

THE SCUTTLEBUTT



The Canberra Model Shipwrights Society Quarterly Newsletter

(Established 21 April 1988, Incorporated 16 January 1991)

OBJECTIVES

To foster and maintain interest in building and constructing scale Model ships, boats, associated fittings, gear, equipment, armaments and relevant items and structures and the pursuit of excellence in this field.

Scuttlebutt \SKUHT-I-buht\, *noun*:

1. A drinking fountain on a ship.
2. A cask on a ship that contains the day's supply of drinking water.
3. Gossip; rumor.

Scuttlebutt in nautical terminology is a water fountain or water cask on a ship.

Water for immediate consumption on a sailing ship was conventionally stored in a scuttled butt: a butt (cask or small barrel) which had been scuttled by making a hole in it so the water could be withdrawn. Since Sailors exchanged gossip when they gathered at the scuttlebutt for a drink of water, scuttlebutt became slang for gossip or rumors.

The modern equivalent is the office water cooler, also a source of refreshment and gossip.

President's Message

Greetings,

By the time you read this it will no doubt be 2016, so I hope you all managed to have a safe and happy Christmas and are looking forward to the New Year and what it might hold.

Since the last Newsletter, the CMSS has attended the Wagga Model Railway Show and the ACTSMS ScaleACT2015. Wagga was again a very enjoyable event and my thanks go to our two stalwarts in Wagga, Phil Murray and Steve Batchelor for setting things up and for their hospitality. We were, as usual, located with our colleagues from Task Force 72 and also enjoyed a great barbeque on **Saturday night at Steve's house. To me this is what the hobby is all about, being able to get together, share ideas and display our efforts to the general public. Bruce George and his wife also came down this year and I'm sure Bruce would agree with me.**

The ACTSMS Expo was also a great event and is always well attended and has **plenty of trader's stands with lots of good things to tempt us in lightening our wallets!** Our good friend Murray Burfitt with his vast array of tools was at both **events, it's always good to get a few more gadgets.**

The swap and sell was again right next to our display and also resulted in quite a few items finding good homes.

The Christmas Lunch was held at my house and I was delighted to be able to host 23 of our Members and wives to a feast for which I thank my dear wife for all her hard work and those who assisted. It was a very pleasant gathering and one which I hope we can repeat next year, with perhaps even more participants.

2016 will see the usual events taking place, the Canberra Show, Malkara, Expo 2016, Sydney Expo, Wagga and the ACTSMS Expo. What I would like to see is more member participation, the more people we have the easier and more enjoyable these events become.

I would also like to see a greater roll up at the monthly meetings and I would welcome any suggestions as to what Members feel they would like to see at these meetings that would entice them to come along.

Ray has again secured the Hellenic Club for our meetings, with the exception of February whilst the Club is carrying out renovations. Peter Hatley has kindly offered to hold this meeting at his house and we will provide details on how to get

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Committee Members 2015-2016

President	Bob Evans	6226 8957 (H)
Vice-President	Edwin Lowery	6298 3929 (H)
Secretary	Ray Osmotherly	6254 2482 (H)
Assist Secretary	Joe Allen	6297 2495 (H)
Treasurer	Peter Hateley	6254 7229 (H)
Member	Bruce Kirk	6290 0527 (H)
Member	Bruce George	6257 8691 (H)
Membership Officer	Max Fitton	08 9586 2759 (H)

Meetings

The Society will meet until further notice, at the **Hellenic Club, Matilda St. Woden** on the third **Tuesday** of each month (except December and January) commencing at 7.30 pm.

Visitors are welcome.

Society Webpage

CMSS members are encouraged to visit our website at <http://www.canberramodelshipwrights.org.au>.

Instructions for using this website are on the site itself where members will need to register.

The webmaster will help you in any way possible.

We seek content for the website – everything from photographs of your models through interesting web-links and chat sites.

Society Facebook Page

The Society now has a Facebook page to promote the Society and to attract new members.

So please feel free to post items on the page and share it page with your Friends.

Editors Note

Well this is the last newsletter for 2015. It only feel like last month I was producing the first newsletter for 2015.

