



MEDIA RELEASE

TALL SHIPS TO VISIT THE 2016 YANMAR WOODEN BOAT SHOP WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL OF GEELONG.

"The YANMAR WOODEN BOAT SHOP – WOODEN BOAT FESTIVAL OF GEELONG is excited to announce that the Tall Ship ENTERPRIZE and ALEXANDER STEWART will be attending the 2016 Wooden Boat Festival which will be held at the Royal Geelong Yacht Club – March 12-14, 2016.

About *Enterprize*

Enterprize is an all-timber, carvel planked, two masted, topsail schooner. She is single decked, square transomed, with crossing yards on her foremast.

She has been traditionally constructed using Australian and New Zealand grown timbers.

The original *Enterprize* was built in Hobart in 1830 by William Harvey and William Pender as part of the early coastal trading fleets of southern Australia. At that time most bulk cargo was transported by sea. *Enterprize* carried cargo such as coal and, on one occasion, over 180 sheep.

In April 1835, *Enterprize* was purchased by John Pascoe Fawcner to search for a suitable place to found a new settlement in the Port Phillip District. *Enterprize* sailed from Launceston on 21st July 1835, but only travelled as far as George Town in northern Tasmania, where Fawcner was forced to remain by his creditors. *Enterprize* then departed George Town on 1st August 1835 under Captain Peter Hunter.



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The Enterprize is a replica of the ship that brought the first white settlers to Melbourne in 1835.

The Original *Enterprize* 1830-1845



On board was Captain John Lancey, Master Mariner (Fawkner's representative); George Evans, builder; William Jackson and Robert Marr, carpenters; Evan Evans, servant to George Evans and Pascoe Fawkner's servants, Charles Wise, a ploughman, Thomas Morgan, general servant, James Gilbert, a blacksmith and his pregnant wife Mary.

Searching for a place to settle, the party looked first at Westernport and then at the eastern side of Port Phillip. They eventually found the Yarra River, and after warping (hauling on ropes attached to the river bank) the ship upstream, they moored the *Enterprize* alongside the river bank at the foot of the present day William Street. On Sunday the 30 August the settlers disembarked and at once began to put up their tents, build their store and clear some land for growing vegetables.

Permanent settlement at Melbourne had begun.

After this, *Enterprize* continued operating as a coastal trading vessel for a number of years. She eventually disappeared off the shipping register in 1847, having been wrecked on the bar of the Richmond River in northern New South Wales, with the loss of two lives.



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History of the Alexander Stewart



In the late 60's the Mitchell family along with a good friend decided they would build a vessel to sail the oceans of the world including a journey into the Arctic Circle. The design was of great concern—the vessel had to carry 18 people over long journeys and in close company. After much deliberation, the Alexander Stewart was inspired by and styled after the famous ship which Joshua Slocum achieved the first solo circumnavigation of the globe in 1898. This is one of the most famous sailing adventure stories of sailing around the world single handed.

The Alexander Stewart was hand built in Sydney over 17 years by three generations of the Mitchell Family and is the celebration of Australia's ship building and wooden boat craftsmanship skill. Commenced by Grandfather Alexander Stewart Mitchell, and passed down to his son Clive and his son Ivan the vessel is a work of art as well as a work of love.

Their eye to detail and craftsmanship has created one of the best presented vessels chartering in the Whitsunday's with the unique layout of nine private cabins. The classic charm and rich timber fit out along with spacious open decks make a perfect vessel for island exploration.

She now calls Melbourne home and takes visitors out on Port Phillip Bay from her Docklands home. We are looking forward to her being part of our 2016 festival.



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Stuart Dickson, Wooden Boat Festival Chairman “

The YANMAR Wooden Boat Shop is the MAJOR (Naming Rights) partner of the **2016 Wooden Boat Festival**, which is the second largest traditional, heritage based wooden boat event in Australia.

ENDS:

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