Newsletter Date Volume 10, Issue 2

SOUNDINGS

EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM/ 02 64962094/ EMAIL promo@killerwhalemuseum.com.au

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Sailing the *Young Endeavour*

Volunteers of EKWM were excited to join a group from Tulgeen to sail Snug Cove on the *Young Endeavour*. There was no need to press gang this happy crew who joined the seasoned youth crew and navy personnel who had been on board for 10 days of their 11 day voyage.

The tall ship, built by Brooke Marine and designed by naval architect Mudie Young was given to Australia by the British government in 1988 as a gift to celebrate our bicentenary of colonisation.

This Brigantine is 44 meters in length and has a draught of 4 meters. Her ten sails carry a total area of 511 square metres. We were excited when the crew unfurled the sails as we cruised out into Snug Cove. The sound of wind in the rigging was memorable.

Terri from Bombala greeted us, explaining how she applied via the Young Endeavour web site, then was selected in the ballot. Quickly overcoming her fear of heights she climbed the rope ladders to set sails in heavy swells.

The Captain's Log

Youthie Captain Flick. I would like to inform you all that the Captain and crew have gone on holiday and the Youthies have now taken command of the fine vessel that is the Young Endeavour. The running of the ship for the next 24 hours will be performed completely by the youth crew of voyage 6 of 2017. After a fun filled morning, which included happy hour and jumping into the water from the rope swing, captain and crew handed over the ship and let us take the helm of this vessel. Captain Mike Our morning started with a morning brief run by the trusty youthie crew, it was funny, entertaining and educational. Then our favourite time of day was upon us, happy hour, we had the ship shining from top to bottom. After happy hour we had three of our youthie crew present us with a special interest and talents, from AFL skills

Captain Mike Gough, enjoying his second two year stint on the vessel, said 1,300 youngsters have learned how to sail a tall ship under traditional navy protocols since the ship has been in Australian hands.

After day 8 of the voyage the youth crew take control of the vessel and sailed her for a day unassisted. Aged from 16-23 their confidence is apparent. They work smoothly as a team.

While in Snug Cove the youth crew, invited by *HMS Darwin* to come on board for a tour of the ship, enjoyed a fast trip back in *Darwin's* inflatable rib.

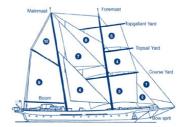
While on board we were invited to help hoist sails, steer the ship and check out below decks. A brief tour of the engine room with engineer Brett was an added bonus. Brett dresses up as "Nanna Diesel" each morning, teaching the youth crew about tidiness on board by picking up any items of clothing left lying around.

The young sailors supplied us with breakfast and lunch as the ship rolled in the swell and cut through soaking squalls.

to how to fight a fire. Our crew have a wide range of knowledge and this is part of the reason we all work so well together. Our last challenge of the 24hours was to row a boat to the beach in the bay and take a pic of us with our youthie crew mascot (our fellow youthie crew member Dan dressed as a beautiful siren). Captain Mike Today we woke up to a beautiful morning in Twofold Bay thanks to the trusty work of our youthie navigators Kate and Rory. The youthie crew put in a hard night of work to reach our final destination and we are all very proud of our efforts. However it was a 7 am wake up because we had tasks to do.

Check out the Young Endeavour website for more Captain's Log entries – you will find them very entertaining and informative!





- 1 Jib
- 2 Forestaysail
- 3 Course
- 4 Topsail
- 5 Topgallant
- 6 Main Staysail
- 7 Topgallant Staysail 8 Fisherman Staysail
- 9 Main Sail
- 10 Main Gaff Topsail



EKWM sailors Barb Reed and Marg Sheaves embarking.



SOUNDINGS PAGE 2 OF 4

The young Bryde

Midway through March, before delivering a guided tour, to my delight the EKWM siren sounded as a Bryde whale was sighted in Twofold Bay.

Pronounced "broo-dess" this beautiful whale is named after Johan Bryde, who helped construct the first South African whaling factory in the early 1900s.

It can be distinguished by

A Rum Tale

How involved are you in your research? Meeting researcher/historian Kevin Jewell, a man on a mission, I began to see where serious research can take you. This focused, and extremely fit 79 year old, is retracing a remarkable journey from the northern end of the 90 mile beach in Gippsland to Port Jackson, as documented in diaries kept by officers of the ship-wrecked Sydney Cove, a Bengal trading vessel previously registered as the Begum Shaw in India in 1796.