2015 has been a good year with some great events attended by CMSS and another successful CMSS Expo.

The committee members and the events committee has done another excellent job again this year. Also, the new membership officer, Max Fitton, has been keeping in regular contact with most members.

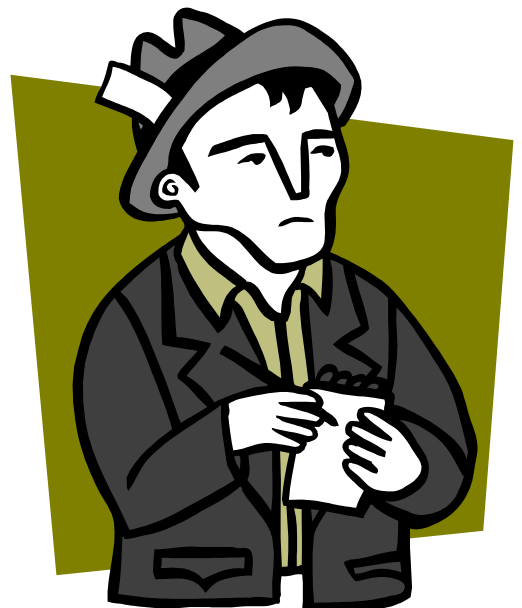
Unfortunate we have also lost some member this year with the most recent being our oldest member John Andrews.

Don't forget the CMSS Facebook page to see if we can attract some younger members to the society. I have already received some queries through the face book page already. The address of the face-book page is www.facebook.com/canberramodelshipwrights. So if you on Facebook please visit the page and help promote it.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter.

Joe Allen

Editor



President's Letter Continued

there closer to the time. There is no meeting in January, however the Committee will meet during January to establish a direction for the Society in 2016 which will be discussed at the February meeting. Please provide some ideas as to what you would like to see, it is your Society and input is vital.

The AGM will be conducted in April and this is your chance to nominate for the Committee positions, including that of President. My sincere thanks go to the current team for their hard work in ensuring the CMSS is well represented and respected in the modelling world. I am sure they would welcome a break, as would I, so please give it some thought.

In closing I would like to thank you all for your support during the year and I look forward to 2016 as being another great year for the CMSS.

Best wishes for the New Year,

Bob Evans
President



In Memory - John Andrews

It was with sadness that we heard that long time CMMS member John Andrews recently passed away at the age on 99.

My wife and I had the pleasure at staying at John place some yeas ago when we visited the Illawarra model show.

He kept us entertained with his many stories of his long amazing life. John had more stories than a library. John was an avid model builder even at his age kept building some interesting models.

I personally want to send our condolences to John's family.



CMSS 2015 Christmas Function

The 2015 Christmas function was held at Bob Evan's place this year. I must say in all the years I have been with the Society this was the best attended Christmas function I have attended.

There were over 20 members and their partners who had a great day and not to mention had some excellent foods.

It was a perfect day with great atmosphere and excellent company. Below are some photos from the day.



CMSS Christmas Photos - Continued



Cape Leveque Lighthouse – By Max Fitton

Cape Leveque lighthouse is situated on the northern point of the Dampier Peninsular about 200 Kms north of Broome.

For those who have never had the opportunity to go there get the use of a good 4WD vehicle and give it a go. It is a delightful part of the world.

There are lots of rocks and reefs around the area and the lighthouse was built in 1909 in response to companies shipping between Fremantle, Northern ports and Singapore



Two views of the light from offshore



A view from the Kooljaman Park car park

Here are some technical details for those who might be interested. The lighthouse is situated at latitude $16^{\circ} 23' 47.44$ and longitude $122^{\circ} 55' 32.31$. It is a conical cast iron tower 28' high and built at a cost of LStg 9,219. It was manufactured in Perth by Bela Makutz to a design specified by the State Public Works Department.

The original 2.69m kerosene lantern was yet another Chance Bros built machine and emitted 25,000 candle power.

The tower itself is 13.3m high but is 142.4m above the high water mark and is visible for 14 miles.

Cape Leveque Lighthouse - continued

The light was operated by the State Government from its opening to 1915 when on July 1 the responsibility was passed to the Commonwealth.

