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CAPE HORNERS - AUSTRALIA INC.

SRG 356  
Series List

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In 1959, a few men and women who had sailed round Cape Horn “under canvas in the large commercial square-riggers” met in Port Victoria to unveil a modest memorial to the men and ships which had used the South Australian Gulf Ports.

Soon after this event, a few met in the house of Ern Norris, Tranmere, to start a “club” for Cape Horners.

It was later named CAPE HORNERS – AUSTRALIA INC.

First secretary was Miss Betty Northmore, of Ulooloo, Hallett, who handed over to Jason Hopton before long and regular newsletters were published eventually with the format becoming a more sophisticated Cape Horner Journal which goes to many libraries and museums round the world.

In 1975, the Australians (members from all over the country) joined the international association with headquarters in St Malo, France, where in 1937 12 French Masters in sail (who had rounded The Horn as Captains) formed an association. This grew and brought in other Europeans. So today in 1986, there are 12 Sections with the Dutch, Italian and Norwegian Sections on their last legs as most members have died.

Australia has the younger group who sailed post-war (after 1947, in the finale) in barques LAWHILL, PASSAT, PAMIR and VIKING. The Viking is afloat in Gothenburg, Sweden; Passat in Travemunde, Germany; but Pamir sank in 1957 in the Atlantic and the Lawhill was broken up in East Africa.

Cape Horners – Australia Inc has entered 200 Cape Horners on the roll but today has 100 in Australia, some Americans and some yachtsmen from accredited races. 120 in all, but associates, friends or sympathisers are enrolled to boost numbers from interested people such as those who were in sail but did not round the Horn, were children of old sailors, have an history in interest etc. This Australian Section held a Congress in 1979 in Adelaide but always a congress is held in a European port.

Signed hon. Sec. Jason Hopton (Passat '48).

PS: Cape Horners – Australia Inc was formed in Adelaide in 1959 by a dozen people and it collected more than 250 members in Australia and some overseas and now there are fewer than 100. There never can be such men and women again because the group must have sailed in engineless wind-jammers with cargies around Cape Horn.

Ships do not go into oceans on sail alone today.

Maybe in the whole world there are still 1300 such Cape Horners alive.

The governing body is in Saint Malo, France, and there used to be 13 different sections but these fall away because the last of the seamen die. The

world's last such voyages were from Port Victoria in Spencer Gulf in 1948 and 1949.

So perhaps in the future, researchers might wonder what we were and what we did – yes, we meet now and then, hold congresses here and in Europe, collect history from members.

From Jason Hopton (Passat 1948) hon. Sec.  
(we have published 98 journals)

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Correspondence files kept by the Society. 1960-1984. 48cm. In addition to letters, the files also contain articles from magazines and papers and other related papers.	<u>1</u>
Papers relating to the Society. c.1969-1976. 14cm. Correspondence, drafts, newspaper cuttings, and other papers. There are several items relating to the centenary celebrations held at Port Lincoln, drafts for items in the newsletter and historical notes. <u>See also Series 1.</u>	<u>2</u>
Papers relating to the 1979 Congress held in Adelaide. 1979. 4cm. The majority of the papers are correspondence.	<u>3</u>
Papers re: "History of A.I.C.H." 1977-1980. 2.5cm. Includes correspondence, newspaper cuttings and cards.	<u>4</u>
Articles collected for a "special book - Cape Horners". c.1978-1980. 2cm. Consists mainly of typescript chapters, but also includes copies of articles and correspondence.	<u>5</u>
Photographic prints of sailing ships. 1939. 2 items. "S.V. Killoran" at Port Lincoln in 1939, and The "Passat" at Falmouth, 1939.	<u>6</u>
Newspaper cuttings relating to sailing ships and personalities. c.1939-1969. 3cm.	<u>7</u>

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- Membership list for Cape Horner's - Aust. Inc. 8  
1985. 3 folios.
- NOTE: The diaries and letters of Betty Northmore, and the diary of Charles Kitchin have been placed at PRG 738 and D6856(L) respectively. They have close links with the above records.
- Correspondence files relating to the Cape Horner's. 9  
1962-64, 1972-73, 1985-86.  
They also include miscellaneous items such as newspapers relating to various ships. See also Series 2.
- Cape Horner Journal published in Adelaide. 10  
1988. 1 item.  
[Please note that a complete set is held in the published collection].
- Papers of Tor Edwin Lindqvist, OAM, a Cape Horner's member 11  
c.1936-1994. 3cm. Photograph, photocopy.  
Comprises copies of certificates of service on, and discharge from sailing vessels, crew lists, accounts of wages, photographs, newspaper cuttings, letters, awards and postcards.