An Oddity in South Australia

An Indonesian imitation swivel gun?

In 1908, a cast iron muzzle loading swivel gun was collected (together with another that is now lost) from a cairn on a small peninsula in Darwin Harbour by the Adelaide merchant and mining agent DM Sayers.

The gun came into the collection of the Art Gallery of South Australia by donation and passed to the History Trust in the 1980s. This object is now part of the South Australian Maritime Museum (SAMM) collection and is undergoing assessment at ArtLab Australia. Although the pre-depositional provenance is not known, assessment of design attributes and historical records indicate that it was most likely brought to the Northern Territory by Macassan trepang (sea slug, or bêche de mer) fishermen and may be of Indonesian manufacture, based on a modified European design.

The object is identified as a cast iron swivel gun. Mounted on the gunwales of a vessel (or walls of a fortification) by a yoke pivot, swivel guns were maneuverable and primarily used for close range combat. The yoke and swivel assembly (attached to the trunnions) is wrought iron. As a small bore weapon (35mm), it fired ½-pound shot, but was best suited to langrage, loose scrap iron, or grape (canister) shot.

It is a small gun, with an overall length of 475 mm and a muzzle diameter of 60 mm. At its widest point, the gun measures 180 mm (across trunnions). A touch-hole is also visible (15 mm in diameter).

There are no makers’ marks or decorative elements on the bore or the small, tapered trunnions. The trunnions are placed on the first reinforce and (continued on p. 7)
From the President’s desk

2011 March

ACUA opposes exhibition of salvaged shipwreck treasures, Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on UWCH, and the AIMA Scholarship returns . . .

Advisory Council for Underwater Archaeology (ACUA)

The main issue confronting ACUA in this early year is the exhibition titled *Shipwrecked – Tang Treasures from the Java Sea*. The exhibition and its five-year international tour are organised by the Smithsonian Institution’s Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery in Washington, DC, the Singapore Tourism Board and the National Heritage Board of Singapore. The controversy stems from the fact that many of the exhibited artefacts, discovered near Indonesia’s Belitung Island, were excavated and then sold at auction with permission from the Indonesian government. The Government of Singapore purchased a large part of the cargo assemblage and it is this collection that is to be exhibited by the Smithsonian. ACUA’s opposition to the planned exhibition stems from the commercial nature of the excavation, which is in breach of accepted Codes of Ethics, and the fact that artefacts from the Belitung wreck can still be bought and sold over the internet.

ACUA argue that the Smithsonian Institution is not following the advice of its own Scientific Ethics Committee, and is violating ethical standards of the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and International Council of Maritime Museums (ICOMM). The exhibition was previously offered to the Australian National Maritime Museum, but they declined it for ethical reasons. The controversy has received broad media coverage in the *New York Times* and by the BBC.

Asian Academy of Heritage Management (AAHM) Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage, Manila, Philippines 8-12 November 2011

AIMA is involved as a co-organiser and supporter of this conference and has obtained significant grants from the UNESCO Bangkok office, Australian Federal Government (SEWPAC) and Australia’s UNESCO Delegation to assist with running the conference, which also has received official UNESCO patronage. The Scientific Committee are currently evaluating papers from 32 countries, with the Second Call for Papers deadline due on 30 June 2011. Financial assistance for delegates of some countries is available.

Underwater archaeologists Pilar Luna-Erreguerena, founder and head of the Underwater Archaeological Division in Mexico’s National Institute of Anthropology and History (INAH), and Dr Emid Khalil, Director of the Centre for Maritime Archaeology and Underwater Cultural Heritage and an Associate Professor in Maritime Archaeology in the Faculty of Arts at Alexandria University, Egypt, have been confirmed as keynote speakers.

AIMA Scholarship

As agreed at last years AGM, the AIMA Scholarship has been resurrected after a hiatus of some years. The announcement appears on page 3 of this newsletter. Thanks to Emily Jateff and the AIMA Scholarship Committee members for working towards this goal.

Now, get out there and apply!

Agnes Milowka

On 27 February, we were confronted with the sad news of the drowning death of AIMA member Agnes Milowka. Agnes was well known to the maritime archaeology community, initially through her marine biology studies and AIMA/NAS course participation in Victoria, and then through her volunteer diving with MAAV, her studies in maritime archaeology at Flinders University, and her work with Heritage Victoria. She undertook all of these endeavours with characteristic passion and enthusiasm. You can read more about her involvement with maritime archaeology in the heartfelt remembrance written by Cass Philippou in these pages.

Agnes was a highly skilled and professional diver who found an outlet for her adventurous and explorative

*Shipwrecked* is the companion catalogue to the controversial exhibition scheduled to travel internationally to seven major venues.
nature in the world of shipwrecks and cave diving, and was able to share her passion with all of us through her writing and photography. Shortly before her death, she recently wrote about her thrill of diving on the wrecks of the SS City of Launceston and J4 submarine on her blog at www.agnesmilowka.com.

On behalf of all AIMA members, I would like to offer our sympathy and heartfelt condolences to Agnes' family, dive buddies and friends at her untimely passing.

We take some small consolation in the fact that she died doing what she loved most, in one of her favourite places.

Dear Ag, rest in peace...

— Ross Anderson
AIMA President

Marine parks in SA

AIMA President Ross Anderson submitted a letter on behalf of the Association to support the development of a system of Marine Parks to preserve natural and cultural heritage in South Australian waters. The letter highlights the increased protection that would be afforded to the state's submerged cultural heritage sites through ranger presence and Historic Shipwreck Program training for marine park and fisheries officers. It also references the cooperative Memorandums of Understanding between heritage and marine park management agencies in other states.

AIMA website update

The search for a provider for the redevelopment of the AIMA website is nearly complete. Several different web design and hosting companies have been reviewed and a final decision is imminent. The new website will incorporate all of the content and services available on the existing site, but will add some exciting new features, including on-line membership processing, online ordering for past publications, and a members only area.

— Jason Raupp
AIMA Secretary

Secretary’s Report

Photo competition, AIMA Bulletin, update on the new AIMA website . . .

2011 AIMA Photo Competition

The 2011 AIMA Photo Competition kicked off in January and the images submitted so far are impressive. The contest is designed to celebrate Australasia’s rich and diverse maritime heritage and winners are awarded prizes ranging from dive equipment to vacation packages. Once again, we extend our appreciation to the competition’s many sponsors and judges, as well as to AIMA Vice-President Andy Viduka for his coordination. More information about the competition categories and guidelines, images from past winners, and a list of sponsors can be accessed via the AIMA website at www.aima.iinet.net.au/frames/aimavtframe.html.

AIMA Bulletin

AIMA Bulletin 34 (2010) was recently printed and distributed to all active members. As always, the volume is filled with interesting articles and thanks are extended to all the authors. Thanks also to the AIMA Editorial Committee, and especially to Myra Stanbury and Jeremy Green for once again providing excellent editorial and typesetting oversight for the Bulletin. The call for papers for Bulletin 35 is out now and we encourage members to submit and share your research!

— Jason Raupp
AIMA Secretary

AIMA is pleased to announce the 2011 AIMA Scholarship for maritime archaeological research projects. The investigation or project must be consistent with the objectives and ethics of AIMA and the work must have a benefit or application to maritime archaeology in Australasia. The award recipient(s) should be resident within Australia or New Zealand for the duration of the project. A total of up to $2,000 will be awarded. AIMA may choose to partially fund more than one project from these monies in 2011. A condition of the AIMA Scholarship is that the recipient(s) must publish a peer-reviewed paper either in the AIMA Bulletin, or as an AIMA Special Publication. Get Ready! The Application Packet and all other scholarship information will be posted on the AIMA website on 13 May 2011. Applications must be forwarded to the AIMA Scholarship Chair by 13 June 2011 to be eligible for this award.

