



3333 Huon Highway, FRANKLIN Tas 7113
Owned and operated by the Franklin Working Waterfront Association Inc

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER July 2017

Management Committee

President: Alan Cato (acato@netspace.net.au)

Vice President 1: Mike Dredge (flatcalm @ozemail.com.au)

Vice President 2: Fiona Peate (fiona.peate@bigpond.com)

Treasurer: Sonia Shimeld (sonia.shimeld@gmail.com)

Secretary: Neil Purdom (ntpurdom@iinet.net.au)

Public Officer: Helen Gasparinatos (gasfam@bigpond.com)

Ordinary committee members:

1. Andrew Perkins (andrewp@apcoengineering.com)

2. Graham Rankin (woodenboatfreak@gmail.com)

3. John Enders (johne47@iinet.net.au)

Wooden Boat Centre Manager: Anne Holst (anne@woodenboatcentre.com)

Newsletter editor: Alan Cato

REMINDER: SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE JULY 1, 2017

A gentle reminder that FWWA membership subscriptions fall due on July 1, and need to be paid by the Annual General Meeting tentatively scheduled for Sunday 24th September. Thank you to those who have already paid. Membership is \$10, and can be paid to the Treasurer, at the WBC or through direct deposit. The banking details are listed below, and if using this method of payment, please add your name to the transaction so we know from whom the payment has come.

Account: Franklin Working Waterfront Assoc Inc
BSB: 633-000

Account number: 146051727

Reference: please use your name.

WBC RECEPTION AREA REFRESHED

Visitors to the WBC will notice that the reception area has been refreshed with new paint. The blue colour scheme has been replaced with an antique white. Various members of staff, volunteers and committee members took shifts over about four days, spanning the end of June and the beginning of July, to bring this transformation about.



Part of the Saturday morning shift.
(Photo: A. Cato)

GATHERING FOR GREG GUY

A large crowd of Greg's, Lynne's and Bo'sun's friends, enjoyed a convivial afternoon tea to acknowledge the passion and dedication Greg has shown for the working waterfront and the Franklin community. Several made the journey from the north island, with Pete and Jen Frost making a special trip from Sabina River (south of Perth) WA.

John Young addressed those gathered with a history of Greg's life, and his contributions to the Huon. There was a musical rendition of John Ireland's realisation for the famous poem, *Sea Fever*, followed by a wonderful afternoon tea.



John Young, about to deliver his speech on Greg's life
(Photo: A. Cato)

At this point Greg gave a short speech, and just as he was beginning to think he could relax, he was informed he had one more task to perform. This involved rolling aside a strategically placed log to reveal a plaque identifying the wharf as the *Greg Guy Wharf* in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Franklin foreshore. An impromptu song emerged as we sipped champers.



Greg and his loyal companion, Bo'sun at the edge of the *Greg Guy Wharf*
(Photos: A. Cato)

Thank you to all who helped make this such a wonderful afternoon.

STRATEGIC PLANNING CONTINUES

Meetings between Management Committee members and government advisors in an endeavour to gain funds to develop the facilities at the WBC have taken place. Likewise a meeting with potential publicity and marketing people was scheduled.

A strategic planning day took place on Sunday 18th June, and another on Sunday July 9th, to formulate a comprehensive business plan.

In all the Committee's deliberations, the vital role the volunteers play in the life of the WBC is paramount in the minds of members.

WBC Manager's Report to Franklin Working Waterfront Committee Meeting 13th July 2017

People:

- Dave Nash is working on Leshelen; Pete Laidlaw is working to complete the Viking boat with the assistance of Mike Johnson.
- Jono Vey-Cox is having a well-deserved holiday with his kids in NSW.
- Francis Shepard has joined the team and is doing beautiful wood carving work on the dragon's head and soon tail for the Viking boat.
- Jen Tubman has increased her hours for the coming months to assist with the many tasks around the Centre.
- A huge thank you goes out to all the folk that donated their time, painting skills and equipment to the painting of the front of house. The area looks fresh and fabulous. Thanks to: Neal and Christine Quigg; Frances Shepard and Christina Kent; John Enders; Sonia Shimeld; Alan Cato; Jen Tubman; Tom Stevens; Gary Parker; David Hume and Rob Taylor.
- We had a lovely afternoon tea and wharf naming in honour of Greg Guy. Greg has made a huge contribution to the Wooden Boat Centre and Franklin Working Waterfront. He has donated huge amounts of his time, has donated tools and equipment, has infected others with his passion and contributed significantly to the community ownership and operation of the WBC that we all enjoy today. It was lovely to be part of Greg's community last Sunday.
- Thanks also to Richard Forster for billeting Josh Tonkin for the past 9 weeks whilst he took part in the Viking build course. Having a teenage boy in the house always deserves commendation (even though Josh was a lovely young man).

Tourism:

- Visitation is at a winter pace, but still we get occasional groups/groupings of visitors.
- We are about to sign a contract with 'Holiday Vacations' a US based tour company that has booked several group tours for the coming season. This is a packaged day tour with Tahune Airwalk.

