

TACOMA PRESERVATION SOCIETY



www.tacoma.org.au M: 0476 173 860 P.O. Box 3088 Port Lincoln SA 5606

December 2019 - Newsletter #14

President's 2019 AGM Report

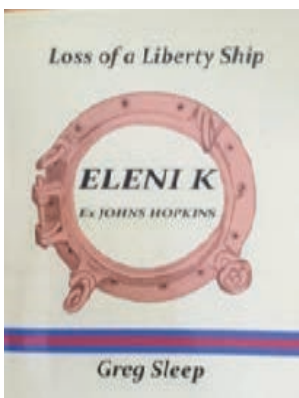
Ten years of our formation time has gone quickly. Jack was 75 and I was 62 when we first walked aboard to begin the Tacoma's story. Christine's great booklet describes and pictures the time.

This past year has again been an active one. We seem to have developed an annual pattern. Tuna trips being the major activity focus while the charity days and odd wedding and birthday are all happy events.

Tacoma now is in a good state of maintenance and is looking good for her age. We have a big green second motor in the shed plus all the bits that go with it. All we need now is a bigger shed and a berth to house the boat, then we can sit back and marvel at Jack's ability to rouse the troops to clean the black corner or polish the funnel. Fred's chipping continues to keep the wood rot in a constant state of fear.

The Big T, under Breeze's tight financial control, allowed us to provide Tacoma with the best materials and tools to keep the volunteers from rebellious thoughts arising in their mutinous minds. The Tacoma Preservation Society continues to achieve its charters aims and everyone has played their part making it happen. A big pat on backs to you all.

Ross Haldane
President



We're proud to announce that our engineer Greg Sleep has released his book *Loss of a Liberty Ship*. It covers the shipwreck of Eleni K, a Greek owned former Liberty ship built in 1943.

On 29th September 1966, the ship loaded with wheat, broke its back after leaving Port Thevenard, near Ceduna on the west coast of South Australia. The stricken vessel was towed six miles to Goat Island where it was left awash at deck level. The book also details Elenis K's wartime fit out and voyages. It is an exciting read. The price is \$20 from Greg + post and packaging.

Contact Greg at gregsleep52@gmail.com



Captain's 2019 AGM Report

Ahoy me Hearties

Another year draws to a close - well almost. It's been a busy one for everyone concerned. The crew were busy with three polling trips, a wedding, a funeral and a birthday along with charity trips and a couple of charters.

Whilst I had been absent during the winter months, a certain Mr Bellamy has painted everything on board that doesn't move, and several things that do! The boat is looking very dapper. He now informs me that the crew's bunks down below are looking so good, he's planning to advertise them on Airbnb at \$40.00 per night.

Fred has replaced heaps of timber work that was ailing. So much so that consideration should be given to induct him into the Haldane boatbuilding Hall of Fame!

Our media guru from Adelaide has been tirelessly hammering away at the recalcitrant polities of all persuasions regarding our new birth and the engineers have been tuning the engine to perfection.

We must not forget our wonderful ladies who work themselves to a standstill on day trips and constantly provide us with yummy nourishment.

Hopefully as Skipper, I will be in warmer climes next winter and give the remaining crew a break.

Lastly, I must thank our treasurer for her sterling efforts, even when caravanning in the middle of Australia. We welcome our new and enthusiastic crewman Grant Lomman to the fold and with the current events planned, it's indeed going to be a busy season ahead.

The output from our little band of volunteers is phenomenal and the pride in our work palpable, a lesson our bloated public sector could well take in.



But then that's just another topic for Friday coffee break.

Pugwash

All contributions will be gratefully received.

Please email them to me on medley0246@gmail.com if you have an article to offer.

I encourage you to have a look at the TPS website www.tacoma.org.au

Editor: Chris Houweling

TPS 2019 – 2020 Committee

PRESIDENT: Ross Haldane

MINUTES SECRETARY: Verona Taubers takes over from Rosa Fitzgerald

TREASURER: Diana Mislov takes over from Breeze

CAPTAIN: Peter Jessop

ENGINEER: Greg Sleep

SHIP'S CARPENTER: Fred Houweling

GALLEY CHEF: Jack Bellamy

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Chris Houweling

ENTERTAINMENT OFFICERS: Anna Vanderhart & Kate Eglinton

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER: Chris Houweling takes over from Diana Mislov

BOAT SHOP MANAGER: Carin Haldane

MEDIA RELATIONS: Ian Doyle

JUNIOR REP: Braden Stockham



10th Anniversary of the Tacoma Preservation Society

Saturday October 12th was a very special day. Tacoma was opened to the public from 10am to 4pm and we received over a 100 interested folk.

Most of the original committee, plus the first members were present. The Doyles, Mayes, Heinonen and Olsens just to name a few.

Chris Tuck from Bussy popped in along with many other Tacoma supporters. Tales and stories were shared with champagne and a piece of birthday cake.

The cake was cut by none other than our Jack Bellamy and Jane Doyle. Jane officiated at the occasion.

