



MyState Financial Australian Wooden Boat Festival

8–11 February 2013 Hobart Tasmania



NOVEMBER 2011 E-NEWS

Fifteen months and counting

There are just fifteen months to go to our 10th anniversary Australian Wooden Boat Festival which will be held in Hobart from 8 – 11 February 2013. If you thought that the 2011 Festival was fantastic then you won't want to miss out on the 2013 Festival which promises to be even bigger and even better. Put the dates in your diary now and make sure that you are part of the celebrations in Hobart in February 2013.

New AWBF General Manager

The Australian Wooden Boat Festival Committee is extremely pleased to announce that the new AWBF General Manager is Paul Cullen (pictured). Paul has a strong background in event management and was the unanimous choice of the AWBF selection committee.



Paul Cullen has lived in Hobart since 1995, apart from a few years back in his native Ireland, working on events such as the Galway Races, the Irish Open and the Ryder Cup. He is well known as a professional chef, a broadcaster on ABC Radio, an Antarctic station leader and a festival director. He was the man behind the Antarctic Midwinter Festival, A Taste of the Huon and the Taste Festival over the past few years.

Paul says he is delighted to be part of the Australian Wooden Boat Festival 2013. 'I have travelled in and fished from boats since I was a small boy. A fine wooden boat is a thing of beauty. A festival devoted to wooden boats is an absolute joy. I know a bit about running events and it will be a great pleasure to work on this one.'

Paul takes over as General Manager of the Australian Wooden Boat Festival from November 2011. He will complete existing commitments to the Taste Festival and the Antarctic Centennial Year before committing full time to the AWBF in January 2012. Rob McGuire will stay on as a Festival Consultant during this period, helping with the handover and advising the new General Manager on strategy and direction. 'Rob knows far too much to let him get away easily', Paul says, 'I'll be counting on him for advice and background to get up to speed quickly.'

MyState pledges support for 2013 Festival

After a successful partnership for the 2011 Festival, MyState is pleased to confirm its continued support in 2013. MyState Managing Director John Gilbert announced the company looks forward to the 10th anniversary celebration of the iconic Festival. As a prominent member of the Tasmanian community, MyState is a fitting partner for this Festival, which celebrates Tasmanian connections and heritage". Mr Gilbert said the Festival "not only brings Tasmanians together, the event also supports and strengthens the local community, particularly through increased tourism and it builds the reputation of our State". MyState will work with the AWBF Committee to plan a fantastic event that promises a program full of exciting activities and memorable experiences for all who attend.

The Mawson Centenary Flotilla – 2 December 2011



A reminder that Friday, 2 December 2011, will mark the 100th anniversary of Douglas Mawson's departure from Hobart with the first Australian expedition to Antarctica. The Mawson Centenary Flotilla in the Derwent River will re-enact this historic event and the enthusiastic send-off Mawson received from the people of Tasmania one hundred years ago. Led by the modern Antarctic ships Aurora Australis and L'Astrolabe, accompanied by the Royal Australian Navy's sail training vessel Young Endeavour, the Lady Nelson, Windeward Bound and the vintage MV Cartela, this will be one of the largest assemblies of sail and motor vessels Hobart has seen for many years.

The AWBF has been invited to be part of the Mawson Centenary Flotilla and you are invited to bring your boat and be part of it. All participants must be registered and will receive a Mawson Centenary burgee to fly on the day. You are encouraged to register with your local yacht club – boat owners who are not members of any local club can register directly at www.antarcticcentennial.tas.gov.au

For further information, contact Paul Cullen, Event Manager, Antarctic Centennial Year on (03) 6233 3170 or email: paul.cullen@development.tas.gov.au

2012 Kettering Wooden Boat Rally



After the wonderfully successful inaugural event, the Kettering Wooden Boat Rally will once again be held over the February long weekend, 11 - 13 February 2012, which the AWBF is again supporting. There will be a special "World Championship" event for Derwent Class yachts on Saturday with the Derwent Class yachts sailing again on the Sunday with the entire Kettering Wooden Boat Rally fleet.

The Kettering Yacht Club (KYC) and the Wooden Boat Guild of Tasmania (WBGT) invite you to join in the second rally of wooden boats on the D'Entrecasteaux Channel. Sailing vessels, motor boats and dinghies are all welcome to join the fun, but all participating vessels must have wood as their principal construction material.

All the information including entry forms is available from the WBGT website www.woodenboatguildtas.org.au or KYC website www.kyc.yachting.org.au or contact WBGT Secretary Roscoe Barnett 0438 300 229 or KYC Secretary Jim Tayton 6267 4051. A detailed program and entry forms will be available soon – see the websites for updates.

Kingston High Project

The National Australia Bank's School's First program recently awarded Kingston High School in Tasmania a \$50,000 grant to further support their Innovative and Flexible Education Project.

At a Melbourne award ceremony, Kingston High School and the Australian Wooden Boat Festival received recognition for their outstanding performance in establishing school and community partnerships through the school's successful flexible education projects including the Youth Boat Building Project.

After Kingston High School's involvement in the 2011 AWBF it is continuing to offer wooden boat building as part of their 2011-13 curriculum via the Tasmanian Education Department's Innovative and Flexible Education Program. "The new NAB award will boost the resources for flexible education projects which are offered at Kingston High School," said boat building teacher, Ian Johnston.

Kingston High School is an Australian leader in a range of flexible education programs for its students. The boat building project is specially aimed at students who show an aptitude and an interest in practical skills and taking on commercial tasks.