This vessel was the first merchant shipwreck in our history and carried a cargo of speculative trade goods including 7,000 gallons of alcohol - mostly rum, sacks of rice and sugar, tobacco, salted meat, Chinese ceramics and tea, barrels of tar, casks of vinegar, footwear, soap, candles, textiles, a musical organ and a horse drawn buggy. Departing on the 10th of November 1796, she encountered heavy seas in December, and began to leak. In January off the east coast of Tasmania the weather worsened and the pumps were manned continuously. On the 9th of February with water up to the lower deck hatches the Sydney Cove was in danger of sinking so Captain Guy Hamilton ran her aground on

the island now called

the three distinctive ridges that run from the tip of the broad <u>rostrum</u> to the rear of the head, level with the two blowholes. Cat Balou alerted us of this visitor as their tour had a wonderful sighting of the whale.

The skin of the Bryde's whale is black or dark grey, with white patches on the throat and chin, and may sometimes appear mottled due to pock marks caused

by parasites and small sharks.

This whale – also known appropriately as Eden's Whale – can live up to 50 years and has also been seen in Western Australian waters.



Preservation Island, situated in the Furneaux Group north of Tasmania.

He and his crew were able to get to shore safely and managed to salvage most of the cargo. The casks of rum were stored out of reach of the crew on nearby aptly named Rum Island. A party of seventeen men, led by first mate Hugh Thompson with four European seamen and 12 Lascars (Indian sailors) set off in the ship's longboat for Port Jackson -400 nautical miles away. Ill fortune struck again, and they were wrecked on 90 mile beach.

Kevin is re-enacting their trek north, recording details of the terrain and comparing his findings to diary entries, putting names to the rivers, streams and land features first seen and recorded in 1797. His findings will be collated into a historical volume to be stored at the Wollongong Library. This 600 mile journey was fraught with dangers as the illequipped party, with very few possessions and provisions, encountered groups of natives both hostile and friendly. The diary records the names of Aboriginal tribes and natives as, with luck, they gave gifts to tribal elders thereby paying respect and thus were provided permission to travel through tribal land, though

some were speared by

hostiles. They finally arrived at the cove at Wattamolla on the 15th of May with sailors William Clark and John Bennet and a lascar the only survivors of their arduous journey. The last to die on the march was killed by Dilba, a native known for his ferocity, at Hat Hill. They signaled to a boat out fishing to take them on to Sydney.

And the fate of that cargo of rum -

the schooner *Francis* and sloop *Eliza* were dispatched to collect the survivors and what remained of the cargo. The crew of the *Sydney Cove* had built shelters and survived by eating shearwaters until their rescue. On the way back to Sydney the *Eliza* was separated from the *Francis* and shipwrecked losing the crew and eight of the *Sydney Cove* survivors.

The *Francis* made a further salvage voyage in December and again in January 1798. Matthew

Flinders was aboard the third

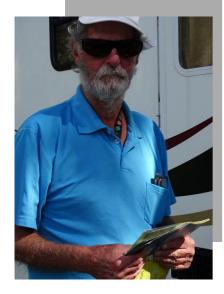
Flinders was aboard the third voyage, assigned to make geographical observations. He noted petrels and seals, and located and named the Kent Group of islands.

At the same time George Bass was on his whaleboat voyage following the coast of the mainland, and he had thought to make for the *Sydney Cove* to replenish his provisions but leaks in the boat prevented him setting that course. He did, however, encounter a group of escaped convicts marooned on an island. They, too, had been making for the ship with the false hope of re-floating her and making good their escape.



Memorial plaque at Tathra Below – Matthew Flinders map of Preservation Island.





SOUNDINGS PAGE 3 OF 4

International Women's Day

Over 60 women turned out on March the 8th to celebrate International Women's Day at EKWM and enjoy a tasty breakfast cooked by the ESSCI blokes.

Guest speaker Karen Lott, originally from the UK, spoke about her years in the hospitality industry. She decided to come to Australia on a working

holiday working in hotels here. In her work she rubbed shoulders with lots of celebrities including Cliff Richard and other performers. She later worked for Qantas as an air hostess enjoying international travel. She managed to talk her parents into moving to Australia as

Finally settling on a property at Nethercote she became involved in the wonderful

produce market which of course led her to setting up Sprout – her beautiful coffee shop, which features produce of our area.

Her husband Stan owns the Eden Smoke house. Her daughter Mia is a well-known local musician/songwriter and her other daughter Ellen is in her 2nd year of university in Sweden.

To hear Karen's speech just google Eden Magnet International Women's Day 2017.



Jenny Drenkhahn, seen here thanking Karen for being our guest speaker, after presenting her with a bouquet of flowers.









The opening of "Birds" photo - Rob Whiter

Life Membership for Stephanie Rawlings

It seems amazing that much loved and extremely dedicated Stephanie Rawlings has been toiling away for EKWM for 25 years.