There are two lighthouse keepers cottages that replaced the original house built for two people, and are still there to this day but now used as staff quarters for the Kooljaman Tourist Park

In 1967 the lighthouse was modified to enable it to run off electricity and the old kerosene vapour lamp was replaced by a 1000 watt tungsten halogen lamp producing 1,000,000 candelas and the original clockwork mechanism was replaced by an electric motor. Subsequently in 1985 it was converted to solar power and the original lens replaced by an AGAPRB rotating light operating all year round and the lighthouse was demanned. The lamp is now located in the Fremantle Maritime Museum.

As usual the lighthouse is in a dominating position and looks really lovely from all round (see above). Access is easy by a short walk up a boardwalk and view from there is lovely as is so often the case with lighthouses. Cape Leveque is a delightful spot and my friend and I thoroughly enjoyed the time we spent there.

Panart Armed Launch Part 1- By Bob Evans

I purchased this kit at the September Expo from Gary Renshaw. Gary's dog had apparently chewed a piece of the box thus rendering the kit commercially unacceptable but within the scope of my pocket money!

I am now wondering how the dog can be encouraged to eat more boxes.

The subject : An armed launch , 10 metres in length, used by various different navies during the 19th century.

The launches were armed with naval guns of different calibre and type, in the bow a cannon or carronade was fitted whilst the stern carried two light cannons. Must have been a bit uncomfortable!

The kit: Claims to be an exact reproduction in 1:16 scale, and probably is judging by the amount of detail included. **The quality of the materials is excellent and it's not hard to see why these kits are somewhat more expensive than some others on the market.** The fittings provided are excellent and first impressions were that this would be a delightful model to build.

I found the plans a little difficult to work around. The drawings all have Italian wording but this is not a problem if you use google translate and there is a booklet with English steps laid out which follow the plan numbers (1 to 4). The plans contain a multitude of drawings which are sometimes difficult to locate, I think because the plans have been laid out using not so much logic, rather availability of space.

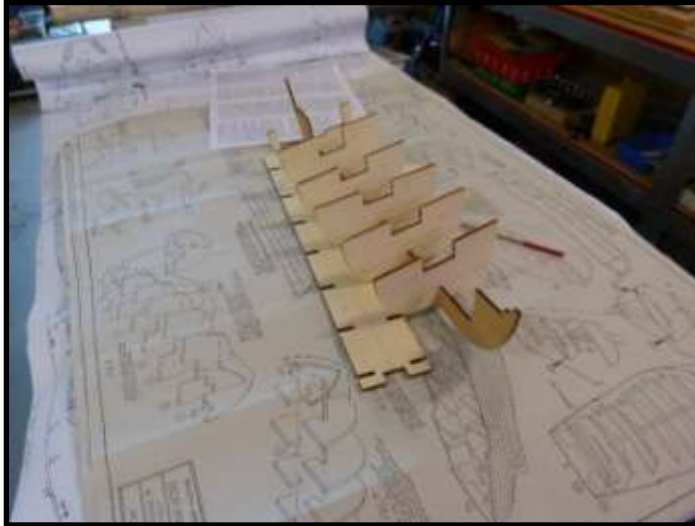
It pays to spend as much time as is needed to fully understand the plans, particularly the materials to be used. **There is virtually no allowance for spare material so you need to be doubly sure what's what.**



Panart Armed Launch Part 1– Continued

The photos give you an idea of what's in the box. In addition there are the usual laser cut frames, keel, decks and a construction template. There is also a stand but it's not very substantial and is best replaced.

Construction: Traditional plank on frame in concept, but that's where the similarity ends! The keel and frames are all laser cut and the fit is somewhat slack. This does not help as almost everything has to be dry fitted to enable removal at a later stage. There is a jig provided which is supposed to hold the whole structure together during planking but again it is a loose fit and therefore difficult to cope with. It is best to screw this to the keel whilst the planking is being done. The photo below shows the idea.



The frames have been part laser cut so that the top parts can be separated and removed, leaving the bottom parts to be glued in place when the planking is completed.

