

The **BLIZZARD**



NEWSLETTER OF THE MAWSON'S HUTS FOUNDATION

December 2017

SILVER AWARD IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC'S TOP 25 MUSEUMS

The Mawson's Huts Replica Museum may be one of the smallest in Tasmania but it continues to be liked by visitors.

It was now been ranked in TripAdvisor's list of the top 25 museums in the South Pacific. It puts the museum in exalted company. It is already ranked No1 museum from 18 in Hobart and 3 out of 140 Things To Do.

"For the Mawson's Huts Replica Museum to be included in TripAdvisor's list of the best 25 museums in the South Pacific is a wonderful honour and also helps to endorse Hobart's historical links with the Antarctic.

"We celebrated the Museum's 4th birthday on December 2 (also the 106th anniversary of Mawson's departure from Hobart) and being included in list of top 25 museums in the South Pacific is a lovely present. It puts us in exalted company which is very pleasing," said David Jensen.

"TripAdvisor is based purely on customer feedback and the ranking is great acknowledgement of the efforts of our staff and volunteers. The experience of our visitors is one of our great motivators so this vote from people from all over the world who have visited during the past year is wonderful feedback.

"The Replica Museum won a Silver Medal in the Cultural Heritage section of the Tasmanian Tourism Awards (November) and this is just icing on the cake. We're a minnow in the field but growing and have some exciting plans for the future in promoting the Replica in Hobart"



2017 Silver
Cultural Tourism

SECOND AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC FESTIVAL, HOBART AUGUST 2-3-4-5

The second Australian Antarctic Festival will be held in Hobart on August 2-3-4-5 next year.

This bi-annual event which was held for the first time in September last year, will be bigger and more exciting with up to 10 Antarctic treaty nations participating in various ways.

Visitors will be able to board Australia's ice-breaker the *Aurora Australis* and the CSIRO's *Investigator* and also inspect the RAAF's Globemaster used to supply Australia's Antarctic bases. The giant aircraft will be open for inspection at Hobart Airport for the final two days of the festival.

Up to 10,000 school children will be involved painting 30 cm high plywood penguins to be displayed throughout the festival. Up to 150 Tasmanian primary schools and at least 50 interstate schools are expected to participate; each school will be allocated 50 penguins. Parents and grandparents interested in their schools being involved should email carole.borsboom@mawsons-huts.org.au for details.

An exciting programme including an international photographic competition with prize money is being developed and hotel bookings will be essential in advance. Click here for more details - [Antarctic Festival](#)

Funding for the Festival has been confirmed from Events Tasmania, the Hobart City Council, Chimu Adventures and the Mawson's Huts Foundation.

CHIMU CRUISE TO COMMONWEALTH BAY FULLY BOOKED.

Chimu Adventures cruise to Commonwealth Bay this summer was a sell-out. "In the wake of Mawson" departed Hobart on December 15 for a 26 day cruise which includes Macquarie Island, Commonwealth Bay and three of the NZ sub-Antarctic islands-Campbell, Auckland and the Snares.

The voyage is also helping to raise funds for the Mawson's Huts Foundation to assist with the conservation of the historic huts at Cape Denison.

On-board will be Lisa Roosli, a Swiss filmmaker and producer from Swiss national TV and German/Austrian National TV making a documentary on Xavier Mertz, the Swiss ski-champion who died on Douglas Mawson's 1911-14 expedition. Mertz was one of the only two casualties from the expedition. The other was Belgrave Ninnis who with Mertz were the expedition's two dog handlers.

Lisa will be filming on Macquarie Island, the Mertz Glacier and Mawson's Huts at Cape Denison.

Chimu Adventures are currently finalising their voyages for 2018/19 Season, if this is of interest to you please email australia@chimuadventures.com

HUSKIE SCULPTURE IN BRONZE

The bronze sculpture in honour of huskies that have served in the Antarctic is now scheduled to be unveiled in March following a decision to move the casting of it to a foundry in Melbourne.

Featuring two huskies and a sledge which is modelled on one of Mawson's used at Cape Denison, the bronze will be set on a concrete pad outside the Replica Museum in Argyle Street.

