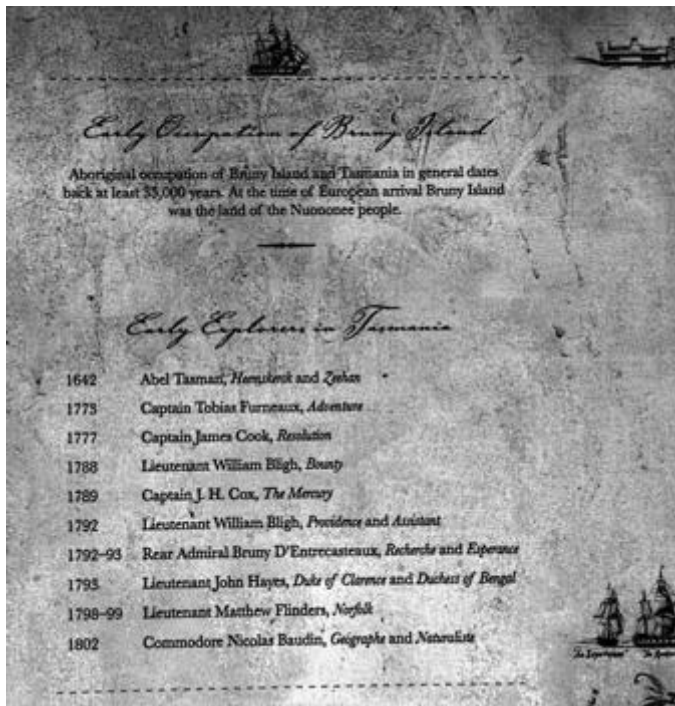


BRUNY ISLAND ADVENTURE ON THE EDGE OF THE GREAT SOUTHERN OCEAN

During February 2017 I was lucky to be able to return to my Beautiful Bruny; Island of my childhood days. Bruny Island is a magical place of great beauty and with a long and important place in the history of Tasmanian Aborigines and in the more recent European discovery and settlement of Australia.



Early Explorers of Tasmania. Bruny Island was often the first landfall, point of refuge and source of fresh water, after the long dangerous sail from Europe, for the ancient sailors.

A fanciful drawing of the man points of interest on Bruny. I was lucky to grow up in such an amazing environment.





The island is actually two islands: North Bruny and here South Bruny joined together by The Neck of two beaches and the sand dunes. On the left is Adventure Bay where so many early explorers sought refuge. On the right Simpsons Bay. The dunes are home to the Blue Fairy Penguin and Shearwater rookeries.

The steps protect the massive sand dune from tourists and lead to a monument honoring Truganini the last of the Tasmanian Aborigine Princesses.



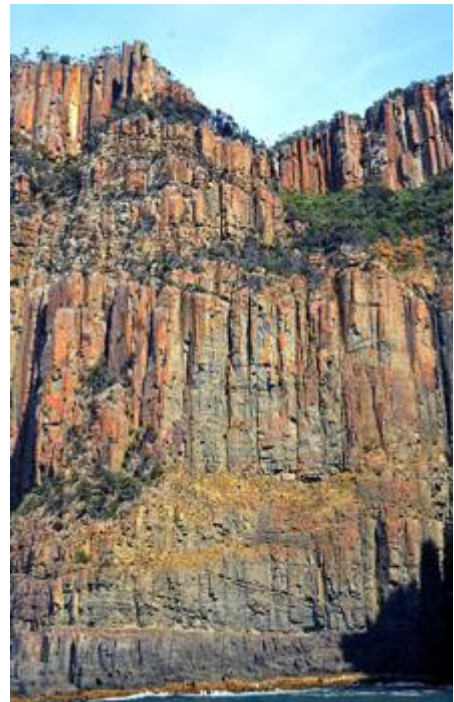
Truganini memorial.

The Neck Beach faces the Southern Ocean. The next stop is Antarctica. My brother and sisters taught me to sink or swim here by tossing me into the surf!



Adventure Bay and Penguin Island. Dolphins play as we head around the corner for one of the wildest rides along the coast of The Great Southern Ocean. It was here that I learned my love and respect for the wind and the sea; my desire to sail.

Massive, towering dolomite cliffs dominate the coast line. The rock is very hard, creating a great defence for Bruny Island against the winter storms of the powerful "Roaring Forties". Fluted Cape.





Sometimes the sea finds a fissure or weakness in the dolomite and with relentless power, she creates beautiful caves and blowholes.

This blow hole is called: "The Breathing Hole". The swells compress air in the cave which explodes as it tries to escape vaporizing the waves.



These cormorants enjoy the mix of two oceans. The jagged rocks called: "The Friars" straddle the Tasman Sea and The Great Southern Ocean.

Although distant and moving at 40 knots I was lucky to catch a wandering Albatross.



Incredible dolomite stacks of Cathedral Rock carved by the sea from the cliffs. The Pennicott high speed inflatable boat thrills the crew by zooming through the narrow gap.

Australian fur seals enjoy a romantic moment on the southernmost end of Bruny Island.





There are a few thousand seals in the colony.

Great fun to see the seals up-side-down, flippers in the air, to help cooling on a hot summer's day.



Family chat or sharing fishing secrets. I was told they love calamari.

The dolomite cliffs of South Bruny dive hundreds of metres below the sea.





Sandstone etched by wind salt and waves.

From Adventure Bay your can drive over Mount Mangana, through the Sate Forest Reserve to Lunawanna, Cloudy Bay and the Cape Bruny Island Lighthouse. The forest has many examples of prehistoric species.



View from Mount Mangana looking across Cloudy Bay Lagoon to Cape Bruny.

I was delighted to find this old barn still standing. When I was a boy, a highlight of my primary school days, was to be able to stay at the Bruny Island Lighthouse. This barn marked the end of the road. At this point a horse and cart were on the ready to drive the bush track to Great Taylors's Bay. Here a small boat took us across the Bay to another waiting horse and cart. The horse then labored up the hill, finally arriving at the Lighthouse Keeper's cottage. I am sure it took most of the day to make the journey.



The beautiful Cape Bruny Island Lighthouse built 1836 by convict labour.

The beautiful interior design of Cape Bruny Lighthouse. The parts were manufactured in England and shipped about 14,000 miles. The whale oil for the light was captured in Adventure Bay shipped to England for refining and then shipped back to Bruny!





Lighthouse Keepers' tools. The phone still works.

Lighthouse Bay Beach with the original settlement and the Lighthouse Keepers' cottages.



"Two Tree Point" at Adventure Bay. The two trees are almost exactly the same when sketched by Lieutenant George Tobin in 1792 while on voyage with Captain Bligh on his ship Providence. I was so happy to learn that "The Pont" is protected as Natural History Reserve.

Lieutenant George Tobais' painting: "Two Tree Point" Resolution Creek Adventure Bay Bruny Island 1792.



Bright pink seaweed Resolution Creek Beach.

A Mixed Kangaroo Family, Adventure Bay, live in peace and tranquility.





The very rare white kangaroo.

I call this young man: "Mr. Pink Ears".



Bruny Island is a haven for the exotic white kangaroo "sub-species". Locals have told me they are not full albino. I have not found any studies to confirm if they are a sub-species.

Four wheeled dragons are a menace to the safety of these dear creatures



Hmm I must fly over this fence before that monster truck gets me..

Safety behind the fence! "Good evening. I hope you enjoyed my Bruny Island! Please respect our beautiful home."



March 15, 2017
Victoria

Bruny Island is located on the South East Coast of Tasmania separated from the mainland by the narrow Bruny d' Entrecasteaux Channel.