

Tacoma Preservation Society



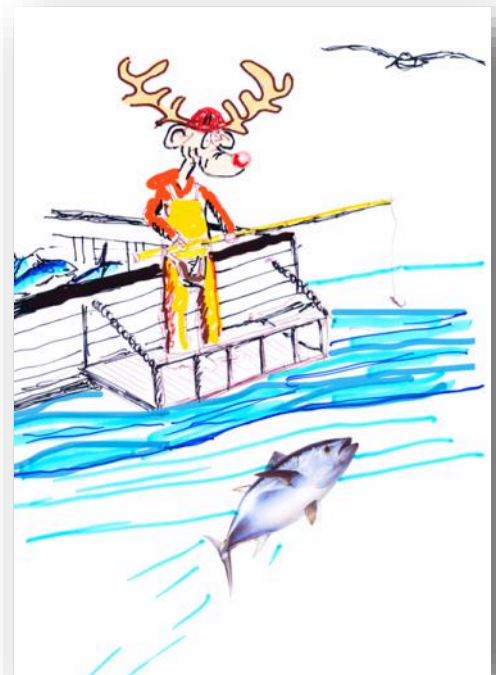
December 2020 - Newsletter 18

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Hello to all the friends of the TACOMA!
As 2020 draws to a close we're bring you a special pre-Xmas edition of our newsletter!

Tacoma & Covid - So far the impact on our operations have been minimal, apart from some rescheduling our annual slipping of the boat and we have missed our Friday coffee club get together! During restrictions & lockdown the sale of our tuna was affected but hopefully by the time we get out on our tuna trips in February all the backlog will be consumed. We look forward to seeing what 2021 will bring and hope to return to some sense of normality—as we're sure you all are too!
TIME TO SET A NEW COURSE!



What's on in the Tacoma world:

- Tacoma Xmas Party Onboard: 20 December 2020 after 5pm
- Rowing group: Wednesdays 4:30-6:00pm @ Tacoma berth
- Members Day: 6 January 2021 departing 10am
- First Tuna Trip 2021: 5 February 2021

For more information on any of these events please contact us on the details above.

Don't forget to
find us on
Facebook!!

'Tacoma
Preservation
Society'

TACOMA CREW

A day in the life of our amazing volunteers! - On Friday we had to test our 60 year old wooden dinghies for sink-ability for our AMSA survey so that we could be classified as a rescue vessel. The hot weather made the volunteers' job easier as they jumped in! The little dinghy maxed with 5 people and Ross & Daryl ended up in the drink and Fred & Greg hung onto the racks until rescued. It was all rather fun, the boats passed their test and we all earned a beer, me especially as I photographed it all.



ROWING TACOMA



Our rowing group started earlier this year before Covid put a stop to it, and we've had no training for sometime. We were able to get back to it and were all systems go after the 9th December, if you're keen to join us on Wednesdays at 4:30pm - 6:00pm from the Tacoma berth, please do get in touch!

TACOMA ENGINE RE-TUNE

Well winter is long gone, and there is one old lady that's glad of our Grenaa motor in her 40th year and after 500,000 hours of running decided this winter that the cold was getting to her. At a temp of 11C a start-up represented a WW11 destroyer laying smoke to escape a German battleship! White smoke is seen as a good sign by those eagerly looking at the Vatican chimney but in the marina its not so pleasant. . its unburnt diesel to fix the problem timing and a re- calibration of the injectors was required. The warming weather has helped as the engine room now sits at an ambient 19C, so on start up there is a little smoke but that's normal in old diesels and she soon smooths up to a gentle purr. Long may she serve!

HISTORY

In 1907 only 1 year after the factory was founded, the first Grenaa engine was delivered to a ship.

Grenaa Diesels are developed especially for ships propulsion. This has resulted in an exceptional flexibility of operation in the complete power map. A Grenaa has a very low fuel consumption and a high torque in the complete speed range. It is virtually impossible to wear out a Grenaa Diesel. We know of Grenaa's which have been installed in up to 3 new vessels one after the other once the former ships were decommissioned. The Grenaa Diesel is a simple and well designed machine. It is difficult to damage and easy to repair. We believe that electronics have no place on a true marine engine. Your Grenaa will continue in the darkness and take you home even if all electricity on board fails.

TACOMA PORT FAIRY VISIT

It's 70 years since the Tacoma left Port Fairy why not revisit? If we do go to Port Fairy there is a lot of planning to do!

- Tides: From looking at the charts it's almost certain that we will have to make a night time entry into the Moyne River.
- Weather: The weather is an unknown factor but south-easterlies are to be expected.
- Berths: There are two possible berths, one at the wharf, and the other nearer the light house at Haldane landing.
- Accomodation: Port Fairy is a popular holiday destination so accommodation for crew is going to be at a premium.
- Preparation: Then there is the vessel preparation: painting, varnishing, and a general big make-over ... can't go back to Port Fairy looking your age! (Shame about the crew! :-))

Keep an eye out for updates on any Port Fairy plans and other commemorative events in 2021 & 2022! There will be the trip over to Port Fairy & back to be a part of, for any seafaring types.



ARTIFACT OF THE MONTH

Tacoma's Propeller Blades



'WESTERN FLYER' - PORT TOWNSEND

Tacoma's little sister, where the project becomes the story! The Western Flyer Foundation has been undertaking a full restoration of the 'Western Flyer' in California, USA. She was famous for having carried one of America's greatest authors, John Steinbeck, on one of his voyages of discovery. Their website: www.westernflyer.org is well worth a read, and we're following progress with interest.



