

# *The Rambler*

**Summer 2008-2009**

**The Official Newsletter of the River Murray Boat Owners Association Inc**

**PO Box 3202, Melbourne Street, North Adelaide 5006**

[www.rmboa.org.au](http://www.rmboa.org.au)



***RMBOA Christmas Party Mannum***

## President's Report

Dear fellow members

The last few months have been very busy for our Association. Firstly the organisation of the Ramble has been a major priority. While this event is likely to be much smaller in terms of vessels taking part than in previous events, we on the committee believe it will be an enjoyable and successful event. If you haven't registered it's not too late. The more registrations we have the less likely we are to make a loss on the event.

On our website a few sentences encapsulate the philosophy of our Association. *"The RMBOA supports environmental responsibility, but resists unreasonable or impractical controls and regulations that will divide river users and diminish enjoyment of the river for all."* In the last few months a challenge has arisen being a draft strategy proposed by the South Australian Government titled "Houseboat, Mooring and Marina Strategy and Guidelines for the River Murray in South Australia" and if adopted unchanged, will seriously diminish the enjoyment of the river for owners of houseboats and cruisers with unreasonable and unworkable controls. The RMBOA has spent a great deal of time in meeting with government agencies, other boating associations, in particular the Riverland Cruising Boat Club, BIASA and the Houseboat Hirers Association in formulating its own independent response to the draft strategy. While there are good and sensible things in this document, much of it, if adopted unchanged, would destroy the very reason why we go to the Murray and why we own boats. It has been said that *"the price of freedom is eternal vigilance"* while the battle is still to be won; there has never been a better or more important time to join the RMBOA or a similar boating association. It is not good enough to sit on your laurels and do nothing, otherwise one day you'll wake up and may find you can no longer moor at your favourite spot on the river. So please if you have friends who own a boat, encourage them to join the RMBOA for only \$25 a year and you can get your voice heard where it counts. At the Member's meeting on the 5<sup>th</sup> March both the Ramble and the draft strategy will be discussed in detail, so if you've never been to a Member's meeting, now is the time to do so.

A quote from our response:

"The RMBOA believes that the recent experience with Kakadu National Park, where Kakadu has dropped out of the top 10 must-see places in Australia because of over-regulation (Kakadu now Kakadon't – The Weekend Australian 17-18 January 2009), serves as an indication of how government controls can drastically alter the enjoyment and freedom of natural amenities. Thomas Jefferson once said *"He, who governs least, governs best"*.

On a lighter note, a brief mention of the successful activities we have all enjoyed, such as the presentation to Malcolm and Dianne Burgan for their untiring musical entertainment at various events for many years, the AGM at Kroehn's Landing and the Christmas party at Mannum. (see some of the photo's printed in this issue)

We are always looking for other ideas for events, after all this is a big part of what we are, "Boaties" wishing to enjoy the serenity of our great river, enjoy social interaction by meeting in different places along the river, a friendly BBQ, a chat and a chance to use our pride and joy.

I would finally, on behalf of all members, thank Mark Little (our Webmaster) and Peter Allen (our Public Officer) for attending many meetings with me and in formulating our response to the draft strategy. This has been a truly arduous task and one of the greatest challenges to our Association since I have joined the management committee.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the members meeting and, more particularly, on the Ramble. Happy and safe boating!

Regards  
Rob Potter  
President

## **RMBOA Response to the Governments Houseboat River Policy**

The Draft submission (about 370KB) can be found at:

<http://www.rmboa.org.au/members/DraftResponse.pdf>

The username to access the file is "member" as shown inside quotes, not their own name.  
The password is "AqmG2N"- Again do not include quotes.



**Malcolm and Dianne Burgan receiving a service award at the last Members Meeting held at the Tower Hotel on the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2008**

## **Next Members Meeting at the Tower Hotel**

**Thursday March 5<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**It is essential to contact Rob Potter to book a place for dinner.**

Home: (08) 8332 5675 or [president@rmboa.org.au](mailto:president@rmboa.org.au)

Work: (08) 8431 1334 or Mobile: 0408 089 753

You will need to place your dinner order by 6.30 pm.

The meeting will commence at 8.00 pm

On the Agenda will be: The houseboat mooring strategy and the response of the RMBOA and preparations and information on Ramble 2009

# River Ramble 2009

The Ramble is almost upon us and your Committee is frantically getting things organised.

