

TABLE TALK / TO THE POINT :

APRIL 2011

ALWYN VINTCENT - A group of Cape Vintage Engine enthusiasts from Villiersdorp (inland, between Franschoek and Worcester in the Western Cape) have bought the former steam tug *Alwyn Vincent* to save her from a watery grave and plan to restore her as a museum piece. A gathering was held at the Alfred Basin on 1 April 2011 to bid farewell to the vessel. – *S A Ship Society Newsletter*

Alwyn Vintcent Esq. after whom the tug was named was, for many years, Chairman of the Mossel Bay Boating Company and a member of the Harbour Advisory Board. – A Century of South African Steam Tugs – David Reynolds.

BARQUE EUROPA : The 55 metre sailing barque *Europa* will be coming into Cape Town for a few days, during the week ending 29 April. Quite spectacular to see – she has just been in the Antarctic and is on her way to the UK for the Tall Ships Race. Visit her website at www.barkeuropa.com. – *Chris Henwood.*

When I first went into the active Army you could tell someone to move a chair across the room. Now you have to tell him why. – Major Robert Lembke (Bibliophile)

NEW CONSTRUCTION IN SIMON’S TOWN DOCKYARD : The 30 metre water-jet-powered Nigerian fast crew boat *OPS 301*, which was constructed in No. 2 Refitting Shed at Simon’s Town Dockyard, has completed acceptance trials in False Bay and is now heading, under her own power, to Nigeria.
A second 24 metre catamaran Waterbus, similar to the boat which is currently about 85% complete in No. 2 Shed, has been ordered.

Ask your child what he wants for dinner only if he is buying. – Fran Lebowitz (Bibliophile).

18 000 BOX SHIPS : AP Moller-Maersk has ordered ten 18 000 teu Container Ships from Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering, of South Korea, for delivery between 2015 and 2025.

The ships will be only four metres longer than the 397 metres *Emma Maersk* (15 500 teu) but will be wider, carrying 23 containers abreast as opposed to 22. The speed of the new ships will be two knots slower than the 25 knot *Emma Maersk*, and are designed to consume 35% less fuel.



15 500 teu CONTAINER SHIP *EMMA MAERSK*. – Photo : Wikipedia

M V EMMA MAERSK, which sailed on her maiden voyage on 8 September 2006, is named after the late wife of Maersk McKinney Møller. – Wikipedia.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST : The Italian submarine ENRICO TOTI, named after an Italian Major who was awarded a posthumous Italian Gold Medal during World War I, was launched at La Spezia on 14 April 1928 and was commissioned on 19 September of the same year.

She visited South Africa during 1933 and this month's photograph shows her in Table Bay surrounded by local fishing boats, on 3 December of that year.



In his book *Ships that pass*, the late George Young relates that an aircraft, swooping low over the submarine, clipped the periscope with a wingtip and crashed into the Bay. The pilot survived to serve as a Colonel in the SAAF during the Second World War. On 10 October 1940 ENRICO TOTI sank the British submarine HMS TRIAD in the Mediterranean after a surfaced duel during which, at one point, TRIAD passed about four feet astern of ENRICO TOTO. After serving as a training boat, ENRICO TOTI was decommissioned and scrapped in 1943.

*One often yearns
for the land of Burns.
The only snag is
haggis!*

On the other hand there is whisky!

How do you say “Give that man a Bell’s in each of our official languages?”

*Give that man a Bell’s
Gie daai man ‘n Bell’s
Nika loo ndoda i-Bell’s
Ifhani houla munna Bell’s
Naya Rre yole Bell’s
Nika leyo ndvodza i-Bell’s
Nikeza leyo ndoda i-Bell’s
Tshellang monna yoo Bell’s
Nikela indoda leyo i-Bell’s
Nyika wanuna loyi Bell’s
Efa monna eo Bell’s*