

PV JOHN OXLEY RESTORATION

PROGRESS REPORT August 2019.

Vital Fundraising is needed: For the efficient continuation of this historic magnificent vessel's restoration which will enable the *John Oxley* to be brought into operation, providing to the public, static display tours over the ship, a historic venue for catered functions and meetings and cruises in both Sydney Harbour and short coastal voyages.

A quick link to place your valuable Tax Deductable donations is: <https://buy.shf.org.au/donations> please be sure to type in the appeal preference box "John Oxley". Thank you.

Planning & Naval Architect: Regular meetings continue and it has been resolved as follows:

Anchors & Chain: To purchase, two Hall or Byers 500kg anchors and two 160m of 32mm stud link chain. The 32mm chain being required to match the existing gypsies on the ships windlass.

Well Deck Doors: The doors in the Bullwarks are planned to be 1200mm each

Pilots Saloon: The Bob Ellis team have almost completed the fit out of the saloon. Pictures show off this excellent work.

Workshop: The Fabrication team, continues to fabricate steel sheet for the ship and the "Hot Riveting Team" has been currently riveting the Bullwarks and along the Mates Cabin on the Port side. A very popular job on these cold strong windy days for the rivet cookers and not so popular for Steve & Alex out in the wind on the Scissor Lift awaiting arrival of the hot rivets. The Starboard Side well deck Bullwarks are now almost complete.

Boiler Room vent Stacks fabricated by the Workshop Fabrication Team are now being installed by Gordon Robertson on the Boat Deck complete with Fantech fans to extract the hot air in the future.

Fire Lines: Cutting and fitting fire service lines throughout the ship is continuing under the leadership of Ian Bird with Chris Ford assisting. Currently fitting is in progress in the Bunker Hold. Sounds simple but involves cutting pipe, tack welding elbows and other fittings, threading ends for valves, testing the fit of prepared pipes onto brackets, dismantling, final welding of the tack welded joints, sending off site for complimentary galvanising and then final fitting to the ship – quite an achievement!

Engine Room: Minor work continues in the virtually completed engine room and pictures depict the work of the Carpentry Team's completion of the Engineers shelving in the Propeller Tunnel, now awaiting the painter extraordinaire Sandy Robertson to add some colour to them.

Volunteer Positions Vacant: Readers are reminded that more volunteers are required both on board the ship and in the workshop situated at Rozelle Bay. Anyone is welcome skilled or un-skilled, as we train volunteers! The following key areas of experience and interest would also be much appreciated: *Steel Fabrication, Carpentry, Painting, Boiler Restoration, Machining in the Workshop, Electrical, Scissor Lift operators, Crane operators & Dogmen.* Please contact our Volunteer Services Team on 02 9298 3888 or vservices@shf.org.au and mention volunteering on John Oxley.

Masters Cabin & Chartroom: Ian Ferrier and his team are making good progress restoring this area of the ship

Caulking the Hull: The Caulking Company of Volunteers continue their fantastic progress now on the port side of the vessel.

The following pictures support the progress achieved.

Michael Schultz 13th August 2019.



Bill Edwards with a look of grim determination as he walks swiftly from the rivet cooker to job site with gleaming hot rivet in his tongs.



Electrical Team replacing circuitry on the drive of a donated milling machine.



The hot rivet reached its destination in the Mates Cabin. Jack is holding the pneumatic dolly and Steve is that smiling guy outside on the Scissor Lift who was riveting with the gun.





The Pilots Saloon beautiful refit thanks to Bob Ellis and company and below the Engineers shelving in the propeller tunnel installed by the same Team.



Main Hold seawater injection valve.



The Forecastle: Dismal pictures, readers have been accustomed to viewing pictures of restoration progress. The three pictures above show the internal sections of the stripped-out forecastle. The whole ship was looking like this which further indicates the huge progress made to date. Work in this area is starting and readers will be able to view improvements in future reports.