

The **BLIZZARD**



NEWSLETTER OF THE MAWSON'S HUTS FOUNDATION

May 2018

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

Planning for the second Australian Antarctic Festival is well under way. If you intend to visit Hobart for the Australian Antarctic Festival on August 2-3-4-5 you should consider booking now as hotels are starting to fill up.

There is a great programme with two Antarctic ships (the ice-breaker *Aurora Australis* and the CSIRO's research vessel *Investigator*) open to the public on Saturday Aug 4 and Sunday Aug 5. These will be open to school children only on the first two days of the festival. The RAAF will have one of its giant freighters, C 17 Globemaster, open for the public at Hobart airport for the weekend.

Admission to these events will be strictly by ticket. Tickets will be available for purchase through the festival website AntarcticFestival2018. Keep an eye on the site for these as they will likely be snapped up very quickly.

It is envisaged that up to 10,000 school children from throughout Australia will participate in the Australian Festival Penguin Project. Schools are being invited to paint 50 plywood penguins which will then be displayed during the festival. This was a popular exhibit in the 2016 festival and we are sure will be again.



We're seeking artists to paint one metre high fibre glass penguins which will be displayed and sold during the festival. This was a feature during the 2016 event and was a great success.

Artists (preferably from Tasmania to save on freight costs) are being offered 40 per cent of the nett sales price. Should they wish to donate their share to the conservation of Mawson's Huts it will be gratefully accepted.

If you know of any artists who might like to participate please pass the information along. Closing dates for return of painted penguins is 10th July.



Shore Preparatory School in Sydney is sending a choir to perform at St David's Church, there is an opportunity to experience an Antarctic freeze chamber, the premier of two Antarctic films will be held along with displays of equipment used in the Antarctic. There will be small charge for this event. Please check the Festival Programme when it is released.

Details about the photographic competition are available on the website. Click here for more details - [Photographic Competition](#)

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

DON'T MISS THIS CRUISE TO COMMONWEALTH BAY.

There's another cruise by Chimu Adventures headed to Commonwealth Bay, East Antarctica scheduled for next summer. The cruise will explore the history of Sir Douglas Mawson and will attempt to visit the Mawson's Huts (conditions dependent) at Cape Denison. Berths are limited and there is already demand for the 28 day cruise, departing Hobart on December 10, 2018.

The cruise takes in Macquarie Island on the way south and after Cape Denison returns to Bluff, New Zealand taking in visits to the beautiful sub Antarctic Islands of NZ.

These include the Snares, Auckland and Campbell Islands which are teeming with wildlife.

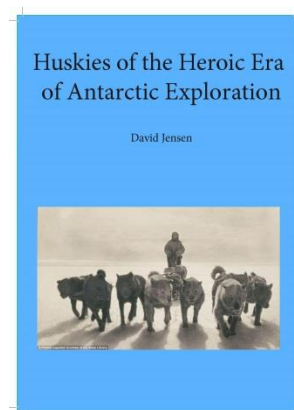
For further details please email australia@chimuadventures.com.

HUSKIE SCULPTURE IN BRONZE

The life sized bronze of two huskies and a sledge was unveiled on 12th March outside the Mawson's Huts Replica Museum, Hobart. It is proving to be quite popular. We would like to thank everyone who donated through our GoFundMe campaign which assisted in raising the funds to complete.

The sculpture is quickly becoming one of the most photographed pieces of art on the city's waterfront. Commissioned by the Foundation in memory of huskies which have served in the Antarctic, it was unveiled by the deputy Lord Mayor of Hobart Ron Christie with 100 guests.

Coupled with the unveiling was the launch of a book titled "Huskies of the Heroic Era of Antarctic Exploration" written by Foundation chairman David Jensen. The 76 pages cover the history of huskies used by Mawson, Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen and British heroes Scott and Shackleton. It is available for purchase through either the Replica Museum or the Foundation at a cost of \$20 (plus postage of \$2.50). Copies ordered through the Foundation will be personally signed by the author.



DOCUMENTARY

A full length documentary on the history and conservation of Mawson's Huts at Cape Denison, East Antarctica, will be completed by end of June.

Produced by the Foundation with the help of a Federal Government special grant, the documentary covers not only the building of the huts in January-February 1912, but the men of Mawson's expedition who lived in them and the conservation work which started in the 1970s and was then continued by the Foundation since 1997.

It contains some of the original film by Frank Hurley and spectacular footage taken of the conservation work which saved the huts being blown into the Southern Ocean. The documentary also features interviews with the Director of the Australian Antarctic Division Dr Nick Gales, legendary mountaineer and explorer Greg Mortimer and conservation and heritage experts. We are planning to launch the completed documentary during the festival.

MOBILE ANTARCTIC CLASSROOM

The Mobile Antarctic Classroom being designed and built by the Foundation should be completed and operating by the end June. It is designed to take Antarctica to schools and communities in regional Australia. The Bus will initially tour Tasmania where the final fit-out is being done.

There has already been interest from schools wanting to book a visit.

While small it will contain images and maps of the Antarctic and Mawson's Huts, rock specimens from the Antarctic which children will be able to hold and a Virtual Reality experience by donning a special headset. We have also included some surprises. Schools will be asked to pay for the visit to help cover operational costs. Please contact the Foundation, info@mawsons-huts.org.au for further details.

The Antarctic classroom is being funded in part by a special grant from the federal Government's Department of Environment and Energy.



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 available in Mandarin at the museum.

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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