AIMA Scholarship

Year

2011

Award amounts

up to $2,000

Apply by

13 June

— Ross Anderson
AIMA President

— Jason Raupp
AIMA Secretary
Vale Agnes Milowka, or Ag, as I and many other knew her, drowned on 27 February 2011 while laying new line in Tank Cave, a sinkhole dive near Mount Gambier in South Australia that was one of her favourites. Ag was a dear friend to many AIMA members and one of the genuine ‘success stories’ of AIMA’s training program.

I first met Ag when she attended one of the AIMA/NAS Maritime Archaeology courses run in Melbourne by Heritage Victoria. Ross Anderson, Peter Harvey and I were the tutors for the course, and Ag attended with Dean Chamberlain. As far as I know, they were the first members of Melbourne University’s Underwater Club to complete Part I of the course.

I was immediately taken by Ag’s enthusiasm and warm personality, and over the years we became colleagues and good friends. She was relatively new to diving at the time, but was rapidly gaining diving qualifications and hours underwater. Ag took the course in order to increase her knowledge of shipwrecks and to enhance her diving experience. It also supplemented nicely her academic interest in history.

Ag and I remained in touch after the AIMA/NAS training and from time to time she would contact us at Heritage Victoria to get locations for shipwreck and aircraft sites to dive. She and Dean also reported back to us on site details and updated locations.

Ag was active on the Dive Oz forum, and monitored the discussions relating to historic shipwrecks, frequently sending relevant links to me for comment or follow-up. Often Ag would respond to postings in an attempt to provide some knowledge and insight into heritage protection relating to historic shipwrecks—not always welcomed by many of the forum’s members. But her comments were respected, particularly much more so than if they had been posted by a government archaeologist.

Ag became a volunteer maritime archaeologist with the Heritage Victoria maritime heritage team, and since 2006 joined us on many fieldtrips. She organised a team of divers from the University of Melbourne to be part of the 2006 trial access program for the SS City of Launceston shipwreck, and provided us with photographs she took during her dives on the site.

At the time, Ag was just beginning to develop her interest in underwater photography, but her eye for detail and excellent photographic skills were apparent already. She shot some wonderfully detailed images of artefacts on the site, and over the years some of her images were featured in AIMA and Heritage Victoria publications.

One trip in particular demonstrated her interest in the maritime history, archaeology and heritage of Australia. In October 2006, Ag joined the Heritage Victoria Maritime Archaeology team for a trip to Port Albert to work on the PS Clonmel. Unfortunately, poor weather prevented us from doing much diving, so instead, Ag found herself recording terrestrial gold rush archaeological sites (with a maritime connection) on the muddy banks of Stockyard Creek near Foster. She loved it anyway and embraced the work.

In March 2007, she joined the HV staff again, along with a small group of volunteers, for one of our ten-day trips to Wilsons Promontory, where we based ourselves at Refuge Cove to work on the shipwreck Cheviot and undertake various site inspections in the area.

Later that year, Ag enrolled in the Master of Maritime Archaeology program at Flinders University and was fortunate to earn a student internship with Heritage Victoria that summer. In 2008 she was an invaluable member of the Heritage Victoria staff during the Flinders University Maritime Archaeology field school based at Portarlington, where her primary role was to skipper the unit’s small aluminium boat for the students.

Ag’s relationship with the technical diving community encouraged her to undertake a new public outreach project during her three-month internship at HV. Her desire to facilitate discussion and dialogue with members of that community led her to organise and run a forum for technical divers interested in historic shipwrecks. This forum helped to create a relationship between the technical divers and Heritage Victoria, many of whom went on to participate in the AIMA/NAS training program and are now entrusted with diving some of Victoria’s more fragile sites that are generally off limits to most recreational divers.

It was also during her internship when Ag embarked on dry caving as an addition to her cave diving. The stories she would tell me after a weekend of squeezing through impossibly small cracks in the earth were astounding—I was in awe of her boundless energy and enthusiasm for the sport. That year I nominated Agnes for an Earthwatch competition to recognise inspirational and adventurous Australian women. Although she didn’t win, I am sure that all of Ag’s friends will agree that she was well deserving.

Although Ag was well known for her technical and cave diving exploits, many people may be unaware of her keen and continuing interest in shipwrecks and, in particular, maritime archaeology. I hope that the sharing of some of my memories of Ag will provide additional insight into her fascinating, but sadly, far too short life. She left us while doing what she loved, providing additional insight into her fascinating, but sadly, far too short life. She left us while doing what she loved, and in the knowledge that she was much loved and respected by so many friends and colleagues the world over.

Somewhere she is flashing that gorgeous smile even now, but I am sure that I speak for many in wishing that she was still smiling here with us today.

Rest in peace Ag…

— Cass Philippou
In recognition of Agnes’ remarkable achievements and legacy, the **Agnes Milowka Memorial Environmental Science Award** has been established by Mummu Media for underprivileged schools in the area of science, marine studies or exploration.

Donations are warmly welcomed to the bank account below:

**Account Name**
Mummu Media – Agnes Milowka Memorial Award

**Account Details**
SWIFT: CTBAAU2S, BSB: 063-128, Account: 10431497, Commonwealth Bank: 419 Glenhuntly Street, Elsternwick, VIC 3185, Australia

**Mummu Media**
ABN: 34124636611  618-622 Smith Street, Clifton Hill, VIC 3068, Australia

**Contact**
Mummu Media, Melbourne, Australia, Adam Jacoby, Director ajacoby@mummumedia.com

Visit the website for additional information: [www.agnesmilowka.com/index.php/awards.html](http://www.agnesmilowka.com/index.php/awards.html)
Submerged Telegraph Cable: Darwin to Java (1872)

In 1871, three cable-laying ships arrived in Darwin Harbour. They brought with them the submerged telegraph line that was to connect Banjowangie (Java) with Darwin, thereby connecting Australia with the rest of the world through telegraphic communication. By 1872 the link to Port Augusta in South Australia was completed and operational. The linking of Australia to the world by telegraph was a major milestone in Australia's engineering history.

The physical remains of the overland component of the telegraph line, which, staggeringly, stretched from one end of the continent to the other, are widely appreciated as significant physical remains of our engineering past. For many, however, the study of this infrastructure stops at the water’s edge. But, of course, the engineering story continued on into the waters with the submerged cable line connecting Darwin to Indonesia.

The Heritage Branch recently confirmed that a cable making landfall at Darwin’s Esplanade is the remains of the submerged component of the telegraph line. Furthermore, commercial divers recently reported the identification of cable at two points just outside of the harbour. At this stage we have locations for the cable where it makes landfall at Darwin, and at these two points. Remote sensing and diver verification work planned for the Dry Season this year will identify the line at additional intervals, gradually building a map of its route out of the harbour and into deeper water.

The section that makes landfall was identified by engineers as Type A, and was specifically built as a shore end cable. Types B and D cable were for greater depths. At its core, the cable consisted of a series of copper wires—one at the central and the others twisted around it. This is insulated by gutta-percha and hemp, then with an outer sheathing of galvanised wire rope, and finally with an external covering of tarred hemp. The shore end cable was described as being “as thick as a man’s wrist.”

Fujita Shipwreck Salvage Exhibition

An exhibition on the Japanese salvage of Darwin’s wartime shipwrecks was opened on Wednesday, 2 March 2011. The exhibition tells the story of the 1959–1961 salvage of Darwin’s wartime shipwrecks by the Fujita salvage company of Japan. It also displays personal and company records donated by the Fujita family in 2010. Previously, the exhibition was on prominent display for three months at the Northern Territory Library in Parliament House.

The opening night was well attended; including Minister McCarthy, senior management from the Department and a cross-section of the community, including historians, recreational divers and those Darwin residents who remember the salvage. The exhibition includes super 8 footage shot of the salvage work (with a recently prepared voice-over narrating the film), artefacts, photo albums, and a model of the Mauna Loa shipwreck. Speakers were Northern Territory Administrator His Honour Tom Pauling and Maritime Archaeologist David Steinberg.

Unexploded Ordinances — not just a problem, but a part of history

Proponents of major work in Darwin Harbour have to contend with the
possibility of hazardous unexploded ordnances (UXO). Identifying such material is a major goal of remote sensing and diver verification work. With more bombs dropped by the Japanese on Darwin than at Pearl Harbour, there remains a real and considerable threat to life and equipment.

