

**UPDATE #8**

Friday, July 18, 2014

**BERTH DAY**

Since the last update there have been a lot of changes. To begin with Cartela has left Hobart and is on her way to the restoration base we are preparing in Franklin. (see On the Move)

The process begins with the creation of a wharf area suitable for a 37 meter 300 tonne ship. The Franklin wharf has seen a many summers since it last accommodated a vessel of this size. First order of business was to reinstate the piles. The edge of the wharf resembled a white pointers smile, with old broken piles at all angles. We were provided with seven new treated hardwood piles at a great price direct from the Koppers factory in Longford.



The Huon Valley Council Marine Facilities Committee had approved a contribution to the cost associated with driving these piles and Aquamec Marine provided the pile driving for the amount of this grant. They also provided a diver to check that there were no hidden dangers like submerged tree trunks or protruding underwater piles. But to keep clear of the jagged edge of old

piles we needed to drive the new piles outside the reach of the old broken teeth and so around three meters from the existing bank. We will span this gap with a substantial recycled steel frame that had served as the ferry jetty at the Botanic Gardens. We will support one edge over the water on three piles and pour a strip concrete footing for the onshore end. The final element of the wharf preparations is the installation of a three-phase power supply. Unfortunately we can't leave Cartela anywhere without a power connection for security and bilge monitoring, so as soon as these details are finalised we will arrive in Franklin.

**ON THE MOVE**

**"It looked good on paper." Or "It seemed like a good idea at the time."**

Check list, Lord Mayor to cut the ribbon. **Check.** Historic steam boat to lead us out. **Check.** Tug boat with high pressure water pump for a spectacular water arch. **Check.** Media invited. **Check.** Spectator fleet to add colour. Ahhhhhhhhh.

June 26th was going to be the date Cartela leaves Hobart no matter what. June 30 was to mark the start of demolition of Brooke Street Pier, and with rostering considerations for the Cartela crew there was no room to fiddle the dates. For over one hundred years Cartela has tied up nearly every night to the familiar bollards on Brooke Street Pier, this date marked a significant event for all concerned. Having served the southern Tasmania community continuously for all this time without a break, there needed to be a celebration to mark the departure. On the

morning it was pleasing to see a small crowd had gathered to wish her well. We even had the pleasure of welcoming the designer, Thomas Purdon's daughter-in-law. The Lord Mayor Damon Thomas, reminisced on his past misdeeds onboard Cartela and then cut the ribbon to signal Cartela slipping from her berth for the final time. Andrew Perkins in the steam powered launch Leprena led Cartela past the Harbour Tug "Sydney Cove" who arcs up the fire-fighting pump on cue to provide a spectacular water arch as a photogenic background for last shots of Cartela in Hobart port for some time.

Past the water arch and into the spectator fleet. Ahhh, yes. The spectator fleet. The invites did go out and lots of personal cajoling to encourage as many skippers as possible out on



this weekday morning, but in reality the die was cast, and the decisions taken 13 hours earlier.

Weather forecasts the evening before spoke of 30-40 knot winds, so for those hardy souls who did come out to play and wish us well. "Well done. Thank you."

### CHIEFS AND INDIANS

Leaving Hobart Port behind, a brief stop at the Wrest Point jetty to unload a few VIP's then the skipper steered a course for John Garrow light, and on to Port Huon. It was quite an upbeat atmosphere in the wheelhouse while outside all the weather Tasmania is known for was on display. Although the strong winds forecast never eventuated, dark clouds and rain followed by sunshine and brilliant rainbows. Seals, Penguins and Dolphins were all visible at points during the trip. Peter Roche accompanied his brother Mike Roche who was the notional skipper, we were also joined in the wheelhouse by retired skipper Bryce Harvey. Scotty Dunn on this trip was engineer but also holds a skipper ticket. A quick check across the wheel house revealed we had collectively over 120 years of skipper experience. A large amount of that earned at the wheel of Cartela. She was in good hands.

### MARITIME HERITAGE CENTRE



It would be unfair to finish this bulletin without

mentioning the relocation of Brooke Street Pier building. I'll keep the details for the next bulletin but the principle is that Hazell Brothers have relocated the old 1900's building due for demolition in Hobart, to Franklin for use as a base for the restoration, and use as a Maritime Heritage Centre. Lots more soon.



Coming out of the port and heading past Battery Point, one of the directors of the trust travelling on Cartela had a call from the media boat asking us to slow down so the modern 50+ footer fibreglass cruiser could keep up. The TV

crew on-board wanted a view other than just the stern. Nice to see the old girl still has her get up and go.



*Ross James*

**(Project Manager)**



**GATHERING STEAM**