Shackleton Farewells the Bay

Now off to Victoria, our second major Travelling Exhibition from the National Maritime Museum. Featuring the iconic photos of Frank Hurley, an excellent DVD production and 8 handsome Panels revealed the harrowing, heroic story of Ernest Shackleton’s expedition. Though failing in its original mission ie the crossing of Antarctica from sea to sea via the pole, it proved a triumph of physical endurance and the human spirit. Visitors were thrilled.


Bonnets Hang On by Popular Demand

‘Stitched with Love’, is staying on! This charming display of convict-style hand embroidered bonnets was created to honour female convict ancestors of the Fellowship of First Fleeters, (Southern Highlands Branch). The Branch has kindly extended its loan to enable more visitors to explore the survival stories behind each bonnet.

On display until October 20th
On September 25th, the Society played host to a gathering of local residents who took the opportunity to mark the passing of the Batemans Bay Bowling and Recreation Club over afternoon tea at the Museum.

Sue Mackenzie, local supporter of all things heritage, wore full ‘mourning’ dress, and graciously agreed to spin the Bowlo’s rescued chocolate wheel.

Saturday October 20th FREE Annual OPEN DAY

Tour the Museum, check out the live music, working antique machinery, community group displays, canine society demo, spinners and weavers, craft, plant and book stalls, bric a brac, & our famous gourmet BBQ and cream tea café. 9.30am – 2pm Plenty of parking!

Sue Mackenzie was so distraught she wore full mourning dress to ‘spin the wheel’ at the afternoon tea.

Bye Bye Bowlo

Community groups and many individuals had previously taken advantage of ESC’s ‘viewings’ of the site in order to claim or rescue items which told of its community-driven history. The Society has taken into storage a large number of items, including trophies, which together with artefacts donated by residents, will take quite some time to clean, sort, assess and catalogue.

Anyone who can assist us in sorting, scanning, identifying plus conservation work of the memorabilia, please contact the Museum.

Expect to see the fabulous Chocolate Wheel in action again on our Family Fun Open Day on October 20, 2018
RALLY OF THE BAY = VROOM VROOM

Our second year catering at this high profile event, a profitable fundraiser under the direction of Chris Ruszala. Many volunteers kept the food and drinks up to tired drivers and crew from 7.30am to 4pm.

DISPLAY – ‘BECAUSE OF HER WE CAN’

Our NAIDOC display featured an AFL designed Guernsey designed by local Aboriginal artist Cheryl Davison. It was donated to our collection by Mike Thompson (actually follows Essendon).

CWA WEEK  MORE THAN SCONES

Celebrating CWA Week revealed the breadth of its community work it was our pleasure to contribute some items to the shopfront display by Batemans Bay branch. CWA Secretary Maureen Kinross contributed many albums of past events, and promoted current areas of fundraising and lobbying on regional issues.

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK FILMS

We held three public film showings to celebrate Science Week, and next year promises to be bigger and better with guest speakers, too.

We then ran a ‘science in the kitchen’ stall at our local community market. Many thanks to Lynda T. for supplying the sponge cakes in various forms of ‘missing ingredients’ to demonstrate their individual properties.

NB Our meeting room/theatre and facilities are available for hire (very reasonable, too).

GIYONG FESTIVAL AT JIGAMY

‘Giiyong’ means ‘come to welcome’ in the Dhurga language across Eden, Bega and the Eurobodalla areas. Several members drove south to attend this first-time family friendly Koori festival. Organisers included Twofold Bay Aboriginal Corporation under the facilitation of South East Arts Region, and hope it can run again in 2019.
Whether we go to them, or they come to us, Years One and Two are a delight with their curiosity, their energy, and their pleasure in a ‘hands on’ experience. Tired but happy we thank staff and parents for helping, (and for taking them back!). Our age-specific modules are designed to meet the curriculum.

And behind the scenes ... Zoe and Joan were sprung playing with the Outreach props.

Sydney: Don’t miss the exciting revamp of the Mitchell Library and its new exhibitions

Canberra: COOK and the Pacific at the NLA.

