

## Special Interest Articles:

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- ❖ EXHIBITION WATCH
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L – R Michael, Brad and Lara

## Happy Volunteers

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May the owners of Cat Balou offered a free two hour cruise to thank local volunteers for their support and to celebrate Volunteers Week.

Local volunteers from the Eden Killer Whale Museum, Eden Visitors Centre, Marine Rescue, Cruise Eden and other local organisations enjoyed their time on the waters of Twofold Bay. As the volunteers boarded they were greeted by Brad Wills (owner and Skipper), Lara Wills co-owner and commentator and crew member Michael Fulton.

Lara's commentary was very informative with many new and intriguing facts about our

area amazing many of us who thought we had our local history pretty much covered. Many were unaware that Edrom Lodge was once used as a prison with prisoners spending most of their time fishing and some playing football for local teams.

The wildlife we saw intrigued us with groups of Little Penguins fishing not far from the boat and seals heading to shore. The seabirds – gannets, terns, cormorants and pelicans, were also busy fishing or basking on the structures around the bay.

We had a close up view of the new wharf, the navy wharf and the chip mill, with a great view of Boyd's Tower from the sea.

Lara told us whales had been spotted in Twofold Bay, with *Brydes Whale* – a rare species – seen twice this year and young Humpbacks making an appearance early in the season.

We stopped near the Navy wharf for morning tea and the crew explained that they prefer to use local products, such as Bega cheese, with local café's supplying their lunches. A bus group pulled up to enjoy a lunch and afternoon cruise as we left Cat Balou thanking Lara, Brad and Michael for allowing us to experience a cruise and learn what they had to offer passengers.

Many of us had enjoyed whale watching cruises on Cat Balou as paying passengers, but still found this tour of the bay very comprehensive and interesting.



EKWM June Whalley



Boyd's Tower



Eden Visitors Centre crew

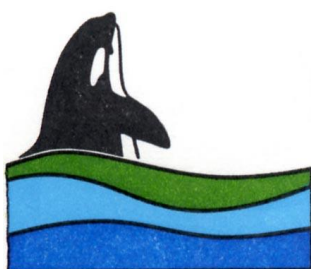


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## Sound the Siren for Whales

On May 7<sup>th</sup> 1867 Eden's first harbourmaster, Bourn Russell Jnr, noted whale sightings in his log book. This year the season again started early with the siren sounding on May 10<sup>th</sup> and then on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July when a *Brydes Whale* was sighted in our area again. Humpbacks were also spotted.

Migaloo the white whale was again reported at Port Douglas

in early July, so keep your eyes on the water and let the museum know when you see whales and Killer Whales.

It always amazes museum visitors that the siren they hear is to alert them to look seawards to spot a whale. Many think it is a fire brigade siren!

Have you ever wondered

why Humpback Whales migrate north every year? Have a listen to an interesting presentation from Whale Watch Western Australia found by our curator Jody White.

<https://player.whooshkaa.com/episode?id=383789>





Shark Industries LTD evolves in Eden.  
EKWM Mako Shark model

## Fishy Business – Continues

**EKWM curator Jody White continues her research on the unusual beginnings of the Eden cannery.**

In 1933, another public meeting in Eden endorsed a proposal by a prospective new company (*Fish Industries Ltd*) to continue the vision of *Shark Industries Ltd* with JR Logan voting against it. Within two months the Quarantine Bay site had been secured and clearing of the site began. Plans were approved for a substantial industrial precinct including a wharf and ship building works, boiling down works, factory, fisheries, freezing works, sawmill, skin drying and packing store, tanneries and whaling station. It was hoped that further expansion would include a fertiliser department, glue making and fish powder department, a social hall and garages. The local newspaper congratulated those involved in the work, including the company solicitor, *WG Hancock*. The optimistic *Magnet* newspaper included two photographs of the Quarantine Bay site. In January 1934, a 35hp colonial type multi-tubular boiler (for steam) was delivered to Eden's main wharf and transported by Tom McMahon's motor lorry around to Quarantine Bay.

By April trouble began. The building contractor, back from holiday leave, terminated his association with the project. The *Magnet* assured readers that *another builder is shortly to be appointed*. A month later *Fish Industries Ltd* was in court owing £300 in outstanding wages. By July a liquidator was appointed to

settle the affairs of the company.

Two years after the start of the factory at Quarantine Bay, *Fish Industries Limited's* solicitor was gaoled, serving two years for embezzlement. Solicitor WG Hancock argued that he gained no personal benefit, that the expenses grew beyond the money held in trust. Unwilling to face the disappointment of investors he created a new set of books!

Mr Russell continued to have an association with the Quarantine Bay fish processing site under a new company (*Australian Canneries & Fish Food Products*) proposed in 1938. Considered an expert in the by-product processing industry, he was retained as production manager. Eleven months later another company formed, *Eden Fish Industries*, with Mr G T Russell again. It's unclear as to how things proceed from thereon, the only mention of the *Australian Canneries* site at Quarantine Bay being given as a reference point of a local fish catch in 1941.

