



MAINSTAY

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 Email: secretary@mhav.net ~ Website: www.mhav.net
 Newsletter of the Maritime Heritage Association of Victoria, Inc.

AGM 2010

See the enclosed notice: the AGM will be held at **7.30pm on Wednesday 27 October 2010** at the Port of Melbourne Education Centre. Come along and catch up with old friends.

VICTORIAN PREMIERE:

THE PEARL SHELL DIVERS

After the AGM we are presenting the Victorian premiere of Garry Kerr's latest film, *The Pearl Shell Divers: Australia's Deadliest Catch*. Traditional divers tell their stories of life and death in the Torres Strait: the storms, the bends and the beautiful luggers, with amazing period footage. Garry Kerr has created some great maritime history books and films, so come along and enjoy his latest work.

EDITORIAL

Is momentum gathering for the preservation of our maritime heritage or are we just talking about it more? Our expanding membership and support by affiliated organisations suggests that both may be true. We aim to promote and support the development of the Williamstown site in the belief that the maritime heritage community will be best served by having a state centre where we are all able to work together.

Very welcome news on 27 August was the official announcement of the lease of the Williamstown site to the Seaworks Foundation. At the same time Victoria University announced their lease for the boat-building school, and the site Strategic Development Plan was released - see links on www.mhav.net.

Please join our email list!

Your committee is now printing and posting over 300 newsletters for each edition. The cost in money and time is significant. To avoid having to raise our membership fees, it is essential that more members receive the newsletter via email. To assist, just send your email address to secretary@mhav.com.au.

In July, sixty MHAV members had the pleasure of attending Alan Edenborough's talk "Maritime Heritage – A Single Market?" - see the report from Tony Lewis.

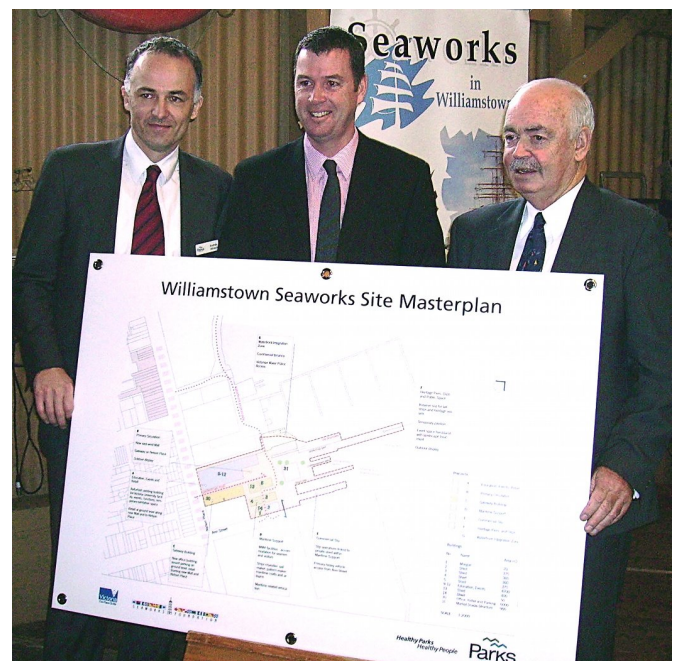
With the development of the precinct around *Polly Woodside* progressing well, we are looking forward to the opening of a new interpretive centre in adjacent Shed 2. Negotiations are again underway to resolve the preservation and presentation of the pump house. See the Heritage and Vessel Reports.

Our voice is only as loud as the number of members and organisations supporting the MHAV. If you have overlooked your renewal, now is the time to send your \$10 subscription to the address above.

Tim Horton, President MHAV

Seaworks Lease Officially Signed

On 27 August at the Pirates Tavern on the Williamstown site, the lease signing for the Seaworks Foundation to manage the development of the site was announced by Andrew Minack, General Manager, Commercial Business, Parks Victoria. He also announced that the lease for Victoria University's boat building school on the site has been completed. The school will be on display to the public.