A series of discoveries over the last 12 months has highlighted the existence of ammunition dumps in Darwin harbour that date to the WWII period. These boxes of fuses, ammunition and smaller examples of artillery pieces likely represent the jettison of faulty ordnances by the Allies, or the dumping of ordnances following the cessation of hostilities and the withdrawal of Allied forces. Isolated and distant from wartime shipwrecks, these deposits have their own story to tell.

The Heritage Branch is not directly involved in the mitigation of this issue. However, thanks to good working relationships, we are provided reports on what is discovered and its location, as well as the opportunity to witness recovery when possible. Since the team that remove the material include ordnance experts from Defence, we can be assured that the identification of types is accurate. As these discoveries continue we will be able to build up a list of finds and a map showing where deposits were located.

Unexploded ordnances discovered in May 2010. (Courtesy Northern Territory Heritage Branch)

— David Steinberg

South Australia

(continued on p. 1)

separated from the chase astragal by 80 mm. The distance between the base ring and first reinforce is 110 mm. Chase astragal to muzzle astragal and muzzle astragal to muzzle distances are 85 mm. Another interesting design feature is the enormous hollow cascabel button measuring 95 mm in diameter (see photo). The cascabel to base ring distance is 115 mm (approximately 25 percent of the overall length of the gun).

Analyses

In 2009, consulted experts recommended that chemical analysis be conducted on white surface deposits clustered near the trunnions. The presence of chlorides in these deposits would suggest that the swivel gun was recovered from a marine environment and possibly associated with a shipwreck site. Chemical analysis conducted by ArtLab Australia was positive for carbonates but found no/low chlorides present in the deposits. Delaminated iron fragments were subjected to XRF analyses. XRF results are predominantly Fe (iron) with some Cl (chlorine), Mn (manganese), Zn (zinc) and trace Ti (titanium) and Ca (calcium).

X-ray of the swivel gun is planned for 2011. X-ray may provide further data on casting flaws, weld points and bore condition. Additional XRF analyses will determine if the cascabel and trunnions are cast or wrought iron.

Foundry of Origin

Attempts to determine where and when the gun was manufactured have produced a variety of responses. In the mid-20th century, Sayers sent photographs of the gun to the then armourer at the Tower of London who identified it as, “a [Dutch] muzzle-loading perrier of the 17th century.” More recent discussions have suggested an 18th-century Southeast Asian origin, although attribution to any previously known design still eludes.

It is possible that the gun was left on the coast by a Dutch ship trading in the East Indies, though it does not appear similar to any known Dutch design and there is no additional contextual evidence that suggests a Dutch association. Macassan trepang fishermen using swivel guns as repellant against attack regularly visited the coast of new Arnhem Land from the mid-17th century.1 The voyage from the Malay peninsula to Australia was a
brief 3,000 kilometres in the Macassan vessel of choice, the prau.

Discarded ordnance of the historic period is not uncommon in the Northern Territory. In 1916, a brass swivel-type gun (Carronade No. 1) and an iron “slightly shorter” gun were recovered from a reef off Darwin and held by the RAN at Garden Island, Sydney. Carronade No. 1 is significantly larger than the SAMM swivel gun, with an overall length of 1084 mm and 46 mm bore. After much discussion, the brass gun has been identified as a Southeast Asian copy of European cannon, brought to Australia by Macassan fishing groups.²

Interpretation

The SAMM swivel gun has at least three unique features:

1. the placement of trunnions on the first reinforce, towards the aft end of the gun,
2. the size and weight of the cascabel in relation to the length of the barrel, and
3. the gun’s overall small size in relation to its caliber.

Mass production of cast-iron cannon in the 17th century created a situation where less skill was required to produce more guns. Tarling suggests “this disturbed the balance of quality in Southeast Asian gun production, and greatly affected the quality of ordnance produced by imported (or captured) Europeans.” A lack of decoration seems to indicate that the gun was not constructed by a European foundry, but rather tailored to a known European mold. The swivel gun may have been molded and cast as two pieces (bore and cascabel) based on a modified early European design. Although less likely, the SAMM swivel gun could have been cast as a single piece. It may also be that this is a one-off composite weapon purpose-built from a derelict ½ to one-pounder barrel that was ‘spiked’ and readapted for use as a shorter swivel gun by the addition of a wrought iron cascabel and trunnions. If the trunnions are a later addition, and the gun barrel was shortened, it could also explain the absence of any mold marks on either element. At 35 mm bore diameter, caliber is on the large size for swivel guns, yet the overall length is almost half that of a standard mid-18th century ½-pounder swivel gun (783mm).⁴

Placement of the trunnions on the first reinforce may be either an adaption of a pre-1730s European cannon feature or a purpose-built design. As a repurposed and aft heavy weapon, the swivel gun would have been adapted perfectly to the offset swivel placement seen on some beamy praus. The cascabel may have been enlarged and the trunnions placed two-thirds of the way down the bore in an effort to offset the weight of the barrel and make firing the weapon easier.

The initial manufacture period cannot yet be dated beyond the 17th to 18th centuries. While an Indonesian origin is possible, further research into Southeast Asian gun foundries is required. Enquiries have been placed with the Philippines National Museum and the Indonesian Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries. Additional archival research and limited XRF and X-ray analyses will hopefully identify features of interest and assist with chronological and geographic history of the SAMM swivel gun.

Significance

The SAMM swivel gun is one of the treasures of History SA. Part of the Historical Relics Collection, it demonstrates a continuing connection between South Australia and the Northern Territory (once part of South Australia), and highlights the record of interaction between Australia and Southeast Asia. It reminds us of the history of collecting in South Australia through its clear post-depositional provenance, although more is to be discovered about its origin and manufacture. As an object, it is unique and has not yet been found duplicated in any international collection. Further investigation may reveal previously unknown data related to Southeast Asian modification of European guns, or provide insight into utilisation of these weapons by Macassan fishermen. Conversely, as yet unnoticed features may point to a different interpretation. In the meantime, as it does not appear to have spent much, if any, time on the sea bed, conservation issues are limited to stabilization and continued monitoring within a climate controlled environment. Information that may assist with further analysis of the SAMM swivel gun is kindly solicited. Please contact maritime@history.sa.gov.au.

Notes

1 McKnight, C.C. 1969 (ed). The farthest coast; a selection of writings related to the history of the northern coast of Australia. Melbourne University Press, Victoria. Macassan presence in Australia is also related in Flinders and Baudin’s account (1803) among others.
2 Green, J. 2006. The Carronade Island guns and Southeast Asian gun founding. Department of Maritime Archaeology Report No. 215, Western Australian Museum. The brass swivel-gun is now on display at the WA Maritime Museum. The iron gun is at Garden Island, Sydney.
5 A. Manucy (1949, reprint 1956) Artillery through the Ages: a short illustrated history of cannon. National Park Service, Department of the Interior, p. 42. Placement of trunnions between the first and second reinforcements was post 1730s. Placement of the trunnions in the centre of the bore is also a mid-18th century attribute.
Heritage Happenings

It has been some time since I last reported in these pages, but the Historic Heritage Section has had some staff turnover and we’ve been somewhat shorthanded of late. Peta Knott, maritime heritage coordinator for the Maritime Museum of Tasmania, has now left the State for work in Victoria. I have been acting as the sole heritage officer for the Parks and Wildlife Service for some time, but am recently joined by a new staff member. Hopefully, this will allow me now to get back to more maritime business.

Sydney Cove

Although the final publication on the Sydney Cove shipwreck site, Sydney Cove: the history and archaeology of an eighteenth-century shipwreck (Nash, 2009, Navarine Publishing), was issued more than a year ago, it wasn’t until this past December (2010) that the permanent display on the site was finally opened at the Queen Victoria Museum’s Inveresk facility in Launceston. The Museum is the custodian of the Sydney Cove artefact collection and has been involved with work on the site since the 1970s. The display was part of a revamp of a larger gallery with a Tasmanian history theme. It is highly gratifying to now have the publication and display completed for this long-running project.

