

The Rambler

The Official Newsletter of the River Murray Boat Owners Association Inc

PO Box 3202, Melbourne Street, North Adelaide SA 5006

www.rmboa.org.au

Winter 2008



Some of the Fleet at the Kroehns Landing Amble
April 2008

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear fellow members

A warm hello to all, pity it wasn't a wet hello with plenty of water coming down our Mighty Murray. We know rain alone will not fix the river, but nor does it seem our governments can either. I am continually going to meetings with various government departments attending, but still no water. Anyway enough said about that, I could go on all day. Let's have a look at us.

The Mini Amble Christmas party held last year at the riverfront, Mary Ann Reserve Mannum, once again was well attended and a good time had by all. We will do the same again this year, but perhaps not on the same weekend as Mannum's Christmas celebrations. Perhaps you would like to comment on this one please. Although for those of us that were there on the Saturday, the pageant was good and the fireworks over the river were excellent.

The Annual Boat Show is on again, starts Thursday 18th July to Sunday 20th July 2008 and we will be there again. So come along and have a chat to us.

The Member's Meeting at the Tower Hotel is set down for Thursday 21st August 2008, 6 o'clock for dinner followed by the meeting to commence at 8 o'clock. So come along to the dinner first and enjoy the social atmosphere with other members, but please ring me by the 15th August 2008 so that I may inform the hotel of numbers, thank you.

Our recent Mini Amble at Kroehn's Landing will be talked about later in the Rambler, but I will say it was such a success, that similar to Murbko, it is now our intention to hold another Mini Amble at Kroehn's Landing incorporating the AGM.

For those planning to travel the various parts of the river over the next 18 months or so please study the intended closure dates below: -

Lock 1 - 26 th January 2009	Lock 6 - 7 th February 2011
Lock 2 - 20 th July 2009	Lock 7 - July 2011 after school holidays
Lock 3 - 5 th January 2010	Lock 8 - October 2011 after school holidays
Lock 4 - 19 th July 2010	Lock 9 - 30 th January 2012
Lock 5 - Mid July 2008	

These dates are when the locks will be closed for maintenance works. We have been informed that the maintenance works will take approximately 12 – 14 weeks at each lock.

Yes, we are planning a ramble for next year, 14th April to the 18th or 19th April, from Blanchetown to Waikerie, so keep this in mind when planning your holidays for next year. There will be more details to come as we finalise plans.

At the AGM last year we set the rate for corporate members at \$100.00 per annum each, and at our last committee meeting, it was agreed that each corporate member would receive an advertisement on the web site, a quarter page advertisement in the Rambler/Newsletter and an insert (as they supply) for the Ramble satchels. So if you have a business that is in sympathy with the objects of the Association, or know of someone that has a business in sympathy with the objects of the Association, please contact the secretary Michael Heuzenroeder.

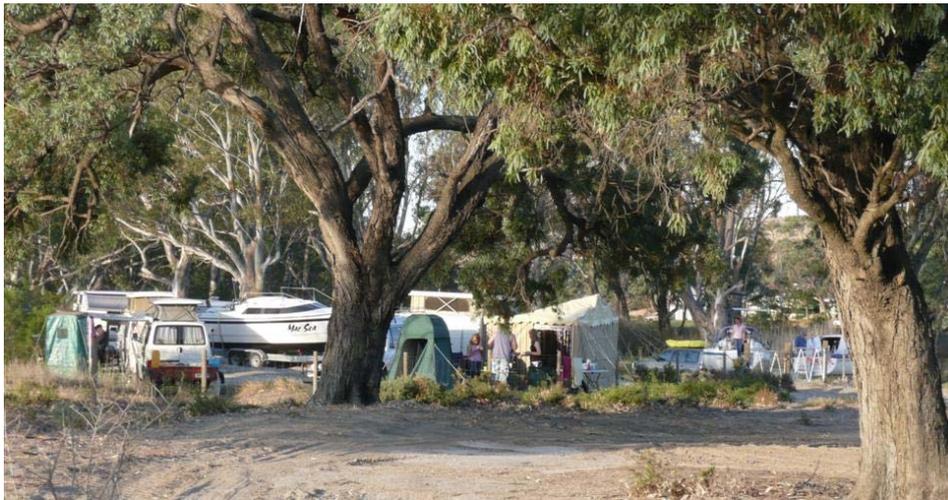
Enough said by me for now. I look forward to seeing you soon at one of our coming events.