This means of course that the planks themselves can only be edge glued except in the extreme fore and aft parts. Very difficult when you are dealing with 1mm planking. The idea of course is to ensure that the first layer of planking is free of glue and sits perfectly as this will be the very visible interior on completion. This area gave me a great deal of problems as trying to get the planks to lie properly, particularly around the bow, I found almost impossible and very frustrating. The frames were taped with double edge tape to prevent them gluing to the frames



Panart Armed Launch Part 1– Continued

You may get some idea from the photo below but it does not really show the extent of the problem.

The second layer of planking seemed to stiffen things up a little so I differed from the instructions by doing some planking below the turn of the bilge and completing the first and second layers of planking to just below the upper part of the frame so that I could remove the top half of the frames and actually glue a few things together. The photo below shows this



Planking then became less frustrating and I continued until the top two layers had been completed. What you should then have is a shell with the inner planking visible, the second layer which can be laid anyway you like and the third layer which is the good outer skin. You now have a hull which is 3mm thick and reasonably stable.

I was not happy with the inside planking so I added an additional 0.5mm layer of planking from the spares box on areas that would be visible.

The photo below shows this planking as well as the sub deck on which the bottom boards and gratings will be installed. I also added the forward deck and bulkhead, primarily to cover up the dreadful planking in the bow area!



When the outermost layer of planking is done this can be sanded (not too enthusiastically!) to a relatively smooth surface, we are not trying to hide the planks remember.

Work can then progress on the insides with the ribs and the stringers which are fastened to the ribs. These will

Panart Armed Launch Part 1– Continued

support the thwarts so it is important to ensure that both sides are level and that the rib positions are the same on both sides.

The walnut timber supplied for the side benches and thwarts is of very good quality and easy to work with. Plans and instructions are fairly easy to follow through these stages. I had a small problem with the gratings in that there was not sufficient to avoid joining sections which did not look too flash, simple solution was to order some more from Gary.

The bulwark capping timber is supplied with the kit, however the means of construction is to accurately cut and join a number of sections so that the bow section was achieved. This was never going to look much good and would necessitate painting to hide the joints. Thanks to Bruce G who cut new ones for me. The effect is much better and a varnished finish can be achieved. The curved sections from the stern to the lower forward level were also remade as the kit supplied material was walnut whilst the balance was lime.



A couple of photos to show where we are up to at the moment. Next newsletter I will cover fittings , mast, cannons and so forth and show the completed model.

That's optimism for you!

Hints—by Bob Evans

Blackening brass and metal fittings

I was looking for a means to blacken brass fittings, specifically for my model of the Panart armed launch. Gary Renshaw suggested “Blacken It” and the website led me to a forum which suggested that a product called “Birchwood Casey Brass Black metal finish” was the ultimate product.

This is of course an American product, however further searching showed that this was available through Western Firearms in Sydney (http://westernfirearms.com.au/advanced_search_result.php?keywords=brass+black&x=15&y=5)

The service was excellent, delivery prompt and the product worked in a very short space of time. Whatever is being blackened must be squeaky clean, free of grease etc. It does not seem to take too well to solder.



USS Canberra - by Ronald J. Rimi

We received the following from Mr Ronald J. Rimi (Senior Chief Petty Officer, USNR-Ret) from East Boothbay ME, USA and I thought it was worthy enough to share with the rest of the CMSS members.

These are Ron's words and I hope you enjoy the photos. Thanks for sharing with us Ron.

I'm a modeller in the U.S—built a 1/96 RC scale model of teh heavy cruiser USS Canberra and her guided missile configuration. I was crew from '66-'68, and had the good fortune to visit Melbourne on her back in '68.