In 1940, Isadore Levy and George Midwood established a fish cannery and food preserving factory on the north-western aspect of Eden's Lake Curalo (Palestine), chosen for its access to water, to the lake and Two Mile Creek. It was awarded a five year access license. Salmon were in short supply later in the year so the cannery trialled tuna, captured by the CSIR[O]'s

ship, *Wareen*. Between May and August 1941, valuable orders from the Australian Army for supplies of canned salmon were keeping the cannery busy. By 1944 there were signs of trouble with the cannery closing due to trouble in securing local fish supplies. A reorganisation of the company was announced later in the year promising two modern trawlers would be added to the fishing fleet immediately, with two more to be built later. Two large rock pens were planned to keep the cannery supplied with enough fish to keep two shifts a day operating all year round. Hopes were pinned on the war time needs of Britain and the Red Cross for tinned salmon. Fish soup and paste products were envisaged to expand the product range further. Fifty homes were planned for returned service personnel and their families who might be employed at the cannery.

By 1945, *Fantham's International Transport* and *Adams, Clayton & Co* had taken over the Twofold Bay Canneries at Palestine. A new public company (*Australian Fishing Industries Ltd*) was formed and took over the cannery, as well as the ice making and boat building enterprises under the *South Coast Co-op Ship Building Development Society* at Cattle Bay operated by Adams, Clayton & Co. From there the cannery continued to grow with a change of ownership including Green's, Kraft and Heinz until it ultimately closed in 1999.

***The display 'Canned' can be seen at the Eden Killer Whale Museum closing on October the 13<sup>th</sup>.***

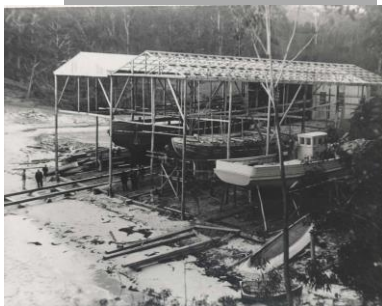
Fish Industries Limited

Prospectus

Above:  
Fish Industries Ltd Prospectus, 1934  
EKWM Collection

Below:  
AFI Letterhead  
Boat building sheds, Cattle Bay before  
the cannery buildings were built.  
EKWM Collection

AUSTRALIAN FISHING INDUSTRIES LTD.  
Rtd. Adams, Clayton & Co. General



## Cruisy Times Ahead

Ships cruising into Eden this season will now tie up at our new wharf extension in Twofold Bay, with the official opening in August of the 44 million dollar wharf. It will be dwarfed by a variety of huge ships – one 12 tiers high.



We are still waiting to see how many ships will be in our waters with P&O perhaps to add to our scheduled 21 ships. Our busiest month will be February 2020 with 9 ships expected.

There will be further developments to come as the buildings in the port precinct are redesigned.

EKWM has documented all these changes with **Cruising Forward**, a display opening on October 18<sup>th</sup>. This lovely painting by artist Ida Akkerman is a record of times past when ships anchored beyond the breakwater. Passengers were then brought to shore by tenders. We lost some ships when the seas became choppy. Not so now when they can safely tie up at the wharf.

EKWM has been documenting the history of cruise ships in Eden for our museum collection since they first graced our shores.

opening 18 October  
**Cruising Forward**



*Progress comes to Eden*  
Ida Akkerman

## Researching a new acquisition – Part 1

Family historians will understand the rabbit-hole phenomenon when undertaking research. One thread of information takes you on a journey from one avenue to another, sometimes quite far removed from where you started! This article, researched by curator Jody White, describes the delightful journey of fact finding in order to understand a recent donation to the Museum. Donated in May, an album containing 46 photographs documents the cold, wet and dirty work of whaling aboard a Norwegian factory ship, and its associated whale chasers. Little was known about the album when it arrived so when a digital scan of the stern of one vessel revealed part of a name, so began the pulling of threads to unravel its history. Thanks to the marvellous wonder that is TROVE, an initial search revealed a wedding, an interest in sharing knowledge, and a love of fishing. But who was **Mr Erling Aagaard** and how did a Norwegian come to settle in Hawthorn, Victoria? Erling was born on 14 April 1905 in Narvik, in Northern Norway. Thanks to the Gulf

Stream, Narvik remains an ice-free industrial port surrounded by picturesque mountains that today are a hiker's and an alpine snow-skiier's delight.

