



WAVE



Number 151

"the ship comes first"

Dec 2015

The Newsletter of the Barque *Polly Woodside* Volunteers Association Inc.

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Other Committee Members: Don Knowles, 9877 1584; Neville Keown, 9877 9234; Roger Wilson.

DISCLAIMER: Please be aware that statements, opinions & comments made by contributors to this journal are not necessarily those of the PWVA Committee and/or its Members.

Chairman's Chat

On November 7th 1885 *Polly Woodside* was launched from Slip No.2 at Workman Clark and Co. Ltd. Belfast. This year is *Polly Woodside's* 130th birthday. Our promised party turned out to be free entry for volunteers to the 'Pop-Up Bar' that was held at Polly on Friday 27th November, which included two Rum Punch drinks – with a cost of \$40 for all other comers.

The cause of this late issue of Wave is due to awaiting confirmation of the latest news from the National Trust. BMT, who has been planning and supervising all maintenance on Polly for the last two years, (this also includes creating our Maintenance Plan), has been informed by the National Trust in the second week of December that their services will no longer be required, and will be terminated at the end of this year. No explanation has been given. End of story!

Our work for this year finished last Tuesday 15th, and we have been informed that our services will not be required until 2nd February 2016, however who will be in charge of maintenance on our return, we have no idea.

There have been six of us getting down to the ship on the Tuesdays. Our regular members being, Don Knowles, Roger Wilson, Richard Barber being returned to us, but is being careful with his new shoulder, as well as our newest member Paul from the National Trust's recruitment drive and not forgetting Simon with Ash his Carer, who are doing a great job.

Peter Allen is continuing to look after his wife, who is very ill, and our thoughts are with them.

As you know the PWVA have paid for the manufacture, and turning of the new Mizzen Spanker Gaff, while the National Trust has paid for its transport, and the GST costs involved. Don Knowles, with assistance from whoever he needed, has completed shaping the spar, which is ready for the fitting of the fittings, and the first coat of special varnish has been applied. So next year the final coat will be applied, the fittings will be fitted and then with aid and direction of a rigger the spanker gaff will be sent up and rigged. Phew!! Happy Birthday Polly Woodside, from the PWVA.

New margin boards are being fitted by Ferdie to replace the poor condition margin boards on board, for which the PWVA agreed to contribute \$8000.

Work on the Memorial Plaque board is continuing with a good third of them fitted. Next year, it should be finished and installed in the Interpretive Centre.

The port side ship's boat is ashore, and work has commenced in preparation for painting. Roger Wilson is continuing his excellent sewing – repairing sails, making a new for'rd hatch cover, and is now manufacturing a platform to renew ratlines. A new main hatch cover has also been fitted.

The Christmas Party was a great success, with 12 members attending, and apologies from eleven members.

I look forward to your contributions next year.

An email from Martin Purslow, CEO of the National Trust, has been received by your committee, in acknowledgement of the above two items – see attached.

Neil

Letter from National Trust

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) ABN 61 004 356 192 Tasma Terrace 4 Parliament Place East Melbourne Victoria 3002 Email: info@nattrust.com.au Web: www.nationaltrust.org.au T 03 9656 9800 F 03 9656 5397

4 November 2015

Mr Neil Thomas

Chairman

Polly Woodside Volunteers' Association

via email: thomclan1@bigpond.com

Dear Neil,

I would like to record our thanks to you and the Polly Woodside Volunteers Association for the generous donation which has enabled the Spanker Gaff and the new margin boards to be installed on the ship. The association's donation, as well as all the support you have provided over the years, is very much appreciated in supporting our efforts to preserve the Polly Woodside for future generations.

**Yours sincerely,
Martin Purslow
Chief Executive Officer**



Re-launch of the Steam Tug Wattle on 30th September 2015

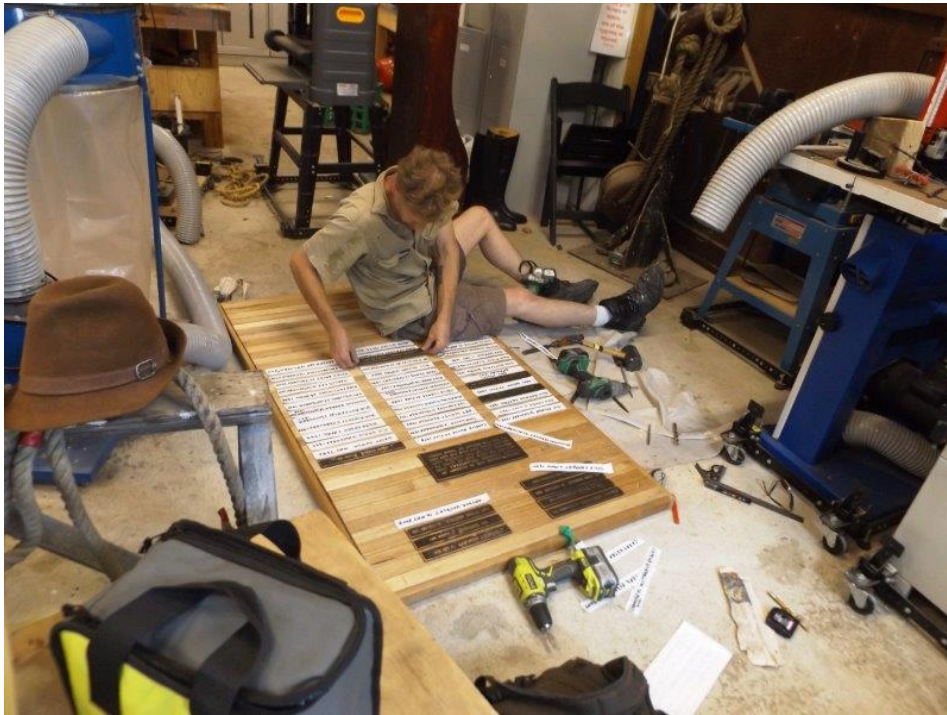
Here are a couple of photos taken by Jeff Malley* of Bay Steamers Maritime Museum.

[*jeffmalley@bigblue.net.au](mailto:jeffmalley@bigblue.net.au)

A Generous Donation

A Donation of \$2,440 has been given to PWVA by the Merchant Navy War Service League for continued restoration of the Polly. The PWVA is very grateful and thanks the League and its President and also PWVA Member Roger Wilson for his assistance.

A few pictures of recent work carried out on Polly



Mark Thomas working on the volunteers' plaque board for interpretive centre



Ferdie working on the margin boards



Preparing for the margin boards



Exxon Mobil volunteers with ship's port boat



Roger Wilson repairing staysail