



e-news: December 2008

Bumper holiday edition

Who needs books for Christmas when we've put together a bumper edition Festival newsletter! Read on for the latest news including information (at the end) for registered boat owners regarding registrations, withdrawals, and how to get involved in the on-water activities.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from AWBF!

We would like to wish you and your families a very safe and merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Planning is nearing completion for the 2009 Festival. The backdrop of an extraordinarily diverse range of beautiful wooden boats that are voyaging to the Festival - along with an ambitious program of events and displays and a superb mix of Tasmanian food, wine and music - will ensure that the 2009 Festival will be the best ever staged.

We hope you are as excited as we are about the 2009 Festival, and look forward to a wonderful four days of wooden boat indulgence, meeting old friends, making new ones and thoroughly enjoying our Festival!

Rob McGuire
Festival Manager

Already getting dirty in the Quick 'n' Dirty

As per the coverage in the Mercury the other week, we've already started training up a range of students from schools, colleges and community groups for the popular Quick 'n' Dirty boat building and race. There are some interesting manual propulsion systems emerging and inspired boat designs. On-water trials, however, didn't all go according to plan, as pictured!

The girls are well-represented this year, and all students are learning great skills including sawing, drilling, hammering and using adhesives. Teams are: Kingston High School, Ogilvie Girls (x2), Taroon High, DSS Sabot sailors, St Michael's Collegiate (x2), Elizabeth College, Mt Carmel, Calvin Secondary, Hutchins, and a group of cousins! Huge thanks to all those involved in this activity, and of course our sponsors for this event – Sika, Plyco, John Clennett Mitre 10, and supporter Peter Johnston Shipchandlers.



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A well-managed site is a happy site

Every Festival there is an expectation to have more on the program, better facilities, and security for all displays and visitors while still managing the complex issues of working on a site that is usually a busy working hub. In 2007 we were fortunate enough to “borrow” Richard Colman from Fairbrother Facilities Management & Maintenance, and we are delighted that their generous contribution to the AWBF has extended to the 2009 Festival. With greater lead-time for this event, Richard has already been working in the role of Site Manager as part of the Fairbrother sponsorship arrangements.

The site manager is a key position within the Organising Team, predominantly with responsibility for the preparation, presentation, maintenance and demobilisation of the site. The site manager is assisted by a number of Organising Team Volunteers and contractors, and covers a wide range of infrastructure co-ordination - including marquees, power, water, waste, toilets, fencing, and security. Considerable planning and scheduling is required to ensure a well-organised smooth site establishment, including the erection of over 1600m² of marquee, power distribution, water supplies, traffic management and over 500 m of temporary fencing - in 3 days!

Fairbrother will also be providing some site infrastructure, including site office accommodation and storage that will form the Festival Headquarters precinct (in the area of the site that is usually the car-parking area between Constitution Dock and Victoria Dock). We are also very pleased to have Veolia's support in providing waste management services throughout the Festival.



Program news

A day-by-day program with all activities and timing included is now up on our website Hot News page, Program & Tickets page and the Homepage. A free program and map will be handed out on the site.

Skiff Racing - hospitality on the Egeria

Very limited hospitality packages are available on the former Governor of Tasmania's vessel, the **Egeria**, on the Saturday, Sunday and Monday of the Festival to go out on the River Derwent to watch the 18-foot replica skiffs in action. The two and a half hour package will include premium Tasmanian food and drinks and will cost \$110 per person including GST. For more information, please contact the Festival Office by email only: office@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au

Safety on the water

Peter Hopkins, Manager for Recreational Boating from MAST will present two flare and safety displays during the Festival. He will run boat-owners and interested festival-goers through the A-Z of safety including anchoring gear, tips on fire extinguishers, life jackets, inflatables, buoyancy, and of course flares. Peter is passionate about getting his audience beyond compliance, and encourages crews and family to sit down regularly together on their boat to check on the location and serviceability of safety gear and how to use it.

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Enterprize – a wonderful opportunity to sail to Port Davey

Enterprize, pictured right, has visited the AWBF in 2007, 2000 & 1998, making 2009 her fourth visit. The trip gives her volunteers the experience of sailing one of the great open water crossings in the world, Bass Strait. A tops'l schooner, *Enterprize* is a replica of the ship that brought the first settlers to Melbourne. The original ship was built in Hobart in 1830 as part of the early coastal trading fleets of southern Australia. At that time most bulk cargo was transported by sea. *Enterprize* carried cargo such as coal and, on one occasion, over 300 sheep.



Enterprize will be sailing direct from Williamstown, Melbourne and will run a public sailing schedule in the evenings, and after the Festival will be sailing to **Port Davey** and back. There are 5 berths available for the 5-day sail to Bathurst Harbour (return by plane), and 5 berths on the return sail trip (flying in).

