Newsletter Date Volume 6, Issue 3

SOUNDINGS

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

Special Interest Articles:

- PHIL MCGRATH RECEIVES HIS LIFE MEMBERSHIP
- BINOCULARS
 INSTALLED ON THE
 OBSERVATION DECK
- A NOTORIOUS
 VISITOR
- DAVID J LOTT , A NAVY CLEARANCE DIVER OUR GUEST SPEAKER
- BERYL GAMBLE'S BOOK LAUNCH
- LANDSCAPING NOW COMPLETED
- JENNY DRENKHAHN COMPLETES WORK ON CAPTAIN DICK JOLLY
- SEGHI MEETING

Phil McGrath becomes a EKWM Life Member

On the 8th of June 50 guests attended a ceremony on our new observation deck to install Phil McGrath as a life member of EKWM.

For 50 years Phil worked at the Eden Post Office as a telegrapher and, since then, has worked tirelessly to restore the Eden Cemetery and the Mary McKillop Hall, and fundraised for the Olympic Pool.

Phil is one of the surviving links to Morse code operating from a station set up at EKWM, using equipment from the museum collection. In his 17 years at the desk he has sent, received and transposed well over 15,000 messages.

He has generously clocked up over 600 hours with museum visitors making him our most active guide.

Phil has transmitted from festivals and events around Australia, and for ten years maintained communication with HMB Endeavour as the ship sailed around the world, keeping the families and crew informed and in touch.

Master of Ceremonies Jack Dickinson pinned the Life Membership badge on Phil and presented him with his Life Membership certificate.

Whale Watching a Delight



The Fitzsimons family were the first visitors to test out our new binoculars.

Just in time to catch up with the whale migration, our new binoculars have been installed on the viewing deck.

For the modest fee of two dollars visitors can now watch the passing parade of shipping and wildlife.

The binoculars were unveiled by Phil McGrath after his Life Membership ceremony.

I'm sure visitors will queue up at the binoculars when the siren is sounded.



All who attended enjoyed a lovely afternoon tea provided by Friends of EKWM.

Phil is pictured above holding his Life Membership Certificate.

Find us on



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The Notorious – a 15th Century revival

We often see unusual craft tied up at the Eden wharf but this 17 meter replica of a Portuguese caravel certainly created plenty of interest.

The Notorious, built by the Wylie family from Victoria is said to be the only caravel in the southern hemisphere.

Launched in 2011 the ship was the culmination of a project to re-create the history of the days when the Portuguese explored our coast.

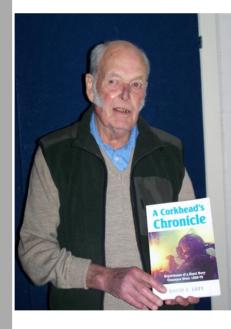
The family chose Eden as their first port of call as they explore the East Coast.

Caravels enabled Europeans to leave the Mediterranean and cross oceans.

For those who have a secret wish to become a pirate then this is the vessel for you.



Diving into Danger



A chance meeting outside Mitre 10 in Eden rekindled Navy Clearance Diver David Lott's interest in unexploded bombs, gave him a link to the Mallacoota WW11 Bunker, then provided us with an opportunity to hear about his fascinating work.

David signed on aged just 15 as a boy seaman and qualified four years later to work in small teams to clear, recover and investigate bombs.

He showed us many examples of bombs and the aftermath of their explosions.

Unexploded bombs are still washing up on beaches in the UK and some that turned up at Gabo Island were set by the Germans in 1916. Mines have been known to travel 1,200 miles some washing up on Queensland beaches.

The unit exploded bombs off the coast of Malta – tossing locals out of their bed at siesta time and knocking canaries off perches. Local fishermen

used the explosions as fishing expeditions often putting themselves and the divers at risk. David's team also cleared the UK side of the Suez Canal, then had to work on the Egyptian side as the Egyptians lost 98 of their people through risky handling of the bombs. During this operation they completed the 164 km swim and removed 209 tons of mixed explosives.

David retired from the Navy after 17 years of diving and his book "A Corkhead's Chronicle" details all his experiences. We were very fortunate to have David as a speaker and this program of listening to a speaker after the General Meeting is proving to be both informative and successful.



SOUNDINGS

An Introduction to Annie

Congratulations to three of our author members of Friends EKWM for writing stories based on family history. Beryl Gamble recently published her third book "Annie," a fictional story based on the life of her maternal Grandparents.

The book was launched at Art On Imlay and all of Beryl's books can be purchased there.