Regards
Rob Potter
President

Extended Mini-Amble at Kroehn's Landing

By Michael Heuzenroeder

After exploring options outside the heartland of the RMBOA in 2007, the committee made the decision to hold an extended mini-amble at Kroehn's Landing. It was felt after the disappointment of the postponement of the 2008 Ramble; this might act as some compensation to our members suffering in the low water below Lock 1. Sue and I set out on Friday night by road for Kroehn's Landing as our boat "Minxy" is moored in Morgan. We arrived just on sunset and after making ourselves at home on Rob and Gerry's boat "Geza" it was clear that many members had made the decision to come by boat. There were approximately 20 boats of all types in evidence, ranging from houseboats, grand cruisers, more modest cruisers, half cabs and trailer sailers. There were a couple of campers in caravans in evidence as well.



Saturday dawned with beautiful weather. During the day more boats arrived, some by water and around five by land. Our trailer sailer members had elected to use the trusty yacht as a caravan and come to the amble by road. Rumour has it that they were planning a little amble of their own in the deep-water above Lock 1 in the next week. After a day of perfect sunshine and no wind, the evening finally arrived. Under the watchful eyes and organisational skills of "General" Gerry Potter and her loyal lieutenants, the much-awaited RMBOA barbeque began as a military operation. Tender marinated steaks, greasy snags, and bread formed the staple diet, to be garnished with the most magnificent and varied selection of salads that had been lovingly crafted by our members. I've said it before; the RMBOA has some very talented people as members.



It was clear later in the evening that this talent didn't just extend to the culinary arts. After over 70 hungry adults and children had been fed, Malcolm and Dianne Burgan began the "Old Talent Time" talent quest. There were many varied and talented acts, one of which sank to rock "bottom". I won't say anything more, other than RMBOA stalwart, Trevor Beythien was the instigator, but as they say in the classics "you just had to be there".



After the conclusion of the acts, Malcolm on the guitar singing and Roly on his fiddle, entertained us for many hours, as they have done so many times before. Special mention must also go to Wayne Monjean and his brilliant didgeridoo act. Many of our members may have seen Wayne's act before on the Ramble and I am sure no one could go away without being impressed. After the official festivities had finished, many of the usual stalwarts sat around the campfire drinking lemonade into the wee hours. Sunday dawned much as Saturday had with perfect weather. A number of amblers made use of the barbeque and leftover food for breakfast and lunch. Unfortunately Sue and I had to leave in the afternoon, but I'm told a reasonable number stayed on to sit around the campfire in the evening to exchange yarns and finish the leftover food. It was agreed by all the extended Amble had been a great success; Kroehn's Landing is now firmly in the RMBOA radar for future events. The Association gained three new members from the event, plus the rejoining of a number of former members. I would especially like to thank new member and "mayor" of Kroehn's Landing, Noel Ryan for the advice and help he gave to the committee and some of our members. If I have left out anyone who should be thanked I'm very sorry, but I'm writing this in June and the Amble happened in April. I've also found that our wonderful Australian Shiraz does not function as a memory aid! Keep Safe and See you on the river!



**Don't be late paying your subscription!
Pay by 15th August 2008 and you will go in the draw for your
chance to win a \$50 Myer voucher**

I suppose for most of our members not paying their subscriptions on time can lead to a number of unwanted but predictable consequences. Non-financial members are, after a grace period, removed from the very popular "Weekly River News" e-mail service and will not receive "The Rambler" or mini-newsletters. We have been asked from time to time "why don't we take credit cards?" For a small association such as ours the fees involved in setting up a credit card facility would result in a substantial increase in subscription fees (note ours is still only \$25, that's less than .50 cents a week!). However this year for the first time we will accept payment by electronic transfer or internet banking, but you **MUST** contact the secretary, preferably by e-mail; secretary@rmboa.org.au to get the RMBOA banking details and more importantly so he can mark you as financial. At the last management meeting the committee decided to give members some incentive to pay their subscriptions on time. We will hold a draw for members at the next Members meeting on 21st August 2008, at The Tower Hotel, for a \$50 Myer voucher. **To be eligible a member must be financial by 15th August 2008; or be a life member.** The winner, if not present at the Members Meeting, will have their voucher posted to them. So why not get your subscription off today!

MEMBER'S BOAT FOR SALE



- 24' plus rear landing wooden cruiser *River Rover*. Built 1957.
- Two forward berths. Just slipped
- Galley with hot and cold running water (gas hot water) 2 x burner petrol (Coleman) stove.
- Toilet has holding tank and shower.
- Twin batteries with 20-watt solar panel.
- 1988 28 hp. Volvo Penta diesel motor (less than 2 l/ph) 70-litre fuel tank and 60-litre fresh water tank plumbed to galley.
- Secure private mooring at Paringa (off of main river)
- \$26,000.

