

Generous Gift of Sperm Whale Teeth and Scrimshaw.

New Eden resident Peter Horne was a welcome guest at our May Curatorial meeting. Peter explained that he wanted to donate a collection of Sperm Whale teeth to Eden Killer Whale Museum. He brought the collection to the meeting and all present were in awe of the diversity of the specimens. One large tooth is almost 12 inches long, others with scrimshaw work on them and another carved with an intricate rose in relief (photo).

Peter and his wife Eva had collected the specimens many years ago and were aware of how precious they are, especially after

completing the extensive bureaucratic process in bringing them back to Australia from Germany where they had been living for some 20 years.

Customs regulations are much more stringent now, particularly regarding animal products and Peter had to prove that he had owned the specimens for many years.

This varied collection of scrimshaw and plain teeth is a significant addition to our collection and we thank Peter and Eva for their generous donation of such rare items.

Above: An example of the collection of Sperm Whale teeth donated recently by Peter and Eva Horne.



Special Interest Articles:

- ❖ RESEARCH RESULTS
CANNERY HISTORY
- ❖ PAST MEMBERS VISIT
- ❖ MORSE MESSAGES
ALICE SPRINGS VISIT
- ❖ CHANGE OF BUSINESS
MEETING TIME

Seniors Morning Tea well attended

The morning tea arranged by the Friends of the Museum for Seniors Week was enjoyed by citizens from throughout the Shire at the Museum in April. It was especially pleasing to see many folk in the museum who had never been before or who had been meaning to come for some time and just hadn't got around to it.

A calm sunny morning added to the overall success of the event and there were a few guests who were interested

enough in our activities to take a membership folder for consideration.

A visiting group of car enthusiasts from Orange were in the museum that morning and took part in the morning tea after offering a donation for the unexpected catering. This unfortunately ensured no leftovers for the Men's Shed members who otherwise would have used our remaining cakes for afters at their luncheon in Maling Street.

We are very grateful to the B.V.S.C. for providing funding towards this event, their extra publicity helped in advertising the event to the wider public and ensuring a good roll up.

The good attendance demonstrates to us the increasing resource of retirees choosing *our little corner of the world* to enjoy their senior years and we will welcome any who choose to join our ranks.



And from the East.....

A view of our Eden Killer Whale Museum many would not see.

This picture is taken from on the water off Ross's Bay (Yalumgo Cove) and demonstrates how close the building is to the sea.

Climate control is a big issue not only for the building but also for our collection. When easterly winds blow they bring with them lots of moisture and some salt. The morning sun beams in through those windows

but the view is definitely part of our display, so UV filter has been applied to all windows.

These factors were seriously considered before extensions were made to the original building in the early 1980's and after some deliberation it was decided to continue with development on this site which had been allocated to the founding committee as a museum reserve in 1931.



Chapter Meeting: Berridale.



May's Chapter Meeting was held at Berridale to introduce the Snowy River Historical Society to our activities. 6 of their members attended the meeting and an enjoyable though cold day included a tour of Berridale and a visit to the St Mary the Virgin Anglican Gegendzerick Church built in 1860. (pictured)

Past members visit for morning tea



It was beautiful to see Louis and Gwen Simpson with us for the Seniors Week event. The Simpsons were active members of our group in the late 70's and early 1980's when the committee was reformed and some formality was established within the exhibits in the original museum building.

Louis assisted David Smith with the preservation project on Old Tom's skeleton in the original

museum building

This was a process of pouring pure alcohol onto the bones of the skeleton to "leech" out any remaining oil from within the bony tissue. The museum was closed for the duration of the project and barriers were erected in front of the entrance to prevent entry whilst these highly flammable liquids were in use.

Research and where it leads!!.....

A recent mail enquiry regarding a Captain Johnston who had worked at the Cannery in Eden lead to some interesting material being added to our research files.

His nephew wrote asking for information about Cpt. Johnston's time in Eden. He only remembered a trip to Eden to visit and that Capt. Johnston and his wife lived near the cannery, and that was about all we had to go by. Several phone calls to past cannery employees only gleaned a spark of recognition of the name but little else.

