

- ❖ EDEN AMBULANCE HISTORY CONTINUED
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- ❖ CHAPTER VISIT REPORT

WANDERER'S TELESCOPE DONATED



Clarice and George Davidson with the Wanderer telescope in the Davidson Gallery at the Eden Killer Whale Museum.

A very significant piece of Australian history was added to the museum's collection recently. A telescope with an inscription indicating it belonged on the schooner *Wanderer*, Benjamin Boyd's yacht. Boyd arrived in Australia on the *Wanderer* in July 1842, along with Sir Oswald

Brierly who served as Boyd's overseer and was accommodated on the *Wanderer* in the initial formation stages of Boydtown in 1843.

Clarice and George Davidson called at the museum on a recent visit, they are the last surviving children of James (Jim)

Davidson. With the passing of their brother Rene Davidson, the family decided to donate the treasured telescope that was passed onto their father from master whaler, George Davidson. While there are conflicting stories of how it came to be in this region, it is believed the telescope was found on Mount Howe near Timbillica by Robert Allan, who was out searching for cattle after a bushfire, in the late 1800s. Then given to George Davidson, it had remained within the family ever since.



Goodies from the Galley!!



Pictured in the galley with some of the delicious spread provided by our Friends group are Mavis Wasley, Elsie Masters and Rose Dickenson. This catering effort was for the launch of Girt by Sea but is typical of the abundant cuisine served at the frequent functions held at the Museum. A big thank you to all the volunteers who willingly support the museum by catering superbly so often!!!



Eden Ambulance Service..... as remembered by Jim Hunter the first Ambulance Officer appointed to the Eden Station... Continued from Vol 1.6

Harry Thurling was the winner of the car in one of the Art Unions, to say he was happy was an understatement. Harry had also been one of our sellers for a number of years. The Fishermen's Club gave us a 2c Poker Machine, the only condition was we had to empty the machine & count the money. This proved to be a beaut fund raiser. It only paid out a jackpot & people didn't usually bother to collect. We also conducted a very successful Woodchop at the Football ground, in conjunction with the Palestine school. A lot of the Fallers & Sleeper Cutters lived at Palestine Creek [Harry Thurling included] & they provided the logs for the woodchop. As I recall a lot of hard work but well worth the effort.

The Pambula Show was always worthwhile to attend, in conjunction with Bega Ambulance, we were allowed to set up all of our transportable fundraisers & the 2 days were very good.

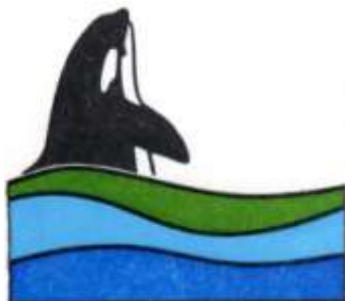
After the sale of the 1956 Bedford we were loaned a Valiant Ambulance by the Narooma Station, we then ordered a Holden Panel Van, converted by Grices in Sydney, as the workload was increasing & it became necessary to have two ambulances at the Station. This situation was increased to 3 ambulances and 3 Officers by about the mid 1970's. The fleet then consisted of two F100's and



Eden Ambulance Station, Bass Street in its original form.

a Chrysler. It is interesting to note that we acquired the Chrysler from the Illawarra Ambulance Service at Wollongong, for \$1. It had no book value, being depreciated over the years, they couldn't give it away & so we purchased it for \$1. The most welcome move came in 1977 when the NSW State Government took responsibility for the whole financing of the Ambulance Service. No more fund raising, and we could wholly concentrate on the job of being Ambulance Officers & not professional fundraisers. It is also worth mentioning the efforts of the Ambulance Staff between 1968 and 1977 in conserving finance. The Ambulances were totally maintained at the Station, the only time we went to a garage was for the annual road worthy check. The staff did all painting.

The plant room floor, all 72 square yards of it was tiled by staff, with great assistance and advice from Allan Whiter. All of this saved many dollars and helped keep the finances in a viable situation. The total cost of tiling the Plant Room floor was less than \$350. In the early years (around 1968-1972) doctors were a scarce commodity in Eden. They seemed to come and go with alarming frequency. This added to the workload of the Officers treating patients with injuries, removal of fishhooks, removal of ticks etc. etc. Also the nearest Vet was at Bega so people brought their injured animals to the Station, once again removal of fishhooks from cats, treating injured dogs & I recall once removing shotgun pellets from a sheep!



COMING EVENTS

Heritage Week

**Our Place in Space-
Under the Southern
Cross**

**Fri Sat 17th 18th April
Stargazing Nights**

**NSW School Hols finish
27th April**

EXHIBITIONS

**Men of Timber - Eden's
Timber Workers
Memorial
15th April to 2nd Dec**

**Heinz Cannery Closure
- 10th Anniversary
15th April to 2nd Dec**

EDEN KILLER WHALE
MUSEUM

PO Box 304 EDEN NSW
2551

PHONE:

02 64962094

FAX:

02 64962024

promo@killerwhalemuseum.com.au

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

SEE US AT.

www.killerwhalemuseum.com.au

Chapter visit to "Daisybank" Bega

February's gathering was hosted by the Bega Museum with a visit to the dairy and homestead of the property "Daisybank" which has been in the Darcy family since the 1854. The homestead took ages to construct as all the fittings and many of the other materials required had to be brought into the district by ship and conveyed up the Bega River. The bacon produced on the property received awards in England. A century and a half later 270 Holstien-Freisians had been milked before we arrived that morning. These historic buildings are remarkable and a vivid reminder of past times in our district.

The next gathering will be hosted by Bombala H.S. with a planned excursion to Aston Station (formally owned by JR Logan). This will be on the 3rd Saturday in May.



Above: "Daisybank" Homestead built 1870

Below: Bacon Factory near the dairy at "Daisybank"



"Girt By Sea" features at Eden Museum



On Saturday 14th February with a good gathering including many from local fishing fraternity, "Girt by Sea" was launched at Eden Killer Whale Museum.

A collection of photographs; some taken by the fishermen in their workplace, often at sea off our coastline, mounted together with portraits and extracts

from interviews with those fishermen. Photographer Ruth Maddison spoke about the gathering of this collection and how captivating the subject is; Ruth said she "just had to stop at some point", the photos and stories were so interesting she could have continued collecting for a lot longer.

A number of the subjects were present at the launch and it is very pleasing to have this work on exhibition here for an extended period to allow those people and their families the opportunity to

EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM

Schedule of meetings

Monthly Business Meeting	7:30pm	2 nd Wednesday each month	Museum Theatre
Curatorial Meeting	1:00pm	1 st Monday each month	Museum Library
Museum Friends Meeting	9:00am	2 nd Wednesday (commence 2008)	Museum Library