L-R: Andrew Minack, Parks Victoria, Wade Noonan, Member for Williamstown, Trevor Huggard, Chair Seaworks Foundation, 27 August 2010 (T. Horton)

The Hon. Gavin Jennings MLC, Minister for Environment & Climate Change, tendered his apologies due to the announcement of government responses to the Bushfire Commission's report on the same morning. Wade Noonan, the local member for Williamstown, congratulated all of the parties involved and Trevor Huggard, Chair of the Seaworks Foundation, congratulated the many people who have been supporting the project.

As part of promoting the project, the MHAV has been maintaining contact with state ministers and shadow ministers as well as other key stakeholders. MHAV has received encouragement from the Premier John Brumby, Justin Madden, Minister for Planning, and Hon. Louise Asher MLA, Deputy Leader of the Liberal Party and Shadow Minister for Tourism & Major Events. MHAV will be discussing future plans with Seaworks over the coming weeks.

Maritime Heritage: A Single Market?

MHAV members had a real treat on 28 July when Alan Edenborough presented "Maritime Heritage – A Single Market?" For more than 40 years Alan has been a key player with the Sydney Maritime Museum and Sydney Heritage Fleet. He led the salvage of the 1874 barque *James Craig* from remote southern Tasmania, and more recently became a director of Sail & Adventure, to help steer the restoration of *Alma Doepel*.

Speaking to 60 members, Alan highlighted the problems of presenting the reasons for, and importance of, preserving our maritime heritage. In Alan's memorable words, "*There is no better way to explore the past than to step into it*".

But in Australia, amazingly, shipwrecks are given heritage status but restored ships are not! Alan suggested that while our nation was built with ships, they were largely provided and serviced by non-Australians. Thus, we have no perspective of ourselves as a maritime nation, hence very little interest in preserving our maritime heritage.

Alan discussed the process of vessel selection for heritage status. This typically starts with *Sentiment* - the wish to relate to some symbol of our past, leading to *Selection* - the choice of the symbol, and *Passion* - the enthusiasm for its maintenance, all of which leads to *Survival*.

Alan invited everyone to apply this process to their own vessels. Surprisingly, the *Significance* of the vessel comes late in the process. The difficulty with the process lies in harnessing the *Passion* and matching it to significant vessels.

Alan illustrated his talk with overseas examples and was particularly enthusiastic about Mystic Seaport as an outstanding illustration of preserved and re-created maritime heritage. He noted that the Sydney Heritage Fleet is regarded internationally as an excellent example of maritime heritage preservation.

Alan highlighted the importance of focusing on the four "Ps" for success in preserving maritime heritage:



Lindsay Rex thanks Alan Edenborough after his presentation to a packed house at the Port Ed Centre, 28 July 2010 (K.Lance)

PLAN - PROMOTE - PERFORM - PASSION

The MHAV thanks Alan for taking time out from his very busy schedule to provide a thought provoking picture of the need to preserve our maritime heritage, and the challenges before us.

Report by Tony Lewis

Melbourne's Foundation Day

Tim Horton reports: I attended Enterprize Wharf on 30 August for the celebrations of Melbourne's 175th Anniversary, which were held in welcome sunshine. We were treated to music from the Victoria Police Scots Band, the raising of the flag with firing of muskets and an animated school choir.

It is 175 years to the day since the crew of *Enterprize* landed next to the fresh water falls where Queens Bridge now stands - the beginning of our city's maritime history.

Many cities conduct parades through the city and generally make a lot more fuss about this occasion. Nevertheless a series of events were conducted, including Melbourne's Tall Ship *Enterprize* being open for inspection in Docklands, the restored *Polly Woodside* also open and a display at the City Square. See www.melbourneday.com.au

VESSEL AND HERITAGE REPORTS

ALMA DOEPEL, TOPSAIL SCHOONER: Work continues at No 2 Victoria Harbour, preparing the ship for docking and hull work required to regain passenger survey. The main Gardner engines and gearboxes, each of 8 tonnes, have been removed and stored in the shed. Water and fuel tanks were also removed together with most of the remaining ballast, as well as cabling, pipework and the switchboard.

