

Soundings

EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM

Established 1931

Newsletter, September 2022

Yep. Spring is here. According to the calendar, that is, though that bitey breeze, is still tickling the ribs at times, makes you wonder if the caendah has tuned in, to the forecast!

At EKWM we have a busy programme ahead, what with the Official Opening of the extensions only a few short weeks away, the cruise arrivals due to build and the natural, warmer weather increase in visitor numbers.

The immediate outlook looks a little calmer, within EKWM. The building works is definitely finished, the solar panels at last producing and while still high, a chink of improvement in covid numbers, is helping give people more confidence in moving around.

That the auditing of now, two years' trading results, is still a sword over the heads of the Board members and is of continuing concern. We feel that our hands are tied somewhat, with little control over the timing of this activity. And, too, the audit of the BBRF grant, is still to be completed. The government department from which the grant was received are getting a little impatient for this to be completed. I might add, not as keen as we are. There are several thousand dollars still to come of the successful lodgement of that report.

Another step along the way is the re-opening of the Museum Library which has been closed for over two years, following the fires, the resultant southbound highway.

The pandemic brought its own dislocation. Following closely on its heels in May 2021, the building programme got under way. Collection Manager's office, being within the perimeter of the works area and accordingly, temporarily sited in the Dick Jolly Archive. The latter has yet to returned to its correct location. C.M Angela having a workload all of which is of greater import at this stage, move back to the comfort of the purpose built accommodation of the lower floor.

No doubt Angela's offside, volunteer, Chris Bingham would welcome the move back. With the warmer weather just around the corner, the D.J. Archive, leaves much to be desired for creature comforts.

So it was, that the Library, also in the same net, had to be closed for the duration of the building programme.

Early in the lock down Carole Edwards retired from the position of librarian. In the chaos that ensued during that time, Carole was not thanked for her efforts in that important area. I'd like to place on record that thanks, now. I trust that we may, at a collegiate function, do so in person.

Carole has agreed to come out of retirement to share her knowledge with some recently joined colleagues who have indicated they would like to further their interest in our book collection and to its availability.



So with Carole, and Cilia Hannan, Vicki Barber and David Sinfield met in the library to discover what is on the shelves and what other important ancillary duties that Carole had undertaken.

Our library is somewhat of a hidden gem, waiting to be discovered.

Our most valuable asset *People*



Ben Neville, has freshly returned from a few days on Campus at Mac Quarie Uni, to supplement his remote degree studies. He celebrates a birthday on 11th September. The youngest member of our crew, he carries our very best wishes

Further to Charli Mitchell's trip to Sydney to further her soccer aspirations, while the team did not claim a ribbon, they acquitted themselves very well.

It's tough going when the make up team, where most had never played with their team mates, of which Charli was one, being pitted against a sports specialty high school team. It was, certainly, a big ask. However she was philosophical about the trip, it being another chance to play against teams of greater experience. Charli is thankful to be one of the limited number chosen to do so.

Signs of the Times

Sings of the times. Indeed. These two attractive signs have been installed the adjacent to the bus parking bay at the top of the the long stairs. "It's time" was called on the old boards, quite a while ago. They were in danger of blowing apart in the wind, as did their predecessors. The new fit well with the uplifting that has taken and is taking place, within our boundaries.

Sign maker Brian Hart came up with the design and kept the message concise, easy to read and more likely to be recalled than if such was loaded with detail. This is the last work of any size that Brian will undertake and he is clearing out his

workshop as I write. He has built a studio in his Pambula Beach backyard and will do occasional small jobs.

The signs have the dubious honour of being the last produced on Brian's big printer. They stood as demos for the lady from the Monaro who bought this equipment. The printer loaded onto transport almost as these came of the chute.

Many thanks to the volunteers who installed them. These boys have been extraordinarily busy over the recent past to round off many tasks that will, certainly, add that extra taste of professionalism, as we head towards the official opening, in a few weeks time.

We need to agree what we wish to do with the old 'disabled prking'sign, that was at the entrance off Albert Terrace. So to tidy it up and re-erect it or to consign it to retirement. To be or not to be? That is the question.



From the Magnet of 27th April 1983

\$140,000 Museum Extensions Opened

A good crowd was on hand, for the opening, last Saturday afternoon, of the major extensions to the Killer Whale Museum, at Eden.

The opening ceremony was performed by the Curator for the past 30 years, Mr. Bert Egan who, with his colourful stories of the killer whales and the whalemen, has become as well known as the killer Old Tom, himself.