If you are interested in the evening sails, or the Port Davey trip, please contact Captain David Mayhew on 0407 556 093, or the Enterprize office on 03 9397 3477, or visit their website for more information: www.enterprize.com.au

Great entertainment line-up



As always, there is great music and lots of entertainment during the Festival. Our Entertainment Pavilion will be a great place to sit and relax, and we'll have music and entertainers roving the site every day. Check the program for times and locations (you can find it on our website homepage and Program page), but the line-up so far includes: Arauco Libre: Boaters choir: Captain Amy and the Good Ship Lollipop: Captain Long John Underpants (pictured left): Carey Lewincamp: Derwent Valley Concert Band: Folley Artists: Giant Hamsters: Hobart Batacada Band: Hobart Pipe Band: Hot String Band: Iain Laing: Iain McLeod: Jolley Hatters: Martinique: Ned Trewartha: One Step Back: Peter Hicks and Anne Pursell: Ranters: Sisongke Choir: Steve Martin Trio: Terrapin Puppets: Veranda Coots.

Final call for Festival volunteers!

We will need over three hundred volunteers to assist in putting on and running the 2009 Festival. If you have assisted in the past as a volunteer, or you would like to get involved for the first time in 2009, we would like to hear from you. One of the problems with our current database is that it does not identify those of you who have generously given you time in the past.



Our Volunteer Officials Manager, Paul Darko, would like to hear from you if you are interested in volunteering. Please contact Paul at info@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au and provide him with your name, contact telephone numbers and details of any previous volunteer work with the Festival and how you would like to be involved in 2009. Our database will then be updated so that we can identify and make contact with our volunteers on a more regular basis in the future.

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Maritime Marketplace – chock a block full of trade exhibitors and a great new sponsor!

The focus for exhibitors in the Maritime Marketplace 2009 has been firmly on boating, woodwork and marine-related products and services. Inside the marquee will be: Austral Propeller Co, Barz Optics, Boat Books Australia, Brierley Hose & Handling, Briggs Marine, Festival Merchandise, The Fibreglass Shop, Fixco Plus Adhesives, Hardware for Creative Finishes, McIntyre Marine, Nanni Diesel, Norglass Laboratories, Plyco, Polyflex Group, The Wooden Boat Shop, Word for Word and Yanmar. One or two other spots are being finalized.

Outside, the Maritime Marketplace will comprise: Andrew Denman Marine, Australian Maritime College, Boatcraft Pacific, DPIW Marine Conservation, Mariners Cottage Antiques, Ned Trewartha Boat Builder and Allan Witt Design and the Derwent Skiff display.

Superb food stalls, the *Seataste*, and our new Food Theatre



There is no better way to enjoy your Festival experience than relishing the sumptuous dishes on offer at the **Seateaste** - a fusion between the seafood associations of Tasmania and some of Tassie's best restaurants. A sneak preview of what's on the menu - Cornelian Bay Boathouse with mouthwatering bbq ocean trout, hot smoked tuna and chilli tomato squid; The Huon Manor serving juicy salmon steaks with lemon chutney; The Fish Bar with fresh beer battered fish and chips and Sushimatic for the most delicious sushi on the planet. The only rules are it must be fresh and it must be Tasmanian. All our "non-seafood" stalls will also be serving up gourmet food to please every palate throughout the day and well into the evening.

(PIC: Huon Aquaculture Group)

Grab a crisp glass of white at the Crows Nest Bar and head to the '**Ocean to Plate' Food Theatre** and overcome the mystery of seafood as the salty dogs and industry leaders of the Seafood Industry go head to head with Tassie's best chefs in 'The Fisherman and the Chef'. You'll walk away a culinary seafood star or be extremely entertained at the very least! Our thanks go to commercial boating insurance specialists, **Marine Insurance Australia**, who are authorized representatives for Sunderland Marine, and sponsor of this great event.



Sunderland Marine



Cascade drinkers will rejoice in the fact that we've got 6 of their brands at our bars, 3 of their boutique beers, and a range of soft drinks. The Two Metre Tall Company will also be serving their finest ales, and the Tasmania Distillery will be running tastings of their Sullivan's Cove whisky, and this will also be available at both the "Crows Nest Bar" and the "Yard Arm Tavern!".



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A few boat stories for good measure....

Sydney Junk to arrive on Tassie shores



Don't worry, it's not toxic waste, but the junk-rigged, Hong Kong built, **Suzy Wong**. Built as a pleasure craft in 1959, *Suzy Wong* arrived in Australia in 1960. Bought by the Rankin family in 1963, she is currently owned by Scott Rankin the playwright. Scott grew up living onboard on Sydney Harbour and the Hawkesbury River. *Suzy Wong* has had a number refits over the years and is now used as part of a film installation project called *Junk Theory*. She has recently been featured in the Sydney and Adelaide Arts festivals and will be part of 10 Days on the Island festival in March 2009.

Crossing the ditch in Wayfarer II

Gus (Rob) Vans-Colina is on his way to Hobart in *Wayfarer II* from her previous home in New Zealand. Built in NZ out of triple diagonal Kauri with teak decks and coach house, she is from the board of Laurent Giles and built by G Wilson at Tauranga on the East Coast of the North Island, and is one of the few wooden Salar 40s in the world. So there. Rob's previous boat, *Eikon*, another NZ-built double diagonal Kauri sloop, will be coming south again from Sydney with new owner Cliff Sutton at the helm.