Education:

- Ongoing work to write assessment packages for our accredited training program continues.
- The Viking boat build course completed with Josh Tonkin now back home in WA.

- Josh did very well as a 16/17-year old living away from home for an extended period of time. Josh (and Pete Laidlaw) were also assisted by volunteers Sarah Rea for a couple of weeks and Cristian for 2 days that became 4 days.
- 55 students completed recreational courses in the past 12 months – just done the tally.

Boat builds:

- The Kirkwood dinghy is complete and just waiting on its sails.
- The Viking build continues. The planking is complete; ribs are in, thwart risers in place.
- A Clinker Dinghy is for sale for \$12,000. This is a sailing and rowing 11'5 Huon Pine planked dinghy with King Billy Pine thwarts, built to Adrian Dean's 'Percy' design. This boat was built by students of the March - May 'Clinker dinghy' short course and is an example of excellent workmanship and beautiful rare Tasmanian timbers.

Restoration:

- Leshelen work progressing steadily.
- An old Captivity is for sale for \$9,000 ONO, less for FWWA or LBT members. This to be sold as is or to a potential sponsor with WBC available to do the work if required as course content.
- The Fazackerly dinghy is complete, out of the shed and no doubt again busy catching fish somewhere.
- Mike has been restoring a very old butchers block last couple of days.

Asset management:

- The front of house area and the walls near the toilets and front of the workshop are now freshly painted.
- A 6" long-bed jointer has just been purchased to speed up fit out work on Leshelen and projects there after.

Media:

- Facebook group following 839 currently; Ea doing Instragram; David Hume does our Twitter.
- Huon News story about Michael Palin visit.
- ABC Radio Hobart visit, interview and story on Helen Shield's afternoon radio program.

WHS:

- A WHS advisor from WorkSAFE Tasmania visited and gave recommendation about our WHS management system. There is some more work to do in this area, but no significant issues identified.
- The Table Saw with no guard to be decommissioned.
- A handrail has been installed on the stairs between the bottom and top workshops.

Hopefully this will make the stairs easier for our folk with dodgy knees.

- Need for committee sign off of WH&S policy.

External interactions/opportunities:

- Discussions with Jen Fry (Premiers Department) about potential State Government assistance.

Issues:

- Nil

WBC AN INSPIRING PLACE

How often have we heard visitors to the WBC say they were inspired by what they saw, or see their wives dragging their wide-eyed husbands away from the Centre? But that doesn't mean wives don't enjoy the tour – it's just that the men more often than not stand transfixed while imagining themselves creating such a masterpiece.

The following article is from one of our very supportive FWWA members from NSW who started his journey with us as an inspired visitor.

Who Am I?

My name is Dick Bedell. I grew up in Yorkshire, did an apprenticeship in carpentry and joinery and worked in Papua New Guinea in the 70s. There I met and married Meredith from Melbourne. Two children and a work career later finds me a fair bit older and on the verge of retirement.



Dick Bedell in his workshop.
(Photo supplied)

We have visited Tassie a number of times and your wooden boat centre twice. One day in a newsagency I saw a Denman Marine built dinghy on the cover of a magazine. It really sparked my interest. I'm a pragmatic woodworker and can see the fun of building and sailing such a craft. A trip to the 2011 Wooden Boat Festival in Hobart convinced me to build a 12-foot dinghy and Paul Gartside's Design 130 fitted the bill. With some online advice from Andrew Denman and Paul Gartside the boat eventuated after two years work. (Nowhere in boatbuilding books have I read that boats shrink in water. They look enormous in your workshop until you launch them). I'm a lazy sailor and love to lean back against the transom with one leg on the side seat and enjoy the ride.

Before long we have moved to Batehaven on the south coast of NSW and I'm part of a casual wooden boat group with about 14 members. We have no official group name, no office bearers, no constitution and no fees - just a common interest in wooden boats. We meet once a month for a cruise somewhere or in someone's workshop. We hold MGMs (not AGM's) as often as not rafted up on a waterway eating lunch. One item only on the agenda; what are we doing next and when.

It works for us. We are in our fourth year and have managed week-long trips to Mallacoota or Meetung each year with a trip to Wentworth coming up in July. Between us we help each other build or restore wooden boats, have launched 7 boats, 4 boats are in progress and we have boat number three on the drawing board. This arrangement seems to suit us all, nobody has dropped out so far.

I'm in Tasmania's debt for its inspiration, wooden boat tradition and for the Huon Pine in my first dinghy. I have learnt so much, from lofting to launching, and made many friends along the way. Just as nature is diminished when something becomes extinct, so Australia would not be the same without the FWFA and the WBC. Maybe one day I will get to visit again and claim my Monty reward and sail or cruise some water down there.



Bliss! (Photo supplied)



More bliss!
(Photo supplied)

THANK YOU DICK FOR THIS ARTICLE