ROME: City & Empire at the NMA.

And both only two hours away from our beloved Bay. How lucky are we?

Plus Armistice exhibitions in our own Shire during November.

GRANTS AND GRIMACES

Let’s share the good news first!

✦ After enduring yet another cold/wet winter our huddled masses (volunteers and visitors) were yearning to be warm. Museums and Galleries NSW has kindly awarded us $3,500 to install roof and under-floor insulation in the Main buildings.

✦ Thanks to ESC for 2019 annual funding of $1000 which we have allocated to audio visual equipment and updated lighting.

✦ Australian National Maritime Museum. Unsuccessful in applying for assistance in professional transcription of the digitised data of the ISNC ledgers. Try try again!

✦ Heritage Near Me. Unsuccessful in applying in this round for replacement sash windows. Try try again!

✦ Still waiting on outcome of Country Area Support Program application to fund a study of our Greek migrant community in the Bay.
AROUND THE MUSEUM
Our men’s team can be very proud of the skills shown in restoring (bar the connection) our Benandarah telephone box. This will prove a popular addition to our approach of ‘experiential’ artefacts, together with the children’s ‘old games’ area and, regardless of age,

Why not join the Society – every single dollar helps protect your heritage.

HERITAGE NEWS

RMS FORESHORE Redevelopment Committee Our president, Ewan Morrison, has been appointed one of three community advisors on this committee. Congratulations and thank you for leading by example in commitment to local heritage.

ESC Heritage Advisory Committee (HAC) Community representative appointments to this advisory committee have been announced and the first meeting of the new committee takes place on October 22nd. All 3 Shire historical societies have automatic representation. Thanks for your work on the community’s behalf.

NELLIGEN BRIDGE REPLACEMENT We are to receive a donation of artefacts from the RMS, revealed whilst an archaeological survey of the river bank was undertaken in September. The metalwork appears to have been discarded at some point when punts were operating. RMS wishes to make it a Ministerial hand over, so when items are received they will be accessioned as part of a permanent Bridge Story display.

ALBERT RYAN PARK In the 2018-2019 Delivery Program and Operational Plan $61,400 allocated to the steps at the north end of the Park. Thanks to Leah Burke for keeping us up to date.

MACKAY PARK SITE Media release due w/c 8/10/18 announcing appointment of the architects for development of the proposed swimming pool/performing arts/community space, all finance permitting. Council is planning some targeted focus groups to address ideas/design/practicalities. JOIN IN THE DISCUSSIONS. The new project manager is Steven Phipps under Lindsay Usher.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The Society’s AGM held on 4th August 2018, was a well attended event. In his annual report, President Ewan Morrison warmly thanked members and the present committee for its work throughout the year. Special appreciation noted the workmanship and skills shown by our men’s building team, and outstanding effort made by our fund-raising team led by Chris Ruszala and Debra Hope.

To acclamation, Lifetime Membership was awarded to Tony and Judy Whelan, and to Myf Thompson, for their contribution and commitment to developing the Society and Museum.

Office bearers for the 2018-2019 year: President Ewan Morrison; Vice President Chris Ruszala; Secretary Lesley Billings; Treasurer Sandra Smith; Committee: Les Smith, Debra Hope, Myf Thompson, Nerida Castle. Specialist areas: Ray Mooney Cemeteries, and Chris Bendle Family History.
The Happy Marriage Competition

You will NOT be in the running for a cash prize or the Hillman Minx 1961 model featuring extras including radio, heater, demister, electric clock and white wall tyres. But your marriage might still benefit ....
BACK IN THE DAY

True vintage clothing and accessories are getting harder and more expensive to acquire as more recent decades reflect the availability of cheap, throwaway and transient fashions across all age groups. We look out for old dressmaking patterns which reflect the first sixty years of the 20th century.

Some may remember when magazines weren’t devoted to celebrity ‘news’, but catered for the housewife with a pull-out pattern for crochet, knitting, or other home craft?

