



Volume 6, Issue 2



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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT.

Once again the diehards gathered at Balls Head for a weekend of hard yakka, much good hearted verbal jousting and a little merriment at day's ends.

The major project this weekend was the unloading and dismantling of a complete staircase (plus additional steel) from what was the Caltex oil refinery at Kurnell. Caltex donated and delivered these components to the coal loader site at Balls Head on Monday the 25th of January. They were unloaded by Hiab crane of the truck to the writer's trailer and this trailer was subsequently parked in the North Sydney Council park. This is a public space that is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and is very popular for passing foot traffic, so Council approval in allowing us this 'parking / storage' facility was very welcome indeed. This staircase and other componentry will provide the much needed, and much discussed, access to our vessel.

We also completed the initial stage of the extension to the catwalk. by installing the steel channels shown in the photo below. More detail on the finer points will follow in the coming weeks.

The weekend also saw the return of our radio buffs, Owen Holmwood and Colin Christiansen who also assisted in the heavy lifting of the stair case components before adjourning to the radio room. Saturday ended (around 1700) with a ferocious storm from the west. Fortunately, all was ok on-board, but several roofs were torn off in Sydney's Western Suburbs.

We also had a visit by local artist Josephine Josephson, who intends to join us to absorb and record by sketch and paint, the rustic and well-worn features of our ship. www.jojoephson.com

A big thank you to all who helped this weekend and a special thank you to Warwick Whalley whose 30 odd years at the Kurnell refinery provided us with the wherewithal to obtain the staircase and other components.

Peter King
President



Stairs ready to dismantle



Steel channels ready to install

More Weekend Photos



Peter and Brian installing the channel



Storm on Saturday afternoon

On-board Capers

Good progress on the new entrance as you read in the report from Peter while on the ship the regular business of maintenance and housekeeping went on. After Colin and Owen were released from the clutches of the engineering department they carried on with their normal wireless activities which, to the laymen, is a bit like black magic. Paul checked the anodes and carried out various other electrical duties to keep the ship running. Carla was on the porthole drip tray emptying exercise as well as running around finding leaks when the storm hit. Daniel and Axel retired to the boat deck chipping after working with Peter and Brian on the catwalk. Yours truly was the cook.

Regards to you all with a reminder to renew your membership.
John Stokes.

Contact Us:

Ships Location: Old Coal Loader
2 Balls Head Drive
Waverton NSW

Postal Address: MV Cape Don Society Inc.
PO Box 5759
South Windsor
NSW 2756

Email: committee@mvcapedonsociety.org.au

www.mvcapedonsociety.org.au