

# FALLS OF HALLADALE (1886-1908)

A magnificent four masted iron barque built in Glasgow to carry cargo.

## Diving on the wreck of the *Falls of Halladale*

The remains of the *Falls of Halladale* lie approximately 300 metres off Wreck Point, at Curdies Point near Peterborough. The vessel lies on a rocky bottom in three to 14 metres of water. The bow faces towards the north and the wreckage extends out to sea for approximately 95-100 metres.

The port side of the vessel is upright with five to six metres of the hull at the bow and two to three metres at the stern. The starboard side has flattened out and masts are scattered towards the east. As a diver swims towards the stern, the site appears as a complex lattice of iron beams and hull plates which were the floors, frames and bilge plating. The scattered beams and plates provide a perfect home for many reef fish.

Some slate and coiled wire cargo stowed at the stern of the vessel 80 years ago, still remain in their original area of stowage. Other features of the site include large iron anchors, bollards, deck supports and iron knees.

Dive Standard: Intermediate - Experienced

## Dive Conditions

The site is flanked by a reef which causes heavy breaks in all but the calmest conditions. In rough weather waves break over the site and are hazardous to all small craft. The best conditions to dive the wreck occur during periods of low swell and northerly winds.

## Locating the Wreck of the *Falls of Halladale*

Launch Site: Launch at the Bay of Islands. A 4WD is necessary as the ramp is narrow and steep. Otherwise, launch at Port Campbell and head west past Peterborough.

Chart No: AUS 349

Latitude: 38° 36'30" S

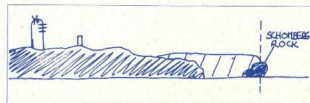
Longitude: 142° 51'30" E

Compass Bearings:

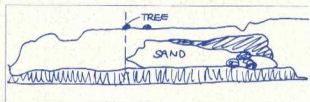
1. To tower (east) - 095° 20' (T)
2. To left hand edge of sand (north) - 021° 20' (T)
3. Edge of headland (Antares) (west) - 302° 20' (T)

## Visual Transits

### 1. East



### 2. North



### 3. West - Antares Rock



## Similar Wrecks in Victoria

Other wrecks of iron sailing ships included in the Underwater Shipwreck Discovery Trail are the *Eliza Ramsden* (Port Phillip Bay), the *Fiji* (Moonlight Head), *George Roper* (Point Lonsdale), *Holyhead* (Point Lonsdale), *Hurricane* (Port Phillip Bay), *La Bella* (Warrnambool), *Loch Ard* (Port Campbell) and *Sierra Nevada* (Portsea Ocean Beach).

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## Help Protect Our Maritime Heritage

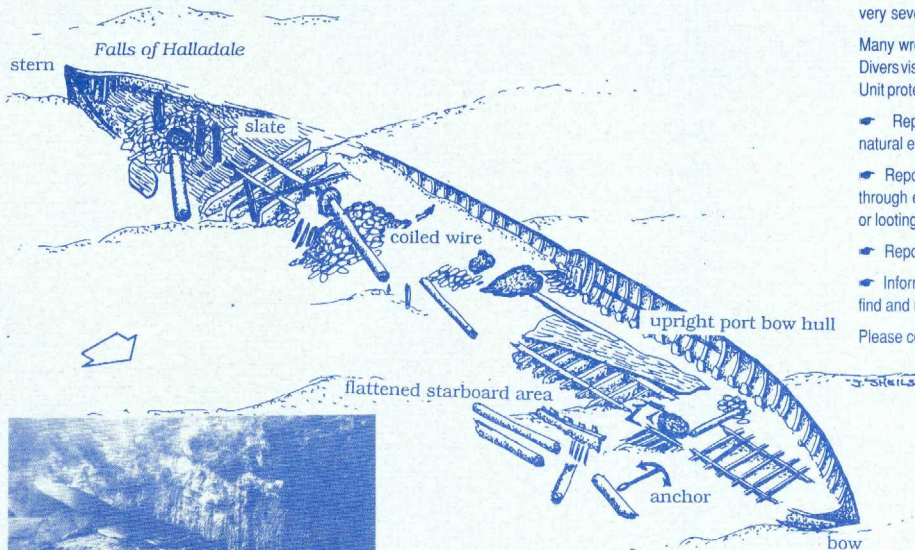
The *Falls of Halladale* was protected as an Historic Shipwreck on 17th January 1989 under the Commonwealth Historic Shipwrecks Act (1976). Any damage or interference to the wreck is an offence under the Act and penalties are very severe.

Many wrecks are fragile and require constant monitoring. Divers visiting wreck sites can help the Maritime Archaeology Unit protect and manage Victoria's Historic Shipwrecks by:

- Reporting any damage to wreck sites caused by natural erosion or the activities of divers.
- Reporting artefacts which have become exposed through erosion and are at risk from being washed away or looting.
- Reporting any diver seen actively looting a wreck.
- Informing the Unit of a new wreck site. Divers who find and report a new wreck may be entitled to a reward.

Please contact the Maritime Archaeology Unit at:

Victoria Archaeological Survey  
29-31 Victoria Avenue  
Albert Park VIC 3206  
Telephone: (03) 690 5322



Thousands of sheets of slate, carried by the *Falls of Halladale*, can still be seen at the stern of the wreck.