"Currently, the students are building four 10 feet Feather dinghies and taking immense pride in delivering a quality product to their awaiting clients. The orders for these boats were taken during the 2011 Australian Wooden Boat Festival and through news stories in the local media," said Ian Johnston.

Kingston High School's Innovative and Flexible Education Project is known as Triple C – connect to create and capitalise. The students (some of whom are pictured below) are engaged in the entire process of building boats in a commercial environment – budgeting, fulfilling customer's special requests, time management and building a product to a commercially acceptable standard. "After the material costs of the boats are covered the students will receive the balance of the sale price so they are highly motivated to deliver a quality product," said Ian.



Boat Registrations for 2013 Festival

An early reminder that boat registrations for the 10th anniversary 2013 Australian Wooden Boat Festival will be open in February 2012. Boat owners who have attended previous AWBF's will automatically be sent boat registration details.

Dr Smelly's boat gets a make-over

A wooden boat restoration project is currently underway at the Ron Barwick Minimum Security Prison at Risdon Vale in Tasmania. The project has been funded by an Equity Small Grants Program and is focused on the restoration of a 13 foot King Billy and Huon Pine 90 year old batten seam dinghy. The boat was originally built by Ron Brown in Ulverstone (reportedly) for Dr Smelly who was the local GP in Wynyard.

Up to eight inmates are working on the project every Thursday. The project is focused on helping to reorient inmates back into society by giving them new practical skills and developing team, interpersonal and social skills. "The inmates are undertaking a major restoration project which involves fitting a new keelson, some ribs and planks and a new set of floor boards. They are doing an excellent job of bringing this very attractive boat back to life.

"Terry Lean, a member of the AWBF, visited the project and gave the team the benefit of his broad boat building knowledge and, together, we have implemented a restoration plan which will see this dinghy displayed at the 2013 AWBF," said Ian Johnston, who is managing the project.



Andy Gamlin is the new owner of Wooden Boat Centre

Congratulations to Andy Gamlin, one of the founders of the Australian Wooden Boat Festival, who is now the proprietor of the Wooden Boat Centre (WBC), Tasmania in Franklin. In just four weeks the WBC has sold three boats and is in the process of contracting a new boat for early next year. This opportunity has swept aside all notions of 'retirement' for Andy.

The WBC has three themes of activity:

- **Boat Building:** Traditional methods of boat building where close wood to wood fits are necessary to achieve a watertight hull. Both clinker and carvel construction methods are traditional and thanks to access to Tasmanian native timbers the WBC has built ten large carvel vessels to date. Clinker methods, employed for smaller boats, have seen countless new boats built at the WBC.
- **Education:** Approximately 500 students have passed through the WBC over the years since John & Ruth Young initiated the school. Formal Certificate 3 recognition can be achieved by students committing to the long course that focuses on a large carvel construction. Informal – and fun – courses that build a clinker boat are very popular and it would be fair to say that hundreds of students have learnt how to build (and therefore maintain) a clinker boat. Other courses are held from time to time.

- Tourism: This initiative was begun six years ago by John Allport, as lessee of the WBC. Individuals, bus loads and school children are escorted through the work sheds while being explained the current boat building projects and the techniques employed to achieve a finished boat.

Andy has some great plans for WBC for the future including:

- Currently the #1 shed is undergoing an upgrade and a new office is almost complete.
- Plans for extension of the small retail area are being considered in parallel with a Federal Government grant program. This will enable the WBC to put on show its latest dinghies and launches surrounded by exclusive and unique maritime clothing, books, artefacts, prints, model boats etc.
- Llew Sweatman is currently working on a 60 year old Percy Coverdale 10 foot dinghy restoration in shed #2 and it's almost finished. Sadly neglected and left in the weather for many years it needed some new planks, minor work and painting. Llew learnt to understand Percy's methods very well during the repair stage. All this, and Percy himself, will be interpreted and on display in the Discovery Centre.
- A new boat is being designed for a client who is keen to take on a 'short course' – a 7 week clinker boat build – beginning early January 2012. The hull will be 12'3" and live in local waters. It is possible to accommodate two other students. The WBC has a list of potential students, but please contact the WBC if you are interested.

For more information on the WBC check their website www.woodenboatcentre.com

Tacoma's 60th Birthday

MFV Tacoma, the tuna clipper that changed the course of pelagic fishing in Australia, celebrated its 60th birthday on 5 November 2011. Tacoma was the first Australian purpose built tuna vessel. It is an excellent example of Australian ingenuity and adaptation from its rolled steel bow to the effective use of Australian hard woods. Tacoma was one of the feature vessels and is pictured below at the 2011 AWBF. For more information on Tacoma, visit the Tacoma Preservation Society's website www.tacoma.org.au.



AWBF is now on Facebook



The AWBF is now on Facebook. Search for Australian Wooden Boat Festival and become a fan, have a look, contribute and correct by discussing. It will become a rich news site for the AWBF.

Changes to AWBF Committee

The AWBF Secretary, Ian Davenport, has recently resigned and Barb Murphy has taken over as AWBF Secretary. Geoff Pickard has replaced Ian on the AWBF Committee. The AWBF Committee would like to record its thanks to Ian for his hard work over the past two years as AWBF Secretary.

Travel and Accommodation

Tas Vacations has been appointed as the official travel and accommodation provider for the 2013 Festival. They can arrange all your travel and accommodation needs including pre and post festival. Contact Tas Vacations now on

holidays@tasvacations.com or Free call: 1800 030160

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