National Shipwrecks Database

The main project we’ve been working on this past year is the upgrade of the Tasmanian section of the National Shipwrecks Database (ANSB). Over 1,000 sites now have up-to-date information, including images, short site histories etc. We have also culled from the list sites that were duplicates and those that have been refloat or are in other State’s waters. Due to new research conducted in support of this effort, we are looking into re-editing and re-issuing the 2-volume Tasmanian Shipwrecks (Nash and Broxam, 1999, Navarine Publishing), which is out of print and no longer available. There is also the issue of including some of the associated shipwreck artefacts on the ANSB from known private collections and museum repositories.

Netherby Shipwreck

A bell from the 1866 wreck of the immigrant ship Netherby, at King Island, has been loan transferred from Victoria to the King Island Museum. The bell was housed at the primary school in the town of Netherby, which not surprisingly was founded by some of the passengers from the wreck who ended up in Melbourne after their rescue. This is part of a process that will culminate in a number of 150th anniversary commemorations at King Island, including the visit of descendants of some of the 450 original passengers. King Island Historical Society have run similar events and displays in the past to commemorate the wrecks of Cataraqui (1845) and Brahmin (1854).

Darlington boat timbers

In December 2009, severe flooding at the Darlington convict site on Maria Island revealed a previously buried section of boat timbers, measuring some 5 m in length, near the outlet of a creek. The timbers were retrieved for conservation and analysis. The section appears to be from the side of a small clinker-built vessel fastened with trenails and caulked with pitch or tar. Given the size and relative crudeness of the construction, it is quite likely that the vessel was associated with one of the two periods of convict settlement at the site, which served as a punishment station from 1825–1832 and then a probation station from 1842–1950. There was intense local interest in the discovery and in March 2011 the timbers were transferred to the nearest town of Triabunna for display in a local interpretation centre. The project was assisted by the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service and an external grant.

Macquarie Island artefacts

Sub-antarctic Macquarie Island has a history of sealing enterprise from 1810 onwards, and early Antarctic exploration from 1911. There are a range of heritage sites on the island, including a collection of artefacts that previously have been moved to the Australian Antarctic Division’s base by expeditioners. Many of these items, including trypots, tools and shipwreck items, have been exposed to extreme weather conditions over the years, since for the most part they lie outside the station buildings. A recent project has seen a team from the Mawson’s Hut Foundation undertake a week-long visit to assess and store some of the many items, with a view to completing the project in 2012. A mast-section associated with a wireless station established by Douglas Mawson’s 1911 expedition has been returned to Hobart for conservation and display.

— Mike Nash

‘Artefact corral’ at Macquarie Island, before the recent work. (Courtesy Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service)
Victoria Update

The first part of 2011 has been a busy time for the Maritime Heritage Unit. Heritage Victoria has seen the return of Rhonda Steel, the introduction of Toni Massey and a new maritime baby for Cassandra Philippou and Tom Lyons.

Unfortunately the New Year also brought news of the heavy looting of the site of the SS Glenelg.

AIMA/NAS HV ran a successful AIMA/NAS Part I course was run at Adelaide Scuba on the 9–10 April. The twelve students were enthusiastic and provided some great feedback. Despite temperatures of 31 degrees and plenty of sun on Friday, the weather turned to mostly rainy and windy on the weekend. One group braved the conditions to do some mapping outdoors, while the rest chose to stay inside where it was warm. A big thanks goes to Adelaide Scuba for hosting the course and especially for the hot soup and pizza!

Heritage Victoria will run an AIMA/NAS Part I course at the Port Education Centre on 7–8 May. Anyone interested should contact Rhonda Steel at rhonda.steel@dpcd.vic.gov.au or Toni Massey at toni.massey@dpcd.vic.gov.au to make arrangements.

Ruins Workshop

On 6 April, a Heritage Ruins workshop took place in Melbourne, organised by the Commonwealth Heritage Division. The workshop aimed to discuss existing practices in the management of ruins and learn more about the challenges presented by heritage listed dilapidated structures and ruins. As a representative of both AIMA and Heritage Victoria, Rhonda Steel gave a presentation on the management of SS City of Launceston, helped by the fortuitously timed release of the outstanding Final report on SS City of Launceston (1863–1865) excavation and conservation 1997–2009, edited by Ross Anderson. The workshop posed some interesting questions on whether we should have a classification for ruins, what the definition of a ruin is and how they should be managed. Information from the workshop is currently being collated and it was a great opportunity to learn more about some very interesting sites around the country.

Artefact Database

Thanks to the hard work of Annie Muir, Heritage Victoria’s artefact database is now accessible online, hosted by Museum Victoria. The Victorian Archaeological Artefact Database contains records of more than 60,000 artefacts held at Heritage Victoria’s Centre for Conservation and Research. The database is designed to assist researchers, curators or others in exploring the material culture from more than 300 archaeological sites throughout Victoria. The online system provides advanced search options and includes a large selection of photographs. To investigate for yourself, follow the link below: http://artefacts.heritage.vic.gov.au/imu.php?request=search

Slide Scanning

We have finally completed the slide scanning project! We now have thousands of slides from many amazing projects (some of which date back to the 1970s) on Heritage Victoria’s server. Our next step will be to add the scanned photos to our Hermes database and to post a selection on flicker.com. On the following page is a preview of some of the image scans from the William Salthouse project from the 1980s and 1990s. Stay tuned for more slide images next newsletter!

Note a VERY young Pete Harvey (yes that’s him in the beard and overalls!).

Recent Fieldwork

On 20 January, Heritage Victoria and MAAV volunteers Peter Taylor and Des Williams investigated a suitable location within Port Phillip Bay for Flinders University PhD Candidate Deb Shefi.

Two sites were investigated; City of Melbourne in Corio Bay and the Result stranding site near Williamstown. The first dive on City of Melbourne proved unsuccessful for Deb’s project, as a test probe confirmed that the site lacked adequate sand depth, and the presence of many large oyster shells would make dredging difficult. Luckily, Result proved a better site as it had a greater volume of clean, coarse sand suitable for dredging operations. The day was sunny and the seas calm and with little current. All in all a most


Chamber pot from SS City of Launceston, from the online database (Photo courtesy Heritage Victoria)
new shipwrecks.

Peter Sullivan has been out to the Altona Shed and has updated our equipment inventory. He completed this mammoth job, along with sweeping and tidying up the shed and inputting the inventory to an excel database. Thanks so much Pete, we appreciate all your efforts!

— Rhonda Steel

Western Australia

Netherlands ANCODS Collection

On 6 November 1972, Dutch and Australian authorities signed a bilateral agreement in which the Netherlands transferred all rights to the wrecks of Dutch East India Company (VOC) ships off the coast of Western Australia to Australia, which in turn agreed to recognise and provide for the material’s ongoing historical and cultural interests. Towards this end, the Australian Netherlands Committee on Old Dutch Shipwrecks (ANCODS) was formed to administer the agreement, the management of the wreck sites and materials, and the equitable allocation of conserved artefacts to museums and repositories in Australia and the Netherlands for purposes of public education and research. The portion allocated to Australia was accessioned into the collection of the Australian National Maritime Museum in Sydney.

After forty years, the Dutch Government decided to return its part of the collection to Western Australia to keep them as close as possible to the wreck sites, in accordance with UNESCO Convention guidelines.

On 21 February 2011, Netherlands Ambassador Mr Willem Andreae officially handed over the Netherlands ANCODS collection to the Western Australian Museum. To symbolise the final transfer of the Dutch collection to WA, Mr Andreae presented a pewter plate from Batavia to WA Premier Colin Barnett in a ceremony at the Shipwrecks Galleries in Fremantle.

Museum staff, VIPs and other dignitaries from the Netherlands and Australia attended the ceremony. It was followed by a reception and public lecture by Wendy van Duivenvoorde on the connection between Western Australia’s VOC shipwrecks and European fine arts in the 17th century.