The three steel lower masts were repaired and sent to DH Corrosion in Dandenong for blasting and re-painting. This firm did this same work on these then new masts in 1978. Funding for this was provided by an anonymous donor and Hempel again assisted with painting advice and supply of coatings. In the shed generators have been prepared for reinstallation and a

spray booth has been acquired. Visitors are always encouraged to visit, on Saturdays or by arrangement.

Contact: Peter Harris. Mob: 0427 829 134. Email: sal@almadoepel.com.au. Web: almadoepel.com.au

CERBERUS, MONITOR AT BLACK ROCK: Plans to brace Cerberus are moving forward with Friends of the Cerberus working with the National Trust and Heritage Victoria to identify a Project Manager. Expressions of Interest will then be sought for a Design and Build tender to brace the gun turrets.

Joining the 196 year old wheel from HMVS Nelson, the bell from HMVS Albert, projectiles from HMVS Cerberus and other Victorian Navy artefacts is the actual Victorian Ensign that accompanied the Victorian Naval Contingent to China in 1900. On loan from the Parliament of Victoria, it is believed that the ensign has never before been on public display since it returned to Victoria in 1934. The Victorian Navy display is hosted courtesy of the Geelong Maritime Museum.

Contact: Peter Tully. Ph: 9298 4211. Email: cerberus@cerberus.com.au. Web: cerberus.com.au

ENTERPRIZE, REPLICA OF MELBOURNE'S FOUNDING COLONIAL SCHOONER: *Enterprize* again participated in Melbourne Day celebrations on 30 August 2010, the 175 year anniversary of the founding by the original *Enterprize*. Over coming months she will visit Geelong twice and Port Welshpool at the end of November, with many shorter sails from Docklands and from the Williamstown base. *Enterprize* will again attend the Australian Wooden Boat Festival in Hobart from 10 to 14 February 2011, providing marvellous opportunities for offshore and coastal sailing to and around Tasmania. See sailing program on website.

Contact: Bill Burrell. Ph: 9397 3477. Email: sailing@enterprize.org.au. Web: enterprize.org.au

POLLY WOODSIDE, MUSEUM SHIP AND DOCK: The repaired wooden mizzen topmast for *Polly Woodside* was finally lifted back into place manually on 7 September using the ship's windlass, after numerous plans to employ a mobile crane came to nothing, partly due to time restrictions for crane operation set by the Convention Centre management.

Re-erection of Shed 2 beside the ship was temporarily halted due to problems associated with the nearby DFO precinct, but has now been resumed. As a result handover for fit-out by the Trust has been delayed until early in October, with internal completion expected late in the year. The anticipated site opening to coincide with *Polly Woodside's* 125 year anniversary since launch on 7 November has thus been deferred to a date early in 2011. Details of the professionally designed and produced interpretation centre to be arranged in Shed 2 were presented to the Volunteers on 11 September.

The nearby "glass house" enclosed drydock steam pumping machinery was unfortunately flooded in August due to lack of attention and understanding, and has since been pumped out. Discussions and meetings

since have highlighted shortcomings, and steps are being taken which it is hoped will avoid such problems in future. The site is the responsibility of the Plenary organisation and Heritage Victoria is involved in the resolution. At this stage no plan exists which permits the public to access the pump house to inspect the heritage machinery.

**Contact: Neil Thomas. Ph: 9802 4608
Email: thomclan@optusnet.com.au
Web: pollywoodside.com.au**

WATTLE, STEAM TUG: Work continues at 19 South Wharf, where the forward compartment of *Wattle* has been cleared of all ballast and replacement of frames and floors has begun. Soon work will commence on replacing hull plates which are planned to be welded below the wind and water line and riveted above. The rudder has been removed and sent out for sand-blasting and the propellor has been removed to allow inspection of the shaft. Removable woodwork is being restored but a halt will be called on that as the weather improves so that attention can be given to the wheelhouse and other on-board woodwork.

