



Friends of Mandurah Museum Newsletter

December 2021

From the MDO.

Following on from our recent Leviathan exhibition, I was contacted by the Dutch Australian Foundation to encourage me to promote their upcoming exhibition, *Wooden Boat Building in WA*. The exhibition will include the Leviathan and I'm eager to get up to the Fremantle Shipwreck Museum in January after our Museum is all up and running again and see what this exciting display has to offer. I've quoted below from the promotional information on the exhibition:

"This community exhibition, presented by the Dutch Australian Foundation, highlights the importance of wooden boat building in Western Australia, and marks the 25th anniversary of the construction of the Duyfken replica in Fremantle. Including selected images and objects, this exhibition reflects examples of wooden boat building in this state, from the early 1700s to the present day. Discover the intriguing story behind the sloop, built by survivors of Zeewijck, after it was wrecked in the Abrolhos Islands in 1727.

Learn about instances of shipbuilding occurring at King George Sound in 1827 and the Swan River Colony from 1829, including repairs to HMS Success when it ran aground near Carnac Island in 1829.

Uncover stories of wooden boat building in regional WA for the purposes of whaling in Albany, fishing in Geraldton and pearling in Broome, and the importance of wooden boat building in other cities of Western Australia.

Marvel at the skill and expertise of shipwrights who were involved in building Endeavour and Duyfken replicas and the many volunteers who supported them.

Wooden Boat Building in WA is a free exhibition, proudly presented by the Dutch Australian Foundation, with support from the Western Australian Museum"

And then there was one... After a recent storm only one of the poplar trees planted by Mr. Dalrymple in Dalrymple park remains.

From the Editor. I apologise for the lateness of this issue and also for missing a special feature. I promise one is in hand but at the moment I haven't been able to complete it.

On the 25th of November, the Friends met for their Annual General Meeting, conducting an election of officers. The position bearers are, Eleanor Kay—Vice Chairperson, Jan Baker—Secretary, Christine Steer—continues as Treasurer. Your committee members are Julia Lindley, Dorothy Olsen, Phyllis Hardy, Kay Tuckey and Jim Tuckey.

The Committee is hoping to meet towards the end of the school holidays and planning will take place for the year ahead.

We also elected to the Advisory Group, Sandra Muir, Christine Steer (continuing) and Jan Baker as an alternative should either of the nominated two be unavailable.

Lastly, please see our back cover for the exiting news of the Museum's re-opening. We do hope you will all support the special weekend planned.

Jan Baker.



Education Matters!

Reflections 2021

It's been a disjointed year with closures to the Museum.

I worked from Lakelands Library for a short time and then from Falcon Library. The staff at both libraries made me feel very welcome and it was lovely to get to know them better.

I was pleasantly surprised with the number of schools that went ahead with excursions even though the Museum was closed. The yearly total was 548 students. Many teachers arranged an incursion. This is where I visit schools to deliver lessons to engage students with history. I visited 32 classes of students.

The Museum Educational Loan Boxes were in constant use by teachers. I was extremely busy planning with teachers the picking up and returning of the boxes.

During the holidays, I assisted library staff with their holiday activities and held my own as well. These were well attended.

A display case was moved from the Museum to Falcon Library so that monthly "Curious Community Collectibles" could be displayed. There were 6 different collections displayed. Customers to the Falcon Library showed a genuine interest in the displays, made positive comments and asked many questions. To increase the awareness of the Museum, the display case will remain at Falcon Library.

Katrina Gauci

Community Collectables Display Case – was donated to the Museum jointly by the Friends of Mandurah Community Museum (now Mandurah Museum) and by the Tuckey Family. The case is dedicated to the Late Mr. Dudley Tuckey who had been a supporter of the Museum, also a Freeman of the City of Mandurah and recipient of the Order of Australia. He served for many years on the Council, firstly Roads Board, then Shire and Town.

The display case was chosen to be able to move to various locations which would showcase the Museum, so it seems appropriate that it take up a long-term position at one of the City's libraries.

In early 2020 just as Western Australia's first lockdown was about to commence, the Friends ran another raffle with the specific purpose of providing the Museum with another display case. While many of these cases had been renewed there was at least one case remaining with glass windows which is not optimum. With the closure of the museum for some months last year, and yet another closure this year, it is now time for this new display case to be purchased. We are in talks with the museum and the City's Property Manager to find out what will be the best purchase, but it is thought that this will take up an empty space in the passage leading to the back of the Museum.

Jan Baker.



Volunteers maintain contact. While the museum has been closed, many of us found that what we needed was to maintain contact within our specific days' group.

Wednesday's volunteers got together to have a Christmas Lunch recently and had fun catching up with all the news. They also had several coffee mornings.