Designed by Hobart artist Dan Tucker it is being funded in part by a grant from the Tasmanian Community Fund, the Foundation and huskie lovers from around the world through a crowd funding project on Go Fund Me. [Huskies in the Antarctic Monument](#)

"Unfortunately the delay has resulted in an increase in the costs so the Foundation is very grateful for all contributions," says Foundation Chairman David Jensen. "However the final result will not only be a feature to the Replica Museum but also a further attraction on the Hobart waterfront"



Two Huskies in wax form sent to the Melbourne Foundry

DOCUMENTARY

A full length documentary on the history and conservation of Mawson's Huts at Cape Denison, East Antarctica, is expected to be completed by March. David London, a member of the Foundation team to the huts in December 2006-7 is producing it.

It will cover the breaking up of Gondwanaland to form Antarctic and the land masses of the southern hemisphere, the "heroic era" of Antarctic exploration including Amundsen, Scott, and Shackleton and of course Mawson and his historic home for two years.

Interviews with heritage carpenters, conservators, AAD director Nick Gales, Margie McIntyre who spent a year at Cape Denison and others have been completed and are being edited.

Discussions are underway with national TV networks and airlines to screen the documentary. It will also be offered to schools as an educational tool. Copies will be sold through the Replica and the Foundation.

REPLICA YOUTUBE PROMOTION

A two minute YouTube production of the Replica Museum has been produced by the documentary producer David London while he was in Hobart filming the documentary. It can be viewed on the following link. [Gateway to Hobart and the Replica Museum](#)

FRANK HURLEY'S CINE CAMERA



The Foundation is looking for a craftsman to make a full scale replica of the cine camera used by Mawson's official photographer Frank Hurley to display in the Replica Museum. The National Film and Sound Archives in Canberra kindly retrieved it from storage for the Foundation to photograph every detail of it and measure it which my wife Lindsie did on a recent visit to Canberra.

As a result we now have specific details and all the images required for a replica to be made. Anyone interested should contact David Jensen at david.jensen@mawsons-huts.org.au.

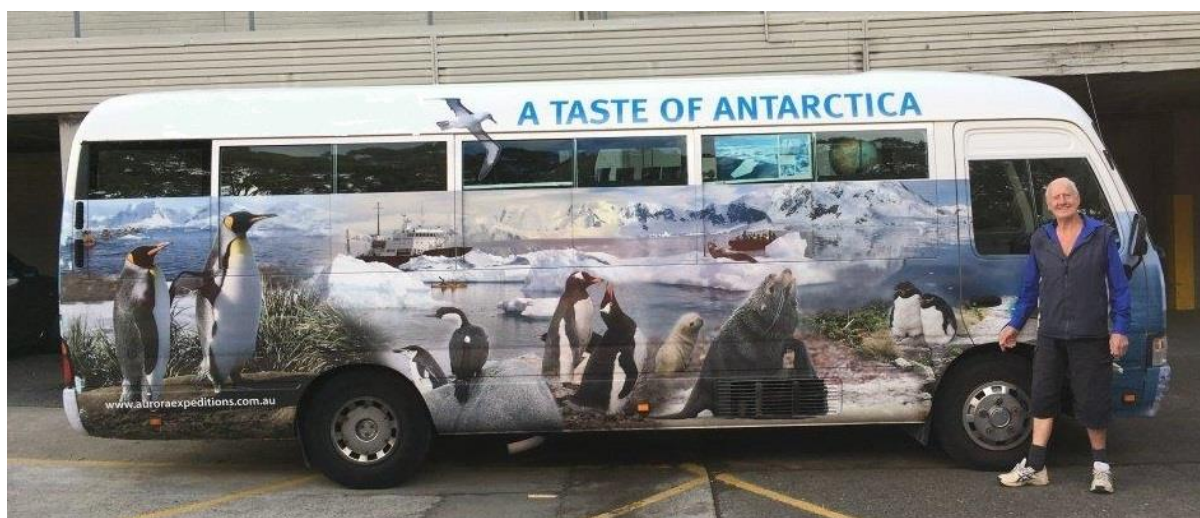
The Foundation is seeking a grant for this project.

MOBILE ANTARCTIC CLASSROOM

Funding of \$150,000 has been secured from the Federal Government with Environment Minister Josh Frydenberg signing off on a special grant from the Heritage Department last week (Nov 30). This funding will provide for a complete re-fit of the interior and fund the selection, training and expenses for the first year of operation.