She is one of those quiet achievers who works behind the scenes helping Jodie put together new exhibitions and taking on any task put her way.

It's never a dull moment at the Museum! Driving past recently I noticed two young things hard at work in the garden near the Cavalcade Wall. Thanks to the efforts of Celia Hannan and Margaret Sheaves, with some extra muscle provided by a new volunteer Guy Timms, our grounds look beautifully cared for.

Welcome to another new volunteer Barry Hughes who is keen to get into some guiding for us.

Stephanie who joined the committee in 1992 has worked in the museum shop, recorded the progress of our first building extension, worked as our office assistant and managed our school holiday programs.

With hammer and screw driver in hand she assisted husband Wally in building displays throughout the

museum, constructing panels and cabinets.

She has worked alongside our curator Jody White auditing the storeroom, matching items with the written and digital record.

Stephanie is pictured here with her Life Membership certificate and below with her proud, supportive family.

It's all happening at EKWM

Bob has purchased some very flash volunteers polo shirts shown here by Julie. They are very reasonably priced and of good quality. Get in fast volunteers for your shirt!

Our curator Jody White is working on some interesting promotional projects that showcase our collection. Check out our web site for the latest postings.

Rob Whiter represented EKWM at the opening of an exhibition entitled "Birds" at the Merimbula Old School Musuem. On display is memorabilia of the birdcall competitions that ceased in 1964.

We have had a new sound system installed throughout the museum. Our guides will love the microphones!

Our thanks to John Ireland. pictured below with the beautifully crafted book case he made for our shop.





Sir Peter Cosgrove visits EKWM



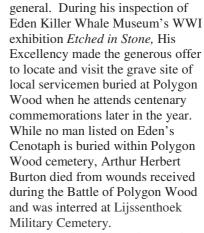
COMING EVENTS:

SEHGI MEETING: 13TH MAY BOMBALA

FAMILY HISTORY EXPO CLUB SAPPHIRE 12TH AUGUST

22ND AUGUST HERITAGE WEEK FREE OPEN HOUSE SESSION 2-4PM

His Excellency General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd) and Her Excellency Lady Cosgrove arrived by car at Eden Killer Whale Museum at 9:30am Tuesday 11th April. President Jack Dickenson and Secretary Jenny Drenkhahn greeted them and escorted the entourage into the Davidson Gallery. A group of museum members and staff; Eden school students and local Queens honours recipients were assembled to meet them. His Excellency chatted with students from Eden Public School and Eden Marine High School and spoke with Ben Neville our student guide. After photos to mark the occasion. Sir Peter and Lady Cosgrove were taken on a tour of the galleries. They showed great interest in the story of Old Tom and the local whaling history, the exhibitions in



This is the first visit to the area for a Governor General for 110 years!!! It was an honour to host these distinguished guests, and to be included in their "whistle stop" tour of the Sapphire Coast. With security in place and their Aide de Camp keeping an eye on the clock the visit was over all too soon. We hope they will be back soon to see some whales. Story Jenny Drenkhahn photos

Jody White













SEHGI visits Aitchison Cottage

house occupied by the Aitchison family until the death of Mary Aitchison in 1954. From 1954 to 1983 the cottage was used as a boarding house. In 1983 Council bought the cottage from Mrs Robinson and used it for archive storage. In June 2000 the sunroom and kitchen were demolished. It is now being restored by volunteers of the Aitchison Cottage Steering Committee. The cottage is located behind the Lions Park with access from Jindabyne Road. The rat trap bond brick walls are a distinctive feature and it is thought that there is only one other example in Berridale, some 20 plus in Cooma, and no others in

NSW. The cottage was "renovated" in the 1860s, possibly to house Berridale's first Post Office which opened in September 1869. The sunroom and kitchen were added in the 1930s. A concrete block wing was built by a local contractor in the 1950s. Aitchison cottage is one of the oldest and wellknown buildings on the Monaro.





The Snowy River Shire Historical Society hosted the SEHGI meeting on the 11th of February at Berridale. A highlight of the meeting was a visit to historic Aitchison Cottage. Built in 1885 by Cooma builder Arthur Mawson, the cottage was purchased by Daniel Aitchison. The cottage was believed to be used by a blacksmith when he first arrived in the settlement of Berridale. Originally a slab hut it then evolved into a comfortable small



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EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

EXEC PANEL MEETING CURATORIAL MEETING FRIENDS MEETING

3PM 2ND WEDNESDAY 2PM 1ST MONDAY 9AM 3RD WEDNESDAY

MUSEUM LIBRARY MUSEUM LIBRARY THEATERETTE