

The Traverse Board

Newsletter of the Friends Of The Paul McGuire Maritime Library Inc

November 2011

Proudly Supporting the PaulMcGuire Collection of The State Library of South Australia.

News From The Friends

Next Meeting

The November Meeting will feature Jack Curtiss, manager of pirate radio station *Swinging Radio England* recalling life in the English Channel in the 1966.

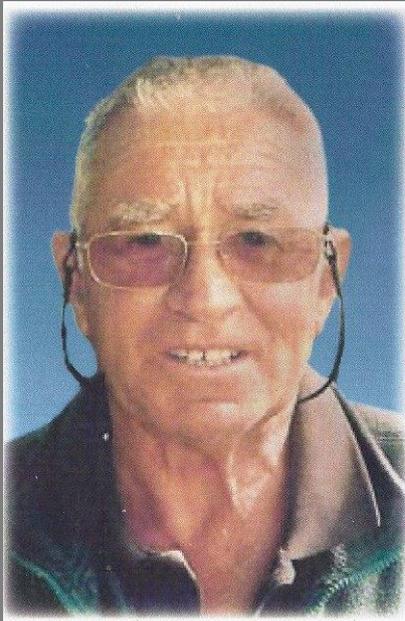
Date: Monday 28th November 2011

Time: 8:00 pm

Venue: **Railway Hotel, Port Adelaide.**

Cost: **Donation**

In Memory of Colin Todd



19th September 1938 . 8th October 2011

From The President

Greetings once more, as Summer approaches, with the big sea breezes and warm weather we enjoy. I think we have had a good year, so far, with interesting and convivial meetings, a pleasant annual dinner, and two more young people sent on a voyage of personal discovery aboard the "One and All". That all makes me very happy, and I thank you all for your participation.

Last news I had of Mike and Gay Lewis was from Samoa, but Neil may have something more recent; they said it was hot there!

In September we were told of the recent activities of the Laser Airborne Depth-Sounding organisation, by Mark Sinclair, their managing director. This was a nice follow-up, since the group that perfected this system won the first Maritime Achievement Award back in 1986; the technology has proved invaluable for marine survey here and overseas.

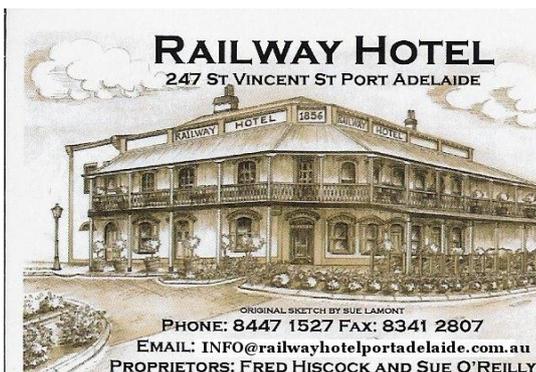
The Dinner was held aboard the "Buffalo" at Glenelg, an idea of Neil's for a different venue, and very pleasant it was, too - good food and wine, and the usual happy group of Friends, sad for the ones who couldn't be there.

Our lovely ship, the "One and All" is still lying idle, currently at the R.S.A.Y.S., with no advance in the search for a new management structure, which is not good, with bookings not able to be fulfilled, nor made. The crew I have spoken to are finding it all very frustrating, to say the least, and most of them have been stood down; it seems things could and should have been run a bit better than they were, most distressing altogether.

I do hope you will be able to attend our next meeting on the 28th November, it will be great to have a crowd for our last gathering for the year, and it promises to be a good one.

Regards to you all,

Julian.



The Traverse Board

Published by:

The Friends Of The Paul McGuire Maritime Library Inc

President: Julian Murray

Secretary/Treasurer Neil Waller

Postal Address: PO Box 680
Mitcham Shopping Centre 5062

Email: mcguirefriends@gmail.com

Web: <http://www.fpmml.org.au>

The Rena Grounding – from *The Bay Of Plenty Times* Tauranga New Zealand

Rena oil spill: \$4 million clean-up bill

APN News & Media | Tuesday, October 18, 2011 11:14

The Government painted a bleak picture of a long response to the Rena clean-up and a potential bill to the taxpayer of millions of dollars.

It is yet to commit to a possible financial package for affected businesses and workers in the Bay of Plenty, almost two weeks after the Rena struck the reef.

Transport Minister Steven Joyce said he did not rate the chances of salvors finishing the job before the ship broke apart.

The prow of the Rena is settled on the reef, but its rear was hanging over by about 60m.

Meanwhile, Mr Joyce yesterday met the managers of the Mediterranean Shipping Company, which chartered the Rena, about the company's "moral obligation to assist".

"They have given me an undertaking that they will be looking to provide assistance in both cash and non-cash terms," Mr Joyce said.

