

The **BLIZZARD**



NEWSLETTER OF THE MAWSON'S HUTS FOUNDATION

July 2018



**AUSTRALIAN
ANTARCTIC**
FESTIVAL

2-5 AUGUST 2018 - HOBART TASMANIA

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

The second Australian Antarctic Festival in Hobart on Aug 2-3-4-5 will include a display of just over 8000 small plywood penguins painted by school children from Tasmania, NSW, Victoria and Queensland. They will be on show in the Cruise Ship terminal, mounted on special boards along with the names of the participating schools.

Two Antarctic ships, the ice breaker *Aurora Australis* and the CSIRO's *Investigator* will be open to the public for an entry fee of just \$5 on Saturday Aug 4 and Sunday August 5. Parties of school children have already booked to go on board the two ships on the first two days of the festival at no charge.

The public will also be able to view a RAAF C-17 Globemaster used to supply Antarctic bases while Princes Wharf will be full of exhibits including images of Australia's new ice breaker currently being built in Romania. It will come into service in 2020.

Bookings can be made through the Australian Antarctic Festival's website via the following links:

[Globemaster tours](#)

[Antarctic Research Ships.](#)

Just follow the link and scroll down the page to make a booking.

ARTISTS PAINT LARGE PENGUINS

Selected artists in Tasmania are painting one metre tall fibre glass penguins which will be offered for sale during the forthcoming Antarctic festival. The penguins will be on display at the Waterside Pavilion, Mawson's Place, Hobart.

Images of the penguins and their price will be listed on both the Replica and Foundation websites later this month.



Anyone interested please contact The Foundation on info@mawsons-huts.org.au

GRAVE OF AAE MEMBER TO BE RECOGNISED

The grave of Sidney Harry Jeffryes, Mawson's relief wireless operator in 1913 at Caper Denison, will at last be recognised.

Since 1942 his grave in the Ararat Cemetery has been marked simply as Plot CE 3897. Queensland born Jeffryes suffered a mental breakdown at Cape Denison and sent wireless message to Mawson's team on Macquarie Island where a wireless relay station had been established, saying his six companions were trying to murder him, and he was the only sane person.

(Jeffryes cont...)

The Foundation is having a plaque made for his grave at the suggestion of Terry Schulz, a member of the Foundation's Society after he took a cruise to Cape Denison with Chimu Adventures last January.

Jeffryes was admitted to the Ararat Mental Hospital soon after his return in 1914 and died there 28 years later.

ANTARCTIC DOCUMENTARIES

Two important documentaries on Douglas Mawson's AAE expedition will have their premieres at the Australian Antarctic Festival in Hobart August 2-3-4-5.

An hour long documentary titled **“Saving Australia’s Antarctic Heritage”** traces the history and conservation of Mawson's Huts at Cape Denison, East Antarctica, will be available for purchase in late July. It was produced by the Foundation with the assistance of a grant from the Federal Department’s Protecting National Historic Sites Programme. The documentary includes footage never before seen and interviews with some of the specialist heritage carpenters, conservators and others who have worked to conserve the historic buildings

Produced mainly as an educational tool to help promote the history of Douglas Mawson's Australasian Antarctic Expedition, it will be offered to schools around Australia and in selected countries overseas as well as to airlines, long distance trains and national TV.

Orders can be placed with the Foundation, email: info@mawsons-huts.org.au. The cost will be \$35 plus postage of \$5 within Australia, \$12 to the UK, \$8 to NZ and \$10 to the US.

The Mertz documentary was produced by Swiss Television with the assistance of the Foundation. The documentary is based on the voyage of Mertz which was retraced by his biographer, Swiss journalist Jost Auf der Maur and Swiss Television writer and producer, Dr Lisa Roeoesli as part of the Chimu Adventures Antarctic cruise in December 2017/January 2018.

The documentary, “Xavier Mertz - Tracing a Fatal Journey”, had its premier screening in Basel, Switzerland in June 2018. Xavier was a Swiss explorer, mountaineer and skier, from Basel. He took part in the Far Eastern Scientific and Exploration Party, a 1912–13 component of the AAE, which claimed his life. The Mertz Glacier in East Antarctic is named after him.

MOBILE ANTARCTIC CLASSROOM

The Foundation's Mobile Antarctic Classroom will be on display for the first time at the Festival. Visits to schools and communities will begin shortly in Tasmania and bookings for these will be taken by the Foundation.

School children will be able to handle and inspect rocks 2.49 billion years old from the Antarctic provided by the Australian Antarctic Division. They will also be able to download Antarctic facts and statistics, view images of Antarctic wildlife, animation of Antarctica forming after the break-up of the super continent Gondwana and study maps of the white continent.



ANTARCTIC TIMELINE

The Foundation is planning to erect a timeline showing Hobart's Antarctic history adjacent to the Replica Museum just prior to the festival opening.

The 20 metre long sign will trace Hobart's historic links with the white continent with a brief description of all the significant events including the occupation of Tasmania before European discovery.

It is hoped the sign now going through an approval process by the Hobart City Council will help tell the story of the city's historic links with Antarctica.

