



## **E-news August 2010**

Welcome to the fourth E-news for the 2011 Australian Wooden Boat Festival.

### **Boat Registrations**

Our new software is not up and running properly as yet, consequently we have decided to open boat registrations for the 2011 festival manually until our new software is up and running.

If you have registered your boat at any previous festivals and you wish to register it for the 2011 festival you will only have to enter some basic information and send it, together with your payment, to the AWBF office.

If you are registering a boat for the first time you will need to fill out a detailed registration form and send it, together with your payment, to the AWBF office.

Registration forms are available on the AWBF website  
<http://www.australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au/html/boatreg.html>

### **Can you help?**

We are interested in making contact with anyone who has old pictures or some history on the building of the Motor Yacht *Iluka*; now renamed *Princess Iluka* following a major rebuild in Queensland. The original *Iluka* was launched in 1979 from the Tasmanian yard of the late Ray Kemp.

She has recently been transformed beyond recognition while retaining its' original heart. And the good news is that she will be a feature vessel at the 2011 festival.

If you can help please contact Michael Goodwin: Email:  
[media@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au](mailto:media@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au) or Phone 0448 402 032

### **Class Dinghy Display**

One of the many features at the 2011 festival will be a class dinghy display, it will be a celebration of our dinghy racing heritage . A group of keen sailors from the Lindisfarne Sailing Club have taken on the task of curating the display.

The display will feature the dinghies in which thousands of Tasmanian's learned to sail. Heron's, Rainbows, Moths, Gwen 12s and Tamar's are some of the names that spring to mind when taking a peek into the past of Derwent River dinghy sailing.

The centre piece of the display will be *Dee Kay* the first Heron built in Australia which started its sailing life at Kingston Beach and is presently housed in the Queenscliffe Maritime Museum in Victoria. She will be specially transported to Hobart for the Festival.

So far a Sabre, Heron, International Cadet, Cadet and Mirrors have been located and are locked in. If you own or know the whereabouts of any classic racing dinghies please contact the display organising committee. The organising committee is particularly looking out for a Gwen 12 whether it is restored or seeking some TLC.

Contact: Tony Palmer; [tony.palmer103@gmail.com](mailto:tony.palmer103@gmail.com) or

Peter Ingram Jones; [peteringramjones@bigpond.com](mailto:peteringramjones@bigpond.com)

## Just For Kids

At the next AWBF in February 2011, a new event will be on offer – **Parent and Child Boat Building**.

Under the guidance of boat builder David Golding children and parents will spend the first two days of the festival building a 6' Mini Boat from a pre-primed kit with a coat of quick drying paint. Once completed the children can then spend the final two days of the festival paddling and sailing around Constitution Dock taking in the sights and sounds of the festival from their very own boat which they have helped to build with Mum, Dad, Grandpa or a Guardian.

Building a 6' Mini Boat is quick and easy. The simple stitch 'n' tape construction method is used, all seams are fibreglass taped and the shape of the boat is formed around a pre-bent transom and single central frame. The Mini Boat features large built-in buoyancy tanks, a long skeg, rudder and sprit rig. The design is safe, fun, beautiful, cheap and easy to build. The cost of this festival experience is \$350 (excluding rig and paint).

If you want to participate in the Parent Child Boat Building event at the festival please register your interest with the Australian Wooden Boat Festival, Email; [info@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au](mailto:info@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au)



**From Festival Poet Laureate Philip Rush**

**A WORLD OF WOODEN BOATS!**

In Hobart, every second year, the port is chock-a-block  
 With several hundred wooden boats! It gives you quite a shock  
 To see so many floating there of every known design;  
 Clinker built, and carvel, too, of oak and Huon pine,  
 Oregon and Douglas fir, blue and spotted gum,  
 King Billy pine and celery-top; and these are only some  
 Of all the many types of wood which expert shipwrights choose  
 To build the best of Wooden boats that sailors love to use!  
 Schooner, clipper, sloop and barque, long-boat, ketch and yawl,  
 Lighter, dinghy, skiff, canoe – Hobart has them all  
 In February every second year, for everyone to see:  
 A vast array of wooden boats displayed for you and me!