Amanda Midlam won an award from the Magnet to commemorate Anzac Day, again with a family story set in wartime. She kindly donated her prize to the Eden RSL.

Susie Sarah won third prize at the PerfEx Literary Awards for a memoir about the birth of her mother. She then donated her prize to the Eden Library. Susie's books are available at EKWM.



Beryl Gamble pictured here with Jack Dickenson who launched her book Annie.

Landscaping with Friends

Keep your eyes on the Albert Terrace Garden in front of the Cavalcade Wall. EKWM Friends have prepared and planted it with a selection of bird attracting hardy natives. Many thanks to Celia Hannan, Margaret Sheaves and Glenda Wood for their hard work which is now bearing some blooms. A seat has also been installed at the end of the path. Thanks to Jack Dickinson and Jeff Swane for their work in finishing off this large project.

Captain Jolly's Records now in our system

Jenny Drenkhahn has been hard at work for eight months transferring 244 records of marine surveys by Captain Dick Jolly into our mosaic system. This invaluable data provides us with a "roadworthy" of every commercial boat, including our fishing fleet, in Eden from the 1980's onwards for eighteen years.



These records detail insurance recommendations by Dick on safety requirements for each boat – in the case of the Terrace Star tragedy Dick recommended that there needs to be a more comprehensive rescue system.

Having all this data in our system now provides us with information for researchers, historians and for use in Museum exhibitions.

Captain Jolly was one of 40 salvage experts in the world. He went to sea when he was sixteen, and, when he attained his masters certificate went to the U.K to join the salvage tug industry.

He captained ocean going tugs towing dredges, oil rigs and obsolete war ships, and was Master of the Salviscount pictured behind him in this photograph.

During his career he supervised over 80 salvage jobs. He moved to Eden in the 1980's to take up the marine survey

position. He was a member of EKWM and very kindly donated much of his time, energy and expertise to the museum and of course these extremely detailed and informative records. Hi book "Wreck, Rescue and Salvage" is on the shelves in our Museum shop. Our thanks to Jenny for completing this arduous task and she now hands over the files to Chris Bingham who will scan all the photographs of the vessels into mosaic.



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COMING EVENTS:

17[™] AUGUST INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND

AUGUST 10th SEGHI MEETING TO BE HELD AT EKWM

1ST NOVEMBER OPENING WHALE FESTIVAL

3RD NOVEMBER APPRAISAL DAY

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

SEE US AT.

www.killerwhalemuseum.com.au

SEGHI goes to Goal



On May 11th members of SEGHI enjoyed a visit to the Corrective Services Museum at Cooma.

The museum was first set up in 1989 and moved to Cooma in 1998 and was opened in 2002.

The Museum brings together historical objects from Correctional Centers across N.S.W. and gives an understanding of our cultural heritage as a penal colony.

Collection highlights include and original portable cell, restraint devices (manacles and leg irons), convict and prisoner clothing, tin ware made by inmates, security equipment (riot shields and batons), contraband (escape devices, tattoo guns and inmates weapons), artefacts from Karingal gaol, photos and oral histories.

In 2012 the museum won an IMAGinA award for an 18 month project to digitize its 8,000 strong collection of artefacts.

On record are significant images and documents including the execution records of notorious bushrangers and

personal letters from Louisa Collins – the last woman hanged in N.S.W. The collection also documents uniforms, artwork, historical contraband and rare film footage.

The Crime Through Time centre was established in 2005 to give the community an insight into the history of the State's prison system.

What sets the museum apart is its function in the rehabilitation of prisoners, giving them dignity and respect through their tasks as guides, doing maintenance and cleaning, and management of the collection.

Jack Dickenson and Margaret Sheaves were both amazed to learn their guide was a prisoner in the last year of a ten year sentence. They also mentioned a fascinating shed filled with donated objects.

The museum is open Tuesday to Friday – 12.30 – 3.00pm, Saturday 9.15am – 3.00pm.



Audio Workshop with the Powerhouse Museum

Powerhouse Museum is organizing a workshop with SEGHI to pass on skills of how to create audio files and present them for use in our museums.

This would include

information on relevant equipment and how to use it to produce audio content for exhibitions.

It is of great importance to record oral history before the people who have this knowledge are no longer with us, such as our timber cutters and fishermen.

It is hoped that this workshop will take place this year.

EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

EXEC PANEL MEETING CURATORIAL MEETING FRIENDS MEETING 1 pm 2ND Thursday 1 pm 1st Monday 9.30am 3RD Wednesday MUSEUM LIBRARY MUSEUM LIBRARY MUSEUM LIBRARY