“Some have said they felt a boat shudder before she struck a rock, or cried when she beached and the surf poured into her,” Steinbeck wrote later. “This is not mysticism, but identification; man, building this greatest and most personal of all tools, has in turn received a boat-shaped mind, and the boat, a man-shaped soul. His spirit and the tendrils of his feeling are so deep in a boat that the identification is complete.”

TACOMA'S STORY

This time in “Tacoma's Story” we're talking caulking. Interesting fact: did you know that Hugh Haldane Snr was the caulker on Tacoma?

You may ask what is a caulker and what is caulking? Well, it's making the seams between the planks of a ship watertight. Caulking is a technique whereby the gaps between the planks are sealed using fibres, cord and pitch. To caulk you need cotton, some tools and lots of skill. If a vessel is poorly caulked it will either leak or it will leak a lot!

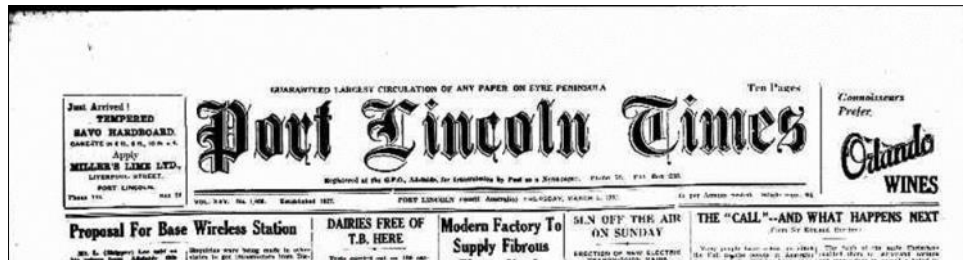
In caulking Tacoma Hugh Haldane covered almost 2kms of seam involving some 200,000 swings of the special caulking hammer. ... That is not like nailing a hook for a picture on a vertical wall! There is the lower above-head technique; the standing on scaffolding for the upper hull, and all angles in-between. But he must have done a good job as the Tacoma has only been caulked once!

The cotton used for caulking the Tacoma came from a Melbourne match making company, the Bryant and May Factory, located in the Cremorne area of Richmond in Melbourne. It is notable for its distinctive red brick buildings, and as the location for the manufacture of Australia's most popular brand of matches, 'Redheads', through much of the 20th century. Bryant and May adopted the brand name in 1946, and it is still the most popular match in the country, although now manufactured in Sweden.



PORT LINCOLN 1952

2022 will be 70 years since Tacoma steamed into Boston bay to start its illustrious fishing life. To research this event we thought it would be interesting to look and see what Port Lincoln was like in 1952. Its population was some 5000 and the local rag, the Port Lincoln Times, is a treasure trove of the towns coming and goings. Here are some snippets:



- **FISHING FAMILIES ARRIVE IN MODERN PURSE SEINER**

The three Haldane brothers, of Port Fairy, with their wives, children and household belongings, arrived here last Friday in the 200-ton fishing vessel Tacoma, which they built themselves in a backyard at their home town.

- **TACOMA LEAVES IN SEARCH OF TUNA**

With a crew of seven and two Government observers on board, the purse seiner Tacoma left here yesterday afternoon ...

- **NORFOLK ISLAND PINES TO BE PLANTED**

Port Lincoln Corporation has started building a retaining wall along the Tasman Terrace foreshore in preparation for planting lawn and Norfolk pines ...

- **INTERRUPTED DUEL**

Two seamen chose the centre of the railway track on Brennan's Jetty on which to settle a difference of opinion last Monday night.

- **CREW MEMBERS PAID OFF**

Nine members of the damaged freighter Arkaba have been paid off and repatriated to their home ports. ...

- **WATCH RECOVERED FROM SEA**

A watch owned by Keith Bellamy, of the Tacoma, was recovered from about 20 feet of water at Kirton Point Jetty last week ...

- **FOX RAIDS FOWLYARDS**

The fowlyards of Messrs. F. Schramm and H. Dearman, who live next door to each other in London Street, Kirton Point, were raided ...

- **BLACK RATS SEEN NEAR CENTRAL JETTY**

The harbormaster (Captain N. R. Carr) has told the town clerk (Mr. L. Paige) that close supervision would be maintained ...

Of special interest was the news item on the "Watch Recovered From Sea":

"A watch owned by Keith Bellamy, of the Tacoma, was recovered from about 20 feet of water at Kirton Point Jetty last week with the aid of a diving outfit improvised from a gas mask and a compressed air unit. Early attempts to reach the watch failed because of heavy water pressure but after repeated efforts the venture succeeded!"

THE BOAT SHOP

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS!!

Books:



DVDs:



We also have other merchandise available. Please contact us for prices and purchasing.

GREAT NEWS

The list is too long to include all the aches and ailments of our older members, but we do have to mention Mr Ellis' new knees! We are looking forward to our Friday coffee & buns, and wish you and your families all the best for the holiday season & 2021!!

From the Tacoma Crew & Friends

LINE CAUGHT TUNA AVAILABLE



Tuna Loins now retailing through Mori Seafood for \$30
26 North Quay Bvd Port Lincoln

Also available through these local outlets



29 Jubilee Drv
Port Lincoln



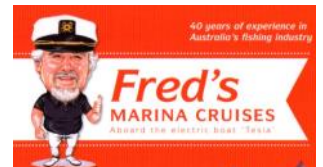
28 Tasman Tce
Port Lincoln



61 Esplanade
Coffin Bay



20 Proper Bay Rd
Port Lincoln



Port Lincoln
Marina

The Pantry

30 Tasman Tce
Port Lincoln

Oyster HQ

The Esplanade
Coffin Bay

Adelaide Pasadena & Frewville Foodland
sell fresh tuna in season during
February & March