomena. Thank you to the outgoing committee and welcome to the new....though the outgoing committee were so well appreciated by the Guild members, they have all been re elected unopposed. Congratulations.

As I said in my last ravings, we have just completed a great year and I would like to think that we can move forward with the *Terra Linna* project, our fund raising efforts and our rowing and social outings and make this year an even more enjoyable year.

You know....one of the things I like most about the Guild, is after every meeting, or, at any outing, there is always that little ‘chit chat’ about anything and everything (with the girls included too, of course) about boats, the weather, boats, what we should have done, boats and how we are going to solve all the problems of the world!!

Wooden boats....*wooden* be without them!

Speaking of social outings, our last one at Trial Bay hosted by the Tayton’s was another ripper. Thanks Jim and Caroline, more about this later in the edition.

Cheryl was kind enough to allow me to take my (our?) new little 1924 cedar dinghy, *Lovett*, to the Trial Bay outing and someone who shall remain nameless suggested that she had a really fantastic self-draining cockpit....yes, well! Just wait until I’ve got all the repairs completed and that person wants to go for a sail in a real vintage 9ft gaff dinghy....nup....with a capital N.

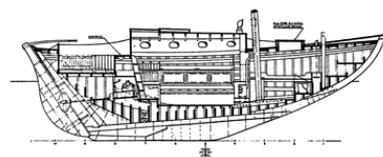
That’s what I was talking about. I received more advice in five minutes on how to repair the vessel and on how the rig worked than I could have found in a book or a ‘month of Sundays’. Speaking of restorations, although I missed the last working bee, I believe work is progressing well on the *Terra Linna*, again, a full report with all the news later from Peter.

The committee has put together a new calendar with outings outlined for the rest of the year which should be really exciting. One of which will be the Presidents Dinner, and this year will be held at Brookfield in Margate. Now, the last dinner was fantastic, very formal, held in a very formal establishment and I must complement everyone on their choice of attire. So, I feel as this will be my last dinner as President and we will be in a less formal atmosphere we should let our hair down (if only some of us had some) and try something different. So I suggest a ‘*silly nautical hat dinner*’ should do the job nicely....only if you feel inclined to do so of course....!

Again, welcome to the new committee and I look forward to another exciting year with the Wooden Boat Guild of Tasmania.

What’s that I hear you say Cheryl....I don’t need a hat to look silly....!

Roscoe



Trial Bay rowing day.

The winter solstice was only a day away, and there was a gale warning current, but a worthy gathering of members and friends came along to Trial Bay and Kettering for the Guild rowing day on 22 June.

Photo by Dallas Higgs



Rupert & Henry take charge of *Teepookana*

The forecast and the time of year meant that a fairly

small number of boats took to the water. Peter, Dallas and Henry turned up with Teepookana, and were joined for the row by Roly and Kate's son Rupert. Graeme Nicholls had Scorrybreac there, looking as immaculate as always, with Graeme Hunt as crew. David Long launched and rigged the delightful Topsy. I ventured around to Trial



Graeme Nicholls in *Scorrybreac* & David Long and mate in *Topsy*

Photo by Graeme Hunt

Bay with Caroline's Jo Dwyer. President Roscoe and Cheryl brought along the Lovett Bay, their newest dinghy from Sydney. She's a lovely 8ft 8in clinker sailing dinghy, planked in Australian cedar, and was much admired.

We think we finally worked out how the gaff/gunter rig should be hoisted, but some gaps in the planking (someone referred to the self-draining cockpit) meant that the theories couldn't be tested out on the water. We look forward to seeing her afloat at a future rowing day.

At Trial Bay we met up with Rod McNeice whose collection of craft in his front yard on the Channel Highway at Kettering and on the water in Little Oyster Cove will have been noticed by many of our members. Roly and Ainsley had come quite close to having an accident as they pulled up at the same time to admire his latest clinker dinghy. Rod and Ainsley were overheard in earnest negotiation over a barter arrangement for the transfer of ownership of a couple of vessels.

The rowers (and sailors and motorers) set off around Kettering Point, with the breeze filling in. By the time we'd all arrived in Little Oyster Cove, there was quite a stiff breeze funneling down the bay. Those who weren't water borne drove round to 70 Ferry Road. After securing the boats in the

Photo by Graeme Hunt



Sylvena & *Victory* (background) were viewed by Guild members. Jim was heartbroken to hear *Victory* was sold a week later!