For further details/photos, contact Tony on 08-87234 476 or 0408 859 549

BOOK REVIEW by Sue Holland from the little houseboat “MINXY”

“THE CRUISING CHEF COOKBOOK”

EDITION	AUTHOR	ILLUSTRATED BY	PUBLISHER
Second	Michael Greenwald	Rebecca Thomson	Paradise Cay Publications Arcata California

This book describes in detail every facet of riparian meals, recipes, handy advice and hints for storing, purchasing ingredients and many different techniques of cooking meals on board from:

- Provisioning and Planning
- The Galley
- Special Cooking Techniques
- Chickens I have met and ate
- Pasta and Rice
- Fruits and Vegetables
- Desserts
- The bakery
- Sauces

The above are just to name a few of the 22 chapters documented in this book.

This book is written with such humour that it is extremely entertaining to read but at the same time it is very informative. (I suppose you could say we all need a little humour if one owns a boat)!!! There are many illustrations throughout the book, some with the same sense of humour as it was written. The information in the book is aimed at sea travel but can be easily equated to cooking on boats on the river. Let me share an entertaining excerpt from the book on BOAT PESTS (no not people)!!:

“We had a friend whose boat became infested with roaches. He bought an eight-inch lizard called a gecko and he named it Alfred. Alfred ate roaches and eventually ate himself out of a job. I bought him for a bottle of wine. Alfred slept during the day. At night he quietly ate roaches. He was very good at this. Sometimes he hung from the ceiling. Sometimes he crawled along walls. Sometimes we would just drop him into a food locker for the day. Alfred was quite friendly, made great efforts to avoid being stepped on, and never kept union hours. However he eventually ate himself out of business and we then discovered why his previous owner decided to trade him for wine. When Alfred was hungry he barked. Hell, I don’t know, maybe he was just horny. He barked till we got up, rolled a small amount of ground meat onto the end of a string and dangled it before him. Since Alfred worked only at night this operation was frequently performed at 2.00 am. Someone eventually stepped on Alfred...not me.”

I can highly recommend this book to the novice or the advanced cook. The recipes are well set out and are easy to understand. I am not sure whether this book is available from bookstores as it was purchased from www.amazon.com this is a good way to purchase books that are hard to find or unavailable in Australia. The budget freight was used; despite being told of a four-week delivery time the book arrived in less than two weeks!

RMBOA COMMITTEE MEETING 12TH JUNE 2008

MEETING COMMENCED: Approximately 6.30 pm

LOCATION: Tower Hotel Magill

ATTENDEES: Michael H, Rob P, Craig, Julie B, Val P, Sue H Colin P, Mark L and David P

APOLOGIES: None

Rob Potter took the chair and welcomed committee members

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Held 17th January 2008)

Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted

Kroehn's Landing Amble:

It was agreed it was a very successful event. Three new memberships were a direct result.

Corporate Membership:

It was agreed that \$100 is the fee; we can look for corporate members after 30 June 2008. It was agreed this should be promoted in the next Rambler; corporate members should get an advertisement on the web site, quarter page advertisement in the Rambler/Newsletter and an insert (they would supply) for the Ramble satchels.

CORRESPONDENCE

TPI:

Advising they had shifted premises and a summary of the rules and regulations for use of it. It was decided we would no longer require their facility.

From a member:

A design for a Ramble Flag, it was agreed that we might be able to work with a version of this design. Michael will e-mail thanks to the member.

Sustainable Recreation Committee:

Requesting a letter of support as their funding has been cut. Michael tabled a letter of support that had been sent.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The financial report was presented. Val said she would enquire as to the availability of an auditor if Kevin Hodge were unavailable.

WEBMASTER REPORT

Mark has sorted out the e-mail list rejection problems, which relate to computer firewall configuration. Rob asked whether the secretary could also receive e-mails going to him from BIASA.

SA RECREATIONAL BOATING COUNCIL REPORT

The next meeting is in a week's time. Craig said SABFAC had approved extension of the Clayton Bay Boat Ramp.

SUSTAINABLE RECREATION COMMITTEE

David is no longer on this committee as it no longer has funding.

FURTHER BUSINESS

Ramble 2009:

Rob stated that RCBC has postponed their River Run and are planning a 7day River Run starting on 18th April 2009 from KOM to McBean's Pound. Craig said he felt there was a great deal of support for an RMBOA up river Ramble. Craig proposed a motion that we have an up-river Ramble from 14th – 18th April that would give members from both organisations the opportunity to take part in each event. Julie seconded All Agreed. The proposed itinerary is: 14th April Blanchetown, 15th April Murbko; 16th April Morgan 17th April Hogwash Bend and 18th April Waikerie. We will have to keep costs low because of expected reduced numbers. Rob Potter will contact the commodore of the RCBC to enquire as to the availability of toilet/shower trailer.