A conservation plan has been drawn up for the clinker built lifeboat and restoration will commence soon. A volunteer archivist is researching the early history of the ship, with particular attention at this stage to confirming the early history and beginning of the *Wattle* project during the Great Depression. In addition a photographer and volunteer are together producing a photographic record of the restoration. Visitors are always welcome, especially on Saturdays.

**Contact: Tony Lewis. Ph: 9846 1819.
Email: ailston@iprimus.com.au**

AUSTRALIAN WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL: The 9th Festival will be held over 4 days 11 – 14 February 2011 in Hobart's Sullivans Cove. The 2011 Festival will be the biggest yet with free entry and an extended ground area as a result of new government sponsorship. *James Craig* will again sail down from Sydney and join Melbourne's *Enterprize* and hundreds of other vessels and boats on show.

CONTACT: Ph: 03 6223 3375. Email: office@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au. Web: www.australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM and HMB ENDEAVOUR: The *Endeavour* replica now owned by the ANMM and based at the Museum in Darling Harbour will make her first circumnavigation of Australia sailing anti clockwise from Sydney between April 2011 and May 2012. Melbourne will be visited in April 2012 together with 14 other ports. Passengers can book to sail any leg of the voyage and *Endeavour* will be open to the public at all ports visited.

**Contact: Ph: 1800 720 577 or 02 9298 3859.
Web: www.endeavourvoyages.com.au**

Vessel and heritage reports coordinated by Lindsay Rex

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendar!
The MHA V Christmas Event
 will be held this year on
Thursday 25 November 2010
 at the Pirates' Tavern, Nelson Place,
 Williamstown. Enjoy maritime heritage
 at sunset, with gourmet savoury and
 sweet finger-food, \$32. Drinks from bar.

*Essential to book early - cheques payable to
 Maritime Heritage Association of Victoria,
 post to MHA V, Box 3080 Syndal VIC 3149*

Alma Doepel's 107th Birthday Dinner

Don't miss Alma's 107th Birthday Dinner, 7.00pm
 Saturday 9 October, Royal Yacht Club of Victoria,
 Williamstown. \$65 per person, RSVP to ADSC, PO Box
 5170, West Heidelberg DC, VIC 3081 (cheques payable
 to 'Alma Doepel Supporters Club').

Mission Art Prize

The MHA V is again sponsoring the Mission to Seafarers
 ANL Maritime Art Prize with a \$500 award for "Best
 Representation of Victorian Maritime Heritage". The
 exhibition is from 9 to 31 October, Wednesday to
 Sunday, 12noon to 7pm, at 717 Flinders Street,
 Docklands. See www.missiontoseafarers.com.au

Welcome to new MHA V members:

Graeme Cameron, Kieran Carbines, Vicki
 Carbines, Gladys Coombs, Tom Corfmat, Geoff
 Dougall, John Dunstan, Alan Edenborough,
 Peta Knott, Bruce McBain, Karen McMillan,
 Mick McMillan, Eliza Poole, Phyl McMillan,
 Edmund Tickell, Nicky Zanen

Port of Melbourne Corporation David Boykett
 and Victorian Sail Training Foundation Ltd,
 Adrian Brewer and Float.a.Boat, Nikolaous
 Institute of Philanthropy Trust

YOUR COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

The MHA V committee needs new members. All
 of our organisations are entitled to have a
 representative on the committee, plus there are
 four other members who represent the members
 generally. We would love to see some new faces at
 our meetings, which take place about every two
 months. Now that progress is finally happening
 at Seaworks we have challenging times ahead to
 support the fledgling maritime centre: any
 assistance would be welcome.



Lady Nelson at the Parade of Sail, Wooden Boat Festival, Hobart, 6 February 2009. (L.Rex)

Maritime Knowledge Project

MHA V would like to draw upon its members and
 associations to collate a wide spectrum of information
 about maritime topics for educators, students, and the
 general public. If you would like to help, please
 contact Charles Treleaven on 9748 8326 or email:
cosmodome@cosmodome.net



30 August 2010: Melbourne Day celebrations at the Turning Basin. Loading the cannon under the gaze of sculptor Bruce Armstrong's mythic bowsprits. (T. Horton)

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