

Port News

Ever heard of HMAS Maitland?

Many Newcastle people haven't but two Eleebana people hope to change that as part of a history research project.

Frank and Jackie Rice are researching *HMAS Maitland* which was a naval camp during WW II on the foreshore between Horseshoe Beach and Nobbys.

The camp worked in co-operation with Customs House and Shepherds Hill to share information about shipping movements. The Rices' interest stems from Jackie's father, Jack Breddin, being a telegraph operator at Shepherd's Hill.

Frank and Jackie are searching for the bell of the *HMAS Maitland* and aim to have their research completed by late September in time for a visit to Newcastle by the Australian Navy's new *HMAS Maitland*.

If anybody in the port community can assist Frank and Jackie with information, they can be contacted on 4948 7419 or by email fjrice@idl.net.au

Archival Research

The Corporation has been thanked for its assistance in allowing access to files about the wreck of the *Adolphe* on the northern breakwater.

Retired Newcastle University professor, Ken Dutton, has written an article about the wreck of the vessel for the Institute for the Study of French-Australian Relations and used the Corporation's files as part of his research.

The *Adolphe* was one of four four-masted steel barques built in 1902 for the French firm of A.-D. Bordes et Fils of Bordeaux.

The ship was entering Newcastle Harbour on 30 September 1904 when struck by "three big bounding seas" that dropped her on the submerged wrecks of the *Lindus* and *Wendouree* along what was popularly known as the Oyster Bank.

The rescue of the ship's crew has gone down in local maritime history as one of the most remarkable in local waters.

Trade Statistics



Commodity	July 06	July 05
Coal	7,248,932	6,719,275
Alumina	91,028	129,484
Concentrates	27,866	39,011
Grains	142,836	129,996
Fertiliser Product	41,841	12,216
Woodchips	0	42,054
Other Bulk	67,018	121,991
Aluminium	23,338	11,890
Steel	21,422	14,054
Grinding Media	2,223	9,108
Other General Cargo	1,536	7,318
Total All Trades	7,707,086	7,233,923

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CEO's Message

The past two months have been extremely busy but very important for the Corporation as we head into the second half of 2006.

Minister for Ports and Waterways, Joe Tripodi, announced a record tonnage throughput for 2005 - 06 valued at \$7.5 billion. This increasing value shows how important the port is to the region and NSW and reflects the Corporation's purpose of delivering port development that enhances our economic growth.

We also had the good news that Newcastle City Council had approved the development of Nobbys which will open this great facility to the general public.

I'm sure many people in Newcastle cannot wait to walk along Macquarie Pier and then up to Nobbys to take in the view. We expect a very popular opening in March 2008.

On a last note, you will see an article in this edition of 'Scuttlebutt' about a new positioning statement for the Newcastle Port Corporation.

Readers will start to see *Delivering Opportunity* in Corporation publications and visual images. The statement is strong in its meaning and designed to connect with all our customers and the community.

The statement represents a challenge to the Corporation and its employees. It's one that will keep us focussed and relevant.



Gary Webb - Chief Executive Officer

New Positioning Statement

Newcastle Port Corporation has introduced a new positioning statement that strongly focusses on the promise of benefit for current and future customers, businesses and the community.

Delivering Opportunity results from extensive research and reflects a port that is creating opportunity for local, national and international businesses. This includes existing port customers, prospective port customers, regional organisations, government bodies and suppliers to the Newcastle Port Corporation.

Short, punchy and to the point, the statement is being introduced across the Corporation at a time of record trade throughput and trade value.

CEO, Gary Webb, says the port is growing and diversifying. It is an economic powerhouse for not only the Hunter Region but also New South Wales.

"Delivering Opportunity is designed to continually challenge the Newcastle Port Corporation to build its international reputation and to secure a sustainable future," said Gary.

"We want our customers, local businesses and regional community to share in our pride of developing trade, attracting investment, creating jobs and delivering economic benefit.

