

Victorian Heritage Database Report

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GANGE



S282 Gange PortPhillipHeads
LonsdaleReef
HistoricPhotograph



S282 Gange PortPhillipHeads
LonsdaleReef CementBarrel

Location

Lonsdale Reef, Prt Phillip Heads

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S282

Date lost

23/07/1887

Construction material

Iron

Propulsion

Sail

Number of masts

3

Length/Breadth/Depth

152.00 Feet / 30.10 Feet / 16.80 Feet

Builder

N. Martinloch

Year of construction

1885

Built port

Lussin Piccolo, Gulf of Quarnero, Illyria

Built country

Austria

Date lost

23/07/1887

Departure

London

Destination

Melbourne

Cargo

4300 cks of cement, 2496 iron rails for railway, 150 tons 12 cwt of sulphur, 95 cases of bolts (UID 9)

Owner

Eredi Tarrabochia, Austria

Master

Captain Frank Ivaneich

Weather conditions

Night; clear; high sea in Rip. High wind

Cause of loss

Captain misunderstood signals from Pilot boat, had trouble with canvas, and tried to enter the Heads without a Pilot. Ran ashore (UID 9, 52)

Passenger comments

Nilla Ivaneich, Captains 18 year-old wife on honeymoon (UID 9)

Number of crew

17

Crew comments

Jno. Ilreglich (chief officer), Ludwig Schudly (cook), Giovanni Gasparini, Constantine Griffis, Martino Matesich, Giovanni Matesich (boatswain), Frank Gioffre, Vassilo Lazovich, Antonio Serwaich, Giovanni Sablich, Augustino Pateno, Dominico Pichnich, Giovanni Stock, Dominico Tarachia, Francisco Dorich, Gasparo Giavanich (carpenter), Wilhelm Loosa (cabin boy) (UID 9)

Statement of significance

<p>The Gange is historically and socially significant for the interest its wreck caused in the Victorian community, and the impact the event had on Victorian Pilots Service.</p>

VHR history

The Gange reached Port Phillip Heads before 7 pm, and went dangerously close to Point Nepean. The Pilot schooner Mavis, by burning blue lights, showed the way out of trouble but the captain, obviously under a misapprehension, thought the pilot schooner was going to lead him in. After trouble with the canvas, the Gange struck outer portion of outer Lonsdale Reef and ran aground shortly before midnight, with stern pointing towards the lighthouse. The captain, his wife and the crew were taken off by the lifeboat, whose crew received a presentation for their bravery. Pilot Board Inquiry exonerated pilots from any blame but changes were made to pilot procedures at Heads. The Gange was making only its second voyage, consigned to Messrs Robert Virgoe and Co. of Melbourne). The circumstances of loss similar to that of Glaneuse, and there was some comment in the media regarding 'foreign captains) (ID 9). The ship broke up during a gale on 7 Sept. 1887 - vessels warned to watch out for floating wreckage. Wreck lying close to that of the George Roper. Ship and cargo realised 165 pounds at anchor. Not in Lloyds.