



Presidents Report- August 2009



In Judy's report on the Huon Rowing Day we said farewell to John Bishop as he set off to row home down the Huon on an incoming tide. Happily I can report that John made it the 20 or so kilometres. Not surprisingly his body suffered for the next few days. John did the trip in the recently refurbished *Proto*, a prototype of the Derwent Skiff designed by Witt Design and winner of the design competition at the 2007 Australian Wooden Boat Festival. Alan Witt has since gone into production selling designs or a kit for the Derwent Skiff. Alan has kindly provided an update on the Derwent Skiff story which is in this edition of the *Skeg*.

This month sees two milestones in the *Terra Linna* story. As Peter will report we have accepted quotations for the spars, rigging and sails. Also the hull is half planked. Noel says you could just about use her as a flounder punt! I would like to acknowledge Des Hutchins, Chris Morton and Lionel Lewis for their donations of copper fixings that have been used in the construction so far. ***If you have any nails, roves or copper rod that you no longer have a use for, Terra Linna is a worthy cause.***

Another great rowing day was held on 26th July. See report elsewhere in *Skeg*. More fun is to be had on South Arm this month. Thanks Ainesley and Ros for taking on the role of Trip Leaders.

Sadly, by the time you read this, the 107 year old Trading Ketch *Enterprise*, recently on the hard at the Sea Life Centre at Bicheno, will be gone. The feature vessel at the Sea Life Centre had fallen into grave disrepair and was considered a danger to the public. I was alerted to the impending use of a large excavator (which had been used to break up a fishing boat that was on the beach at Bicheno) by a concerned colleague who thought this was a spur of the moment decision. However, as reported in the paper, the Maritime Museum and others had been alerted.

Now there are only two trading ketches left. They are the *May Queen* and the *Terralinna* (not our yacht *Terra*

Linna). Members may remember Russell Pocock's passionate presentation to the Guild last year on his plans to save the *Enterprise*. Russell has full details of the *Enterprise's* history and construction details on his web site www.boatregister.net/Enterprise

This episode has demonstrated that our maritime heritage has none of the protection of our built or natural heritage. That is a situation we all need to try to do something about. It is ridiculous that wrecks have protection, but floating vessels have none!

Graeme



Secretary's August 2009 Report

It hasn't been a good month for wooden boats.

Pearl Diver, a 50 year old, 58 foot converted trawler that had recently returned to Sydney, after having attended the 2009 Australian Wooden Boat Festival was burnt to the waterline, along with several other craft, at the Newport Marina on Sydney's northern beaches.

It was valued at \$400,000 and the owner had just completed a ten year restoration.

Then, the *Enterprise*, built by Charles Lucas at Purdon and Featherstone, Battery Point, more or less right in front of our meeting rooms, was broken up. As we know the *Enterprise* was a static maritime exhibit at the Sea Life Centre at Bicheno and one of our members, Russell Pocock was desperately trying to obtain funding to rescue her.

Peta Knott, Tasmania's maritime heritage co-ordinator said "***Currently there is no protective legislation for historic vessels that are on land or afloat***" but if the vessel had been under water, it would have been protected by the Historic Shipwrecks Act of 1976. A very sad state of affairs.

Even worse news, I believe that *Ninie* may be heading in the same direction as the *Enterprise*. The owner has been unable to find a new home for her. During the last week I have been in discussions with Bill Foster and the Wooden Boat Centre and some others to try and find a solution or at least a temporary 'home' for her before it's

too late for her as well.

The Tasmanian Government definitely has a huge problem with heritage buildings and historic vessels, whether they are large or small. They seem to be able to find ample funding for the footy and the gee-gees but heritage buildings and historic vessels don't appear to be on the Governments radar.

Crikey, now I'm beginning to sound like Leo Schofield - and why not! Nothing ever gets done unless it's discussed, whether it be within the Guild or out there with the general public. I know the Guild has a lot on its plate at the moment but it's part of our charter to help, at least in the dialog department, in the rescue of vessels that are about to face the chain saw or excavator.

