



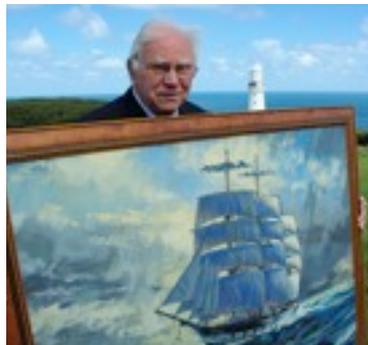
Summer Newsletter 2011/12

A grand day out for the entire family

NEED an affordable day-trip destination that keeps each generation of your family entertained during the summer - then Cape Otway Lightstation has got it covered.

The heritage precinct has so much to offer - there is the historic lighthouse, the heritage listed Telegraph Station, a World War Two Radar Bunker, and an Aboriginal Cultural Trail. Plus there's an exciting range of free activities for children.

Until February, The Ships That Shaped Australia exhibition, is on show in the Lightkeeper's Café.



Above - Maritime Museum of Victoria Chairman Dr Henry Hudson with a painting of the Loch Ard and below, former Lightkeeper, Pat Howell in the lighthouse lantern room.



This extraordinary collection of paintings by the late Jack L Koskie, on loan from the Maritime Museum of Victoria, depicts the most influential ships in Australia's all-important maritime history.

There are tales of record-breaking journeys from Europe to the Colonies, discovery, disaster, drama, victory and vanity. For kids there's a Ship's Detective Game and an opportunity to colour-in a tall-ship.

Pick up a free guide to the exhibition, which explains the often dramatic stories of these vessels.

The movie buffs in the family will enjoy seeing the set from the recent Australian film South Solitary which starred Lord of the Rings' Miranda Otto.

The Lighthouse, built in 1848, was chosen by Camera D'Or winner Shirley Barrett as the perfect location for filming shots of her characters at work in the lantern room.

As you ascend the spiral staircase you will see the Lightkeeper's desk and other props and sets used in making the 2010 romantic comedy.

At the top of the tower you will always find a guide ready to share great stories from the Lightstation's past.

You may even get to meet former Lightkeeper Pat Howell who served at the Cape and on island lighthouses in Bass Strait.

Look up and you will be amazed by the work of art that is the lighthouse lens, which was shipped from England in 1891, and is valued today at more than \$5 million.

Step outside onto the balcony and take in the amazing views.

New sunset tour

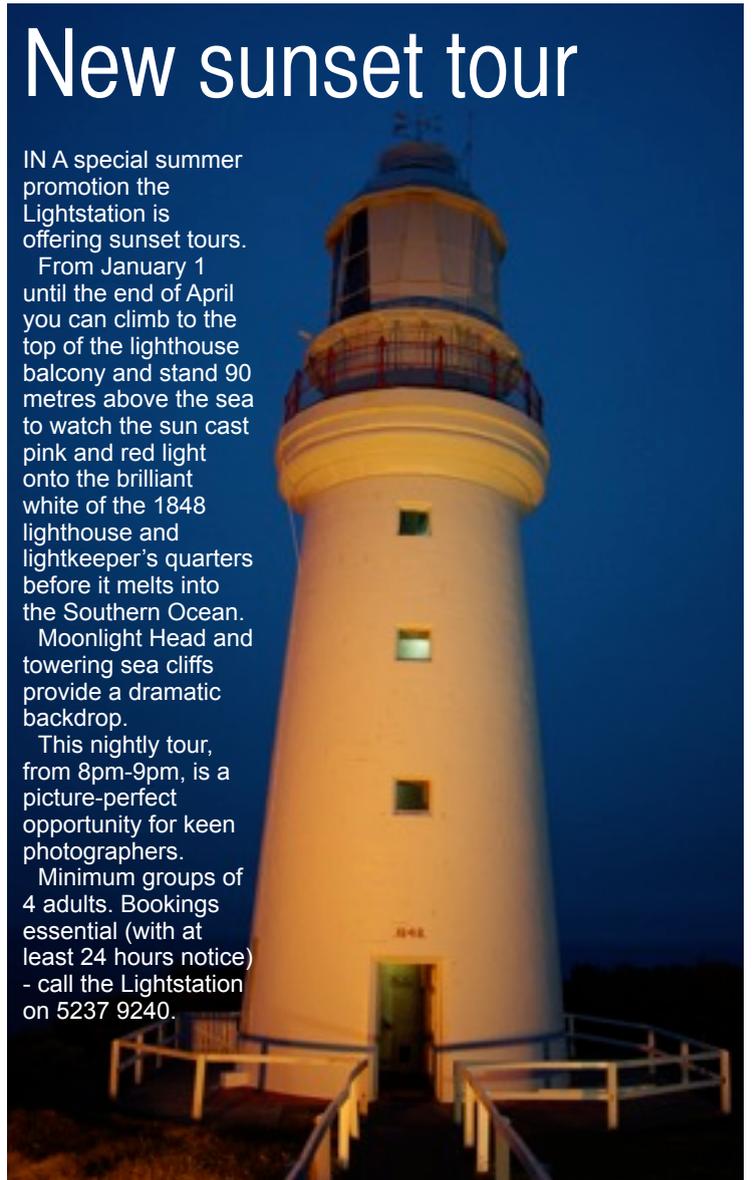
IN A special summer promotion the Lightstation is offering sunset tours.

