

The Promenade

The Promenade is still very much on the agenda and on track with the environmental impact report now in the hands of the Hobart City Council.

Just to acquaint us all, where The Promenade has come from, here is a summary of its history.

Although a proposed path around the foreshore of Battery Point predates the great depression of the early 1930s it was in that era that such a project was again considered by the premier of the day Albert Olgilvie together with another make-work scheme – the pinnacle road to Mount Wellington.

Ever since **at about 15 year** intervals different proposals have been put forward with varying degrees of public acceptance.

The present proposal called The Promenade was born when I was invited by Des Hanlon of the National Trust to inspect the historical Mariners Cottage located on what was a major slip yard and is now a public park with various small shipping activities still carried out on the shoreline.

While Des and I were enjoying the **outline of the waterfront** it was agreed that a path of a suitable design would enhance the opportunity for the public to enjoy this area as well as being a safe, easy, scenic route to Sandy Bay from Sullivans Cove and the City.

About this time the Hobart City Council was suggesting projects to commemorate the **bicentenary of Hobart** of which none seemed to grab me or the public.

I suggested at a Hobart Bicycle Advisory meeting that in the event of these proposals falling over we should have a proposal / a vision for a walk / cycle way around Battery Point on the drawing board ready to fill this anticipated vacuum.

This had much appeal and subsequently the momentum generated has often left me floundering to keep up.

Learning from the last previous abortive proposal we set out first to educate the city councillors so that they could withstand the considerable onslaught which we expected to eventuate.

Over a matter of weeks both Des and myself organized **a foreshore walk** at low tide to point out how difficult to impossible it was to get around this piece of public land.

With a HCC digital camera and a yacht owned by Bill Foster, a friend of Des Hanlon, a series of pictures were taken by Rowan Burns from the deck of the yacht to be later ‘stitched’ together to make a telling panorama of the Battery Point. The graphic thus constructed by

those mentioned has been a useful tool in presenting a powerful case for The Promenade.

We then organized, with the National Trust, a well attended breakfast at the Mariners Cottage to explain our vision of The Promenade.

The title **Promenade was agreed** from a suggestion of Des Hanlon.

In due course a well attended public meeting was held on the foreshore at Marieville Esp. It was a lively meeting of about 70 people where a group of Battery Point residents, mainly from a section of Clark Ave., endeavoured to be disruptive however this only showed them in a adverse light.

There has been **one minor setback** with the Minister for the Environment making a personal decision that this project should not go ahead but it has not stopped the Hobart City Council from allocating \$43,000.00 on the recently completed environmental study.

The position today is the The Council has the environmental study in hand and a leaked opinion has told me there are no environmental reasons why The Promenade should not go ahead.

There has now arisen this past week the debate of the different development aspects of Sullivans Cove as proposed by the Government. This is apart from the ever ongoing tram project.

There is the possibility these other conflicts may have to be resolved in conjunction with The Promenade in the interest of good planning.

Driving The Promenade in the City Council is Aldermans John Freeman and Jeff Briscoe who are supported so far by 95 to 100% of the other Alderman.

Also the support from all those associated from the start of this concept has been gratifying

Ken White

20/11/03

The Battery Point division of the National Trust invite you to start your day on November 24 by enjoying, with a small breakfast, the stunning views of the River Derwent from the historic Mariner's Cottage. Indeed a rare opportunity to view this architectural gem of early Hobart.

The Battery Point National Trust

would like to invite you to an early morning coffee/tea at No 42-44 Napoleon St, Battery Point, the restored 1840 Mariners Cottages. A small breakfast will be held 7.45 am to 8.45 am with the welcome to commence at 8.10 am on the foreshore, Battery Point.

The Battery Point National Trust are interested in developing a greater use and interest in The River Derwent by Hobartians in general, local Battery Point residents and the growing tourist market.

The Battery Point National Trust have a long history in promoting the preservation and value of Battery Point

A key part of The National Trust's effort has been conducting guided walks, be they to popular interest groups, or special-interest scholars of early Australian history.

The *Mariners Cottages* were a near ruin 20 years ago when the Battery Point National Trust undertook, by way of a lease, the restoration of these Cottages. From that point of growth in the historic interest, together with The Cottages' value in this aspect of Battery Point, there has resulted a reconsidering of strategy by The Battery Point National Trust.

As we approach the anniversary of various European settlements on the River Derwent we believe this is an ideal time to offer you the opportunity to consider some of the potential for change in conjunction with the five cities located on our River Derwent.

Take this occasion to mix with others of vision to create an amenity fitting for one of our two greatest assets, Our Mountain. Our River.

We look forward to your company on the morning of November 24.

Ample parking available. Just drive right in at the sign on Napoleon St.