These patterns also reflect a changing domestic history, in the choice of design or purpose. The Australiana-themed crochet ‘supper cloth’; the removable collar to dress up several outfits; the stenciled crinoline pattern for a ‘Duchess’ set laid atop a 1950s kidney-shaped dressing table.

We also keep an eye out for contemporary brands that have moved from seasonal fashion to iconic status. Our latest acquisition is vintage Mambo brand men’s board shorts.

Mambo Graphics (also, 100% Mambo) and marketed as Mambo is an Australian company designer of surf, snow, skate and street clothing. It was launched in 1984, its designs contributed by artists and musicians well known in their own milieu, such as Reg Mombassa (Australian band Mental As Anything).

ABC SOUTH EAST ‘OBJECT’ PROGRAM

Bouquets to the production team who came up with the idea of contacting every museum in its broadcast area, offering an 8 minute live spot each week featuring an object from their collection. Eden and Merimbula kicked off, then we offered the accession criteria backgrounding our Edna Veitch collection of framed portrait, original dress worn in the portrait, and the story around the maker of the dress as known to Edna, namely the wife of Aboriginal criminal Jimmy Governor (his story fictionalised in The Chant of Jimmy Blacksmith book and film).

Chris Bendle represented us at the recent ACT & NSW Family History Annual Conference held at the Soldiers Club. Several hundred attendees saw our display and we opened the Museum on Sunday for their convenience. Our particular focus was an illustrated four generation Stewart family chart, being our first foray partnering in Aboriginal family history research.
Fundraising TOTAL for July/August/September 2018 a mighty $4,649. This represents a 65% increase on the same period last year.

WHAT IT TAKES TO KEEP US OPEN IS Hard Yakka!

The Society needs $1300 per month to open its doors and continue developing as a key resource for our community and visitors. As we expand our services, operational costs such as lighting and computer technology, also increase. We have to fund specific objectives such as ‘access for all’ disability projects. Apart from administrative work in Collection Management, Exhibition and Outreach programs, and Building Maintenance, our volunteers pledge additional time by fund raising via coach guiding, on-site group catering, book sales, craft sales, research fees, heritage publication sales, and of course, the inevitable BBQs.

Some of us never want to smell another sausage! YOU CAN HELP. Your donations are invited via our website www.oldcourthousemuseum.com. The Society is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) and is covered by Items 1 & 4 of the table in section 30-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Why not join the Society – every single dollar helps protect your heritage.

MEMBER NEWS

Vale: We mark the passing of two good friends of the Museum. Noel Murray was a valued member of the Society, cheerfully working alongside Peter Barnes right into his 90s, to create and maintain our gardens. Noel’s final years were spent at IRT Crown Gardens here in the Bay, where he continued to contribute to a fruitful life with his friendship and horticultural knowledge.

Averyl Lindgren was a long-time resident and generous local historian. Prior to her recent death Averyl passed her considerable research on Nelligen and local church history into the care of Chris Bendle, our family historian. Members attended both funerals.

It’s a Boy Hugs and congratulations to Julia Hill proud mum to Caleb. We’ve watched her bump grow and are thrilled both are well and happy. When you’re ready, Julia, grant applications are still waiting here!

Merilyn, Our Wandering Potter, has returned to the Bay after a year travelling to exotic places. All she brought back was a bad cold – we look forward to catching up when she’s recovered.

VACANCIES: enthusiastic and enquiring minds to join our Society. Have a specific interest:

- social media/website – urgent- a person to lead development of our online presence
- Exhibition design – finding the stories and helping develop an exhibition program
- Research – from home or at the museum across a broad range of subjects

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday Weekly Craft/Home Produce Market, Community Centre from 11.30am
SATURDAY OCTOBER 20th 9.30-2pm MUSEUM OPEN DAY
Tues Nov 6th Melbourne Cup Lunch
Sat Nov 10th Society Stall at Carnivale, Corrigans Beach
Sun Nov 25th Bunnings BBQ fundraiser

Your contributions/suggestions for the Newsletter are very welcome.

Myf Thompson, Editor