The hand-over ceremony marked the beginning of a week of Netherlands-Australia heritage activities in Western Australia, including workshops and a trip to the West Wallabi Group of Islands in the Abrolhos to visit the Batavia sites.

A special temporary exhibition titled “Well-Travelled Artefacts”, dedicated to the Netherlands ANCODS collection, can be seen until November 2011 in the Batavia Gallery of the Shipwrecks Gallery of the WA Museum, Fremantle.

Netherlands Ambassador Mr Willem Andreae and WA Premier Colin Barnett at the official ANCODS hand-over. (Photo courtesy WA Museum)
displayed outdoors, had to be returned to Maritime Archaeology for storage. Jen Rodrigues (Maritime Archaeology) lead the packing and transportation of the artefacts over two days with the help of Conservator Carmela Corvaia (Materials Conservation) and Wendy van Duivenvoorde (Maritime Archaeology). These objects had to be quarantined upon their return to Maritime Archaeology, and UWA archaeology student volunteer Kate Dent assisted the department with the quarantine packing for subsequent condition assessment of the objects. Kate has been volunteering at Maritime Archaeology one day a week since December 2010, and has been busy photographing objects and assisting Jen with collections management duties. She has been an invaluable help to the department.

Commonwealth ANCODS Collection

In the third week of January 2011, Penny Nolton and Anupa Shah of the Australian National Maritime Museum (ANMM) in Sydney visited the Department of Maritime Archaeology of the WA Museum to catalogue and package part of the Commonwealth ANCODS collection for repatriation to the ANMM.

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Rottne...
survey in the summer of 1967. Staff members of the DMA, thus, have been involved in the Kyrenia project since its early beginnings.

**Busselton survey**

In April, Jeremy Green lead a team to Busselton to conduct a remote sensing search for a number of missing sites, notably the early 19th-century whalers Governor Endicott and Halcyon, both having been blown ashore in the region, and to examine indications of the colonial brig *Geffrard* (1875). Despite earlier towed diver searches in the same area proving unsuccessful, Flinders University PhD candidate and Research Fellow Jason Raupp joined the team to pursue his whaling research interests in the hope that the vessels might be located. Presently, the data is being analysed, though as yet there are no firm targets for the wrecks, partly due to the complicating presence of hundreds of moorings in the area.

The *Geffrard* remains, however, were located, with the wreck’s location matching a position marked on contemporary charts. The wreckage includes iron knees and a keelson with copper alloy fastenings, indicating a vessel of the middle to late 19th century and not a whaler. The remains also fit the circumstances of the 37-m, 316-ton brig *Geffrard*, which ran ashore in a gale whilst loading timber. Of the shipwrecks known to lie in the region, only *Geffrard* was unresolved at the time of the expedition.

**Mindarie timbers inspection**

On the very latest front, Jeremy Green (Maritime Archaeology) and Michael Gregg (Maritime History) recently inspected a potential wrecksite near Mindarie following a report from a member of the public. The site, reported as part of a boat and a separate assemblage of timber projecting from a dune face, is rather unstable. The items were immersing from the middle of a near-vertical 12-m high dune, the base of which is being undercut by wave action. However, the remains are not wreck related, but appear to be associated with possibly 1950s fisherman’s beach shacks.

**People at WAM**

Jeremy Green—1 April 1971? to 1 April 2011 (and counting...)

Speaking of early beginnings...on the 1 April (yes, April Foul’s Day), Jeremy Green celebrated 40 years of employment at the WA Museum. Ross Anderson and Corioli Souter organized a “surprise” lunch for the occasion at Fremantle’s Roma Restaurant (like Jeremy, a Fremantle institution). During the lunch, Patrick Baker read from his 1971 and 1972 diaries exposing the fact that Jeremy could not have started his position on 1 April 1971, because he was at the University of Bristol presenting a paper at the 23rd Symposium of the Colston Research Society (4–8 April 1971). From the 1972 diary, we also learned that, on 1 April, Patric joined Jeremy and his team on the archaeological excavation project of *Vergulde Draak*, Australia’s first shipwreck excavation. After some research, we can only establish that Jeremy must have started working at the WA Museum sometime between April and September 1971. After the Colston Symposium in Bristol, Jeremy remained in the UK to join the Spanish Armada *La Trinidad Valencera* shipwreck project, after which he travelled straight to Perth to commence his new position at the WA Museum. And, as they say, the rest is history! DMA is currently undertaking some more detective work to get to the bottom of this and establish once and for all the official date of Jeremy’s commencement...so, we can organise another party!

**Walter Bloom and the Dutch East India Company numismatic collection**

In January, Professor Walter Bloom retired from his position in the Faculty of Science & Engineering, School of Chemical and Mathematical Sciences, Chemistry and Mineral Science at Murdoch University. As a WA Museum Research Associate, Walter has been a long-standing honorary staff member of the DMA as the curator of the department’s numismatic collection. Being retired from Murdoch University, he has vowed to spend more time on the DMA’s coin collection.

A significant part of this collection are German thalers and Netherlands daalders found on *Batavia*, which likely form the largest collection of thalers from the 16th and early 17th centuries held outside of Germany. For the study of this particular aspect of the DMA collection, Walter plans in May and June of this year to visit the Münzkabinett der Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin (Bode Museum) to study early German...
texts. This museum has the largest coin and medal collection (more than 540,000 objects) and houses the largest numismatic library in Germany. Walter’s visit is supported by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

Wendy van Duivenvoorde—13 March 2006 to 9 April 2011
After five years at the DMA of the WA Museum, Wendy van Duivenvoorde has taken up a position as lecturer in maritime archaeology at Flinders University. She will continue to work closely with DMA staff on the Dutch shipwreck program.

Internships
The department has welcomed a new volunteer, UWA student Kate Dent, who has been assisting Jen Rodrigues in the DMA collections management area. Kate came in with a group of interns from UWA in December 2010 and has since continued to offer her time and efforts one day per week. Thank you so much, Kate! Your time and loyalty are much appreciated.

— Jennifer Rodrigues, Wendy van Duivenvoorde, Michael McCarthy and Michael Gregg

Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Activities
The Centre for International Heritage Activities (CIE), based in Leiden, the Netherlands, has been active in a number of countries with maritime and underwater cultural heritage (MUCH) activities during 2010 and the early part of 2011. What follows is a synopsis of these activities. Additional information can be found on the Centre’s website at http://www.heritage-activities.nl/.

South Africa
Robben Island workshops, field school 2010
From 16 February to 10 March 2010, CIE and the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) with support from the Robben Island Museum and the Africa World Heritage Fund conducted the first regional Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage (MUCH) training program on Robben Island, Cape Town.

The program comprised of four sessions:

Session 1 (16–19 February)
Developing a South African and a sub-Saharan African regional strategy for a MUCH program
This session was primarily for institutional decision makers, planners and conservation managers and included government representatives from Namibia, Tanzania, South Africa and Mozambique, the African World Heritage Fund, Robben Island Museum and the University of Cape Town. Representatives of a number of government agencies throughout South Africa provided a broad view of the requirements of a MUCH program in South Africa. A sub-Saharan African regional strategy on the implementation of a MUCH program was initiated and further developed. This included discussion on the ratification of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage 2001. A comprehensive report has been compiled by the facilitators and will be disseminated by SAHRA.

Session 2 (22–26 February)
Workshop on Site Recorder software and Magnetometer surveying (Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) Part 3 Course)
Theoretical and practical training was carried out on the use of the survey and recording program, Site Recorder by the program’s developer, Peter Holt. The second part comprised three days of
theory and practical training in using a magnetometer to search for MUCH sites and the integration of the data with the Site Recorder program.

Session 3 (1–3 March)
Introductory workshops on MUCH work (NAS Introductory and Part 1 Courses)
A total of 22 people attended the NAS Introductory and Part 1 Courses which included a mixture of theory and practical training in the scope of MUCH activities, legislation and ethics, the different MUCH site types, search and survey techniques, the significance of this type of heritage, and the management approaches that can be used.