(more photos on pages 4, 9 & 10)



Connie Duns feeds Robert special cookies adapted from a recipe for Tacoma biscuits made by Sparky Enea for John Steinbeck and Ed Ricketts aboard the Western Flyer in the Sea of Cortez. These biscuits have been branded as Tacoma's biscuits



Jane Doyle & Carin Haldane admire the model of Tacoma used on cake



Each crew member received a special fun certificate. Fred is pictured receiving his 'Wood Pecker' testimonial from Ross

Gisela Kaufmann, Carsten Orlt, Kellie from the Fish Place, Leonie Sawyer from Ceduna and Kate Eglington enjoying the celebrations



TACOMA'S 2019 / 2020 BOOKING SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER

13-15th Elements of Shipboard Safety

Sat 16th Taylor Island Trip to collect wool bales Depart 9.00

DECEMBER

Sat 7th Magic 89.9 FM Staff Xmas party Depart 11.30

Sun 8th Tunarama Ambassadors Day

Friday 20th Xmas Lights Party and shared dinner. 19.00 – 22.00

JANUARY

Saturday 18th Centacare Charity Day Dept. 11.30

Saturday 25th Tunarama Blessing of the fleet and fireworks display.
Departing berth at 5pm.
Cost: Members: \$30, Non Members \$40.00 per head. Bring a plate to share.

FEBRUARY

Friday 14th – 19th Men's Tuna Poling Adventure

Friday 21st – 23rd Ladies Tuna Poling Adventure

Saturday 29th Pearson Island trip.

MARCH:

Saturday 14th Charity Day Dept. 12 noon.

Saturday 15th Old Poler's Trip Dept. TBA

Saturday 21st Pukehoe Travel Group Dept. 11.30

APRIL:

Saturday 5th EPCF Charity Day Dept: 11.30am

Saturday 18th Riding for the Disabled Dept: 11.30am

All departures from **Sandy Point Drive** unless otherwise advised. The booking schedule is subject to the tide and the weather

For a detailed flyer about the
2020 MEN'S TUNA POLING ADVENTURE
& 2020 LADIES TUNA POLING ADVENTURE

www.tacoma.org

WHAT FLOATS YOUR BOAT

In September the TPS took the opportunity of submitting three panels to The Australian National Maritime Museum and the Australian Maritime Museums Council. They are developing a travelling exhibition called *What Floats Your Boat – Remarkable stories of Australians and their vessels*.

All states of Australia submitted stories that will be ranked against a set of evaluation criteria and they will be voted on by the AMMC membership via their website <http://maritimemuseumsaustralia.com/page/what-floats-your-boat>

We will know early in January 2020 if we've been successful. If not, our panels will be displayed on the AMMC website with all other entries in a digital exhibition. The display will be ready to tour interested venues in 2020.

Below are the photos with captions, the 150 word synopsis on Claire with a 50 word anecdote as submitted with suggested titles.

The AAMC take this information and arrange it in a large hanging panel.

COMING HOME LOADED

Caption 1 – Taking a break

Claire Webber aboard MFV Tacoma taking tissue samples of tuna caught in the wild to compare with tuna grown commercially in sea pens of Port Lincoln, Eyre Peninsula SA.



Caption 2 – What a catch



Claire's 150 words

As a Researcher with the SBT Industry Association in Port Lincoln, Claire is passionate about SA's developing aquaculture fishing industry.

Claire is deck boss for the 'Women's Poling Adventure' aboard the preserved working 1950's tuna clipper, MFV Tacoma. It gives her the opportunity to encourage discussion on the latest technology and discoveries about sustainable fisheries management.

'My training and my experiences at sea have set me up well for my current role where I can follow my strong interest in environmental and fish health management, helping to develop new husbandry techniques, reduce stress and improve the condition of the fish. A smart move was to go and work at sea on commercial fishing vessels as a Fisheries Observer very early in my career. The role was tough and isolating, as others had warned, but over time it proved I was willing to do the hard yards.'

Caption 3

These tuna are being caught in the traditional way with a bamboo pole and barbless hook.

Tri-poling is used to reduce the strain and weight. Twin poling is more common.



Caption 4

A barbless hook used on the bamboo tuna poling poles



Claire's Anecdote

"Coming Home Loaded is our signature tune. We play it over the speakers, singing along with Elvis Presley. They hear us at the Marina long before they see us and the more we catch the louder we sing. The men get quite upset when our catch is larger."

Caption 5

MFV Tacoma, Historic Tuna Clipper, 160 tons, 84 feet.



Caption 6

Group photo of first all-female crew in 2014. The sixth trip with Claire as 'Deck boss' will be in 2020.



Zephyr in Port Lincoln (date unknown)



Braden Stockham, boat spotting along the Great Ocean Road, peered and poked his head into many a back yard where discovered the Zephyr, a vessel believed to be Australia's oldest yacht. It was languishing in dry dock on a Western Port Harbour.

The 1873 Zephyr has been "opening up" on the boards at Yaringa Harbour near Hastings, since the end of 2012, with nobody regularly tending to the craft.

The boat's American owner, Jim Madigan, told the Leader newspaper he was hoping to visit Australia this year to "deal" with the issue.

He said there had been no interest from Australian museums, with one not even wanting it as a donation.

Mr. Madigan bought Zephyr in 1994, but said his ownership of the boat had "not been a good experience" Ref: Allison Harding, Herald Sun



Taylor Island TPS 10th Anniversary Celebrations – November 2019



Tacoma Preservation Society - 2009 to 2019



Local outlets for Tacoma's jars of line caught tuna

Cruiser's Hub Café



Fred's Marina Cruises



The Pantry

30 Tasman Terrace, Port Lincoln



sell fresh tuna in season
from February to March

*Helen & staff at the Port Lincoln Airport Café
serve tuna sandwiches & sell
jars of Tacoma tuna*