

The Traverse Board

Newsletter of the Friends Of The Paul McGuire Maritime Library Inc

November 2015

Proudly Supporting the Paul McGuire Collection of The State Library of South Australia.

News From The Friends

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

November 2015

Greetings to you all, and a welcome to the more settled weather of Summer. Already there have been two cruise liners in at Outer Harbour, and I believe there will quite a few to follow as the season progresses, which will be good for the state's economy, an example of the value of seaborne traffic in our waters.



At the British Hotel in September we given an insight into the ship-building industry in and around Port Adelaide, as seen through the eyes of Kingsley Haskett, proprietor of Searles Boatyard. It was an interesting and entertaining evening, and well attended, too.

Come October, it was wonderful to see so many on hand to enjoy our Annual Dinner, once again held at the R.S.A.Y.S. Squadron Commodore Rae Hunt and her husband Jeff joined us, and we were happy to have Valmai Hankel along too, altogether a lovely gathering of the Friends, so thank you all for being a part of it.

For something different, we will be having a guided look at the McGuire collection at the State Library, so I hope you can all come along to this event, always an interesting opportunity to see some of the rarer items on the shelves. The McGuire Library is what we are about, so it is always good to have a closer look, and then we can talk about over lunch afterwards. This will take place on Tuesday, 24th November at 11 o'clock.

Time to close now, see you at the Library!

Regards, Julian.



The Outer Harbor grain and container berths from St. Kilda.



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Next Meeting

Tuesday 24th November 2015

Library Visit

Join us at the State Library to see recent purchases by the Friends and other new additions to the Paul McGuire Collection.

**State Library of South Australia, North Terrace
Adelaide 11:00 am**

Please let Neil 0418 821 331 or Julian 0414 365 294 know if you are coming.

G'Day

Another couple of months have passed in which time I spent 3 weeks in South Africa observing the wildlife and the culture of the country.

I have included several pages of my impressions of the Port of Cape Town which consists of 2 parts: the older Victoria & Alfred Docks and the newer and much larger container and general freight docks.

The V & A Waterfront is vibrant possibly because the redevelopment brief was to work around a working port, hence there is the very real aspect of on-water activity coupled with tourist, hospitality and retail activity on the land.

That the waterfront is within walking distance of the CBD must help but I saw it on a weekend and it was abuzz so I really can't comment on the impact of it being close to the CBD.

The other thing that I found interesting was the fishing port of Hout Bay, 20km north along the Atlantic Coast from central Cape Town.

Not only is the fishing industry apparently thriving, there must be two or three thousand fur seals just outside the bay sharing Duiker Island with many sea birds. Some seals come into the harbour for a free feed.

I can't help feeling the South Australian fishing industry protests a little too much about a few fur seals off our coast.

Neil Waller 22/10/2015

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The V & A Docks Cape Town

Cape Town's V & A Docks is both a working port and commercial tourist development. The aging port was redeveloped by its owners Transdev Ltd which is the government owned company charged with running transport, including infrastructure, in South Africa. In conjunction with commercial interests the redevelopments proceeded with the restriction that it must remain a working port.

Named after Queen Victoria and her second son Alfred the V & A docks consist of 2 basins: the outer Victoria basin, home to the *S.A. Agulhas II*, the tug fleet and a fishing fleet, and the much smaller inner Alfred basin with ship repair a focus containing both the historic Robertson Dry Dock still in use and a more recent ship lift and yard.

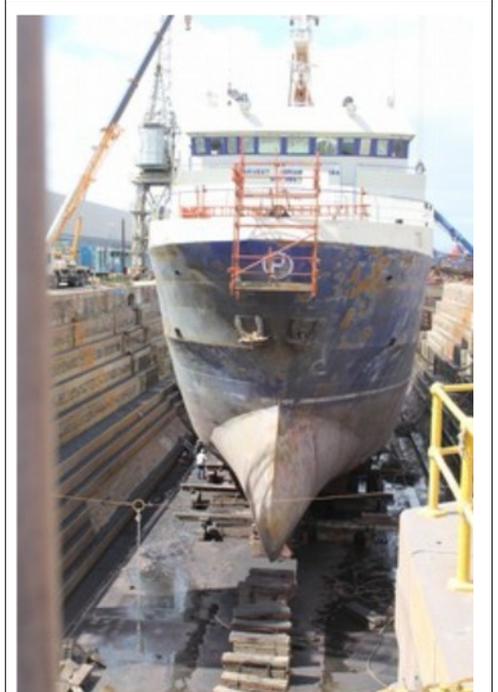
The working harbour caters for a wide range of vessels and yachts via two deep water passenger vessel berths, super yacht berths and a multitude of private floating marina berths. The local fishing industry occupies some 60% of the harbour and provides visitors with a vibrant and ever-changing backdrop of tug boats, ferries, fishing vessels, charter boats and marine life.