July meeting

It was great to see so many young ladies at the July meeting. It's not a 'men's only' event, we would love to see more of the fairer sex attend the meetings. I have a suspicion that Peter and Dallas's presentation may have encouraged the larger than normal attendance of ladies!

The July meeting was again pretty straight forward with no real issues, other than our ongoing need for alternative storage space. The President's Dinner has been confirmed and will be held at Drysdale in Collins Street Hobart on Wednesday 28 October.

The *Terra Linna* project was discussed and will be reported on by Peter later in this edition.

Planning for the Kettering Wooden Boat Rally is well under way. More information will be made available as it comes to hand.

After the meeting and our usual light refreshments (remember, we are still looking for a Mess Officer), the guest speakers for the evening were Peter and Dallas Higgs who gave us a wonderful presentation on *Museu Maritim Barcelona* and Spain. Thank you, Peter and Dallas.

Last month's question was; A north Cardinal Mark (showing safe water to the north) is indicated by: (1) double vertical black cones pointing up (2) double vertical cones pointing down (3) two cones pointing away from each other.

And the correct answer is; (1) double vertical cones

Photo Peter Higgs 13/8/2009



"Polly Woodside" on the Yarra Melbourne flying the National Heritage Flag. Perhaps NH funding is available for Maritime heritage vessels?

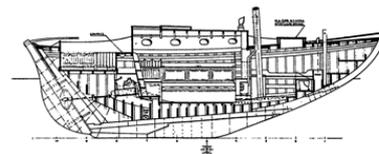
pointing up

This month's question; A sailing vessel underway at night under engine power (1) requires no lights (2) requires a masthead white light (3) requires the same lights as power driven vessels

What's that Cheryl....you don't think *Ninie* will fit under the house with all those other dinghies....oh!

The Guild have again been invited to attend the Huon Show on Saturday 14 November. I think we should attend this event as we always receive a healthy donation from the HS committee and we can't let the Living Boat Trust up stage us....if you know what I mean!. Peter could you include this in the 'Calendar' please?

I have also sent an email to Dianne Coon in Strahan suggesting that the weekend of November 28 and 29 (two weeks after the Huon Show) would suite the Guild for a Piners Punt weekend.



Roscoe

Secretaries Trivia

Following on from last month....well, winter is still with us....

How do you catch a Polar Bear?

Well, firstly you cut a round hole in the ice then you spread green peas round the outside of the hole....and wait.

Then, when the Polar Bear arrives at said hole....

for a pea, you kick him in the icehole

July Rowing Day at Marieville esplanade Sandy Bay 7005

Firstly Bryan Walpole has apologised profusely for not being able to be the trip leader and host members for



Photo Judy Hunt

the Marieville Rowing Day. Until the Health system has enough Dr's and particularly surgeons this is likely to continue for Bryan. So we understand your situation Bryan.

Jim Bonham shows the trip leader around Marieville Esplanade!

As a result our able President stepped up and took on the task of trip leader including writing the following report. Well done Graeme!



Cherelle and Robin at Marieville

Photo Graeme Hunt

Although winter meant a smaller attendance, those who came had a truly great rowing day. Hard to describe why it was great, but every-

body seemed relaxed and happy with life. It was not because the travel distance was short. Robin and

Cherelle came up from Cygnet, David Gatenby came down from Tri-abunna, Ainesley and Ros came from Sandford and Penny and Chris came from

Photo Graeme Hunt



David Gatenby asks, "is this a RGF boat festival?"

Geeveston. Rob and Joe, Rob and Will, Jim and my-

self all came from closer suburbs. Noel and Noelene were also there to see us launch. Judy and Wayne joined us for lunch.



Judy, Rob plus Rob and Will getting underway for an on-water challenge!

Photo Graeme Hunt

Unfortunately our planned trip leader was not able to be there due to work commitments, as a result of the flu epidemic. Luckily we found out in time and arranged

to go ahead as planned at Marieville Esplanade and have lunch at the Mariner's Cottage.