Session 4 (4–10 March)
More advanced training on MUCH work (NAS Part 2 Course)
The NAS Part 2 certification consists of implementing a field survey and preparing a survey report assessed against a number of criteria. The survey program was implemented on a number of underwater sites around Robben Island and in Table Bay, and a number of land-based maritime heritage sites on Robben Island. Four days of terrestrial and underwater surveys were implemented and a fifth day was used to plan for all the different aspects of the report to be compiled by all the group members, a total of 16 people attended this course.

Later during the year, the following activities were implemented:

Durban NAS Introductory and Part 1 Courses
A total of 22 divers and non-divers participated in the NAS Introductory and Part 1 Courses in Durban from 8–10 October 2010. As on Robben Island, the courses involved theoretical and practical training in MUCH activities (including underwater three-dimensional surveying).

Robben Island field school 2011
From 21 January to 12 February 2011, a further NAS Introduction, Part 1, Part 2 training and a Part 3 course were implemented from Robben Island. Participants came from the Netherlands (who were already participating in a Leiden University field school with local University graduates led by Robert Parthesius), Tanzania, Namibia and various regions of South Africa.

Recording the five metre long anchor on the barrel wreck. (Photo by Jon Carpenter 2011)

The NAS 2 practical work (for divers) centred on a shipwreck of unknown identity, locally known as the ‘barrel wreck’ and based on the nature and extent of the site and artefacts, potentially a 17th-century trading vessel from Europe. For the non-divers, a NAS Part 2 project utilised the many land based and intertidal sites around Robben Island to record, survey and document into a report.

For the second part of the field school, Vicki Richards and Jon Carpenter from the Western Australian Museum conducted a NAS Part 3 course on In situ Conservation using the ‘barrel wreck’ and the Robben Island sites as case studies.

Robben Island Museum staff diving training
During 2010 and 2011, two staff members of the Robben Island Museum completed the Open Water Diver Training course and three other staff members are working toward this course by carrying out swimming lessons, supervised by Ratanang Marmane from SAHRA.

Tanzania
Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara World Heritage Site project
This project was seen as Stage 1 of a more comprehensive project which aimed to identify, record, document and prepare a management plan for the maritime and underwater cultural heritage (MUCH) sites at the World Heritage Site of Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara. The management plan would be developed in coordination with the current management and conservation plan for the Kilwa World Heritage Site and forms part of the activities and outcomes of the proposed AWHF project.

It was considered the most effective first step in developing the comprehensive project would be to conduct some preliminary site investigations and training. This would involve a smaller team to visit Kilwa and to implement a number of activities. The following activities were carried out from 14–27 November 2010 and involved nine of the Tanzanian team and a representative of South Africa, Namibia, as well as CIE: community liaison and collection of oral
Members of the Working Group established on Ilha de Mozambique familiarising themselves with the use of a GPS. (Photo by Bill Jeffery 2011)

histories, magnetometer survey, site investigations, investigation of logistics for the larger project, and consideration of requirements under the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage 2001. The project was funded by UNESCO Dar es Salaam and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Dar es Salaam.

Mozambique

Ilha de Mozambique

A number of shipwrecks located around Ilha de Mozambique have been commercially exploited in conflict with the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage 2001 (UNESCO Convention) and the Ilha de Mozambique community are greatly concerned about the loss of this aspect of their heritage.

From 24-28 January 2011, UNESCO Maputo hosted a seminar with the Ilha de Mozambique community on Ilha de Mozambique in which the principles and practices of the UNESCO Convention and its ratification in Mozambique were discussed, in addition to how Ilha de Mozambique’s maritime and underwater cultural heritage (MUCH) sites could be protected and managed.

The seminar, led by Dr Bill Jeffery of the CIE, consisted of two days of ‘formal’ presentations and discussions with a group of 22 community, government and NGO representatives from Ilha de Mozambique, and three days of practical work with a smaller Working Group. The Ilha de Mozambique community recognised a need for a MUCH program to provide some tangible benefits for the community, particularly its young people, and for a number of empowerment and awareness programs to be initiated to assist in developing the engagement and responsibility of the community in protecting this heritage, and in providing information on Ilha de Mozambique’s maritime cultural landscape for tourists.

Empowering the Ilha de Mozambique community commenced with the NAS Introductory course in which all Seminar participants were introduced to the principles and practices of implementing MUCH activities in an ethical manner and employing best practices. Further empowerment was developed with the small Working Group and the implementation of some practical work which incorporated some training. The practical work focused on the development of a project that the community saw as beneficial, an awareness and tourism related project—an Ilha de Mozambique Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Trail—that would identify and promote Ilha’s diverse Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Landscape, along with its associated intangible heritage, with the community and for tourists.

African World Heritage Fund (AWHF) proposal

CIE assisted South Africa, Tanzania, Mozambique, Namibia and Kenya in developing a project proposal submitted to the AWHF in July 2010. The project involves the implementation of pilot investigations for regional cooperation and capacity building on Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage (MUCH) for countries that have ratified the UNESCO World Heritage Convention 1972. A number of World Heritage Sites (including Lamu in Kenya, Zanzibar and Kilwa in Tanzania, Ilha de Mozambique in Mozambique, Robben island in South Africa) with related maritime and underwater cultural heritage sites will form the basis for investigation and the development of strategic management plans within a local, national and regional context. The project will commence in 2011 if the submission is successful.

Hong Kong

The survey and documentation of underwater cultural heritage sites in Hong Kong has continued during 2010 with a number of site surveys, and a representative survey of a scatter of ceramics found off one of Hong Kong’s 236 islands. A sample of the 300+ recorded ceramics were recovered for identification and dating and are being desalinated by members of the group, the Hong Kong Underwater Heritage Group (HKUHG) http://www.hkuhgroup.com. On 30 November the Hong Kong Maritime Museum launched an exhibition on diving, titled Fathoming the Sea and HKUHG provided considerable input into the exhibition and the published booklet. To help promote the activities of HKUHG, a brochure was published and made available as part of the exhibition, advertising the assistance of the CIE and other project supporters, the Lord Wilson Heritage Trust and the Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Foundation. A further survey of

A Stone Lion from a Tin Hau temple dumped at sea and recorded by the Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Foundation. (Photo by Bill Jeffery, 2010)
A shipwreck site is being implemented during June 2011 which will finalise the survey work and aid in the development of the planned report and publications.

**Guam**

**Guam maritime archaeology field techniques course**

The aims of this project were to provide training in maritime archaeology field techniques to a number of students/participants in Guam. The Guam Preservation Trust (GPT) had identified maritime archaeology as an important topic in helping to reveal aspects of Guam’s maritime and underwater cultural heritage and it was keen to introduce students to this topic who could use the knowledge and techniques in their future employment or further studies in Guam.

A course of study was arranged by Bill Jeffery in collaboration with the University of Guam (UoG) and the Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC) and taught by Bill Jeffery, Rick Chan (HKUHG), and Vicki Richards and Jon Carpenter (Western Australian Museum) from 6–16 July 2010. The classroom work (three days) provided the theoretical framework for the practical sessions and included the techniques required in implementing the initial phases of maritime archaeology, including non-disturbance surveying and recording, and documenting the results of the survey. Given the current priorities in the best-practice of maritime archaeology at the international and national levels involving in situ management of sites, this topic was introduced into the course as well in addition to artefact care and conservation. The surveys centred on recording and documenting an American Landing Craft off the World War II invasion beach at Agat.

Seven students took part in the course and who came from different backgrounds and countries, including Australia, Philippines, Hawaii, US mainland, Canada and Guam.

The Guam Preservation Trust provided the funds for the course to be implemented.

**Training Program**

CIE has been using the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) training program as a basis for its capacity building activities. NAS has permitted these activities through a NAS licence agreement with Micronesia in which Bill Jeffery was designated as the Senior Tutor. In November 2010, CIE and NAS entered into an agreement where CIE now hold a licence to conduct NAS training programs in South Africa, Tanzania, Mozambique, Namibia, Kenya, Hong Kong and Micronesia for a period of 5 years from the 1st December 2010.