Spirit of Victoria



Inkunzi Floating Crane



The complex contains over 450 retail outlets selling everything from fashion, homeware and curios, to jewellery, leather goods and audiovisual equipment, the V&A Waterfront is South Africa's most popular shopping destination. There is a diverse offering of local and international brands.

There is a selection of accommodation, ranging from budget-friendly to the finest five-star luxury within walking distance of the Cape Town CBD.

Robinson Dry Dock

The Robinson Dry Dock in the Alfred Basin is the oldest operating dry dock of its kind in the world and dates back to 1882. The foundation stone for the dock was laid by Prince Alfred, second son of Queen Victoria.

The dock is situated in the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront. Once powered by steam the pumps are now electric.

Two fishing boats are receiving attention in the 11th October 2015 pictures right.

The upper photo is of the South African *Harvest Miriam Makeba* and the lower photo of the South Korean *No 5 Dong IL*.

The Alfred Basin is also the site of an even older ship repair facility, once a slipway, now, from 1972, a ship-lift.



S.A. Agulhas II



South Africa's Antarctic Research and Supply vessel *S.A. Agulhas II* at its berth next to the South African National Antarctic Program base in the Victoria & Alfred Harbour Cape Town.

S. A. Agulhas II is a South African icebreaking polar supply and research ship owned by the South African Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). She was built in 2012 by STX Finland in Rauma, Finland, to replace the aging *S.A. Agulhas*, which was retired from SANAP duty, but is fulfilling a training role with SAMSA since 2012. Unlike her predecessor, *S. A. Agulhas II* was designed from the beginning to carry out both scientific research and supply South African research stations in the Antarctic.

Vessel Particulars...

Owner:	Department of Environmental Affairs
Type:	Polar supply and research vessel
Ice Class:	PC-5
Keel Laid:	31 January 2011
Builders:	STX Finland, Rauma, Finland
Gross tonnage:	12,897 GT, 3,840 NT, 4,780 DWT
Displacement:	13,687 tons
Length overall:	134.2 m (440 ft)
Beam:	21.7 m (71 ft)
Draught:	7.65 m (25.1 ft)
Depth:	10.55 m (34.6 ft)
Installed Power:	4 × Wärtsilä 6L32 (4 × 3,000 kW)
Propulsion:	Diesel-electric; two shafts (2 × 4,500 kW), Two controllable pitch propellers
Speed:	16 knots (30 km/h; 18 mph) (max), 5 knots (9.3 km/h; 5.8 mph) in 1 m (3.3 ft) ice
Range:	15,000 nautical miles (28,000 km; 17,000 mi) at 14 knots (26 km/h; 16 mph)
Call sign:	ZSNO
Capacity	100 passengers in 46 cabins 4,000 m ³ (140,000 cu ft) cargo hold 500 m ³ (18,000 cu ft) of polar diesel.
Crew:	45
Aircraft carried:	2 × Atlas Oryx
Aviation facilities:	Helideck and hangar

Léon Thévenin

Built in 1983, the Leon Thevenin is a multipurpose cable ship specializing in maintenance operations.

She is acknowledged for the speed and efficiency of her operations, even with extreme weather conditions.

Cutting-edge tools and expertise

The cable ship is equipped with traditional cable works tools – grapnels, buoys, ropes, dead-weight but also with a modern device, the ROV. This remotely operated vehicle is used for different operations on the fiber optic cables: detection, cutting, recovery, jointing and testing. The Thevenin is capable of operating repairs in very shallow waters, as well as in deep waters – between 10 and 7 000 meters.