From January 1 until the end of April you can climb to the top of the lighthouse balcony and stand 90 metres above the sea to watch the sun cast pink and red light onto the brilliant white of the 1848 lighthouse and lightkeeper's quarters before it melts into the Southern Ocean.

Moonlight Head and towering sea cliffs provide a dramatic backdrop.

This nightly tour, from 8pm-9pm, is a picture-perfect opportunity for keen photographers.

Minimum groups of 4 adults. Bookings essential (with at least 24 hours notice) - call the Lightstation on 5237 9240.



Here the Southern Ocean and Bass Strait collide and the waves crash into the sea cliffs below.

From on top of the tower watch lobster fishermen check their pots and international vessels carry their heavy cargo of shipping containers full steam ahead to, and from, Melbourne.

In the grounds you will find the anchor of the shipwrecked Eric the Red, and the flagstaff which

was used to communicate with ships.

Kids who decipher the International Signal Flag Code are entered into a competition to win a weekend's accommodation at the Lightstation.

As you make your way around the grounds keep an eye out for wildlife, visitors are often rewarded with sightings of echidnas, koalas and wallabies.

Cape Otway Lightstation, via Great Ocean Road, Cape Otway, Victoria, Australia

Phone: (03) 5237 9240 Fax: (03) 5237 9245

Email: keeper@lightstation.com Web: www.lightstation.com Twitter: [@capeotwaylight](https://twitter.com/@capeotwaylight)



Character of the Cape performer Janice Haynes in action with a young Lightstation visitor.

Characters ring true



KIDS and grown-ups alike love seeing history being brought to life by the Characters of the Cape.

Roving actors perform a series of vignettes in the Lightstation grounds based on historical records, court cases and biographical information including the testimony of a colourful female convict and shipwreck

survivor Rose Ann Hyland.

The fascinating parade of characters includes Henry Bayles Ford who kept watch on the light for 30 years.

He was supported in this job by another stoic Character of the Cape, his wife Mary-Ann, who gave birth to seven children while stationed at the remote outpost, cared for shipwrecked sailors,

and took her turn on continuous shifts to keep watch over the lighthouse when assistant keepers got swept away by the lure of the 1850s Gold Rush.

There's also the larrikin James Lawrence, sacked from his post as the first lightkeeper for ungentlemanly behaviour; French commander Nicolas Baudin who failed to make territorial claims in

the region on behalf of Napoleon Bonaparte; and poor Katherine Evans.

The wife of an assistant keeper, Katherine buried two of her children within a year at the Cape Otway Lightstation.

Characters of the Cape perform daily and provide an insightful picture of the daily lives of the region's explorers and pioneers.



Painted abalone shells

An artful way to learn about the Otways' first people

CHILDREN can paint an abalone shell and learn about basket-making at the Cape Otway Lightstation Aboriginal Heritage Trail.

These activities are offered free at the cultural site which was designed to help people learn more about the culture and skills of the region's traditional and spiritual people of Gadabanud country.

The heritage trail includes an artistic interpretation of the stone huts built by the Gadabanud, a large scale contemporary mosaic which depicts a billabong, and a collection of traditional weapons and tools.

The interpretation site is located on a traditional trade and fishing route, nearby to important archaeological sites and middens.

Effectively kitchen refuse piles, the middens reveal the rich diet of the Gadabanud. There are the shells of the seafood, and bones of mammals, birds, reptiles, fish and eels.

The Gadabanud were highly efficient hunters, created beach fish traps with stone corrals, and had both river and ocean-going vessels prior to European migration.

Today's prized lobster and abalone were a part of their diet.

There is also a "keeping place" along the trail which includes a bark canoe and other relics.

Indigenous staff who work at the Aboriginal Heritage Trail enjoy sharing their knowledge of the culture and lifestyle of the Cape's Aborigines.

They also highlight the local edible and useful plants of the region.



Weaving using local grasses