When I arrived it was calm and sunny, much better than when I had left home. David brought the Chris Morton-built Oughtred Feather Pram. Robin and Cherelle brought their dinghy. Jim Bonham arrived with his lovely Tammie Norrie. Rob and Jo Nolan arrived with water in their dinghy complete with sailing rig aboard. Rob Wallis and son Will also arrived by water in their tiny tender and Ainesley and Ros arrived with their yel-



Nice panorama by Graeme Hunt

low tender in the back of their ute. Before we set off, one of Robin's colleagues arrived and burst into song –

nautical of course!

The plan was to row around to Sullivans Cove with the prospect of coffee. It was a pleasant row, viewing the new jetties, lovely houses and rocky foreshore around which we may one day have a walkway. The three longer dinghies found the going easier and sought out coffee in the docks. Robin and Cherelle were serenaded again as they came ashore, as Robin's friend had ridden his bike around. David made it to the docks in the Feather Pram. Chris and Penny joined the shore party, then joined the Smiths at the maritime antiques shop at the Mariner's Cottage.

On the way back I was able to row Jim's delightful Tammie Norrie while he put a line out the back. Robin was tiring, having rowed the whole way there and back- but he still beat us! Rob and Jo hoisted the sail and came back the easy way.

A barbecue or picnic lunch was enjoyed by all at the cottage while David and Wayne regaled us with some of their recent adventures in the UK and USA. It bodes well for an interesting night at the Orford Weekend.

Graeme



Terra Linna Report

Well I feel as though we are now finally "under sail" with the **Terra Linna** project. At our last project meeting it was agreed that we enjoyed the work more than having the photo taken! let the following work;

- Spars to Denman Marine
- Sails to Storm Bay Sails
- Rigging to Mike Seeneey

I want to sincerely thank other suppliers, particularly Adrian Baker. All genuinely submitted bids for the work and it was a very long and arduous process. There was

nothing wrong with either the submissions or proposed work of the other suppliers other than the Guild having to meet budget lines for this component of the funding from Tasmania

Photo Graeme Hunt



Des, Charles, Noel and Grahame enjoyed the work more than having the photo taken!

Community Fund.

Hopefully there could be other work we can engage these talented suppliers for. As well, I commend them to members for consideration when work is required on your boats.

The working bee held on the 9th of August was a great success with many members turning up to help. Thank you all very much, it is appreciated, but I did hear Noel



Terra Linna 7 planks up, well done Noel and team

Photo Graeme Hunt

mumbling at one stage that he did not want me to change one task as he would then have to find something else for one member to do! Isn't that a great position for us to be in.

Noel, with help, has now hung and fixed 7 planks in the restoration process. There are four on either side to go.

Although the planks are of new Huon stock the battens and floors are all components from the **Terra Linna** as we found her. So although we still call it a restoration project she is fast developing into the old adage of "she is just like "Grandpa's original old axe, with 10 new handles as well as two new heads"!

Photo Graeme Hunt



Huon rib preparation underway!

That aside the shape she is taking is something all Guild members can be proud of. If this challenge and action had not been taken she would have been another important piece of Tasmania's Maritime heritage lost forever.

On the 9th we also started preparing the ribs for installation by edging them and sanding all surfaces. It is estimated that by October this year we will be steaming in the ribs.

As mentioned in the President's report we are using fixings at an incredible rate. If you do have or know someone else who has a variety copper nails and roves and/or copper or silicone bronze rod or fixings we would be very grateful of a donation to the project. Many thanks to

members who have already donated their unused fixings, it is much appreciated.

As we are now advancing in the restoration we are probably getting to a point where we may need to consider selling off



Photo Graeme Hunt

Robin prepares a Huon vegemite and stout sanger, erh erh plank for hanging!

some of the surplus Nyrstar timber to members. The funds raised through this process will assist us meeting the tightening budget of the **Terra Linna** project.

So if you have a boat building project bothering your thoughts consider putting together a materials list and lets see if we can not supply some of it at a reasonable price. All enquiries to Peter Higgs.

