

SHIPWRECK INFORMATION SHEETS

Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village are custodians of Victoria's largest publicly accessible shipwreck artefact collections, and a resource that provides a fascinating insight into Australia's maritime heritage.

We can provide useful summaries of various wrecks accounts - Stories that involve drama, disaster, human victory and that are a testament to our strength and courage.

Why So Many Wrecks?

This is one of the most asked questions here at Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village. In this ABC Radio interview Heritage Victoria discusses just some of the reasons why.

The Admella The demise of the steamer screw ship SS Admella on August 6, 1859 with the loss of 89 lives.

The Antares

Year:1914

Where - West of Peterborough via Radfords Rd

One of the last of the 'tallships' to be lost along our coast and it is the only wreck that took all people on board to the bottom with her.

Children

Year: 1839 At an area now known as Childers Cove she was one of the first of the early 'tallships'. Crew sickness and gale force winds conspired against this ill fated passage from Launceston to Portland. In 1951 high tide and rough seas exposed the skeletal remains of a man and child believed to be from the wreck which claimed 17 lives.

The anchor was recovered from the wreck by Flagstaff Hill Divers it is now displayed at the front of Flagstaff Hill reception.

The City Of Rayville On November 7th, 1940 the American merchant ship City of Rayville sailed from Adelaide for Melbourne. Late on November 8th the ship was sunk off Apollo Bay, Victoria by a mine. She was the first US ship lost as a result of World War II.

Flagstaff Hill is fortunate to hold a rare artefact from the wreck of the City of Rayville, a small biscuit box.

The Falls of Halladale One of the most iconic images of the Shipwreck Coast the Falls of Halladale symbolises the drama of wrecks through the sailing era. The wreck became a tourist attraction as she was left for the southern oceans swell to break her up.

The Fiji

A lonely headstone on the cliffs overlooking Wreck Beach, west of Moonlight Head pays tribute to the men who lost their lives when Fiji ran aground in 1891. Eleven crew members drowned and a young local settler lost his life when he tried to save the ship's carpenter. At the time, there was a great deal of public criticism at the slow and disorganised rescue attempt to save those on board.

Her cargo of 260 cases of dynamite and 400 German pianos showed the wide range of cargo that was being brought into the new colony of Victoria.

The LaBella

Wrecked just off the end of the Warrnambool Breakwater she remains one of the most accessible today and very popular with current day divers.

The Speculant

Year - 1911

The Speculant was built in 1895 and in her early years was the largest barquentine trading in Victorian waters. She was wrecked on a jagged section of Cape Patten cliffs in February 1911. She was a regular ship into Warrnambool and her loss greatly effected trade along the coast prior to the Great Ocean Roads construction.

The SS Casino

The SS Dawn

The SS Edina