Welcome to the
"Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp"
Quarterly Newsletter for 2013

Visit our website: www.woodmanpointquarantinestation.com

Friends News:

Following unsuccessful attempts to obtain a grant from various Government Departments for the purchase of an All-Terrain Wheelchair for use on our Heritage Tours for persons of special needs, the Rotary Club of Fremantle Port have come to our rescue and kindly donated $2500 for the purchase of such. We can only express our sincere thanks and how grateful we are from the Friends group to the Rotary Club of Fremantle Port on such a generous and kind donation. The wheelchair has been used on two Heritage Tours in June and has also been made available for use by the Department of Sport and Recreation at Woodman Point.

Sadly though, the other attempts to obtain a grant application from the Lotterywest Conserving Cultural Heritage Grant for the restoration of the Heritage Listed Shower Block, and the Cultural Heritage Grant towards the cost of a master plan for the Woodman Point Regional Park involving the Interpretation of the Woodman Point Explosive Magazine were both unsuccessful. Further grant applications will be made to Lotterywest to secure grants for the necessary and priority restoration of these Heritage listed sites.

The third Grant Application to the City Of Cockburn Community Grants program for funding the installation of a Special needs/Aged and Wheelchair access pathway to the Woodman Point Crematorium also returned in the negative, and was explained and was justifiable, and it should also be mentioned that the City Of Cockburn continue to support the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp in everyway possible.

Following contact with Ms Jasmine Briggs, from New South Wales, a tour was arranged for her, brother David and his wife Nina to visit us and be shown around the former quarantine station. Jasmine and David are the Grandchildren of the Quarantine Station's first Caretaker, Mr John Hooley, I must admit, it was quite an experience to be in the company of family members of our first official Caretaker while showing them around our historic site. Whilst they were here they kindly donated a photograph of their Grandmother, Ms Annie Emma Hooley, for display in out Interpretation Room. Further details of their visit can be seen on our website.

The never ending search continues for the elusive photograph of Arthur Waters, Chief Officer on the vessel "Suva", but light can still be seen at the end of the tunnel, going by the receival of an e-mail from the Dover War memorial project in the UK. Thanks to our contacts in UK, Val and Maggie, and not forgetting Marilyn Simcock, our long suffering researcher, another relative has now been traced, and she has suggested the possibility she may have a photograph in her possession. As they say stay tuned !!

Friends News (Continued)

Following previous research by Ms Marilyn Simcock and Earle Seubert to trace family members of Arthur David Waters in the United Kingdom and Canada had been unsuccessful, however in February of 2013 contact was finally made with his niece, Ms Janet Napolitano who resides in Dover Kent in the UK, and arrangements were made for her to visit the former Woodman Point Quarantine Station in April 2013, whilst she was visiting Western Australia. The Community News were contacted, and an article and photographs were published in numerous editions, and thanks must go to Editor, Mr Justin Biancini whose interest in the story, eventuated in the article being published. Also thank you to Mr Jack Edwards, Secretary of the Allied merchant Seamen's Association who also attended Janet's visit to Woodman Point, and who kindly donated the memorial plaque to members of the Suva's crew.

Further to the Arthur Water's chapter, and a follow on by our research, an article has since been published in the newspaper The Dover Mercury in the United Kingdom, by journalist Mr Graham Tutthill, who has kindly agreed to forward the published article to us. All I can suggest now is, that Friends are now known worldwide.

A WW1 nurse's uniform has been obtained, by way of a donation, for display in the Interpretation Ward of the Isolation Hospital.

The Friends of Bruny Island Quarantine Station have contacted us regarding the setting up of their organisation on similar lines to that of the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp, and they have also just published their website. For details go to the Home Page at www.woodmanpointquarantinestation.com

The Memorial Plaques that are strategically placed around the Isolation Hospital are to be removed temporarily and recast. This being brought about by a fault in their construction. They will be recast in bronze at no cost to Friends.

Woodman Point Quarantine Station has always been closely associated with Woodman Point Lighthouse in one way or another, however, another example of this nautical structure may soon be closer to us than you think. Watch for further signals

Get Well Soon.

We were very privileged to have Pat and Lyn Miller visit us recently, and what a great pleasure to have Pat "up-an-at-em" again, and treading the grounds once more at Woodman Point. Welcome back mate.

