

## THE AH1733 KRAWARREE 80FT SEA AMBULANCE



### HISTORY OF THE KRAWARREE

The 'AH Krawarree' (known as AH 1733) is one of five boats built and used during World War II as an Army Sea Ambulance. This ship is the only one left that was built in Tasmania in 1944 and the last remaining Sea Ambulance in Australia.

The *Krawarree* Project Inc. is a non-profit community group established to manage the restoration of the ship.

All five boats had a very shallow draft (hull) to go out to shallow rivers and shallow bays with a boom at the back attached to the mast. This boom would swing out with a stretcher to put injured soldiers on a stretcher and lower them down onto the operating table.

They were designed to transport up to 33 injured personnel and transfer them to a hospital ship or to a safer location. It is also designed for one officer and 10 other personnel.

Tasmanian Huon pine logs were used to build the 80-foot vessel, felled in the Upper Franklin Mountains and floated down the Franklin River.

The *Krawarree* is registered on the Australia Register of Historic Vessels and is currently at the entrance to Heritage Park, Pimpana QLD.

The Gold Coast Council has generously offered to sponsor the relocation together with an AMSA approved wooden boat survey.

## **KRAWARREE NEEDS A HOME**

The Management Team of The *Krawarree* Project Inc. has approached COMS Maritime Trainers and Assessors (College of Marine Studies) to manage the restoration of the boat. This long-term project will require significant financial support and in kind sponsorship. The Tasmanian Government (Forestry Tasmania) has a timber bank e.g. Huon Pine to be used for restoration and worthy projects such as this.

The first and most important step is to find a permanent home for the boat while restoration takes place.

Ideally, the *Krawarree* will be homed in a public place where visitors can view the process. It is expected to draw significant visitor numbers for the estimated four years and four million dollar project.

The goal of the project is to bring the *Krawarree* back to minimum 2C Survey.

**There are four broad approaches to restorative work:**

**PRESERVATION** – retaining existing fabric and arresting any decay.

**RESTORATION** – returning vessel to an earlier state, removing additions and using minimal new material.

**RECONSTRUCTION** – returning the vessel to an earlier state but using significantly new material in fabric.

**ADAPTATION** – modifying to meet a new use such as improved safety.

## **FUNDING, SPONSORSHIP AND IN KIND ASSISTANCE**

### **MARITIME MUSEUMS OF AUSTRALIA PROJECT SUPPORT SCHEME (MMAPSS)**

The museum's grant and internship program (known as the Maritime Museums of Australia Project Support Scheme or MMAPSS) offers funding to regional museums and organisations to help preserve or display objects of national and historical maritime significance.

It also supports staff or volunteers, from remote or regional organisations, to spend time learning specific skills and making valuable connections.

Many cultural institutions around the country care for maritime items of historical and national significance. The museum supports and encourages efforts to conserve and display unique local objects for today's audiences and future generations.

## WORK FOR THE DOLE

The Krawarree Project Inc. is accredited for the Work for the Dole programme which places job seekers in activities where they can gain skills and experience that give back to the community and can help them find a job.

Work for the Dole activities can be hosted by not-for-profit organisations and government agencies. The program gives organisations an extra set of hands to help to undertake activities that would not normally be done.

Particular focus will be to support community goals and help support achievable and meaningful career pathways for Indigenous job seekers.

## REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATIONS

Registered training organisations (RTOs) are those training providers registered by ASQA (or, in some cases, a state regulator) to deliver vocational education and training (VET) services. RTOs are recognised as providers of quality-assured and nationally recognised training and qualifications.

## THE FUTURE OF KRAWARREE

- Marine Training Services – COMS has established a partnership to provide accredited commercial marine training
- Whale and Dolphin Research - The Cape Byron Whale Research Project, and the Oceania Project (Trish and Wally Franklin), involve long-term research on humpback whales and are conducted at Cape Byron, in northern NSW, and in Hervey Bay, Queensland, Australia.
- Australian Seabird Rescue - Members deliver training for the capture, handling and first aid of seabirds, shorebirds and other wildlife found along our coastline.
- Dolphin Research Australia – Dr Elizabeth Hawkins from Southern Cross University is founding director with a strong focus on management and conservation prioritisation to address key threatening processes to dolphins and the marine environment. Specialist training packages have been developed for indigenous rangers and environmental managers in marine fauna incident responses, biocultural monitoring and marine guiding.
- Military use – commemorative events
- Daytrips
- On-board hospitality training

The *Krawarree* Project Inc. and The College of Marine Studies will partner with the Devonport Council who successfully restored the fishing vessel, The

*Julie Burgess*, by the same boat builders, Ned Jack who built the *Krawarree AH1733* in Launceston, Tasmania.

See here for further information

<http://bassstraitmaritimecentre.com.au/julie-burgess/restoration/>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE KRAWARREE PROJECT

PLEASE CONTACT

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