The ship's owner, Costamare, is responsible for covering the salvage operation, and is thought to be legally liable for up to \$12.1 million of the cost of the clean-up under the Maritime Transport Act.

But Mr Joyce admitted more oil leaking was inevitable, and the final bill for the clean-up could be in the tens of millions of dollars.

"There are too many variables at this point, basically around how much of that oil comes off the ship, when and in what way."

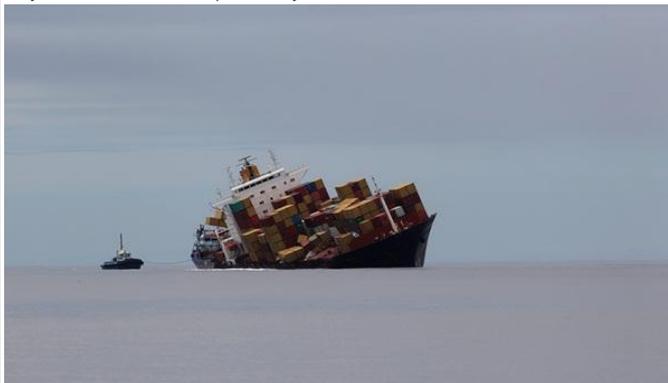
The clean-up bill so far is estimated at \$4 million.

Bay Of Plenty Times (<http://www.bayofplentytimes.co.nz/rena-oil-spill/>)



Rena: Edging closer to ultimate outcome

by Graham Skellern | Monday, October 31, 2011 9:04



The salvage team aboard the stricken Rena container vessel are edging closer to the ultimate outcome of saving further major oil spills on to Western Bay's sandy beaches.

Maritime New Zealand said on Sunday that "a conservative estimate" of 1000 tonnes of heavy fuel oil had been pumped to the waiting *Awanuia* bunker barge, and four of the five fuel tanks were now empty.

It meant only 350-360 tonnes of oil remained on board out of an original load of 1700 tonnes when the Rena grounded on Astrolabe Reef in the early morning of October 5. Up to 350 tonnes of oil washed up on the beaches during the first week of the environmental crisis.

The rear port tank holding 770 tonnes of oil has been cleared and the remaining fuel from the engine room's two settling tanks, containing 220 tonnes, was pumped directly to the *Awanuia* yesterday afternoon.

Lighter oils diesel, hydraulic and lubricating were also being removed from tanks that are easier to access.

Kenny Crawford, Maritime NZ's salvage unit manager, said the divers attempting to get access to the rear starboard tank stopped work yesterday because of increased movement in the ship.

"The divers were removed from the passageway due to the high tide and swells and they will go back once it is safe to do so. This is a tough job and it must be done safely," he said.

The coffer dam, down below in the ship, was constructed but had yet to be sealed. The dam seals off the passageway above the starboard tank which is underwater and the salvors can pump oil, water and gases from the space.

Once this is done, they can get access to the manhole and work in difficult conditions to get the pipes, pump and other equipment into the tank.

Mr Crawford said he was confident of accessing the starboard tank but "you need to appreciate this task is more challenging".

Environment Minister Nick Smith said it was "hugely encouraging" that four of the five tanks were clear of heavy fuel oil. "It's still a herculean task getting 350 tonnes out of the starboard tank. That's an incredibly complex and dangerous job. (continued..)

The Rena Grounding – from *The Bay Of Plenty Times* Tauranga New Zealand

(from page 2) "We can't rest easy until that oil is off the ship, and the next three to four days is a window of opportunity," said Mr Smith. "The Government is grateful for the ongoing efforts of the salvors and volunteers."

Nick Quinn, Maritime NZ on-scene commander, said an aircraft was sent to monitor reports of older oil moving south of the East Cape.

That oil was likely to have come from the earlier release 12 days ago.

He said pockets of lighter oils probably hydraulic and lubricating were slowly being released and currently staying within a 6km radius of the Rena.

Mr Quinn said 160 people completed beach clean-up duties on Sunday. Nearly 7500 volunteers had registered, and he asked that people turn up after they committed to the programme.

"We are not going to run out of clean-up for them to do. This is rewarding work for the community and we'd urge anyone who can get involved to lend a hand."

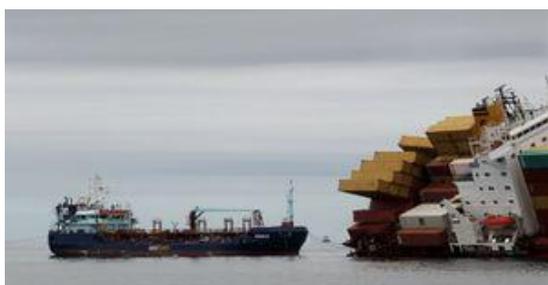
Meanwhile, navigation warnings remain in place as 58 containers from the Rena remain unaccounted for.