To Ms Patricia Maynard, Friends hope your time convalescing will only be short, and you will soon to be back on deck.

Members Details:

Ms Janet Napolitano has become a Friends member, and this obviously being our first membership from Dover Kent in the United Kingdom.

Mr Jack Edwards has just recently become a member of Friends also.

We cordially welcome both new members

Current Friends Projects:

Compile further applications to Lotterywest that clarify the necessity and the urgency of procuring funding grants that will go toward the Cultural Heritage Grant for the restoration of the Heritage Listed Shower Block, and the Cultural Heritage Grant towards the cost of a master plan for the Woodman Point Regional Park involving the Interpretation of the Woodman Point Explosive Magazine.

The European Wasp Identification and Notification Project organised by the Department of Agriculture in conjunction with the City of Cockburn was completed and thankfully confirmed there were no established nest colonies of the European Wasp in our area. There was however, confirmation of numerous colonies detected in the metropolitan area and the discovery of a European wasp nest at Banjup in the City of Cockburn. The find brings the number of nests found in Western Australia over the past summer and autumn to thirty nine. The Identification and Notification will be continued next year and Friends have agreed to participate.

Replacement of some limestone blocks in the Anchor Memorial area to be replaced after some damage caused by vandalism.

Since the recent acquisition of the Lighthouse feature it has now been agreed upon that discussions will be held between DSR and Friends to decide on a uniform construction and safety strategy whereby its promotion and position be agreed upon and the end restoration product will be a significant and unique historical feature that benefits the DSR site for all.

We have obtained some additional historical items and photographs that will soon be put on display in the Interpretation Ward.

Memorial Plaques around the Isolation Hospital have been temporarily removed to be recast in bronze. Thanks must go to Wilsons Signs for their kind offer

Decking areas and handrails around the Isolation Hospital to be repainted in July.

CPR and Defibrillator Training has been organised for Friday 26th July at 4.00PM in the Isolation Hospital. The Training will last about an hour and was organised by Mr Graham Sharpe from DSR management for all Friends members. The training has been described as an important risk management action item for all DSR camps.

Just For The Record And For Those Who May Be Interested:

Water is the only substance on earth that is lighter as a solid than a liquid.

The shortest word in the English language containing the letters A, B, C, D, E & F is Feedback

In modern times a brass earring denoted a survivor of a sinking ship.

No piece of paper can be folded more than seven times

Department Of Sport And Recreation:

Comings' and Goings':

Welcome back to DSR staff member Ms Kylie Howe, it's been awhile Kylie.

Stuart Olten to Point Walter Camp. We wish him well for the future, but don't forget where we are 'Stuee'

On the lighter side, and as anyone would know, North of the river still relies heavily on the South of the river for a majority of things, but mainly for character, integrity, ingenuity academia, experience and etiquette, oh, and I nearly forgot, we're humble too. This reliance has been going on for years now, the southern region of the Swan River has always been used as an example of how things should be done, and rightly so. The only thing I feel would be far more beneficial and advantageous to this neck of the woods would be, if the Eagles had their home ground down this way. I heard they're working on it. That's my story anyway. I have now been informed that our Manager, Mr Matt Hayes has been requested to spend sometime up north, obviously they need the above qualifications. I hope they realise it's only because we're organised, that we can spare him. I also notice that other members are now being sent south for experience.

Special thanks to David Mulcahy, for being available for assistance or advice at anytime, and also for helping out during our Heritage Tours.

Many thanks also to Kym Lawrence for assisting Friends whenever possible, it is always greatly appreciated, As history will remind us, the quarantine station has had to contend with all types of diseases and medical conditions since it was inaugurated in 1886, but now two additional medical conditions have been added to this impressive list, Appendicitis and Hernias, thanks Kym, but if this keeps up, we'll probably have to employ a full-time Locum on staff.

Department Of Environment And Conservation: - now DPAW

Congratulations to Ms Lauren McLees who will soon be taking maternity leave in the near future and we all wish her well, and hopefully she will keep in contact and advise of her progress. She will be replaced by Jen and Ez, who we welcome to Woodman Point and we know they will be ably assisted by Ranger extraordinaire Josh Cooper. We would also like to thank Josh for his efforts and input in preserving the remaining sections of the "Plague Road". Oh by the way, we haven't forgotten about you either Lyle, always on hand to assist us.