"Newcastle Port Corporation has a sound, long-term strategy that guides its decision making. In delivering opportunity, the Corporation is making prudent use of public assets to encourage investment that benefits the Hunter Region."

The new positioning statement was presented to Corporation employees at forums during August and to the business community during an address by Gary at the Newcastle Business Club.

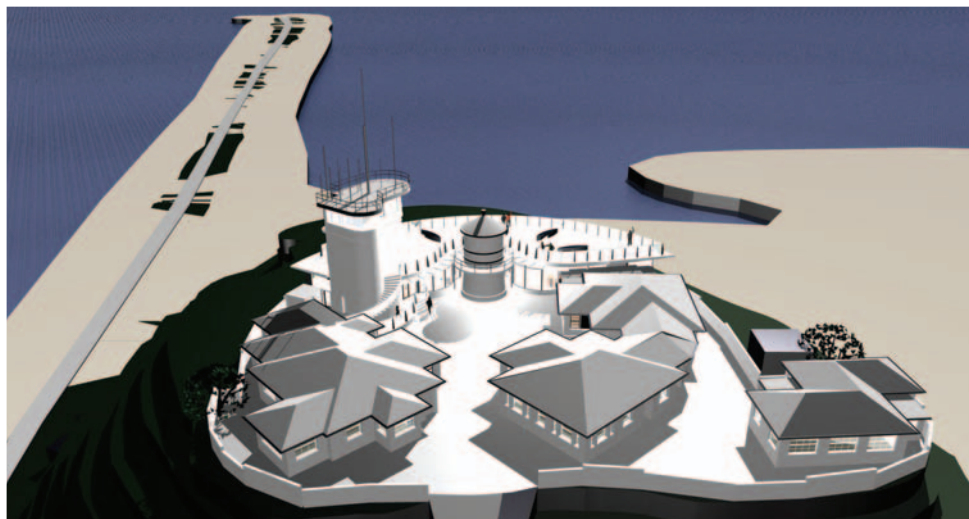


Nobbys Public Access in 2008

One of the city's major icons, Nobbys at the entrance to the port of Newcastle, is expected to start its new lease of life in early 2008 following development approval by Newcastle City Council.

The Corporation, in conjunction with

Nobbys Lighthouse Pty Ltd which was formed by Newcastle restaurateur, Neil Slater, lodged a Development Application in March last year proposing commercial development of the site but also public access to one of the city's great viewing areas.



An artist impression of the Nobbys development showing the new restaurant with its observation deck flowing around the existing lighthouse.

The application was approved by the NSW Heritage Council in March this year and by the city council in early August. It includes a 50 seat restaurant, eight B & B units, a manager's residence, a kiosk, interpretive elements and an observation deck on the roof of the restaurant which will provide free access to the public.

The development will provide 360 degree views encompassing the ocean, Stockton Bight, beaches, the port and the city, and has gained approval from a number of local community organisations such as the Newcastle East Residents Group and Nobbys Surf Lifesaving Club.

The Corporation and Neil have started preliminary development work on the \$1.3 million project which is expected to be in full swing by early next year. Completion is planned for March 2008.

We'll keep you informed on the progress of the development and its 2008 opening date.

Lending Hand for OHS Training

Newcastle Port Corporation is participating in a whole of government approach to provide essential training to address changes to Occupational Health and Safety legislation while supporting TAFE students studying programs in skill shortage areas.

The Corporation provided \$3000 of a \$20,000 grant to TAFE NSW to develop training materials for Newcastle, Sydney and Wollongong students studying Surveying and Spatial Information.

The Corporation's Port Surveyor, Bass Randall, recently attended a presentation ceremony in Sydney where a cheque for \$20,000 was handed over to TAFE.

Other departments involved in the grant are NSW Maritime, Sydney Water Corporation and the Surveyor General – Department of Lands.

NSW Department of Education and Training Deputy Director-General TAFE and Community Education, MariePersson,

said WorkCover required surveyors carrying out work on a construction site to hold formal OHS qualifications.