Photo by Graeme Hunt

marina, and some discussion about the wind strength, it was decided to ferry those who wanted to inspect the *Victory* out to

John Who? & R Ducky

look at her on her mooring. Many thanks to Graeme Hunt who did a great job as skipper of the inflatable tender. After an inspection of the vessel, and demonstration of the very impressive Gardner 6L3 diesel engine Graeme ferried us all back to shore. Roly was heard to comment that if he'd brought a few provisions he'd just have stayed on board.

The sea and shore parties joined together for some soup, a barbecue lunch and some socialising back at the house. Many thanks to all those who contributed to making it a really enjoyable luncheon. Caroline found a box of long disused Leggo, for Henry and Rupert with a bit of encouragement from David Morton to produce some impressive constructions. The weather was sunny enough for it to be quite pleasant out on the deck looking over the harbour.

At the end of the day the wind strength was varying a lot, occasionally becoming quite fresh, so it was decided to



Jim the trip leader

Photo by Graeme Hunt

haul out at the Kettering ramp, rather than return to Trial Bay.

FROM ENGLAND TO THE SALMON PONDS

A Tale of Fish Eggs, my Great-Grandfather and Several Vessels.

I am most grateful to Peter Higgs, Lew and Liz Garnham as, on May 9th

they enabled me to re-enact, by river, the part of this tale from 'The Battery' to Bridgewater, aboard the beautifully restored river launch '*Latura*'. My thanks also to Jean Walker for the story she told in her book 'The Origins of the Tasmanian Trout'.

Photo by Wally



Latura under way for the re-enactment

In 1864, after two failed attempts, the Salmon Commission succeeded in transporting live salmon and trout ova from Britain to Tasmania. In April that shipment of 30,000 salmon and 300 trout ova finally arrived at the Salmon Ponds. For live transport from England, they had been packed in boxes filled with moss, covered with ice and then insulated with straw. They were shipped on the

three-masted, square-rigger 'Norfolk' which set sail for Hobson's Bay (now Port Philip Bay) on 21st January 1864. On April 15th after a voyage of 84 days, the ova arrived in Melbourne and, to the delight of Dr Officer, Morton Allport and other Members of the Salmon Commission, it was found that a good proportion had survived this long voyage.

Provided by Martin Lemann



Norfolk from Jean Walker's 'The Origins of the Tasmanian Trout'.

Falls and unloaded at the 'Ark Inn' (now a private residence known as Atherfield House).

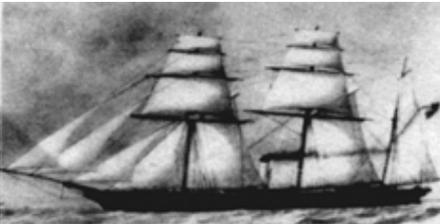
Photo by Martin Lemann



New Norfolk Steam Wharf

From here the ova were carried overland by teams of porters. Finally, on the 23rd April, 91 days after being loaded aboard the 'Norfolk' in England, packing cases of ova, ice and moss arrived at the Salmon Ponds.

As the eggs were about to hatch, urgent arrangements were made to transfer them to Hobart aboard the Victorian Navy's warship steam sloop 'Victoria' commanded by my Great-grandfather, the legendary Captain William Norman.



Victoria from Jean Walker's 'The Origins of the Tasmanian Trout'.

Provided by Martin Lemann

Legendary for the services he and the 'Victoria' rendered to the Government of the Colony of Victoria that included: transporting to the Gulf of Carpentaria, a party led by Landsborough, to search for Burke and Wills; taking troops to New Zealand to help quell the Maori rebellion; hydro-graphic and marine survey work, and the rescue of many shipwreck victims and stranded prospectors. The town of Normanton in the Gulf of Carpentaria commemorates his expedition to the north.



Salmon Ponds

Photo by Martin Lemann

Many of the salmon eggs hatched but later the adults did not return from the sea to spawn. The brown trout, however, multiplied rapidly and many were sent to New South Wales, Victoria and New Zealand for release.

On Friday 9th of May this year Lew and Liz Garnham generously took me, my wife Jane and our two friends Fred and Rosemary Blake on a voyage of re-enactment. The weather was ideal and the gleaming 'Latura' was a perfect vessel for the trip. From the Motor Yacht Club we proceeded to The Battery Point 'Battery' and then upstream to Bridgewater beyond where we could not go, for the Bridge, which had opened for the 'Emu' in 1864, has been welded closed! Along the way, much of the countryside appeared as it probably had in 1864; Government House, the sentinel of Mount Wellington and, further up-river, a natural river foreground, rustic cleared farmlands with a backdrop of densely timbered hillsides and rugged mountain ranges completed the bygone picture story.