It must be my age, but there were times, that I had to check the spelling of "Environment" before I typed it in, but I need not worry anymore in the future, as I have now been officially informed that from July 1st, the Department of Environment and Conservation, is to be renamed, and will become the Department of Parks and Wildlife.

Members Take Note:

Anecdotes on FOWRC Members have been extremely light on lately, to say the least, however the warning is still current, so members do not drop your guard as your name is most likely to appear in this column sometime or another.

Member Gary Marsh, our own Travel Expert, is currently "up North" and I wouldn't be surprised to see his published material in the West soon, and thereby replacing Stephen Scourfield's column. Believe me, this bloke's been everywhere !!

Cover Image:

This unique and historical residence, c1920's, was once home to the Mayers Family and is located directly opposite the Woodman Point Lighthouse. Mr Jack Mayers held the position of Chief Boiler Engineer at the Quarantine Station. This position put him in charge of the fumigation shed and the steam laundry, including, maintaining a constant water supply to the Quarantine Station from the well situated nearby to the south of the lighthouse. The Mayers family lived there until the commencement of hostilities in WWII, whereby, Jack Mayers had to reside within the jurisdiction of quarantine grounds. By the way, Jack's daughter Patricia, is an esteemed member of our Friends groups. The house was then occupied by the Navy during WWII, and used as the residence for the Naval Officer In Charge, who was directly in charge of employees who worked at the Naval Base Munitions Jetties. The building is now the Main Office for the Department of Environment and Conservation Woodman Point.

What's On The Horizon for Heritage Tours:

Out Heritage Tours have now branched out into wildlife rescue. On a recent tour one of our feathered friends was discovered severely entangled in a fishing net at Woodman Point, and with the help of our tour guide and a local fisherman, the outcome eventuated in a successful release and a round of applause from our visitors on the bus.

Our Heritage Tours continue to be very popular for a variety of social and senior groups, that emanate mainly from clubs like Probus, Lifestyle and Friends groups.

Compliments continue to come in from our tour groups regarding the excellent quality and presentation of our tour light luncheons, and accolades must go to Peter and his catering staff. As they say, accolades by name, accolades by nature.

So far this year we have conducted twenty one tours, plus three extra tours involving families who were originally associated with the quarantine station, and a request from two couples visiting us from eastern states and Bruny Island Tasmania.

Brochures giving booking information and describing details of the Historical Tours are available from the website. www..woodmanpointquarantinestation.com

A Vote Of Thanks:

A very special thankyou to the Rotary Club of Fremantle Port for their kind donation of funds to purchase an All-terrain wheel for special use on our heritage tours.

Mr Terry Iannello and Mr John Kirkwood from The Fremantle Lions Club for their kind donation of a "Lighthouse", believe me, it is a real lighthouse !!

To Ms Kaye Payne in New South Wales who contacted us by way of the website and then kindly sent us photographs of her grandfather, who sailed on the "Boonah" in WWI, and also the incredible photograph of a painting of the Boonah, on which, this painting once adorned the cover of a matchbox.

To Ms Luisa White for her kind offer to make a WWI Protective Nurse's uniform, and what an excellent job, very clever Luisa, and really well done.

Thanks to Ms Annelle Perotti for her kind donation of a WWII nurse's Uniform, and also for assisting us at short notice during one of our heritage tours

Thank you to Peter, our chef, and Lily and Norma for assisting us during two tours in June.

Many thanks again to Ms Amy Neale and Ms Alex Green in the Cockburn Volunteer Resource Centre, also the Administration Support Officer Ms Kathleen Koelen, and Cultural Development Coordinator Ms Cassandra Cooper for always offering to assist us in anyway possible. Nothing ever seems a problem to the personnel of the City Of Cockburn.

To Frank Hutchins, a member and Heritage Tour bus driver, for making himself available at all times, and on some occasions, at very short notice.

Betty and Howard Shepherd for donating their time at Cockburn Gateway Shopping Centre during Volunteer Week and representing the Friends of Woodman Point Recreation Camp. Thank you Betty and Howard.

To Ms Jessica Greenaway, previously from the City Of Cockburn, A note of thanks and best wishes for the future, we have been informed there is going to be an addition to the family.