Passenger records held by the National Archives of Australia reveal that Erling arrived at Point Cloates, Western Australia on August the 10<sup>th</sup> 1928 aboard the deep tanker, *Thor Minor*. (The *Norwegian Bay Whaling Corporation* operated at Point Cloates, located about halfway between Coral Bay and Exmouth). Shipping and passenger lists show the 23-year-old Norwegian travelled from Sydney to Wellington, New Zealand via the RMS *Makura* on 1 November 1928. By July 1930, Erling had left Christchurch for Hamilton to join the Para Rubber Company. However in the interim, he was giving talks to local clubs, appeared on Christchurch radio and had published articles about his time associated with the factory whaling ship, *CA Larsen*. It is here that we can determine that he was one of around 2,000 men

associated with the whaling operations of the Ross Sea Whaling Company of Sandefjord. Between 1923 and 1933 the company made nine expeditions to the Ross Sea before a market glut of whale oil forced them westward to South Africa. Newspaper articles from this period describe the brutal conditions faced by workers, from sub-zero temperatures on deck to the confines of their quarters below deck, which were uncomfortably fiery given their proximity to the boilers used to try out the oil. Around 1935, Erling meets Lucy Murray Andreas, the daughter of a wealthy Sydney family who was in New Zealand on holidays. By December 1936, their engagement is announced and Erling travels to Sydney for their nuptials.

*This story, researched by our curator Jody White, will be continued in our next edition.* Due to the Collection Manager's absence for 7 weeks, requests for access to the collection, images or loans must be submitted by 1 August 2019. The Collection Manager will be able to attend to requests again the week of 21 October.



*Thor Minor* – Arne Gnderesen

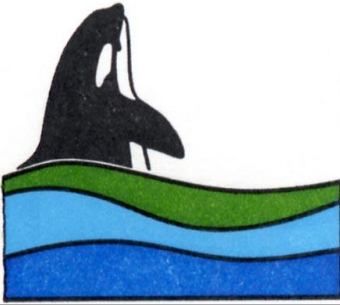


The Norwegian whale chaser's *Star* fleet in the Ross Sea, c1928-1930. Erling



MR. AND MRS. E. AAGAARD, leaving St. Stephen's, after their wedding late yesterday afternoon. The bride was formerly Miss Lucy Andreas.

The marriage of Erling & Lucy Aagaard (nee Andreas), St Stephen's Church, Sydney, 1936.



COMING EVENTS:

10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST  
SEHGI MEETING  
EKWM

15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST  
SAPPHIRE  
SEASCAPES

17<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST  
INTERNATIONAL  
LIGHTHOUSE  
WEEKEND

18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER  
CRUISING FORWARD

5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
A COASTAL  
JOURNEY

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## Exhibition Watch

Keep an eye out for changeovers in the coming months in all galleries. Our curator and her helper Stephanie Rawlings are constantly changing displays and bringing new items out of our extensive collection.

NAIDOC week was celebrated on our EKWM website with the full interview with BJ Cruse from *Wild Catch* featured. <http://killerwhalemuseum.com.au/tours-exhibitions/exhibitions/wild-catch/>

### SEHGI explores Historic Candelo

The meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> held in Cobargo was attended by about 18 people. There was discussion of expenses involved in running the various museums. The Edén Killer Whale Museum's representatives revealed their plans to add two new galleries and a lift, at an estimated cost of \$1.2 million. After lunch, those attending were guided on brief walk through the town, which has many fine old buildings. Those attending visited the Cobargo District Museum (Inc.) which has been in existence for about 18 months and is currently housed in a room next to the Tourist Information Centre. Though not as large as some, their collection was varied and interesting and gave some insights into Cobargo's history. The next

*Peaks, Plains and Pastures* closes on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August with Sapphire Seascapes replacing it on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August.

*Cruising forward*, reflecting on the historical and contemporary use of Snug Cove opens on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October and will be of great interest to locals and our cruise ship visitors. *A Coastal Journey* – opening on December the 5<sup>th</sup> - art works from the Downton collection from the industrial to the serene, features 17 towns along the coast.

15 August - 1 December 2019

*Sapphire Seascapes:*  
a selection of works from the Downton Collection



Celebration of sunshine. Amethyst Point, Eden  
John Downton OAM

All of these exhibitions are a must see.



SEHGI meeting will be hosted by the Killer Whale Museum on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Cobargo area was settled in the late 1820s. William Duggan Tarlinton was the first white man to set foot in the district in 1829, seeking pasture for his cattle. By the 1830s the Imlay brothers had substantial holdings. Cobargo was known as 'The Junction' in the late 1860's being the junction of the Narira and Bredbatoura creeks. A school, post office, store, hotel, church and blacksmith shop opened in 1871. By the 1890's the town had a newspaper and in 1903 a branch of *The Bank of New South Wales* opened.



## EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM

### SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

EXEC PANEL MEETING	3PM 2 <sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY	MUSEUM LIBRARY
CURATORIAL MEETING	2PM 2 <sup>ND</sup> MONDAY	MUSEUM LIBRARY
FRIENDS MEETING	90AM 3 <sup>RD</sup> WEDNESDAY	MUSEUM LIBRARY