By 3pm, the 20th April the 'Victoria' was anchored off the Battery Point 'Battery'. The Hobart Mercury reported that the vessels in the river were dressed in their gayest colours and dipped their ensigns as the 'Victoria' came up. No salute was fired for fear of damage to the ova.

Photo by Martin Lemann



Battery Point battery

At the bridge we celebrated with champagne, a toast to Captain Norman and spoonfuls of caviar in place of the trout eggs which we had been unable to procure. Salmon sandwiches was the final bite! After returning to the Yacht Club we drove to

Bridgewater and continued the journey by road to New Norfolk and 'Artherfield' (former 'Ark Inn'),

and then to 'Salmon Ponds, arriving just as the sun was setting. The day had generously fulfilled my long held ambition to re-trace this journey and my grateful thanks go to Lew and Liz Garnham, 'Latura', Peter Higgs and Jean Walker.

Under Captain Norman's supervision the crew of 'Victoria' quickly transferred the eleven packing cases of ova to a barge. At 9pm on "a tranquil and moonlight night" it was towed up the Derwent by the river steamer 'Emu', arriving 1am at the New Norfolk Steam Wharf. From here the barge was towed by two row boats to The

Martin Lemann

May 2008

Secretary's and Terra Linna report

Well as Roscoe said here we go again! Isn't it amazing how quick things go, it won't be long and we will be celebrating Christmas again!

To para-phrase Roscoe again it seems we have reformed after the AGM with a Committee that is willing to put their "shoulder's to the sheets" fully supported by the many keen members. So hopefully we can fulfil your expectations. Interestingly, we finished the year on a quite bright financial note but the *Terra Linna* project has already eaten into the reserves and we will be looking for a replenishment of funds.

To address this and tasks to be undertaken at working bees all model material and hulls have been taken to Noel and Noelene's house. This will ensure all who attend working bees will have work they can engage in. It also means members who would like to take some hulls home for cutting shaping and sanding can now do so.

The models are a key component of our fund raising so I urge all members to help out where possible because our stock of models is very low. Many more models will be required for the Seafarers Festivals at Bellerive, the Huon Show and the Australian Wooden Boat Festival, all closer that you think!

As well, we have placed a wooden surf boat belonging to the Carlton Park SLSC at Noel and Noelene's on the premise that we will assist them to restore her to be shown at the next AWBF. Greg Bird one of the club's members found the boat on the way to the tip so reclaimed her acknowledging her wooden boat origins and a colourful history of several State Championships. Greg will see that all materials will be paid for so all they are looking for is some guidance and assistance in restoration which fits nicely with our aims.

Another plus for the Guild is that we will be able to take all comers to the *Terra Linna* working bees now.

In all we could see up to 15 wooden surf boats at the AWBF.

Speaking of which have all members registered their boats for the AWBF? It is now getting to the critical point if you are still to enter your craft.

On another matter the President has asked me to include in the next meetings agenda "Sullivans Cove". Roscoe has some thoughts on this but may I suggest so have other members because this has been a hot topic for many years. So bring along your thoughts so collectively the Guild can make a meaningful contribution to what we would like the Cove to look like and support from a maritime heritage and wooden boat perspective.

The *Terra Linna* Report

Well if you have not been along to a working bee lately things are really moving along. Noel and his merry band of helpers have successfully removed the garboards and several planks above. Where we can, the old planks will be fashioned into the seam battens. All stringers are out together with most floors and other structural components. This will enable us to attend to the restoration of the keel. To do so we first have to attempt to take a twist out of the keel which we believe has been exacerbated by its recent fall.

Once we succeed with that we have to epoxy the keel, which is in sound condition but we believe this treatment will further protect it from the elements for many years to come.. The Guild is indebted to Ian and Cathy Johnston for their kind donation of the epoxy. Many thanks and due acknowledgement will be made on the web site and vessel.

Once this is complete we can proceed to install all of the moulds Noel has made so that we can commence to bring her back to her original shape and commence the important phase of planking followed by installation of the batten seams and steam bent ribs.

We have successfully purchased 650 super feet of



Selecting timber again!

Huon pine planking, rib and other structural timbers. Our purchase has been made through negotiations with Jason Evans who has actually donated to the Guild \$1400 to the Guild \$1500 given his considerations about our project. Jason's efforts are much appreciated and will be recorded on the web site and the restored vessel as a donor.