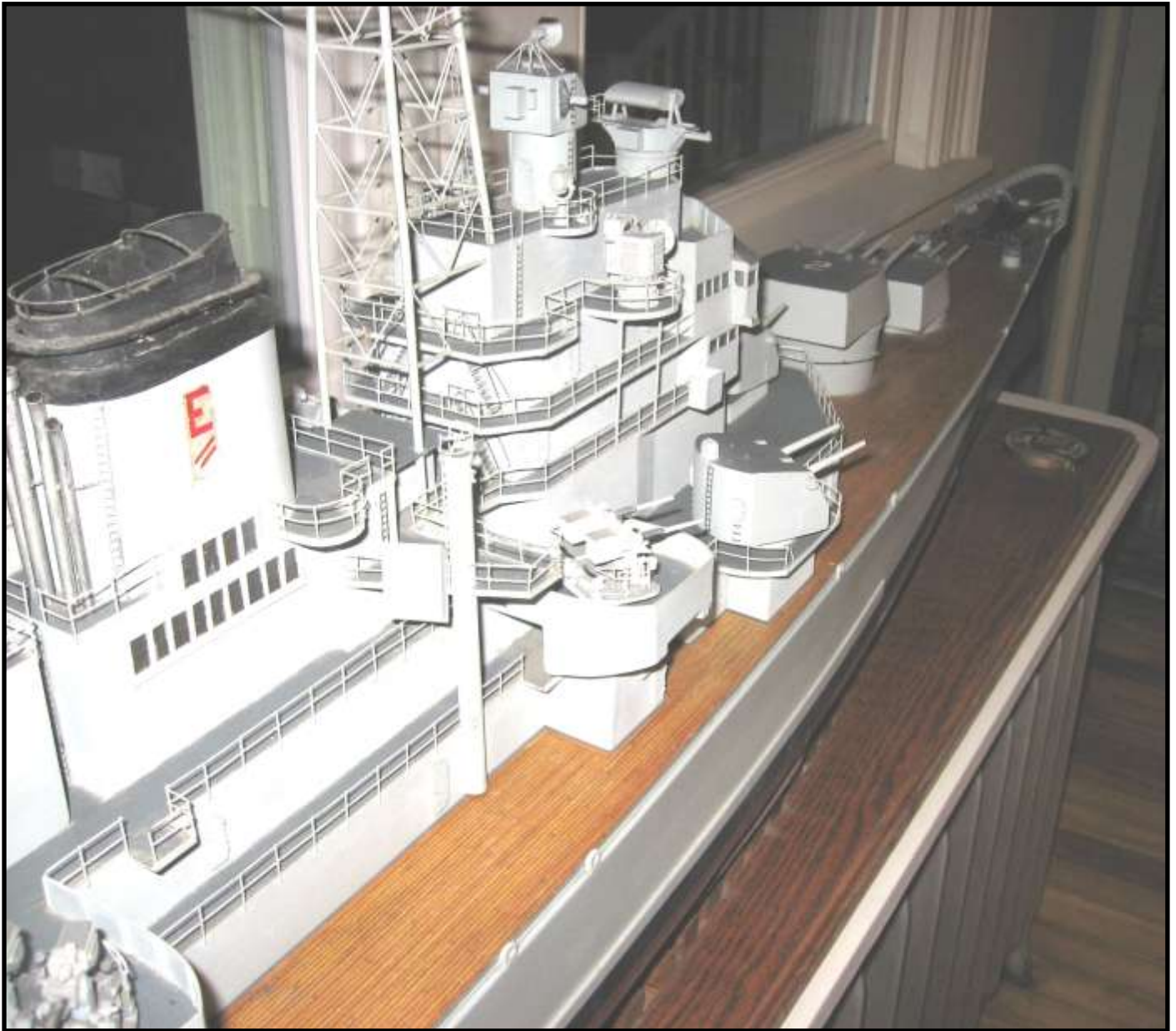
As you may have noticed, the deck is constructed of all individual planks, joggled in accordance with construction standards. I waslucky enough to obtain a foot log section of the ship's actual deck plank-ing after she was decommissioned. Being teak though, the grain was much to coarse (and wood hard) to incorporate into the model.

Also have a piece of 'North Vietnam' shrapnel we dug out of our missile fire-control director. Nice souvenirs ... (along with very fond memories of OZ).

USS Canberra Photos



USS Canberra Photos



CMSS at Wagga 2015

Below are some photos taken by Bob Evans of the CMSS display at the Wagga Models show.



CMSS Wagga Photos



SCALE ACT 2015

CMSS was on display again at this years ACT Scale Model Society Scale ACT. As usual there were some great model on display, and plenty to spend you money on. Good time had by all.