Of the 88 containers lost overboard on October 11, 15 have been recovered and seven more have washed ashore; they will also be taken off the beach.

Eight other containers have sunk in water up to 60m deep around the vessel. Half the containers lost were empty.

Maritime NZ has reminded people not to touch the containers or consume any of the goods that have come free. These might be contaminated, and they still belong to the owners.

Recreational boaties were still being urged to stay off the water oily water can damage their boats' motors, and boats travelling through oil water could then contaminate otherwise clean sites.



One And All In Limbo

The end of October saw the *One And All* still in limbo awaiting news of its future operators.

Talks in process between the government and a prospective operator have, apparently, collapsed.

Most of the remaining crew was laid off at the end of October and the vessel moved to the R.S.A.Y.S.

Rena: Dogged pumping removes 116 tonnes

by Sandra Conchie | Saturday, November 12, 2011 8:03

Rena salvors are continuing to make good progress in removing the last of the heavy fuel oil from the submerged number 5 starboard tank on the grounded container ship.

Maritime New Zealand salvage unit manager Arthur Jobard said salvors had maintained continuous pumping of heavy fuel oil from the ship to the tanker Awanuia yesterday, with about 116 tonnes of the 358 tonnes in the starboard tank removed. The flow rate had held steady all day at about four tonnes per hour.

"We have now removed around a third of the heavy fuel oil from this tank. We are making good progress thanks to an extra pump on the line," Mr Jobard said.

The salvage team was using a "hot tapping" technique, which was a method of extracting oil from the submerged tank without allowing the oil in the tank to leak out, with five hot taps connected up, he said.

The team had also continued to remove the last remnants of lubricating oil from the engine room to deck tanks on the tug Go Canopus, as well as emptying the storage tanks.

Mr Jobard said the salvage team hoped to start sucking out the final bits of heavy fuel oil from the bottom of number 5 port fuel oil tank today.

No significant amount of oil had been spilled from the ship in about three weeks, although it was believed there was a large amount in the ship's duct keel, but the exact amount was unknown.

Salvage adviser Jon Walker said there was also a lot of oil residue in other parts of the ship which salvors were trying to locate because of the spillage risk. He said salvors were scouring the ship for this oil between the machinery, which was a slow and difficult task.

Meanwhile, container recovery company Braemar Howells continued to use sonar sweeps to search for the 56 unaccounted containers that were lost overboard on October 11.

The company was also responding to reports of debris from containers coming ashore at Mount Maunganui and other parts of the coastline.

Mr Jobard said the weather forecast for the next few days was good for the salvage operations, with only minimal swells and light winds, and clear weather was forecast to remain until Wednesday.

Assistant National On-Scene Commander Scott Read said beach clean-up events would continue at the weekend, and today clean-up crews would be at Papamoa, Matakana Island and Maketu and tomorrow at Matakana Island and Papamoa.

A total of 904 tonnes of oily waste has so far been collected by the clean-up crews.

Mr Read said restricted areas of beaches would not be opened until there was a complete consensus between all the key stakeholders involved.

Mount Maunganui Main Beach and the ocean is open to the public as far as Tay St but public access from Tay Street to Maketu remains restricted.



Fugro LADS Managing Director, Mark Sinclair addressing our September Meeting on Laser Aided Depth Sounding



Members and Guests at our Annual Dinner at the Buffalo Restaurant.

November Meeting November 28th 2011

8:00 pm

Railway Hotel Port Adelaide

Jack Curtiss will talk about his experiences as Manager of *Swinging Radio England* during the Pirate Radio period in the UK.



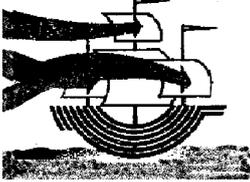
A number of ships took up stations in international waters off the coast and broadcast pop music to an enthusiastic audience not adequately catered for by the BBC.

San Francisco born Jack took up his appointment in England following a stint at an FM station in the USA. He also has wide experience as a journalist.

Please join us for dinner from 7:00 pm.

Join or Renew on line

Subs can now be paid online. Simply visit our website <http://www.fpmml.org.au> and click the *Membership* menu item. You will need a credit card. You won't need to send us the membership form if you choose this option.



The Friends Of The Paul McGuire Maritime Library Inc

Membership Renewal

Ordinary Memberships are all due for renewal in January each year. Please send your \$20 to

The Treasurer,
The Friends Of The Paul McGuire Maritime Library Inc
PO Box 680
Mitcham Shopping Centre 5062

Name _____

Address _____

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We can send *Traverse Board* via email. Email Address: _____

Every member: if your contact details have changed please fill in the new details above and send the form to the Treasurer.