The Terra Linna sub committee met recently to plan

our activities and share the load of the project. Graeme Hunt and my self are joint Project Managers. Noel is the restoration team leader, Bill Foster is the restoration shipwright advisor, Jim Tayton has picked up the batten to investigate our obligations in regard to Sail Training for youth(a component of the TCF funding re community input) with other committee members lending a



One load of the 2, ready to go!

Photo by Graeme Hunt

Photo Graeme Hunt

Calendar 2008

- **WBG T General meeting 21/7/2008 7.30pm—6.00pm Com mtg**
- **New Norfolk Rowing Day 27/7/2008 Trip Leader Peter & Dallas Higgs**
- **Terra Linna Working Bee 10.am 10/8/08**
- **Presidents Dinner, Brookfield Vineyard Café Margate Saturday 13th September 2008 6.00pm for 6.30pm. Bar and nibbles, Mains Buffet Roast and Veg. Desert (serves of 2 X alternate drop! [I don't mean a drink]) \$35.00 per head incl tea and coffee. Dress wear a Nautical hat and of course some other attire top and bottom!**
- **I know Roscoe mentioned in his report we have the calendar worked out for the rest of the year but it is not in the minutes I have been given following the last meeting (which I was not at). So look forward to a more complete calendar in the next Skeg.**

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 up to 12 photos, sized appropriately, of the event for inclusion in the following Skeg.

Members wishing to submit photos: All members photos are most welcome as contributions for the Skeg or other publications. For the Skeg members are asked to restrict their submissions to 6 in total per month and to have resized the photos to the following specs.

400 Pixels wide X 300 Pixels high, or

5.7 cm wide X 4.2 cm high, with a resolution of

180—250 pixels per inch

If you can not size a photo your system probably has a function that enables you to save it for email. This is also probably quite a good solution.

We are getting an incredible number of photos so many thanks to all the enthusiasts but apologies if I do not put your favourite picky in the Skeg. We do have to have room for some words also.

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

*The next general meeting & AGM 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 July 2008*

There will be a committee meeting held prior to the meeting commencing at 6.00pm

Guest Speaker, 21st July 2008

TBA

Many thanks to Robert Virtue for his presentation on Tasmanian One Design Yachts in June

Also see <http://www.virtue.id.au/Onedesign/index.htm>

This months presentation will be

Needed;

1. **Skeg articles by the 2nd Monday of each month.**
2. **Skeg photographs by the 1st Monday of each month.**
3. **Speaker/demonstration (it can be a demonstra-**

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	03 62441302
<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	0428391432
	Jim Tayton	03 62674051
	Noel Hall	03 62445583

hand where required.

We are currently gathering quotations to fulfill the Sails, Rigging and Spars component of the TCF grant. We have approximately 12 months to complete this component.

The TCF Grant Deed has been signed and we are underway with that component of the project.

So come along to the next working bee and become a member of the restoration team.

Next Rowing Day—New Norfolk Rowing Day

The day promises to be quite an interesting outing. Dallas and I have done a reccy establishing that it will be best to meet at the boat ramp opposite the New Norfolk Caravan Park on the Esplanade off Ferry Road (X). If, as it was last time we had a rowing day, the ramp is occupied by the speed boats we will venture on to another location to launch.