"The primary focus of this initiative is to identify a common understanding between large government departments and to develop a consistent approach to

OHS requirements and training," said Ms Persson.

It is the first inter-departmental approach to legislation requirements since the 2003 Royal Commission into the building and construction industry identified a need for improved training in the area.



Port Surveyor, Bass Randall (right) represented the Newcastle Port Corporation at the training announcement

Corporation Sponsors Regional Business Awards

The Corporation had pleasure in July of sponsoring two major regional awards that showcased the export and business expertise of the Hunter Region.

The 2006 Hunter Export Awards and the 2006 Hunter Business Awards, which were part of the 120th anniversary celebrations of the Hunter Business Chamber, recognised outstanding achievement in the past year.

The Corporation sponsored the Hunter Exporter of the Year at a presentation at the Conservatorium of Music and also the Business Services category of the Hunter Business Awards held at Wests Leagues Club.

The judging panel could not split mine safety equipment manufacturer, Dywidag-Systems International (DSI), and wine company, James Estate Wines as Hunter Exporter of the Year and announced the companies as joint winners.

Judges of the Business Services Award said that in a very strong field of candidates Toronto Business Park stood out as a service provider that specially developed both its infrastructure and services according to the demands of customers.

Toronto Business Park began nine years ago as a self storage facility. Today it provides warehousing, picking and packing, distribution, packaging of products, service

offices, training facilities and meting facilities.

Our first photograph shows Corporation Chairman, Wilton Ainsworth (left), and CEO, Gary Webb (right), presenting Derek Hird from DSI and Rick Hodgson from James Estate Wines with their joint award for Exporter of the Year.

A happy Paul Foulcher (left) and Peter Osbourne (right) of Toronto Business Park receive their Business Services award from our Chairman in the second photograph.

The Port of Newcastle is a key economic driver for the Hunter Region and the Corporation is honoured to support significant regional achievement in 2006.



Record Trade for Newcastle

Minister for Ports and Waterways, Joe Tripodi, has announced a new trade record for the Port of Newcastle with total trade throughput exceeding 85 million tonnes in 2005-06.

"The Port of Newcastle is continuing to set records with trade throughput up more than half a billion dollars on the previous year," said Mr Tripodi.

"Trade through Newcastle for the 12 months was valued at \$7.5 billion dollars – a fantastic result for a growing and diversifying port and for the Newcastle and State economies.

"Total tonnage was 85.6 million tonnes, which was a two million tonne increase on 2004-05."

The Minister said coal exports exceeded the 80 million tonnes mark for the first time – nearly 80.3 million tonnes left the port which was an increase of 2.6 million tonnes on 2004-05.

"The value of coal exports was \$5.3 billion, while other trade throughput reached \$2.2 billion. Newcastle is rightly recognised as one of the leading coal export ports in the world." said Mr Tripodi.

"The trade result shows that Newcastle is focussed on delivering the best result for its customers and the Hunter Region."

Mr Tripodi said Newcastle Port Corporation had worked hard during the year and attracted world class superyacht manufacturers Sensation Yachts and Azzura Marine to the port.

"Both these companies have strong international reputations. Sensation Yachts' recent announcement that it will construct the world's largest resin-infused motor yachts at its Carrington site will put Newcastle on the map in this industry," added the Minister.

"Other announcements – the approval for \$17 million expansion by Graincorp at its

grain terminal and BP's plans to build two 23 million litre storage tanks and associated pipelines to better service the region through the port – demonstrate the port's diversity and the important part it plays in both the regional and State economies."

"The Corporation is also concentrating on marketing Newcastle Port Precinct (former BHP steelworks site) to attract the right customer for what is a significant development site in the Hunter," Mr Tripodi said.

Other trade highlights for 2005-06 were:

- Concentrates 363,337 tonnes (increase 52,350 tonnes)
- Woodchips 249,598 tonnes (increase 31,580 tonnes)
- Aluminium 136,691 tonnes (increase 3,900 of tonnes)
- Grinding media 90,520 tonnes (increase of 7,300 tonnes)