

Williamstown Maritime Association Inc.

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Website [www.wma.org](http://www.wma.org)

# Newsletter



January 2013

Welcome to 2013 a year in which we hope all members new and old will visit the Pirate's Tavern in large numbers. As well as the successful Friday night music, our summer music sundays will now be held every second sunday.

(See the attached list of dates and bands)

The Tavern has been closed for a few weeks to give our staff a chance to re-charge their batteries for a busy 2013. Whilst the Tavern has been closed the floor has been washed and coated with an epoxy coating to bring it back to life.

The Tavern under the new management team of Wendy and Veronica has seen a remarkable turn around in the Association's bottom line, and it has been through their hard work and enthusiasm that this has come about.

Advanced bookings for functions have never looked better. So if any members are thinking of holding a function this year make sure you contact Wendy or Veronica as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

Wendy 0403 702 734; Veronica 0422 162 177.

The combined Way Out West Blues Club and The WMA New Years Eve function was a sell out with 150 guests in attendance. The importance of booking early for these events was highlighted by the fact that over 50 patrons were turned away. The WMA Committee will receive a report on the event and make a decision in the next few months as to whether a similar event will be held this year and what format it will take. Members will be given plenty of advanced notice once this has been decided. The crowd had a fantastic evening with a beautiful night weather wise, and 2 great bands providing excellent blues music all night. The organisation all went to plan with plentiful finger food and added security ensuring there were no problems on the pier or at the Tavern.

David Baird who does a wonderful job in selecting the bands has put together a fabulous list with music to suit all tastes over the next three months so take the opportunity to come along and enjoy a drink and listen to the diversified line up of talent.

Due to the success of the New Years Eve joint function we have will be talking to the Way out West Group about the possibility of a blues band playing on the 4th Sunday of the month over summer when they do not have their regular sunday gig at the RSL. If members have any feedback on what we could be doing over summer on the two Sundays open to us, we would be please to hear from you.



## Election of new Committee;

At the Annual Meeting there were 10 nominations for Committee and all were elected. The election of Office Bearers for 2013 was held on the following General Meeting and the following members duly elected.

President; Geoff Dougall Vice President Dick Budzienny

Secretary; Lee Johnston Treasurer; Chris Thomas

Non executive position; Music Events and Mangement, David Baird.

Committee Members

Janis Brooks, Alf Pelns, and we welcome Wendy Pelns, Veronica Hillhouse and Marjorie Baird to the team.

## Tavern Improvements;

At our last committee meeting it was resolved that we look into purchasing a cool room to enable us when running functions to have a larger quantity of cold stock in storage, thus taking some of the load off our fridges and saving us the expense of hiring a cool room for such occasions. After looking at a number of options we have placed an order for a cool room for delivery later this month.

The installation of ceiling fans in the bar and on the wall of the band area has proved a great success, and at last has made the Tavern more comfortable for patrons on those hot days and nights. We are also well on the way to having the radiant gas heaters installed in the next few months in time for winter.

The framed prints of Williamstown that have proved such an attraction to visitors to the Tavern have been updated with a new series of fabulous photos of Williamstown's maritime history, make sure you come along over summer and spend some time having a look at this very impressive photographic record of our history.

The new toilets are also fully operational and like all the other improvements make the Tavern a much more pleasant place to visit.

The Committee are looking at ways to improve the facilities on a regular basis to ensure the level of service and comfort to our members and guests is kept at a very high level. This commitment is now paying off with an increase in our bookings resulting in more funds for future expenditure both on the Tavern and in consultation with the Seaworks Board on projects enhancing the site.

Our Web site is currently being updated and we hope to have this done in the next few weeks.

Another improvement we need to make is to get our Members list back to the where it was a few years ago, I know a lot of members have not renewed their membership over the last few years due to the limited activity on the site over the last few years. But we urge all our existing members to look at how you can introduce some new blood into our Association, invite guests down on a friday nights or on the music sundays and by doing that the Association can host members events throughout the year to give them some value for them joining.



## News from Seaworks

Seaworks is now 2 years into its lease with Parks Victoria.

The Seaworks Foundation vision is to 'develop a maritime precinct, open to the public to celebrate maritime heritage through recreational, educational, tourism and commercial activities'.

As the Managers of the site the Seaworks Foundation has over the last six months achieved many milestones and although a lot is not visible, the achievement of these critical steps is essential to the long term success of the site.

- Seaworks was awarded a \$20,000 grant from the Ian Potter Foundation.
- a two year Business Plan was submitted to Parks Victoria.
- our first Lease was executed. The Sea Shepherd Conservation Group is a working maritime organisation, that has and will continue to bring 1,000's of visitors to the site. They understand that any Tall Ship visit to Seaworks will have priority berthing.

Seaworks was successful in being awarded a second grant of \$30,000, from the Lord Mayors Charitable Fund.

Our new website was launched [www.seaworks.com.au](http://www.seaworks.com.au)

The Maritime Museum is looking the best its ever looked with the assistance of some WMA volunteers. School visits and other group visits to the site during the week continues to increase. We welcome volunteers to assist us open the museum on a Sunday.

Two new Seaworks Board Members have been appointed, which strengthens the Board as we continue to move forward.

Throughout December our event calendar was full hosting a variety of events; Rotary Community Christmas Party, Smoking Aces Car event, Making Waves Festival, the Lego Fan Expo, which brings both tourists, visitors and the much needed revenue to help us develop a maritime precinct.

Upcoming Events in 2013 include; January 20, Lets Go Crusin Hot Rod event, February 3rd, Small Ford Sunday, March, Bikes by the Bay.

The event organisers, film companies and other non maritime organisations that currently hire our site support our vision and understand that one day when they ring to book the site the response maybe sorry, the site is too busy with public, celebrating our maritime heritage through recreational, educational, tourism and commercial activities

till then, thank you for your ongoing support.

For more Seaworks information please check our website or call me on 0417 292 021.

Therese Pritchard





## Whats on at The Pirates Tavern & Seaworks Calendar of Events

*Sunday 20th January "Bender" (Classic rock covers)*

*Friday 25th Jaunuary "Zeptepi" ( Folk, Rock, Punk with a twist )*

*Friday 1st February "The long & short of it" ( Classic Country folk)*

*Sunday 3rd February " Rhys Crimmins ( Foot stomping Reggae, Blues)*

*Friday 8th February "Derrick and Rob ( Popular covers from all era's)*

*Friday 15th February " Buzz me Berkeley (Popular Rock N Roll Covers)*

*Sunday 17th February " Salty Dog" ( High energy Rock & Blues)*

*Friday 22nd February " Lighthouse" ( Classic Folk Songs)*

*Friday 1st March "The Long & Short of it" ( Classic Country Folk)*

*Sunday 3rd March "Zeptepi" ( Folk, Rock, Pink with a twist)*