**Maritime Archaeology Associates**

To assist in its MUCH activities, CIE is involving suitably qualified and experienced maritime archaeologists. Sarah Heaver and Nicolas Bigourdan are now associated with CIE and when the need arises they will participate in CIE projects. During February 2011, Nicolas Bigourdan participated in the Robben Island field school. A short biography of each can be found on the CIE website.

**Conferences**

Presentations on CIE’s MUCH work were made at the following conferences:

13th PAA Congress of Panafrican Archaeological Association for Prehistory and Related Studies/20th conference of the SAFA (Society of Africanist Archaeologists) from 1–6 November 2010 at the University Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar, Senegal.


This session organised by the International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management (ICAHM) was seen as most appropriate in promoting CIE’s involvement in the AWHF project to build capacity and document the Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage (MUCH) sites associated with a number of World Heritage Sites in sub-Saharan Africa.


This presentation put forward the authors’ (Parthesius and Jeffery) views on capacity building programs to support the implementation of UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage 2001. Much of the initial work and continuing work is on shipwrecks using a scientific approach from a single dominant cultural perspective which has contributed to the development of UNESCO’s Convention. In January 2009, the Convention came into force with 32 countries having now ratified it. Through the authors’ experience in a number of countries across the world, capacity building programs need a plan—or rules—but they also need to be subjective in their development, taking on the values, needs and input of stakeholders and communities in all the different countries; in other words, a local approach.

— Bill Jeffery
CIE MUCH Coordinator

From the back cover
The area claimed by the British Empire as Western Australia was primarily colonized through two major thrusts: the development of the Swan River Colony to the southwest in 1829, and the 1863 movement of Australian born settlers to colonize the northwest region.

The Western Australian story is overwhelmingly the story of the spread of market capitalism, a narrative which is at the foundation of modern western world economy and culture. Due to the timing of settlement in Western Australia there was a lack of older infrastructure patterns based on industrial capitalism to evoke geographical inertia to modify and deform the newer system, in many ways making the systemic patterns which grew out of market capitalist forces clearer and easier to delineate than in older settlement areas. However, the struggle between the forces of market capitalism, settlers and indigenous Australians over space, labour, physical and economic resources and power relationships are both unique to place and time and universal in allowing an understanding of how such complicated regional, interregional and global forces shape a settler society.

Through an examination of historical records, town layout and architecture, landscape analysis, excavation data, and material culture analysis, the author creates a nuanced understanding of the social, economic, and cultural developments that took place during this dynamic period in Australian history.

In examining this complex settlement history, the author employed several different research methodologies in parallel, to create a comprehensive understanding of the area. Her research techniques will be invaluable to other


Recently, Peter FitzSimmons’s popular book on the loss of VOC ship Batavia and its horrific aftermath was launched at the WA Maritime Museum before a packed house and the WA Museum’s CEO Alec Coles. In the introduction and welcome by Michael McCarthy (WA Museum, Department of Maritime Archaeology), the audience learned that Peter FitzSimmons is a journalist with the Sydney Morning Herald and Sun Herald and the author of over 20 books, including Tobruk, Kokoda and biographies of Nancy Wake, Kim Beazley, Nene King, Nick Farr-Jones, Les Darcy, Steve Waugh and John Eales. Fitzsimmons, a former rugby international with the Wallabies, speaks four languages and was Australia’s bestselling non-fiction writer in 2001, 2004 and 2006, selling over 250,000 copies in those years. The Batavia book is dedicated to the wreck’s finders Hugh Edwards OAM and the late Max Cramer OAM, and also contains mention of the work of the WA Museum, the conservation department and Jeremy Green as the archaeologist-in-charge.

In his lecture, which held the audience spellbound and entertained throughout, Fitzsimmons described being totally engrossed by the Batavia story, considering it Australia’s greatest maritime story and one of the greatest Australian stories of all time. He also expressed his incredulity in how poorly known the story is outside of Western Australia. He resolved to “take it to the east” by telling the intensely personal stories involved in the saga and putting the reader aboard the ship and on the islands that became Batavia’s graveyard. If the long-held dream of a ‘Hollywood blockbuster’ film about Batavia is ever to come to fruition, it likely will be through this work.

— Michael McCarthy
researchers struggling to understand similarly complex sociocultural evolutions throughout the globe.

From the author, on the book’s relevance to maritime archaeology

On a regional/interregional level, this book examines the impact that maritime transport—and especially changes in maritime transport—had on historical settlement patterns in Western Australia, including what and where agriproducts were grown and where towns were located. It also looks at how critical the changes in maritime transportation costs were to settlement viability. At the town level, the book investigates the differences in urban layout between port and inland towns, with particular focus given to the port cities of Cossack and Broome and the impact of the northwest pearling industry and its power relationships.

This book will have relevance to a wider range of disciplines beyond its primary target audience of historical archaeologists. In particular it should be of interest to historians, maritime historians and archaeologists, port, urban and historical geographers and those that study the forces that change societies. The author examines the two case study regions first from a regional/interregional perspective, then narrows the focus to the town level and finally site level. There should be points of interest at each level for those concerned with maritime trade.

Of particular relevance to maritime historians and archaeologists is the analysis in chapters 3 (southwest) and 5 (northwest) of the impact of maritime trade, developments in maritime technology and, above all, associated changes in cost structures on the shape of Western Australian development. Chapters 4, 5 and 6 focus on the northwest part of the State and examine the economics and power relationships of the region’s pearling industry and the effects these had on the local settlement and shape of society. For those interested in the effects of maritime trade on a region’s material culture, chapters 8 and 9 will have particular relevance.

Chapter 3 explores the Western Australian port system and trading networks for their impact on development in the southwest. Rimmer’s (1967) transport route model, Gould’s (1966) behavioural model for transport and Bird’s (1971) Anyport model are examined afresh for their relevance to the Western Australian situation. Combined with the information contained in Henderson (1977) on Western Australian trade, a model of trade and relative costs between various modes of transport is teased out. The impact of this on the types of exports and where these were grown or procured was then modelled, as was the internal state trade with the Perth market. This modelling demonstrates the major role maritime transport had on determined the settlement pattern and agriculture industries of Western Australia. Chapter 3 also examines how Western Australian towns developed, utilising the work of urban geographers such as Papageorgiou (1990) and port geographer’s such as Bird (1971) to explain the differences in development between inland towns such as Northam and ports such as Albany.

Chapter 5 examines the role and impact of maritime transport and the northwest pearlshell industry on the development of the region. It examines northwest trade, in particular the economic costs of the pastoral industry as opposed to the different phases of the pearling industry. The possible economical repercussions to coastal trade caused by a home port fleet of pearling lugger’s are discussed, as well as the threat this posed to entrenched outside interests and the ensuing power struggle for control of the region, one ultimately lost by the northwest colonists. As with the southwest, the northwest port trade network and its economic impact on development and regional control is considered.

Chapter 6 examines the development of towns in the northwest, particularly the frontier and pearling ports of Cossack and Broome, drawing out the social power relationships frozen into the landscape of the two ports. It exposes the changing strategies used by pearling masters to keep their much larger workforce under their control.

Gaye Nayton is an archaeological consultant working in Western Australia. Her research interests encompass anything relevant to historical archaeology in a colonial context, with particularly reference to colonialism, frontiers and systemic change.

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Invitation to the book launch of

The Archaeology of Market Capitalism
A Western Australian Perspective

Author Gaye Nayton, Heritage Archaeologist

This book combines historical research with archaeological and geographical analysis to examine the settlement of the southwest and northwest, revealing the particular importance of maritime transport factors in shaping development in Western Australia.