Museum President John Mathieson, welcomed everyone to the function and introduced a former President and man who has been and still is a tower of strength to the Eden Museum and Historical Society, Mr Jack Dickenson who recapped on events leading up to the successful conclusion of the project, operation "Newhot" (New Home for Old Tom).

As far back as 1970 there were discussions on the need for extensions and the idea really firmed up in 1978 when the serious fund raising, got underway.

An Eden Councillor, Mrs Gaye White, pledged the support of Imlay Shire Council and that support continued on through Clrs. David Barton and Mary Cocks, when the Council was amalgamated.

He said various fund raising activities were held over the past four or five years with the major effort being the "Back to Eden" celebrations conducted in conjunction with the Lions Club in 1981.

This was highly successful and \$14,000 was raised. The success was due to a lot of planning and

work by the committee backed from all sections of the community.

Mr Dickenson thanked Council officer Brett Osborn for the original plans he drew for the building draughtsman Tom Stojanovich for the final design and building contractors Whiter Bros for a well executed project resulting in a fine finished product.

The cost of the project was \$140,000 which; Committee finances \$77,500, NSW Government grant \$20,000, Bega Valley Shire Council \$10,000, Wespac Bank loan, \$30,000. The loan has been guarantee by six Eden Citizens..

D. note.

And it was a great day for us. It achieved Bert's wish for a bigger Museum, while he was still able to see it. We had a few comforts: comfortable toilets, most of all. Despite the fact that the sewerage reticulation had been available for a decade, we still had the pan service, yuk!.... Carpet on the floor, (laid it ourselves), of course. Flouro lights. Storage; we thought we had plenty. Comparing with the previous zero, we did. We soon started to fill the area as we brought the collection back from where we had it been stored, predominantly, at Beryl Bowler's residence.

Th retail stock didn't present much of a problem, with about half a dozen of some of Harry Welling's collection, which sold for \$1.50 ea.



The photo shows Tom transitioning into Newhot.

The bloke with the cap, I believe to be Malcolm Terry, The one further down, can't recall, but I have a thought that suggests Dean Grant. Rob Whiter is down the front, no doubt strategically placing the water pipe roller for the next section push. Note roller at this end about to emerge from underneath. The other bloke is y.t.. Looks like I've still got my pyjamas on under what would have been combo overalls. 3

And More

Paramedic Visits

Invited by Friends' Chair. Leone Fairweather, Local Paramedic, Steve Marks paid us a welcome visit. In a two presentation, he shared some of his vast knowledge, garnered over several decades of serving his community in this most demanding of callings. Steve was happy to come, having completed his day's work, to share with us of limited experience, some basics.



He suggested that a group of ten would be about the ideal for a session such as this, and I'm pleased to note that enough of our crew were able to make up that complement.

The "Friends" Committee were well aware of the existence of the defibrillator's availability in the retail area and well, too, its scope, should the need arise. However, though the machine will talk the operator through a sequence, it is much more re-assuring for the bystander (our crew person), to have some familiarity with what's required of them.

This is what motivated the Friends to arrange this session.

I'm sure that those attended left with more confidence in themselves, should an emergency of this nature occur.

Steve was excellent in his delivery of the information, telling his story in a quite measured manner, in terms that those present, were easily able to follow.

Friends', Leone and Tricia Lamacraft, had inspected the several first-aid kits that we have spread throughout the building. At their request Steve inspected each and while explaining to those present some basic uses of their contents, suggested an updating of the contents advisable

Our Calendar

September

- 8th Regular monthly Board meeting
- 19th Curatorial meeting, 2PM library
- 21st Friends meeting 9 AM Theatrette
- 23rd Coral Princess

October

- 7th Official opening of additions, 10 AM
- 10th Coral Princess
- 13th Regular monthly Board meeting
- 17th Curatorial meeting 2 PM Library
- 19th Friends meeting 9AM Theatrette
- 21st Pacific Explorer

November

- 10th
- 12th Quantum of the Seas
- 13th Pacific Adventure
- 16th Friends meeting 9 AM Library
- 19th Majestic Princess
- 21st Curatorial meeting 2 PM Library
- 23rd Star Breeze
- 24th Westerdam

Dates to be decided.....
AGM.

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Kerrie, Barry and Annette following Steve's presentation, in-  
tently

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"And stop it did, in god's god time;
And spring came into fold
A mantle o'er the hills sublime
Of green and pink an gold"

John O'Brien...."Sid Hanrahan"



Go Safely Jack