Thank you plaques to members who have assisted in our recent and past events: It was agreed that some type of award to volunteers should be investigated.

BIASA Membership Review: It was generally agreed that it was of use. Michael proposed a motion "that we extend our membership of BIASA for a further year on the same terms as before". Seconded Craig; **All Agreed**

Late Subscription Payments: It was agreed by all that this practice is inconvenient and costly (posting reminder notices) therefore Julie proposed a motion "that we offer a \$50 Myer voucher to the winner of a draw at the members meeting on the 21st. To be eligible a member must be financial or a life member by 15th August 2008". Seconded Michael; **All Agreed**

The Adelaide Boat Show: There was some discussion on the value to RMBOA of this event. The majority decided that RMBOA should attend this year (17th- 20th July), but we will review attendance next year.

"The Rambler": It was decided that "The Rambler" would appear on the 1st week of July. It would contain a subscription renewal form, Presidents Report, Kroehn's Landing Report (Michael); an advertisement from a member; Minutes of this meeting; notice of the draw for early payment of subscriptions; Book Reviews (Sue and Val), information on Ramble 2009, a membership form for members to give to friends or those interested in joining RMBOA (Michael will redesign the form).

Members Meeting: To be held on 21st August 2008 at the Tower Hotel

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

18th August 2008 at the Tower Hotel 6.00 pm for 6.30 pm

MEETING CLOSED AT APPROXIMATELY 9.00PM



A picture from The Christmas Party in 2007 at Mannum

The Weekly River E-mail News

This is a very popular service the RMBOA provides (around 100 subscribers). The Association recently changed its web hosting service. As a result of this there were some initial “teething problems” and some people fell off the mailing list, but now we believe the problems are solved. So if you’re not receiving your weekly fix of RMBOA news by e-mail and believe you should, or you wish to join the subscription list, all you need to do is e-mail the Webmaster, Mark Little; webmaster@rmboa.org.au

An economical and quick solution to heating food if you have a low powered generator



The Ronson snack oven model 9048 (above) is designed to heat pre-cooked food like grilled cheese sandwiches. The top griller uses 365W, the bottom one used less at 285W and together they use about 660W. Both grills can be operated independently. Heating of 8 cocktail pies or 2 regular sized pies takes approximately 15 minutes with both elements operating. The Ronson 9048 retails for around \$50, although I have seen them for as low as \$35 when on special. Harris Scarfe and Woolworths sell them. The Ronson snack oven provides an economical solution to heating food if you have a low powered generator 0.7- 1.0KVA or even an inverter if you have sufficient battery reserves.

RMBOA AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To assist in protecting the River Murray and its environs from all forms of damage, pollution and destruction by the education and self-discipline of all who use it.
- To communicate with members and boat owners; to keep them informed of relevant developments and to liaise with governments and instrumentalities having any form of control over the river and its environment.
- To arrange, manage and co-ordinate functions of recreation, education and conservation surrounding the river, to benefit members and other users of the river.

RMBOA Committee

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CALENDAR

**Members Meeting
at The Tower Hotel**

621 Magill Road, Magill

Thursday 21st August 2008, 6.00 pm for Dinner
Meeting to commence at 8.00 pm

It is essential that if you wish to come to dinner
that you book by telephoning Rob Potter
on 8431 1334 or 0408 08 9753

Adelaide Boat Show

18th –20th July 2008

at The Adelaide Convention Centre
North Terrace, Adelaide.

River Ramble 2009

14th –19th April 2009

Our Mighty Murray

Our Mighty Murray is a lifeline for some
Or the ultimate escape for others to have
fun

Kick back and watch the Pelicans soar in
the sky

Or gaze in awe as the Paddle Steamers
meander by

Slowly amble along in a boat or toss in your
rod

You never know you might land a giant
Murray Cod

Camp on the rivers edge and soak up the
glory

Sit round the campfire at night and tell a
good story

The ever-changing facets of the towering
cliffs

Reflect in the water like shimmering
megaliths

The sunsets and sunrises are one of
nature's delights

The sun on the water sparkles and shines
like fairy lights

The Murray is for us all to have fun and for
us all to share

Conserve our beautiful Murray and show
some thought and care

Treat our Murray with the most ultimate
respect

And it will always provide us with all that we
could ever expect

Disclaimer

The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the River Murray Boat Owners Association of SA Inc, the editor or members of the Management Committee. Readers should rely on their own enquiries in making decisions concerning their own interests or purchase of any article advertised for sale in this or any other issue of the newsletter.