Work in extreme conditions

Cable ship Thevenin is able to operate in extreme conditions. With her high freeboard, she may sail in deep seas with poor weather conditions. The bows – located 8 meters above the sea level – allow to work in sea state 6, with waves up to 6 meters. The powerful propulsion and the Dynamic Positioning system are securing high levels of sea-keeping capabilities even with strong current and wind. The ROV Follow device allows an optimum positioning between the ship and the submarine vehicle during the diving operations.

<http://marine.orange.com/en/Ships-and-submarine-vehicles/Cable-ships/Leon-Thevenin>



One of the Cape Fur Seals found in great numbers around Cape Town.

The Victoria Basin dock walls of the V & A Docks are stone and lined with tyres from mining equipment.

The seals find these a good place to haul out of the water for a rest unencumbered by thousands of other seals.

That this side of the dock is home to a deep sea trawler fleet must be a bonus for a seal!



The Victoria basin of the V & A Docks looking toward the old silos now being converted into housing.

The size of the tyres can be clearly seen in this photo.

Development around the harbour is a mixture of original buildings used both for their original purpose and repurposed for other uses, and some new development.



Built in 1894, the time ball in the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront remained in use for 40 years. In the period after that it was used as repeater station for harbour signals.

The tower was restored in November 1997. The ball is made of fibre glass. The dropping of the ball is triggered electronically by the South Africa Astronomical Observatory.

Hout Bay

The town of Hout Bay, 20km north of Cape Town is home to a sizable fishing fleet and thousands of Cape Fur Seals (*Arctocephalus pusillus*), some of whom have found their way into the harbour to beg food from tourists.

Fishing activities, for snoek, tuna and crayfish, take place in the deep water of the Atlantic onto which Hout Bay opens.

Predominately male seals haul out on Duiker Island just outside the bay. The island is also home to numerous seabirds.

Cape Fur Seals are very similar to the Australian Fur Seal, being a different sub-species.



Kadina man convicted for Abalone trafficking

DPTI *On Deck* 13 Oct 2015

A Kadina man has been convicted and received a suspended jail sentence for possession and trafficking of a commercial quantity of Abalone.

Kriston James Newchurch pleaded guilty in Kadina Magistrates Court last month, to trafficking and possession of 260 Greenlip Abalone, of which 119 were undersize.

The 31 year-old was convicted on both counts and received a six month suspended jail sentence on entering into a good behaviour bond for two years. An additional penalty of \$5,000 and \$800 in costs was also imposed as well as the forfeiture of all Abalone to the Crown.

The conviction follows an operation in March 2014, where acting on information received, Fisheries Officers with the assistance of SAPOL conducted a roadside stop and located 30 kilograms of frozen Abalone.

PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture, Director Operations, Peter Dietman, said this send a strong message that this type of illegal activity is not tolerated.

"The trafficking of Abalone – a priority species – and the take or possession of undersize fish are considered some of the most serious fisheries offences and carry significant penalties," Mr Dietman said.

"PIRSA is aware of up to a number of individuals, some of whom are thought to be involved in organised syndicates, who are suspected of engaging in the illegal take and trafficking of Abalone."

"This type of activity poses a significant threat to the sustainability of South Australia's valuable Abalone fisheries and PIRSA is committed to targeting our effort towards disrupting and dismantling these illegal fishing operations."

Members of the public are urged to report suspicious or illegal fishing activity on the 24 hour FISHWATCH number 1800 065 522 or via the SA Recreational Fishing Guide smartphone app, available for free download at www.pir.sa.gov.au/recfishingapp



New Volunteer Marine Rescue vessel for Cowell

DPTI *On Deck* 08 Sep 2015

The Volunteer Marine Rescue squadron in Cowell has a new vessel – the Sea Viper.

The new vessel was commissioned at a ceremony held in Cowell on Saturday.

The State Government has invested \$286,000 to build the purpose-built seven-and-a-half metre aluminium rescue vessel, which is fitted with the latest in electronics and safety features.

It was designed in Adelaide by OceanTech Marine, and built locally by Cowell Fabrication, providing support for the local economy.

Powered by a 315 horse power inboard Diesel engine, the Sea Viper has a response range of 200 nautical miles and can accommodate four crew and passengers.

It replaces the Ocean Spirit, which was coincidentally the first vessel funded from the Community Emergency Services Fund about 15 years ago.

Manager of Volunteer Marine Rescue Darryl Wright said that the new vessel would not only enhance the marine rescue capability in the local area and the Eyre Peninsula but also support search and rescue operations in other parts of the State.