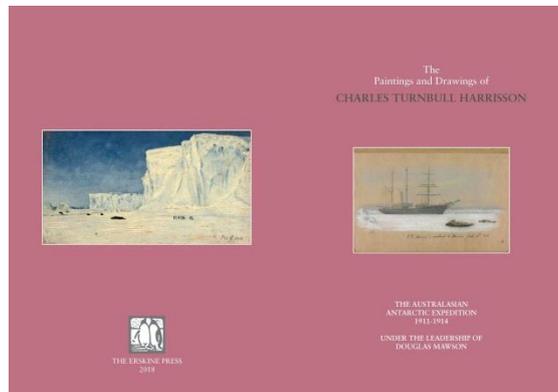
It has been generously sponsored by The Cameron Family.

Timeline Image.



PANEL 1

LIMITED EDITION OFFERING FROM THE UK



Erskine Press, a UK publishing company specialising in Antarctic books and owned by Sydney born Crispin de Boos, is producing a stunning limited edition package which includes:

THE PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS OF CHARLES TURNBULL HARRISSON - 36pp + cover, soft back on art paper full cover 55 pictures

CHARLES TURNBULL HARRISSON - A LIFE: 16pp + cover, booklet 15 pictures
ANTARCTIC DIARY OF ALEXANDER KENNEDY - Hardback, cloth bound, blocked on cover and spine; 192pp 60 pictures

ANTARCTIC DIARY OF DOUGALD WATSON - Hardback, cloth bound, blocked on cover and spine, 260pp, 70 pictures

FULL COLOUR MAP OF QUEEN MARY LAND - removable.

CERTIFICATE OF COPY NUMBER.

All in a rigid slip-case

Harrison, Kennedy and Watson were all members of Mawson's Western party led by the legendary Frank Wild, the only person to be awarded the Polar medal with four bars.

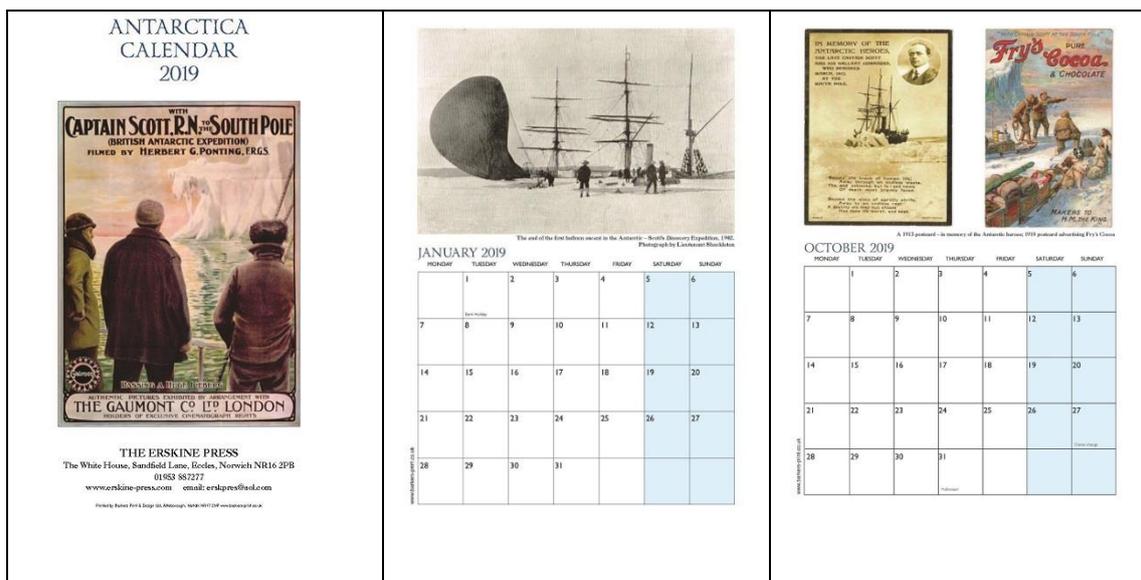
The presentation package is currently being finalised and orders can be placed through the Foundation or the Mawson's Huts Replica Museum. The cost will be \$180 dollars plus postage which will be provided at time of purchase. Please email info@mawsons-huts.org.au

Harrison was the only Tasmanian member of the AAE and his grandson, Geoff Harrison, who lives in Hobart, has kindly agreed to sign copies purchased through the Foundation.

Erskine Press is attempting to complete the presentation pack in time for the festival but if not it will be in Australia shortly after.

The company has also produced a stunning 2019 calendar with wonderful and rarely seen images from the heroic era. It includes some taken by Australia's Frank Hurley.

The Foundation has only 40, which are available for \$35 plus postage of \$15 within Australia.



Just in case you miss out on the Erskine Press calendar the Foundation is producing its own with images of Mawson's Huts. This will be available in August for \$30 plus postage of \$15 within Australia.

CHIMU WOULD LIKE YOUR HELP

Our friends at Chimu Adventures, the Foundation's major sponsor, are currently looking for participants for an hour-long focus group to be conducted in their Sydney Office. Are you over 50 years of age and are interested in travel, Chimu would love to talk to you, in return you will receive nominal compensation for your time. Please contact Dee at dee@chimuadventures.com for more information.



Chimu run a number of exclusive cruises to the Antarctic, cruises that are not available through any other operator, prices start at \$7480 AUD. Visit www.chimuadventures.com for more information.

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.



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

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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