To Kathy and Mike Duncombe from the Friends of Bruny Island Quarantine Station for keeping in contact, and up to date with their plans and current progress.

To the Cambridge Seniors Group Perth, the Hills University of the 3rd Age Lesmurdie, and the Bicton Care Centre, for their kind words and for their letters of support and appreciation.

OFFICIAL TENDERS:

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN Saturday June 2 1923

The following tender has recently been accepted by the Public Works Department: Todd Bros.: Woodman Point Quarantine Station, first and second class blocks. £781

Memories Long Ago:

The Settlement of Clarence

Thomas Peel arrived two weeks after his deadline, and as a result missed out on the south side of the Swan River. Stirling instead offered him an alternative grant which took in most of the southern coastline of the study area. Stirling suggested that an appropriate town site could be found just behind Woodman Point which was named Clarence, after the Duke of Clarence and later King William IV. The town was designated as the area extending east from the tip of Woodman's Point, to just beyond the north east end of Lake Munster (later Coogee), south to the bottom edge of the lake and then back to Woodman Point. On New Years Eve 1829 Peel began unloading his settlers in Jervoise Bay. Peel proved a very poor leader, and when the ship of promised supplies did not arrive the settlement began to disintegrate. The plight of Peel's settlers, camped in the dunes at Clarence, approximately 13 miles south of Fremantle, continued for more than a year. The situation worsened when the third of Peel's chartered ships, the Rockingham, was wrecked in Mangles Bay. A passenger wrote afterward: All these passengers, setting out from England with gay hopes to a land of splendid promise, were ruined in one night. In the dawn light, they saw their precious goods, savings of a lifetime, scattered over the beach, broken by waves and rocks, and destroyed.

The exposure and poor conditions lead to deaths and desertion. In the six months since arriving, thirrty seven people had died from a variety of causes and were buried in the dunes at Clarence. For example, Jane Thomas gave birth to twins on 16 February 1830, but six weeks later both she and one of her boys were dead. They were buried in the lee of a limestone ridge at Naval Base. Those who were not weakened by the terrible diet drifted away from Clarence, moving either to Rockingham, Pinjarra or Mandurah. Those that stayed and attempted to make a go of their beachside land were soon defeated, and two years after arrival Clarence was deserted.

Out Of The Past:

Garden Island was used as quarantine station to accommodate the increasing number of Pneumonic Influenza (Spanish Flu) cases arriving at Fremantle and disembarking from all destinations, including interstate or overseas.

GARDEN ISLAND QUARANTINE.
PERTH, February 27. 1919

The State Government has started to provide camp accommodation on Garden Island, off Fremantle for the reception of passengers by vessels from influenza infected ports. The Commonwealth authorities have given the State Government permission to thus utilize the island, and the camp will be ready when the Somali arrives next week.

Out Of The Past: - Continued

INFLUENZA Repatriation Arrangements
Monday March 3 1919:.
There was no change during the weekend in the position regarding pneumonic influenza, so far as Western Australia is concerned. The Commissioner of Public Health (Dr. Atkinson) accompanied by several departmental inspectors, proceeded to Garden Island on Saturday afternoon, in connection with the arrangements, that are now well forward, for the establishment of a Quarantine Station at Careening Bay.

GARDEN ISLAND QUARANTINE STATION
Tuesday March 4 1919.
It had been anticipated that the first batch to be dealt with would be ex the S.S. Somali. but news had been received that seven people would have to be landed. for detention in quarantine from the S.S. Karoola to-day in order to enable the vessel to proceed overseas. A number of additions had to be made to the existing buildings at the island, an inhalation chamber erected, and tents and marquees run up. Sites for the various sections for the accommodation of males and females had been selected and everything should be in readiness when required. The water problem presented no difficulties.

Did You Know:

Chemicals that were used in Fumigation:

Luggage: Hydrocyanic Acid Gas - Methyl Bromide

Passengers & Hand Luggage: 2% Formalin Spray

Flea Control: Fog with 3% DDT & 1% BHC in Solvacid - Repellents – DMP

Hydrocyanic Acid Gas:

There has been for years a prejudice against the use of this gas, both from the danger to the plants and to the person using it. In the quantities we used it seven or eight years ago it was dangerous to both unless every precaution was taken.