"It's important that the volunteers have the equipment and resources that enable them to safely and efficiently carry out their valuable role. It is assets like these achieve that and provide a positive impact on the retention of volunteers and help to recruit others," Mr Wright said.

In addition to the new rescue boat, the squadron also received \$74,500 from the Community Emergency Services Fund towards a new tow vehicle.

Commodore of the Cowell Sea Rescue Squadron Garry Lum said that members were very pleased to officially bring the new boat into service, providing a safety blanket over mariners that use local waters.

"The Sea Viper is able respond to a variety of situations and conditions. We were also very pleased that the name came from a competition held for local students and was selected by members." Mr Lum said.



Cuttlefish numbers on the rise again

DPTI *On Deck* 29 Sep 2015



There has been another increase in Giant Australian Cuttlefish numbers - the second annual consecutive rise in the species population.

The Giant Cuttlefish population in northern Spencer Gulf has increased by 128 per cent to 130,771 compared to 57,000 last year.

Giant Australian Cuttlefish is an iconic South Australian species and visitors from all over the world come here specifically to see them.

A few years ago the northern Spencer Gulf cuttlefish population had significantly declined. However, research revealed the iconic species was not adversely affected by habitat loss, metal contaminants or by-catches.

This year's survey by the South Australian Research and Development Institute shows conditions have been very favourable over the last two spawning seasons - which occurs at Point Lowly near Whyalla.

This second increase is great news for the marine environment, regional tourism and the northern Spencer Gulf community.

The Whyalla Cuttlefish Citizen Scientist Group has again been active this year, undertaking surveys throughout the season to complement SARDI's formal monitoring program.

Chief Executive of Conservation Council SA, Craig Wilkins, said the results were encouraging.

"The Giant Australian Cuttlefish are the rock stars of South Australia's marine environment," he said.

"This year's numbers provide a promising sign the population is recovering from the dramatic low seen in 2013. That's tremendous news," Mr Wilkins said.

The State Government has been investigating what caused the population decline in 2013 and the research is due to be completed by the end of this year.

The exact cause of the decline remains difficult to pinpoint but ongoing research is helping to find out more about the population.

2015 Annual Dinner 29th October 2015, Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron



25 members and guests gathered on 28th October 2015 at the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron for our annual dinner.

A pleasant time was had by all. We were joined by R.S.A.Y.S. Squadron Commodore Rae Hunt and her husband Jeff and it was great to see Valmai Hankel among others.



Royal Cape Yacht Club Sail-past, 11th October 2015.

This view is looking from the Alfred Basin to the Victoria Basin. On the left is the swing bridge that normally spans this opening, and on the right the Clock Tower.

The port control centre can be seen just to the right of the Clock Tower.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 24th November 2015

Library Visit

Join us at the State Library to meet our Librarian, Valerie Balagengadaran, and see recent purchases by the Friends and other new additions to the Paul McGuire Collection.

State Library of South Australia, North Terrace Adelaide 11:00 am.

The meeting will be in the Symon Library which is on the top level of the Mortlock wing of State Library of SA.

We will meet opposite the cloakroom on the upper level of the Spence wing.

We will view the unique manuscript item (in 4 volumes) entitled *Under Square Sail* by J. B. Town the Friends purchased for the Paul McGuire Maritime Library in late 2013.

In addition there will also be a selection of recent McGuire acquisitions on display.

Please let Neil 0418 821 331 or Julian 0414 365 294 know if you are coming.



The Cape Town Fishing Industry Wharf in the V & A Harbour. The mountains behind the wharf are Devil's Peak on the left and Table Mountain. The cranes are engaged in the redevelopment of a couple of old grain silos into residential accommodation.



The Port of Cape Town lies in the shadow of Table Mountain, approximately 120 nautical miles north west of Cape Agulhas the most southerly point in Africa – strategically positioned almost at the southern tip of the African continent. The port serves cargoes moving between Europe and the western hemisphere and the Middle East and Australia, especially containers. Over the centuries Cape Town has evolved from a staging post on a major east-west trade route into a modern, full service general cargo port renowned for deciduous fruit and fish exports.

It handles the largest amount of fruit in South Africa and is second to Durban for containers.

This view of the port was taken from the lower cable car station on Table Mountain.