

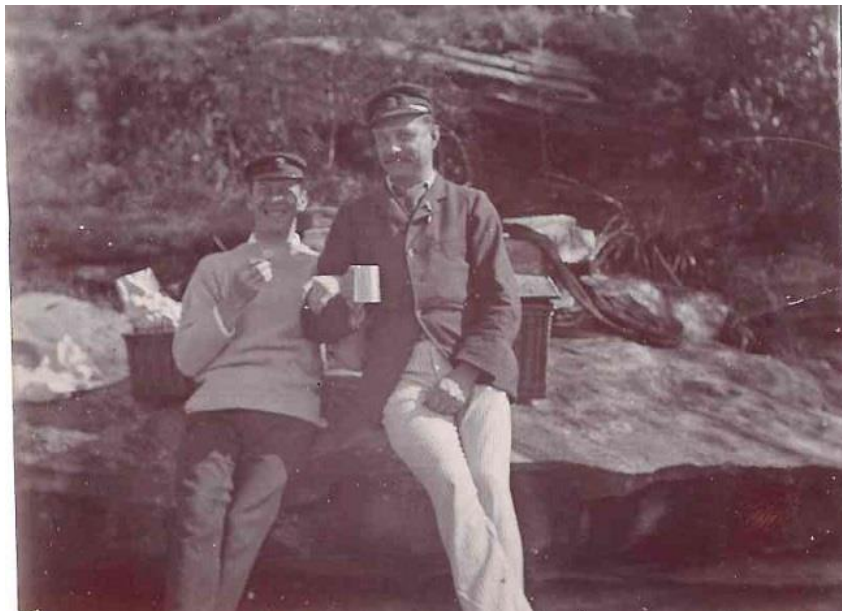


## TREASURES FROM THE ARCHIVES – Every Picture Tells A Story

For the past 12 months the Archives Committee have been busy identifying, documenting and digitising more of the Squadron's historical collection, and as on an archaeological dig, some days you hit pay dirt and come up with treasures.

In one yellowing envelope marked 'Old Photos' there was a series of intriguing sepia prints. But uncaptioned – who and what did they represent? Some dedicated digging by John Maclurcan, searching through other old photos and his own Beecroft caricatures research, soon brought the figures to life.

Watching the billy boil, one hand resting on a shovel, was one-time Squadron Commodore Alfred Milson. As a successful businessman and community leader, his image was more often captured in fixed and formal studio portraits. Here we see a man at leisure, casual and contemplative. A passionate yachtsman and Member of our Club for 50 years, he died suddenly in the rooms of the RSYs in 1928.





Resting on a rock nearby, mug in hand, is one O.F.C Bauer, and next to him, J.W Manson. As they had also appeared together in a formal group shot of Club Officers in 1896/97 we were able to date this series of images to the 1890s.



Nattily dressed here again in his pin stripe white trousers and bi-tone brogues, is handsome German Otto Bauer, a dedicated Club Member since 1884, giving no hint of the intrigue that would soon follow him. After his death, the keen sailor and Sydney businessman 'Otto Bauer' was identified as 'Agent 6401' - a World War II German spy [read more in *Australian Code Breakers* by James Phelps].



And if only we could identify the other figures sitting here with Bauer – there could be more tales to tell!