

George Town Tasmania “The Home of the Norfolk”

26th November 2006

No: 9



Bass & Flinders Centre “Communiqué”

Hi all - Good morning

At the moment I am sitting in the Bass & Flinders Centre and this morning we have had over a dozen visitors through. In the first three weeks (since we opened) we have in excess of 600 visitors with many very positive comments about the establishment. Our visitors have come from all over the mainland and also from over seas. Some having a dedicated interest in Bass & Flinders and others simply keen to see what it is all about.

Whilst there is considerable news since our last issue the major events/occurrences have been:-

- the government opening of the building on 30th October
- Lighthouse Regional Arts & GT on Show opening 13th November
- Our first catering session Annual Dinner Dalrymple Drifters 15th November
- the ceremonial handing over of the vessel 18th November, the naming of the mezzanine floor the “Upper Gunn Deck” & the awarding of Life Membership to a number of people who collectively along with many others made this all happen
- Advice from Tasmanian Community Fund re success re our grant application

All in all, the Centre is starting to “tick” over quite well. Our volunteers are starting to get the hang of it and are certainly developing their skills and knowledge on George Bass & Matthew Flinders.

This issue includes a number of photos, a picture is worth a thousand words, so they say.

A quick summary on each occurrence:

30/10 - opened by Michael Ferguson MP approx 40 people attended

13/11 – GT on Show Official opening some 60 in attendance good PR for the B&F Centre.

15/11 - Catering provided a first class dinner for 30 motor homers.

18/11 - ceremonial handing over of the replica Norfolk to Norfolk Trust, mezzanine floor named in memory of John Gunn MBE, life memberships awarded to approx 20 persons which included some crew members, builders of the replica and also to some of the volunteers who have assisted in getting the B&F Centre up and running.

20/11 – Received advice from the Tasmanian Community Grants Fund that the Bass & Flinders Centre have been successful in the provision of a grant (\$59,000) which will provide us the opportunity to complete the kitchen and theatre.

Don Mackrill - Company Secretary - George Town Norfolk Pty Ltd



An annual dinner held at the Bass & Flinders Centre

Web page Bass & Flinders Centre

The web page is up and running and can be found at:-

www.bassandflinders.org.au

In January 2007 it is intended to simply have a "link" on the webpage that will take you to the latest Bass & Flinders Communiqué rather than send the actual newsletter out to you via email. Please contact the Secretary on 0418 362 232.



Dates to remember:

- 30th November 2006 - 7pm Volunteers meeting at the Centre
- 15th December 2006 - 7pm Quiz Night at the centre— test your skills against other teams— make up a table and enjoy the fun \$6.00 per head— refreshments available.
- 17th December 2006 - 4.30pm Christmas BBQ for volunteers at Don & Sue's meat pro-

What are the two outside flags on top of the Centre?—read about them

The two flags that are flown proudly on the front of the B&F Centre are:

Union flag. This is the flag that was established in the late 17th Century with the "union" of Scotland and England when James I of Scotland became James III of England. The union flag was created by the flag of Scotland (St Andrews Cross) being placed together with the flag of England (St Georges Cross). This was called the Union Flag and was the flag of England at the time of the sailings of the Norfolk. The Union Jack did not come into being until 1801 and included the Welsh cross making up the Union Jack as we know it today. It was called the Union Jack because it was usually flown off the "jack stay" on vessels.

Norfolk flag: The green and white flag with the pine tree in the centre fold is the flag of Norfolk Island where the original Norfolk was built in 1797-98. As a mark of respect and with pride the Bass & Flinders flies this flag on the outside of the building.



Norfolk Project Team 2005-2006

Peter Hale - 0409 934 777
Don Mackrill - 0418 362 232
Tim Cory - 0424 013 723
Robert Gunn - 0417 302 504
Graeme Nielsen - 0418 131 876