From the Editors Desk

Well it appears that the planning for the joint Kettering Sailing Club and Wooden Boat Guild Wooden Boat Rally is well under way. Sounds like a great event with a big variety of events and things to do or watch are being put together for us. So watch this space for dates and times so you can get it on your calendar.

Talking of planning with the birth of my first granddaughter I thought I would build her a little dinghy cot. Got the plans in and was pretty chuffed about getting underway. Then as they say with all the plans of men and mice my daughter called and said hey Dad how would you like to make Ela a cot, this is what we would like!!!! Yeah that's right a heritage style family heirloom cot.

So I selected a beautiful piece of birds eye Blackwood. Two thicknessers later together with a number of new tools to make the job easier. A dose of the flu turned to pneumonia and a trip to Spain for work together with many interstate work trips. My original plans drifted off shore some what!

I now don't just have Dallas, my Daughter Emily and grand daughter Ela saying haven't you finished the Cot yet! But I also have Guild members ringing up to be told I am up the shed again still working on the cot! So when I call them back I get asked "haven't you finished that cot yet!"

Calendar 2009

- 17th August WBG meeting
- 23rd August South Arm Rowing day TBC
- 13th September Working Bee *Terra Linna*
- 21st September WBG meeting
- 3rd & 4th October rowing day Orford trip leader DG. Shifted from Sept on request of DG
- Wednesday 28th October Presidents Dinner at Drysdale, Collins St Hobart.
- Huon Show on Saturday 14 November
- 28th and 29 th November 2009 Guild trip to Strahan for Piner' Punts. Roscoe Trip Leader.
- WBGT Christmas Rowing Day Mariners Cottage tentatively 2nd Sunday in December. Roscoe Trip leader.
- "Henley on Mersey", Latrobe, Tas. Rotary Club, New Years Day (I think?) Still waiting on confirmation). Contact David Jones 03 64247822
- February 2010 potential trip to Muddy Creek for rowing day TBC
- Geelong Wooden Boat Festival 6,7 & 8th March 2010. Further information, contact RGYC info@rgyc.com.au or Bob Appleton at RGYC on 03 5229 3705.
- March 2010 Roly and Kate (eds apology for error Kate) rowing day at Cremorne TBC

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 1st 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 articles & photos: All members articles and photos are most welcome as contributions for the Skeg or other publications. For the Skeg, articles are preferred to be in MS Word with no formatting. Members are asked to restrict their photographic submissions to 6 in total per month and to have resized the photos to the following specs. No PDF's please! (I have not got this wrong, I am not talking about PFD's)

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.

All SKEG articles must be with the editor in a digital form by the 1st Monday of the month.

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 17th. August 2009

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

Guest Speaker, 17th August 2009

We believe we have a presenter for the 17th Aug but there does not seem to be a record of the speaker or topic, but please bring it along and we will have the gear waiting!

Presenter/s or practical demonstration required for the August meeting

Skeg articles by the 1st Monday of each month please . If the deadlines can't be kept the SKEG will be published without late

submissions!

1. Skeg photographs by the 1st Monday of each month.
2. Speaker/demonstration (it can be a demonstration of a wooden boat building activity or problem) for next month are always needed so get your name and topic in.

Officers of the Guild contact list

<i>President</i>	Graeme Hunt	03 62278652
<i>Sen.Vice President</i>	Brian Marriott	0419877684
<i>Vice President</i>	Jim Tayton	03 62674051
<i>Secretary</i>	Ross Barnett	Home 6227 1720 or mobile 0438 300 229
<i>Treasurer</i>	David Barnes	03 62441302
<i>Flag Officers</i>	Peter Higgs 62491695	0419803317 & Brian Marriott
<i>Mess Officers</i>	Vacant	
<i>Committee</i>	David Gatenby	0428391432
	Noel Hall	03 62445583

So it is still going with that famous old tradie adage 'nother coupla weeks". I dare say if the first grand daughter does not get to sleep in it the next one will. And as for the beautiful little dinghy cot I have two sons with out children so when I finish this cot I had better get started on that one cos I am sure the boys will appreciate their new born in a boat!