Rob advises he will have his little clinker sculling dinghy on board and looks forward to the on-water activity in her at the Festival. He's pictured here at the 2007 Festival (in the dinghy, clearly!)



Dig that Tiwi Island Canoe!

With funding just confirmed from the Indigenous Programs within the Federal Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA), it was great to receive this photograph the other day from the Tiwi Islands, where work is underway to prepare a dug-out canoe to bring to Hobart in February 2009. Representatives from the Tiwi Islands will be travelling with the partially-completed vessel and it will be finished on site during the Festival. An interpretive display and hopefully a Tasmanian-built vessel will be on display. If the traditional decorative paint-work dries quickly enough we might also be able to launch the Tiwi Island Canoe on the River Derwent.

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Some great “off-site” events to duck in and see

“**From Scrimshaw to Fine Art**” is a special maritime show at Nevin Hurst’s IXL Masterpiece Gallery (off Hunter Street), open every day of the Festival except Sunday 8th, from 10am – 5.30pm. In addition you can also see the summer show “*Gallery Director’s Summer Selection: Colonial to Contemporary*” featuring John Glover, Russell Drysdale, Sidney Nolan, John Perceval, Fred Williams, Haughton Forrest, James Gleeson and many more. Worth a look – and bring your cheque book!

Exploring the archives

As well as the Maritime Museum’s photographic exhibition, the National Archives of Australia are running a great new exhibition to tie in with the Festival. “**Hard to Port! – Navigating the Archives**” will be an introduction to the vast collection of the National Archives of Australia’s Maritime holdings. It will feature a display of images and records sourced from their Tasmanian and National offices taking viewers back to the busy port of Hobart, Hobart Regatta days of old, the intrigue of a waterfront dispute, maritime disasters near and far, exploration of the frozen south and the war and peace time defence of our island continent. They will also be providing a navigation guide booklet to their maritime collection and the support, services and resources provided in reading rooms and online to continue your voyage of discovery into the ocean of the archives.

Entry is free. Opening times are 9am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm Saturday and Sunday (closed Monday 9th February). The exhibition runs from 2nd to 13th February, at their premises in Macquarie Street (almost opposite the Town Hall). For enquiries please call: 6230 6111.

Australian Maritime Museums Council Conference – registrations now open

Further to the announcement of this conference last month, the program and registration form is now available on the Hot News page of the AWBF website. The conference welcomes members of the general public, and will be of particular interest to those interested in exploring the challenges of preserving and managing historic vessels and maintaining support for small maritime museums. A variety of full-conference, one-day attendance, or associated conference events is available on the registration form.

Important information for registered boat owners

Close of registrations

Boat owners are advised that registrations will close for the 2009 Festival on Wednesday 31 December 2008, however, there is little point in registering your boat afloat as we are already oversubscribed in this area of the festival and may not be able to fit in all the boats who have already registered.

Boat withdrawals and refunds

If any boat owners have registered their boats but cannot or will not be coming to the 2009 Festival, it would be very much appreciated if you could let us know as soon as possible by contacting the Festival office on (03) 6223 3375 or office@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au so that other boat owners are able to attend in your place. As per the registration details, boats who withdraw prior to 31 December 2008 will receive a 50% refund of their registration fee. Boats who withdraw after that date or who cannot attend the Festival for whatever reason will not be eligible to receive any refunds.

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Boat registration confirmation and fees

Boat owners who have registered for the 2009 Festival but who have not received a registration confirmation email or letter are requested to contact the Festival office on (03) 6223 3375 or office@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au as soon as possible. Boat owners who have not yet paid the boat registration fee in full are advised that they may lose their place at the Festival if these outstanding fees are not paid by 31 December 2008.

On-water activities – your response to our survey

Thank you to those who replied to the survey for proposed new events. The best responses were from owners interested in the Closing Sail Past, the Classic Yacht Rally and the Small Vessel Parade. There were fair responses for the other events with the exception of the Sailing Dinghy Races, for which the response was poor. Considering the restrictions of launching dinghies and egress from Constitution Dock, it has been decided not to run an event, though sailing dinghies are welcome to cruise the festival site as long as they don't interfere with other organised events.

For the **Classic Yacht Rally** we will send out entry forms soon to relevant boat owners, and ask for the completed forms and entry fee to be sent to the Festival Office.

For those who would like to participate in any of the **remaining 6 events** that have been included in the Festival Programme, there is no registration, all you have to do is turn up at the allotted time. More information will be included in your boat owner manual and when you register at the festival. Please note that the Closing Sail Past is not replacing the Parade of Sail at the opening of the Festival. This will be run in addition to the existing event.

As there are now 7 new on-water activities to be run at the next Festival (8 if you include the 18' skiffs), we see this as a great result and will certainly get owners, crew and spectators more involved than ever before. If you have any questions on the new events, please send an email to Peter Pangas the On-Water Activities Coordinator at: peter.pangas@dpiw.tas.gov.au.

We would love to hear from you!

To contribute stories please get in touch by email: media@australianwoodenboatfestival.com.au

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The Australian Wooden Boat Festival is supported by the Tasmanian Government through Events Tasmania