Philip R. Rush © 20-07-'10

Philip will be performing some of his poems at the 2011 Australian Wooden Boat Festival so come along and say G'day.

**Greetings from the 2011 Australian Wooden Boat Festival Volunteers Office.**

I have been busy this last month sending a letter introducing myself to the 320 volunteers we have on our data base. I know 320 volunteers sounds a lot but with Managers of 32 departments all seeking assistance to run their aspect of the event, we need a lot of help.

We are seeking confirmation of all volunteers' contact details so we can ensure our new event management system contains up to date information right from the start.

If you have received a letter from the Volunteers Office, please forward the required information on as soon as possible.

If you are not currently on our Volunteer data base and feel you may like to be involved at the 2011 Festival, please drop me a line and I'll get right back to you. Ask your friends to join you!

For those of you who have volunteered in the past, you will know what a fun and rewarding experience it is to volunteer, especially at the No. 1 Wooden Boat Festival in the world!!

Annette Ritchie; Manager – Volunteers [Annette.Ritchie@warringah.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Annette.Ritchie@warringah.nsw.gov.au)  
 0418 434 453

## Feed Back

I received an interesting email from an E-News reader, Des Beechey, following the Julie Burgess article in the July E-News. Des informs me that the fishing boat “Parappa” will be at the 2011 festival. He says that ‘Parappa was built by Ned Jack in 1915, when the Julie Burgess wasn’t even thought of’. Sounds like a bit of rivalry to me.

Parappa was built in Launceston and spent most of her working life crayfishing around Southern Tasmania. She was owned by the Jager family at Southport and Dover from 1936 to 2004 when she was purchased by Des who is currently working to maintain her as an excellent example of a working boat with a long and rich history.



Parappa with her original rig in 1921

If you have had any association with this historic wooden boat and would like to share a yarn or two with our readers feel free to email me: [media@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au](mailto:media@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au)

## Scrimshaw, “The Whalers Folk Art”

The 2011 Australian Wooden Boat Festival will feature a most exciting exhibition of Scrimshaw and whale bone artefacts. The exhibition links in with the development of wooden boat building within the colony of Van Diemen’s Land. Had it not been for whaling, the provisioning and maintaining of visiting English and American whale ships and the export of whale products the wooden boat building industry in Van Diemen’s Land may not have eventuated and the colony itself may not have even survived as anything other than a penal settlement.

Obviously whaling in around Van Diemen’s Land contributed significantly to the wealth of the colony and the development of our wooden boat building industry. The Australian Wooden Boat Festival and the convenors of the exhibition do not in any way support the killing of whales for any purpose in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. However they do believe it is important that we properly recognise the efforts of the colony’s early seafarers, many of whom relied upon whaling to support themselves and their families. What was acceptable and necessary for survival in the 1800’s is clearly not acceptable these days. We should not however impose current values on what was necessary at the time for the development of Van Diemens Land.

The exhibition convenor is Colin Thomas, a collector of early seafaring implements including whale bone and scrimshaw. Scrimshaw demonstrates the artistic skill of our early mariners and in many ways details their thoughts and what was important to them at the time. Whale bone product was used for decorative/artistic purposes, practical application in the household and in sail making and rope work. Colin is seeking further items for the exhibition which can also form part of a catalogue of photographed items. Two of the most significant collectors in Australia have already offered access to any pieces required from their collections.

Colin believes it is important to document our Maritime History as best we can so that those who follow have the opportunity to review this most important part of early seafaring life in the colony.

Anyone who has any pieces which they believe may be suitable for the exhibition are requested to contact Colin on 0419 552 280 or by email, [colin@integritysampling.com.au](mailto:colin@integritysampling.com.au) as soon as possible so that professional photography of suitable pieces can be finalised in preparation for printing of the catalogue. The catalogue will go on sale at the festival and will prove to be a valuable reference guide to “The Whalers Folk Art”



The photograph shows a very large fid, two seam rubbers, a small whale bone block, a scrimshaw tooth and two whale bone and baleen knives. One of the seam rubbers is actually engraved “W. HEARN”. Inquiries have revealed W. HEARN was in fact a sail maker on the Columbine which arrived in Sydney in 1857. All items are from the early to mid 1800’s.