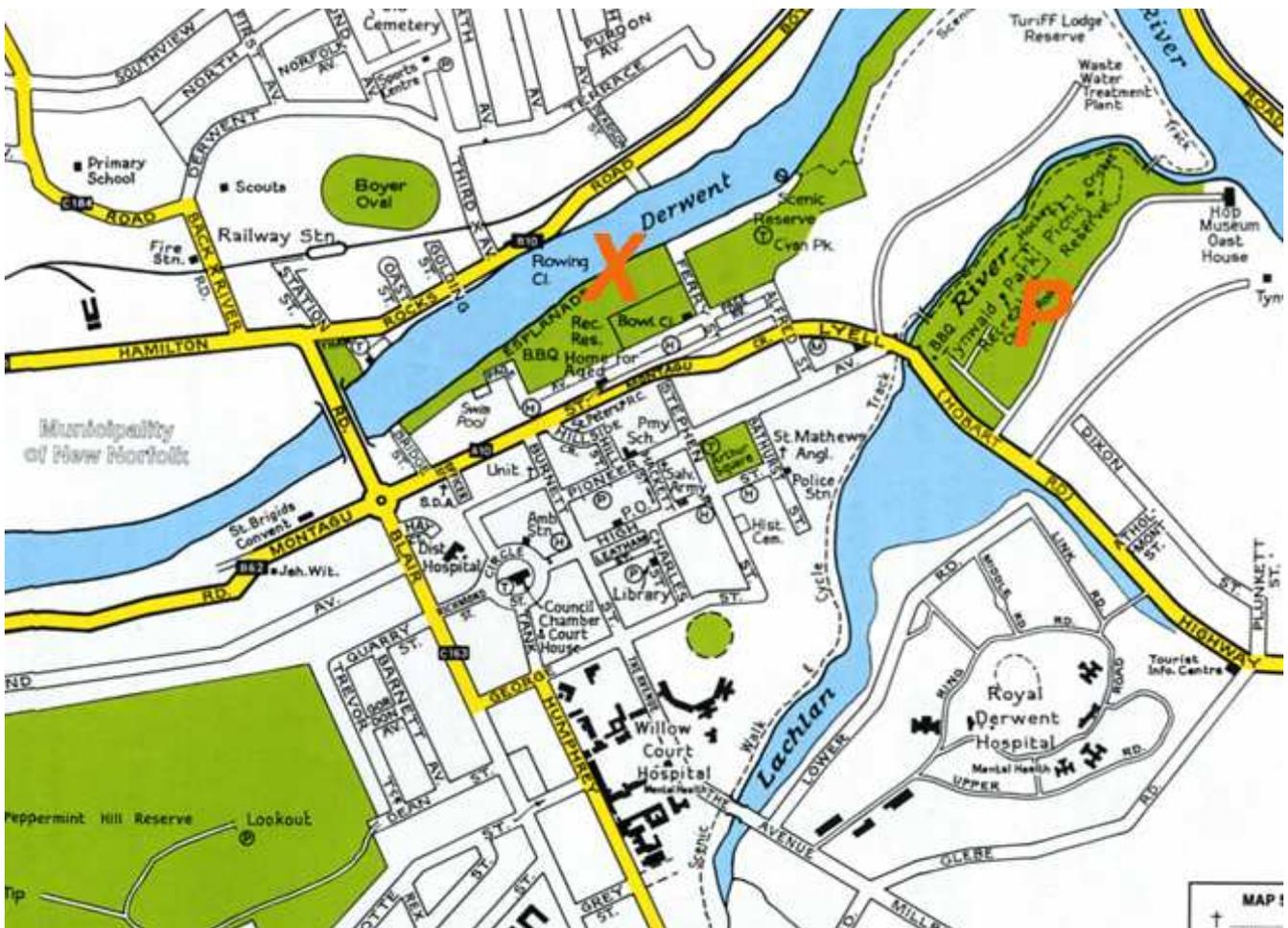
We have planned a mystery rowing day with participants having to gather information about some historic land marks along the way. Both on the water and on the land members will be given an opportunity to team up and find the solutions. The on the land members will have to relay their finding to the boat crews for recording. You will be required to provide evidence of being at the land marks so it will pay you to bring along your pen and paper and perhaps your cameras. All Mystery Rowing/sailing directions will be given out on the day and a prize of sorts will be presented at the Guild meeting following the event if we can not come to a conclusion at New Norfolk. This will enable the Trip Leaders to judge the evidence and award a winner. No correspondence will be considered.

Following the water events we will retire to Tynwald Park (P) where members will be able to cook their bar-b-q or perhaps enjoy lunch, scones jam, cream and a coffee at the Oast House

See map last page.

Peter & Dallas Higgs—Trip Leaders

Don't forget your membership renewal and subscriptions! Map by UBD





THE WOODEN BOAT GUILD of TASMANIA INC

Membership Application

I / We
(preferred name) (surname)

and
(preferred name) (surname)

hereby apply to join/continue my/our membership of The Wooden Boat Guild of Tasmania Inc. for the membership period 1st May 2008 to 30th April 2009.

My/our address for correspondence is:

Phone:

Street. (Home)
..... (Bus.)
Town (Mobile.)
State Postcode. (Fax)

email

Please send the newsletter by: email post

Areas of interest Boating excursions building designing
(tick many) Restoring history rowing sailing
Motoring tools others.....

Annual Subscription : Full member / family \$35.00
Concession (Student, Pensioner) \$15.00, Amount remitted \$

I prefer to pay by Credit Card. Details: Card type (circle): MasterCard | Visa Expires:
mm/yy

Name on card:

Credit Card Number:

Please make Postal Orders, Cheques, payable to "The Wooden Boat Guild of Tasmania Inc." and Forward to:

The Wooden Boat Guild of Tasmania Inc.
P. O. Box 28
Battery Point, Tas 7004

I / We agree to abide by the Rules of Incorporation and By Laws of the Guild

Signed

Date