On The Radar And Within Radio Range:

Preservation of the "Old Plague Road"

Construction of a pathway to the crematorium

Repair damage to the concrete floor in the Fumigation Block

Restoration of the heritage listed Shower Block

Point Of Interest

How to read An Aneroid Barometer.

An Aneroid Barometer measures pressure of the atmosphere on the earth or the weight of the atmosphere. When the pressure is high, the weather is good, when the pressure lowers (described as "falling") the weather is worsening.

A quick "falling" barometer or quick "rising" barometer is predicting strengthening or strong winds.

The purpose of the manually controlled needle is to provide a marker to determine if the pressure has changed in any given period of time. Move the hand to sit over the black needle today and then tomorrow check to see if the black needle has moved forward or backward from the marker. If the barometer reading has risen the weather is improving. If it has lowered the weather may be deteriorating. Tapping the barometer gently will tell you which way the pressure is changing at the moment you are looking at it. The weather is improving or declining depending on the direction the needle moves.

Nautical Quotes:

It's the weather, not work, that wears our sails: Thomas Fleming Day
At sea I learned how little a person needs, not how much: Robin Lee Graham
The acquisition of the knowledge of navigation has a strange effect on the minds of men: Jack London

Something To Laugh At:

I want to die peacefully in my sleep, like my grandfather, Not screaming and yelling like the passengers in his car.
I went to the doctors the other day and I said, 'Have you got anything for wind?' So he gave me a kite.
Sex is not the answer. Sex is the question. "Yes" is the answer.

Project LIGHTHOUSE:

The above project is about to commence and further discussions are about to take place and the following interim assistants who have offered their expertise are, Kym Lawrence, David Mulcahy, Barry Shaw, Jack Edwards, Frank Hutchins, and Earle Seubert.
A three monthly update will be in "The Pratique" Newsletter to keep you informed of developments and current progress.
This is a an exciting, mammoth task and we are sure that this centrepiece will not only be the envy of all the other camps, but a much talked about feature by all and sundry.

THIS SPACE RESERVED —>

100 Years Ago:

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN Wednesday 7 May 1913

TALE OF THE SEA. THE VICTOR'S EXPERIENCES. STORIES OF THE SURVIVORS. VESSEL WEATHERS A HURRICANE. Four members of the crew of the barque Victor, which was towed into Fremantle by the tug Wyola yesterday afternoon, have been sent to quarantine. They are: Henry William White, 61 years of age, of Manchester, able seaman; Frank Tranqullo Peduzzi, 23, of Lake Como; Emanuel Neilsen, 18 years of age, of Copenhagen, able seaman, and True Farmer, 31, of Portland, Oregon, able seaman. White and Peduzzi are seriously ill, and Neilsen and Farmer, although out of danger, have not yet made complete recovery. Throughout yesterday the Victor lay at anchor in Gage Roads. It was a busy day for Dr. Williams, chief medical officer at Fremantle. Before boarding the French mail steamer Ville de la Ciotat, from Marseilles, and the Orient liner Morea, from London, he went alongside the barque and under his direction the sick men were taken off and conveyed to the quarantine station at Woodman's Point in the tug Reliance. It was the intention to accommodate the barque at one of the river buoys, but as these berths were taken by the Ville de la Ciotat and the Echunga, it happened that the remaining members of the complement of the Victor, passed a day idly waiting for disinfection and freedom. Dr. William's points out that very stringent precautions are taken by the State quarantine and health officers against the introduction from over sea of any of the countless forms of infectious disease.

110 Years Ago:

THE DAILY NEWS Wednesday 18 February 1903

Bubonic Plague: The body of the plague patient Percv Cartwright was cremated at Woodman's Point at 11 o'clock this morning. The deceased was an adherent Church Of England and the impressive burial service of that body was read at the station by Archdeacon Watkins. Shortly before 11 o'clock, the remains of the young man were placed in the crematorium in the presence of the officials of the station. Slowly the service proceeded until the words 'We commit this body to the flames" and then the carriage containing the body was removed 'from sight, and the process of incineration was commenced. Dr. Anderson. was kept busy for a couple of hours this morning in attending to the applicants for inoculation. Before noon he treated 110 people and a similar number will be inoculated this afternoon

Life's Quotes:

Men stumble over the truth from time to time, but most pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing happened - Winston Churchill

Cheerio for now

The Caretaker

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