The Mobile Antarctic Classroom (MAC) will tour schools and communities in regional Australia in a planned schedule the Foundation hopes will be self-funded.

It will be fitted out with screens, images and displays plus satellite communications to allow contact with scientists in the Antarctic.



Charles Lindall and the Toyota bus he has donated to the Foundation

Chimu Adventures will help with the design of the exterior which will feature and promote the Mawson's Huts Replica Museum. Initially the tours will be in NSW and Victoria while the bus and operators streamline the touring programme.

The conversion will be ready in plenty of time for the Festival.

The bus will be the first of its kind in Australia and will be a wonderful promotion for the Replica Museum.

MAWSON'S HUTS PHILATELIC ITEMS


A unique range of select philatelic items produced exclusively by philatelic consultant Peter Cranwell, are available through his website [Petes Polar Place](http://PetesPolarPlace.com.au).

They cover the centenary of Mawson's Huts at Cape Denison, the recovery of the remains of the wireless masts on Macquarie Island, the opening of the Post Office at Cape Denison together with beautifully designed mini-sheets and post cards.

For all items Peter produced very informative fact sheets which make these items valuable for collect. All items apart from the post cards are individually numbered. Several have already sold out.

Pictured below is a sample of a cover cancelled at Cape Denison during the Foundation's last expedition in 2015-16.


All proceeds from sales go to the conservation of the historic huts. Order forms for philatelic purchases can be downloaded here [Philatelic Order Form](#)




Mawson's Huts Foundation

Philatelic items produced to commemorate:
**THE CAPE DENISON
EXPEDITION 2015 - 2016**


Departed Hobart onboard L'Astrolabe, 29 th Nov. 2015	
Arrived at the fast ice edge, 4 th Dec. 2015	Cape Denison PO opened, 5 th Dec. 2015
Departed Cape Denison, 17 th Jan. 2016	Arrived Hobart, 25 Jan. 2016.




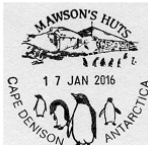
A welcoming committee of Emperor Penguins checking out the six new arrivals on the sea ice 20 km from Mawson's Huts. L'Astrolabe has her bow firmly pushed into the fast ice. The team await the arrival of helicopters from Dumont D'Urville to take them to the Huts. Image by Garry Killick - Mawson's Huts Foundation



The Expeditioners, onboard L'Astrolabe, arrived back in Hobart on 25th January. Image by Rob Eastman - Mawson's Huts Foundation







ANTARCTIC FLIGHTS FROM HOBART

Antarctica Flights will make its inaugural flight over the Antarctic from Hobart on November 25, 2018 following the lengthening of Hobart Airport's runway.

Bookings are already being taken by Antarctica Flights (<http://www.antarcticaflights.com.au>) which will take the total number of flights they have made in a chartered QANTAS Boeing 747 to 150.



Since their first flight in 1994, over 40,000 passengers have been given spectacular views of the world's fifth largest continent from the air during the 12 hour flight. Three further flights are scheduled this summer (two from Melbourne and one from Brisbane).

Antarctica Flights is a long time sponsor and supporter of the Foundation which holds a raffle and a unique in-flight auction on board.

BROCHURE IN MANDARIN

The Replica Museum brochure is now in the final stages of production. It has been translated by the publishers of a leading Chinese newspaper and is being printed by Snap Printing in Hobart.

It will be the first of several translations into different languages.

VIRTUAL REALITY App

A virtual reality tour of Mawson's is being produced which initially will be available on iPhone. It is being developed by Hobart based Peter Morse, one of Australia's leading visualisation experts who has visited Cape Denison on two occasions as a member of the Foundation's conservation team.

FOUNDATION MEMBERSHIP

The Foundation is seeking new members of the Mawson's Huts Society. The cost of \$110 per annum provides a number of benefits including automatic entry into a draw to win two seats on a flight over the Antarctic with Antarctica Flights. It also offers a 10 per cent discount on all tours, trip and cruises to Antarctica and South America offered by CHIMU ADVENTURES (www.chimuadventures.com) Chimu also offers the same discount on tours offered by its sister company GETABOUTASIA (www.getaboutasia.com).

In addition, there is free entry to the Mawson's Huts Replica Museum during the period of membership with a 15 per cent discount on all items purchased through the Replica museum shop or the Foundation website.

Membership forms can be downloaded [here](#)

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