

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated on - 18/07/24

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## VIXEN

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### Location

One mile north of Cowes jetty, Phillip Island

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

S703

### Date lost

20 Jul 1917

### Official number

93531

### Construction material

Wood

### Hull

One deck, schooner rigged, elliptical stern, carvel built, straight head, no galleries, wooden framed.

### Propulsion

Steam - Screw

### Engine specification

1 high pressure 10 HP

### Number of masts

2

### Length/Breadth/Depth

58.80 Feet / 15.00 Feet / 5.60 Feet

### Builder

James Halstead

**Year of construction**

1886

**Built port**

Lavender Bay, Sydney

**Built country**

Australia

**Registration Number**

15 of 1888

**Registration Port**

Melbourne

**Date lost**

20 Jul 1917

**Departure**

Cowes, Phillip Island

**Destination**

Melbourne

**Owner**

Westernport Bay and Flinders SS Co.

**Cause of loss**

Broke free while being towed to Melbourne for repairs and foundered

**VHR history**

The steam launch VIXEN sprang a leak while being towed by the Howard Smith Ltd tugboat SPRIGHTLY. An attempt was made to beach the vessel at Rhyll but it foundered about one mile east of the Cowes Jetty. No lives were lost. The Vixen was being towed to Melbourne for overhauling and repainting. The registry is marked: Registry closed 06.08.1917, vessel was lost about 1 mile out from Cowes Jetty on 20.07.1917 in 9 fathoms of water and is a total wreck.