

I started working in the Sheppard and Jorgensen engineering workshop after school sweeping floors and cleaning up in 1975. I went on to a Marine Engineering apprenticeship and then workshop manager. During that time the following boats were built, sorry I don't remember the names of them all!

Fairisle

The Outward Bound cutters x 3 - I handmade most of the stainless steel mast and rigging components

Converted lifeboat for Outward Bound

Alan Graham yacht, a Cavalier I think.

The three trawlers, Arapawa - for Paul Fishburn, Whilly from Tauranga and for Finn Stormbird - I made a lot of the stainless steel fittings for her.

Mahara - As above

Launch for Tim Dillon

Super Tramp - finished at the yard for John Oswald

The first fibre glass hulled boat - all the topsides and decks were done at the yard for an Australian customer. We deeply disliked this new development.

Dan Sheppard's steel yacht which was built by him in the yard, I spent many hours on that project!

Regular visitors to the yard for maintenance work on the following, which was a large part of the day to day yard work.

The Enterprise

Marlborough - the pilot boat

Saga

Honey

Virgo boats

Williams Fishing boats from Wanganui, a mixture of Clyde side trawlers

Various other Clyde style trawlers, Bill Muir was a true character!! Ran aground and sank Wellington harbour

Both Pilot boats from Wellington complete refastening

Alistair Shanks various yachts - Spero, Black Sheep, etc

Dillon yachts

Super Tramp - Johnny Oswald

The Ngatea (her story is truly inspiring) when Gordy Low had her

Lady Elizabeth I - Wellington Quarantine boat, Somes Island

Northern Star - Jim Fishburn

Heather - old Joe Heberly

Plus many others !!

Plus lots of pleasure boats

The engineering workshop had the following agencies

Gardner Diesel

Perkins

Mercury and Mercruiser

Volvo Penta.

Lister - we would service generator sets all over the sounds before the power was put in

Sadly we lost several people to drowning, These are the people that had either worked or had a direct connection to the yard, there are many others. This is a reality to those that worked in the industry on and around the water.

Stu, sorry I can't recall his last name. Lost overboard Tasman Sea
Richard - drowned diving accident Cook Strait
Bill Muir - Tweed Heads vessel sunk
Tim Moorhouse - Tweed heads
Finn Jorgensen - lost overboard Marlborough sounds
Lyndsay Stewart - overboard Mediterranean sea
The entire crew of a steel trawler from Williams Fishing on route from Wanganui to the yard for survey work
Barry Cameron - Louise disappeared around Farewell spit

Stu McLean, August 2021