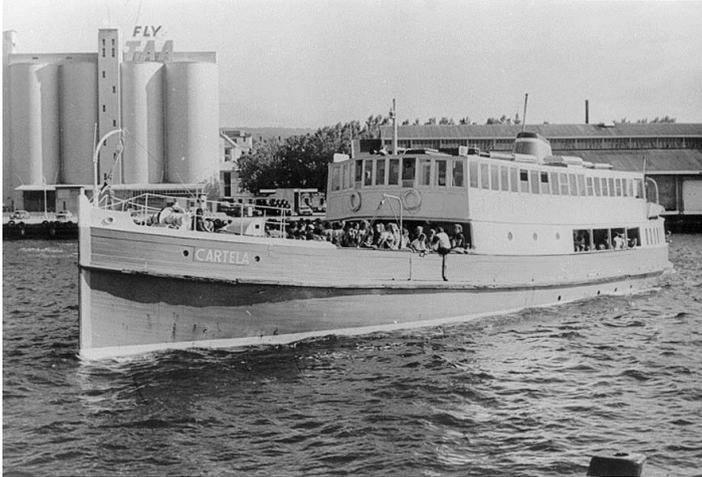


The *Cartela* Restoration Project – An Update



Presented by Ross James, Steamship Cartela Trust

Since September 1912, the SS *Cartela* has been a significant part of Tasmania's heritage. From the day when *Cartela* slid down the slipway at Purdon and Featherstone's yard in Battery Point and touched the waters of the River Derwent for the very first time, until today over one hundred years later, *Cartela* has carved out a remarkable record of community service, notoriety and achievement.

The roll of the River Steamers in the social and economic development of Tasmania, of which *Cartela* is the sole survivor, is for many, vastly under-recognised. In the early 20th century, the major industries of timber-getting, sawmilling and fruit exports relied unconditionally on the capacity of the River Steamers to deliver the raw materials to the Port of Hobart. At the outbreak of the Great War, *Cartela* was leased by the Royal Australian Navy for use as an Examination vessel protecting the Port of Hobart. Most of *Cartela's* service until after World War II was spent operating passenger and cargo services between Hobart, Tasman Peninsula and ports on the D'Entrecasteaux Channel with a proportion of excursion activities up and down the River Derwent. As Tasmania's economy matured, the role of the River Steamers had to evolve. The most well known and now the sole remaining survivor, *Cartela* is now making a case to reserve her place in the Port of Hobart in the Twenty First century.

Having been donated to the people of Tasmania via a charitable trust, the question needs to be asked, "Is there the will to raise the money to restore *Cartela* to her original specification for a continued presence working in the Port of Hobart?"

Ross James is the Project Manager for SteamShip *Cartela* Trust (established in March 2012). He has been associated with the restoration project since its inception in August 2011. In this talk, Ross will cover the major highlights in *Cartela's* colourful history, the projects aims, and progress to-date with the restoration program.

Time: 12.00-1.00pm, Tuesday 2 April 2019

Place: Royal Society Room, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Customs House, 19 Davey St entrance.

Phone the Maritime Museum on 6234 1427 for more details or email john.wadsley@maritimetas.org