Wednesday 18th May
6pm to 8pm
Theatre & Foyer, Library of Western Australia
Refreshments provided

For further information and to RSVP please contact Gaye Nayton on reanayton@optusnet.com.au. Please RSVP by 4th May to allow the presentation to highlight areas of relevance to your discipline or interest.
The Inaugural Asian Academy for Heritage Management Asia-Pacific regional conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage

The Asian Academy for Heritage Management (AAHM) is pleased to announce the inaugural Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Underwater Cultural Heritage. The Conference aims to

- facilitate the exchange and dissemination of research and information about underwater cultural heritage in Asia and the countries of the Indian and Pacific Oceans;
- facilitate professional and academic development for underwater archaeologists and underwater cultural heritage managers in the Asia-Pacific region;
- provide a forum for discussion and exchange of ideas, approaches and the latest research about underwater cultural heritage and underwater archaeology; and
- publish the proceedings, both online and in print, and disseminate them to a wide audience.

The Second Call for Papers is now available on the Themes and Sessions page of the Conference website: http://www.apconf.org/call-for/second-call-for-papers/.

Video clips will be embedded in the conference website video page and linked for live discussion. Longer versions of accepted video clips will be screened and discussed as a session at the November conference.

The first deadline is 31 March 2011. For those interested, please register via the online call for papers at http://www.apconf.org/call-for/first-call-for-papers/.

For more information on submission, see http://www.apconf.org/about/video/ or contact the session chairs: Helen Carter at helen.carter@flinders.edu.au, Zainab Tahir at zen02zen@yahoo.com, or Emily Jateff at emily.jateff@flinders.edu.au.

Underwater.com.au are pleased to announce the 5th Underwater Festival, to be held Australasia-wide and at the RNA Showgrounds in Brisbane from 30 September to 2 October 2011. Held annually, the 2011 edition promises to be the biggest and best one yet. With the tag line ‘The Australasia Challenge’ it will incorporate an Australasia-wide simultaneous photo and video shoot-out competition like no other, with over US$100,000 in prizes.

A major and exciting part of the Underwater Festival will be ‘Marine
Visions V, a free-medium art competition including marine related sculptures, paintings and photographic works.

Independent fringe events are planned all over Australasia during the 10-day period. Seminars and awards ceremonies as well as display of winning entries and a number of social events will be held at and in conjunction with ODEX 2011 (see below).

For more information, contact Tim Hochgrebe of underwater.com.au or visit the Festival’s website at www.underwaterfestival.org.

In conjunction with the 5th Underwater Festival, organizers are pleased to announce Ocean Dive Expo (ODEX) 2011, to be held at the RNA Showgrounds in Brisbane from 30 September to 2 October. ODEX is now firmly positioned as the Oceania regions’ premier scuba diving and water sports trade and consumer show. ODEX 2011 will promote diving destinations, tour operators, equipment manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, training agencies, marine conservation projects and much more. Whether you are a business owner or a water sport enthusiast, whatever your discipline or proficiency level, everybody is welcome at the Oceania Dive Expo and Underwater Festival.

ODEX special features include: International Dive & Travel Resort Pavilion, Marine Conservation Hub, Paddle & Ocean Sports Zone, 5th Underwater Festival showcase of selected entries and short films.

Additional highlights of this event will include media related product launches, workshops, seminars, guest speakers, prize giveaways, competitions, the Underwater Festival Chill Out Lounge, a charity silent auction and associated social events run in conjunction with our partners the 5th annual Underwater Festival.

Entry to ODEX and all seminars are FREE when you register online at www.oceaniadiveexpo.com.

For more information contact Mick Turner of Ocean Dive Expo or visit the ODEX website.
Rhonda Steel

Maritime Archaeology — How did I get here?

My journey to maritime archaeology started when I was a lowly undergrad at Otago University, in Dunedin, New Zealand, studying Zoology and Archaeology. I had a strong interest in marine biology and colonial history and began working on archaeological sites in New Zealand and Tonga, learning more about the movement of both Indigenous and European peoples around the Pacific.

After graduating and completing a Divemaster qualification, I decided to move to Stewart Island, at the bottom of New Zealand. This is a beautiful and remote part of the country—filled with hobbits and elves—with some of the most spectacular diving and wildlife in New Zealand. Life for the island’s inhabitants is dominated by the sea, and my time there helped improve my understanding and appreciation of maritime cultures. The experience convinced me that maritime archaeology was the right path for me and I gained a great respect for communities who deal with the daily realities of life on the sea.

Swapping one maritime culture for another, I moved to South Korea to teach English while I completed my Post Graduate Diploma in Maritime Archaeology from Flinders University through distance learning. There is a vibrant, living maritime history in this part of Asia, and you can still see traditional fishermen working alongside some of the largest and most modern shipbuilding yards in the world.

After a period of aimless travelling, I attended the 2008 Flinders University field school at Portarlington and had the privilege of working with a number of Australia’s leading professionals in the field. This lead to an easy decision to end my nomadic days living in a tent and take up a short-term position with the Maritime Heritage Unit at Heritage Victoria (HV). What started out as three months turned into two years and I eventually left Cassandra Philippou’s floor, found my own accommodation and began to learn about life as a professional maritime archaeologist.

During this time I worked on exhibitions, fieldwork, research, forums, historical terrestrial archaeology and maritime infrastructure. After two years, the seemingly endless series of HV contracts ran out and I flew to England to begin work with Wessex Archaeology, a large...
archaeological consultancy. My work at Wessex involved a large amount of travelling to educate communities about the archaeology, ecology and geology of the coast, sea and seafloor surrounding the United Kingdom. Meeting the public, many of whom had little exposure to underwater research, reinvigorated my interest in dissemination and highlighted the importance of clear and accessible communication. Comments from the public, such as “Don’t be silly dear, seahorses aren’t real, they’re only make believe,” served as reminders that we often take for granted levels of knowledge in the general community and that it is our responsibility to ensure our message is clear and engaging.

I feel grateful that during this time I also had the opportunity to work with large industries. Developing programs for the integration of archaeology into the aggregate dredging (collecting seabed sand and rock for construction) and renewable energy industries helped me to learn quickly the realities of big business. Ultimately, the work provided an example of how programs can be enforced to benefit both corporations and the general public.

Earlier this year I was lucky enough to secure a position as Maritime Archaeologist within HV, nestled in Victoria’s Department of Planning and Community Development. Having worked at HV previously, it was very much a homecoming and I have enjoyed catching up with my colleagues and friends, both within Victoria and the wider diving and maritime archaeology community of Australasia. My current role is to manage Victoria’s shipwrecks and administer both the Heritage Act 1995 and Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act 1976. I am also Acting State Tutor for the AIMA/NAS courses and am enjoying the challenges of maritime policy development and dealing with broader cultural heritage issues. I am fortunate to work with Peter Harvey, Toni Massey and the many volunteers who have an endless supply of enthusiasm for all things maritime.

Outside of Australia, I have an ongoing interest in New Zealand and Pacific maritime archaeology, cultural heritage outreach and the marine ecology of shipwreck sites.

As part of this profile I was asked to discuss my views on maritime archaeology in Australasia. I think I am better doing this over a rambled discussion at the pub than articulating it succinctly on paper. However, I have tried to note a few thoughts on the topic. I now believe, more than ever, in the importance of dissemination and education. As those of us working in the discipline are aware, the topic of maritime archaeology is an easy one to sell, it is interesting, popular and has the ability to invoke a range of emotions. However, in a world of mobile internet and instantaneous information at our finger tips, we need to be at the forefront to ensure that our message is heard. By working on the development of online media and outreach materials, we can continue to build up those stakeholder networks which have been so crucial to the success of maritime archaeology in Australia and further afield. As for the future, Australia is a leader in the field and will continue to produce excellent professionals, but we must not forget to be forward thinking, look for unique opportunities and share the passion we all have for underwater cultural heritage.

— Rhonda Steel
The Newsletter is all new for 2011! Not only have we redesigned the layout and graphics, but we’ve also added a new feature called PROFILES: The People of AIMA. Each Newsletter will profile a different individual that is involved with or a member of AIMA, such as a state archaeologist or government legislator, university researcher, active avocational archaeologist, maritime museum curator or conservator, prominent or historical person in underwater archaeology, etc. PROFILES is designed to introduce or provide more information about the people involved in maritime archaeology in Australasia. If you have suggestions for future Profiles, please send them to: markpolzer@gmail.com.