They say the best thing about planning is that you end up with a plan that is flexible and can be changed.

Peter Higgs editor



August Rowing Day - South Arm

Sunday 23rd August 2009.

August rowing day will be launched from **Arm End** ramp.
Start 1000am.

Luncheon B-B-Q will be at Ros & Ainesley`s place.

Getting there:

From Bridge - Right lane A3 Airport exit - First exit Left B33 to Lauderdale, South Arm Highway - Through round about - Follow South Arm Highway to Lauderdale.
Continue**

From Airport - first exit Left - Lauderdale via Acton Road.
Continue**

Alternate route From Bridge - A3 to Airport - 2nd Cambridge exit - through round about - Lauderdale via Acton Road.

Continue**

**Lauderdale - Follow South Arm Highway - Sandford - past Cremorne turn off - past Clifton beach turn off - through the S`s past Lazenby Sands sign - past Sandville Place (on your right, this is where the B-B-Q is) - continue on to the `Neck` - South Arm - past Yee Old`e

South Arm Store - right past Memorial - onwards to Opossum Bay - Continue on Arm End Rd. - Right into Drift wood Avenue - Left into -----Rd.- straight ahead into car park 200m. Welcome to Arm End!

What to see. On approach to Lauderdale enjoy the beautiful view across the pristine waters of Ralphs Bay to the mountains (before Walker Corp destroy it). Over Lauderdale canal, on the right are the remains of an old jetty where produce and timber were loaded for Old Hobart Town. Next on the right is Racehorse Flats (to be rehabilitated? by Walker Corp). On the left, are the Transmission towers for 7zr,7bb-----. After Sandford houses on the left is Rushy Lagoon, about 200 acres of wet lands that have been dry for the last 12 years. As you rise over the hill on the left is Pipe Clay Lagoon and further on Cremorne, Frederick Henry Bay and Storm Bay. Over the top of the hill through the S`s to the right are glimpses of Mortimer bay and the Derwent. Once past Sandville Place on the right (where the B-B-Q is to be held) you pass Calverts Lagoon on the left, which had also been dry for the last 12 years. A short pause at Goat Bluff camera site and lookout, overlooking Storm Bay, with distant views of the Tasman Peninsular, Black Jack Rock (the one that grabbed the big cat) and Betsy Island. left is Calverts beach and right is Hope beach, the Iron Pot light house and Bruny Island.

On to the Neck. On the left there is a sand mine in the dunes that is due to close soon. Mortimer Bay is to the right with distant views of Hobart.

Enjoy the rest of the viewing of the Derwent and give a wave to Rosco & Cheryl on the other side of the River.

B-B-Q Location:

'RAINSLEY'

Ros & Ainesley`s, Return to Sandville Place - left Sandville Place - over the top of hill past No. 53 & 61 letter-box. (past 20 sign) to bottom of hill - then Left 200m - Right next gate (Rainsley, A & R Smith). If your miss the gate you will have to do a U turn on the neighbors front lawn.

B-B-Q and Fire lit 1400hrs (2.00pm) BYOF & G.

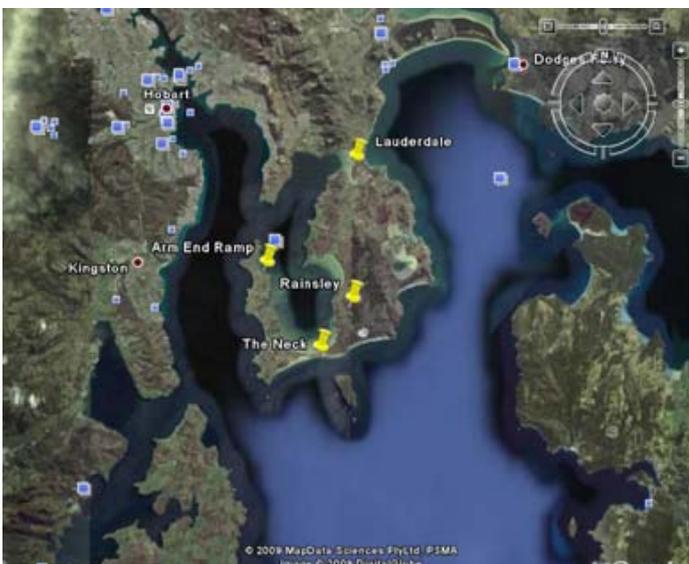
Salads Etc provided.