Then John Helmore's memoirs revealed quite a glowing recount of Capt Johnston's arrival and role as Marine Superintendent for AFI (Australian Fishing Industries), the company that managed the Cannery before Greens. He bought the vessel *Lucy Star* to Eden and she was converted for purse seining to explore the cowanyoung (jack mackerel) stocks in local waters.



Captain Henry Johnston Marine Superintendent for Australian Fishing Industries. Cattle Bay Eden.

Photo: Clive Marks

Only days later an unrelated search on the wonderful website Picture Australia (which is a hub for the photographic collections of Australia's major collecting institutions) revealed a picture of Clive Marks pushing a wheelbarrow of fish while unloading the "Lucy Star" at the Cannery wharf!

Of course when Clive was contacted he remembered Capt Johnston very well. There was a programme titled the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training

Scheme (CRTS) after the Second World War and Clive had come to Eden from Cronulla with a group of men under the supervision of Captain Johnston to initiate a purse seine fishery here. The fishing vessel *Senibua* with a Fijian crew was also bought in to explore a viability of a tuna fishery here.

Clive had some excellent photographs of Capt. Johnston and the fellows involved, including one shot of the tents they camped in almost on the beach at the Cannery site.

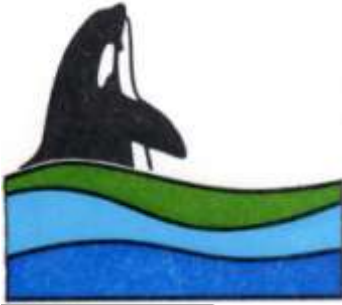
Thanks so much to the Helmore family and Clive Marks for assistance with this enquiry and for their willingness to donate material to our research files.

Tent accommodation for ex servicemen near the Cannery Beach post World War Two
Photo: Clive Marks



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO LIBRARIAN CAROL

We extend our best wishes to Carol Edwards, librarian at EKWM on the occasion of her 60th birthday recently. A great milestone and many happy returns Carol.



Calendar of Events

Exhibitions:

Men of Timber and Centenary of Scouts both finish on 25th August

NED KELLY: Fact and Fiction
30 August - 16 November

Events:

International Lighthouse W'end 16th & 17th August

History Week 2008:
6-14 September
Theme: *The Water's Edge*

School Holidays:

NSW: 5th to 20th July
VIC: 28th June to 13th July

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Morse across the miles

Phil McGrath our resident morsecodian has been to the Overland Telegraph Station at Alice Springs N.T. (pictured) for another visit. He gets about and was accompanied by his daughter Karen this time for a 10 day stay hosted by National Parks Northern Territory. Pictured here are Phil and Kevin Barber who has been assisting Phil with the demonstrations at Eden Killer Whale Museum lately. It's proving a busy desk with many telegrams being sent all over Australia and the work becomes a handful for a lone operator to send and receive morse while explaining the process to our visitors. Kevin is filling the assistant position ably.



NEW MEETING TIME FOR WINTER

It was decided at the May business meeting to try a daytime meeting during winter so that new members may be encouraged to come. This is a strategy that has been tried before but not for a long time. 3pm on Saturday has been chosen to hopefully meet

with agreement for those who have difficulty with cold winter nights but also with those who are busy during the week. Members are encouraged to bring a friend or prospective members along to these business meetings, new members are always welcome.

This new time will apply to the June, July, August and September monthly business meetings. As always there are many important issues relating to the management of the museum to be discussed and the more members to have input to decisions the better.

Schedule of Meetings EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM

Monthly Business Meeting	7:30pm	2 nd Wednesday each Month	Museum Theatre
Winter Schedule Business Meeting	3pm	2 nd Saturday each Month	June to September
Curatorial Meeting	1pm	1 st Monday each Month	Museum Library
Museum Friends Meeting	9am	2 nd Wednesday each month	Museum Library