While most of us were having pleasurable outings, the Maritime Group were hard at work. As we mentioned in a previous newsletter, they have taken several lots of Council people out to inform them of the history of Mandurah. They have also done some work at the Boatshed.

Cape to Cape Hike

In October while I was on leave, I spent seven days with a tour group called Inspiration Outdoors, hiking from Cape Naturaliste to Cape Leeuwin.

The trail was challenging, and I look back with a sense of achievement and satisfaction.

I hiked the 125km with eight other people. We hiked along the beach, cliff-tops, over granite boulders, 4WD tracks, sand dunes and forest.

The beauty of this tour was that you only had to carry your day pack as you returned to the same hotel accommodation each afternoon which had a hot shower and comfortable bed. The meals were lovely, and the guides were terrific.

We had the opportunity to get to know each other over nibbles and drinks each evening and the guides gave a briefing to inform us of the following days hike.

Each day we hiked anywhere between 14 and 21 km. I found each day challenging, especially the beach walking and the steep sand dunes. I had sore calves and blisters days after the hike.

Each day we resumed the walk from where we finished the previous day. On some days, the bus would meet us at lunch time, and you had the option of only walking a half day. The guides were very knowledgeable on the history and the flora and fauna of the area.

Some of the highlights for me were, seeing whales breaching just off the coast, the Quinninup Falls, the magnificent sweeping views of the coast from cliff-top vantage points and walking through the Boranup Forest.

I enjoyed the variety of landscape and the changing vegetation and wildflowers.

I would book another hiking tour with Inspiration Outdoors; the experience was great. However, I would do some training next time and be more prepared for wet weather.



Left: Thursday Volunteers at The Bridge.

Di McDonald, Dorothy Olsen and Christine Steer.

Below: Happy to be together again.
Ruth Watson, Eleanor Kay, Allan Acott, Phyl Hardy, Julia Lindley and Michael McGhie.



Left: Almost a full table.

Toni Maisey, Ursula Brimble, Kay Toussaint.

Volunteer Lunch

On Thursday 9th December the Museum Volunteers were invited to a welcome back lunch at The Bridge Garden Bar and Restaurant, hosted by the City of Mandurah. Coordinator of Library & Heritage Services, Teena Miller gave an update on the Museum renovations, thanked everyone for their patience and announced our re-opening celebration dates. The staff at the restaurant were extremely accommodating and the meals were delicious. It was wonderful to see that everyone was keen and excited to resume volunteering at the Museum.

Have a Happy and Safe, Christmas and New Year. I am excited to be reopening our Museum in January 2022. I look forward to seeing you then.

Katrina Gauci



Above: Linda Jackson, Derise Caddy, Eleanor Kay.



Above: Allan Acott, Phyl Hardy, Julia Lindley, Michael McGhie, (and just visible) Dave & Marie Austin.

Below: The *Duyfken* under construction. See the Wooden Boatbuilding in WA exhibition running until May 1 at the WA Shipwrecks Museum, Cliff St, Fremantle.





Image Credit: Bo Wong, WA Museum

Mandurah Museum Re-opening

Join us to celebrate the re-opening of our Museum

After closing for much needed repairs to our historical building, we can't wait to welcome you back to our Museum.

Join us for a weekend of celebrations on 8 & 9 January in the Museum and around Dalrymple Park.

This fun family event will include:

- Guided tours of our Museum, heritage boat and boatshed and Dalrymple Park
- Model train display
- Hands-on craft activities
- Free face painting
- Delish Ice gourmet icy poles & coffee truck

Mandurah Museum

3 Pinjarra Road - southern side of the Mandurah Traffic Bridge

Date: Saturday 8 & Sunday 9 January 2022

Time: 10:00am-3.00pm

For more information visit mandurah.wa.gov.au/explore/whats-on



**Mandurah Museum,
3 Pinjarra Rd,
MANDURAH WA 6210.**

Telephone: 9550 3680.

Email: museum@mandurah.wa.gov.au

Internet: www.mandurah.wa.gov.au/Facilities/Museum/Friends

Opening hours.

Tuesday to Friday. 10 am to 4pm.

Saturday & Sunday. 11 am to 3pm.

Closed Mondays and Public Holidays.

**Friends of Mandurah Museum,
3 Pinjarra Rd,
MANDURAH WA 6210.**

Meetings 4 times per year as notified.

The mission of the Friends is to provide assistance and support to the Museum in all its endeavours. The 'Friends' also seek to promote the heritage and history of Mandurah, and to assist other like minded bodies.

Membership of the Friends is by a yearly membership fee of \$10 due each August.