Wet weather plan: If it is P*\$#@*g down with rain, fires lit 1130am B-B-Q start 1pm

Presidents Dinner, Wednesday 28th October 2009 - Drysdale Collins St. Hobart

Graeme Hunt and the editor (no we are not the Mess Officers, we still need some one to take on this role) will be meeting with Drysdale Staff on the evening of the next Guild meeting so we can firm up the menu and drinks information at the Guild meeting.

As agreed when booking the cost are **\$30.00 for a 3**



Map courtesy of Google Maps

course meal and \$40.00 for a 4 course meal. We have opted for all members to pay for their drinks over the bar other than the traditional President's shout of 1 drink per member at the beginning of the evening.

One thing Drysdale are now asking is for us to commit to numbers. To all members please confirm with either Graame Hunt or Peter Higgs you intention to attend and the number of guests in your party.

Graeme Hunt 03 62278652

Peter Higgs 0419803317

Derwent Skiff Update



Another Derwent Skiff in the making!

Photo Allan Witt

Unless there are people building from plans in Tassie, the 9th Derwent Skiff is currently under construction here. There are more boats finished in Queensland and

kits are being prepared for shipment to Western Australia.

The performance of Derwent Skiffs is now well established - as is the pleasure in the boat itself as well as in its building. Builders find the kit and mold thoroughly well resolved. The last Australian Wooden Boat Festival confirmed the boat's consistent appeal.

The Derwent Skiff plans now include the original open boat, the version with well decks fore and aft, and the fully decked alternative complete with wave breaker. One enthusiastic rower in Bass Straight has caught his fair share of fish and has even added a venturi. Julian Robertson would have completed his row around Bruny Island had really strong head winds not stopped him on the last leg. Julian continues to enjoy some long rows - both in sheltered and open water.

Following a request from an enthusiastic fisherman, who is used to fishing from kayaks and getting out and in through mild surf, I have tinkered with a Derwent Skiff option with a fully self draining cockpit (other than the little bit where your feet go) so that it could be driven out through surf easily. The return journey would be to row fast and come in on the back of the preceding wave - so that you would not have the stern lifted and the bow bury with the obvious consequences!

At the last Festival, we checked interest in plans for a new recreational rowing boat that is 1m shorter (4.5m or 14' 9") than the Derwent Skiff (5.5m or 18') but with a

greater water line beam - sufficient so that you can stand up in it. The interest in this new boat warranted the effort for Witt Design to add another recreational rowing boat. The prototype is under construction and is to be taken to Sydney for its new owner. It will have folding riggers and the sliding seat can be placed in two positions, like the Derwent Skiff, and have a seat for a passenger. The mold for the new boat worked really well and the boat, to its current stage as in the photo, was built by Ned Trewartha. After making the second boat, and incorporating some small changes, kits and molds will become available.

Allan Witt



Two Derwent Skiffs side by side

Photo Allan Witt

Classifieds

For Sale:

Geoff Winspear has his 18' motor-sailer for sale.

Contact Geoff at Port Sorell on (03) 6428 7327

Wanted: 2003 AWBF boat plaque. Contact Charles Burns wk 62311575

For Sale:

Piners Punt for sale. Pristine condition looking like a piece of furniture. For price and more details contact Ross Patson-Gill on 62663660.

A note from the Treasurer

All membership fees are overdue now. Please complete the attached form and post it together with your cheque or card details to the WBGT Inc. Treasurer, David Barnes, PO Box 28 Battery Point, Tasmania 7004.

Extra special note

Please check your own records before posting off the Membership form and subscription. Some members have inadvertently paid the annual subscription more than once just because the form is attached to the Skeg!