Many of the finer details are now falling into place. Application forms were sent out late last year and if required, they are available on the website as well. Getting your forms in earlier rather than later will assist with Committee planning so please get on to it. For new members that haven't been on a Ramble before, I recommend coming to the Members meeting on Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> March at the Tower Hotel and making yourselves known to the Committee, or feel free to contact any of the Committee with any questions. A further Ramble information newsletter will be sent out after entries close and details finalised.

Order forms for catering and clothes are included with this newsletter. These are also available on the RMBOA website.

For those with cars and trailers to store at Blanchetown, storage will be available at the Caravan Park at \$2.00 per day

For those that want to store at Waikerie, the Caravan Park is available at \$1.00 per night. A lift back to Blanchetown from Waikerie on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> April at 3 pm will be available. Contact Craig Birbeck for further details on 0429 677 368.

## **Dress up at Hogwash**

It was Pirates in 2006, now its **Superheroes in 2009**. Superman, Wonder Woman, Spiderman, The Hulk or whoever is your favourite hero or villain.

**There will be prizes on the night** (*Can't wait to see if there's a Cat Woman!*)

**The Riverland Cruising Boat Club** (RCBC) is having a run down river directly after our Ramble. Many of you may want to join in. If so contact the RCBC on 0427 887 277 or by mail at *RCBC Inc, Box 1990, Renmark 5341*.

## **Boat Ramp Closures in the Mid Murray Council**

Five ramps have been closed as a large drop off makes launching and retrieval dangerous:

- **Two at Blanchetown** (the new ramp and the OLD Ferry ramp are still operational)
- **Purnong**
- **Caurnamont**
- **Greenways**
- **Herrmann's Landing**

If in doubt, carefully walk into the water to make sure.

**If you are in any doubt do not use the ramp!**



**AGM time at Kroehn's Landing - November**

## **RMBOA Aims & 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.



**High level meeting on the foredeck of GEZA on the Christmas party weekend**



**Some of the fleet at Kroehn's Landing AGM Amble**

# RMBOA 26th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9<sup>th</sup> November 2008

**MEETING COMMENCED: approximately 11.05 am**

**LOCATION: Kroehn's Landing Riverfront**

**ATTENDEES:**

Geoffrey & Marjorie Hicks, Trevor & Lorraine Beythien, Colin & Judy Hill, Gary & Claire Love, Michael Heuzenroeder & Sue Holland, Craig & Julie Birbeck, Mark & Alexa Little, David Potter, Robert & Gerry Potter, Colin & Val Pym, Ian Johnson, Ian & Chris Bodinar, John & Judy Beale, Graham & Prue Langsford, Ted & Pat Jackson, Michael Wright, Bill & Veronica Ingram, John & Helga Boyle, Wendy Bridget & Peter Green, Trevor Edwards, Chris & Anna Veenstra, John & Geraldine Swift, Terry Geyer (41 Members in total, 12 vessels)

**APOLOGIES:** Malcolm & Dianne Burgan, Peter & Jill Allen, Len Som De Cerff, Pam Dean, Tim & Anne Potter, Nigel & Margie Galliver, Roger & Glenda Hedley, Geoff & Judy McAllister, Ron & Carol Greening, Gil & Angie Leaver, Ben & Frieda van Essen, Graham & Jill Rainbow, Gordon & Joyce Watson, James & Josie Whyte, Rob Bowering.

**MINUTES PREPARED BY: Michael Heuzenroeder**

**MINUTES of the Previous AGM held on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2007** were sent to members prior to the meeting.

Michael Heuzenroeder proposed the minutes be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

Seconded Lorraine Beythien / **All Agreed**

**MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS AGM**

No matters arising

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Rob Potter presented the report. The report covered the following matters:

Review of RMBOA events over 07/08

- 07 Murbko mini – amble AGM – decision to hold meetings where poss. With boating related events
- 07 Xmas – Mannum Amble
- Kroehn's extended mini –amble in 08
- Successful members meetings and dinners

Matters of a more serious nature:

- State of the Murray – another bad year
- Final COP with regard to greywater has been released
- WDS – Heppner Landing - completed
- MV Expedition at Swan Reach WDS, some progress here
- Website going from strength to strength
- Awards for contributors to RMBOA– two decided more to come
- Membership has stabilised at 172 vessels or approx 340 people

The Future

- 08 Xmas party/Amble
- Wooden Boat Festival
- Ramble 2009 will be different from previous Rambles, mostly because it is shorter, Cadell included, cut down to some extent to keep the registration costs down. There is likely to be a financial loss. Encourage people upstream of Lock 1 to come by road.
- 09/10 committee – encourage new blood as some committee members wish to step down.

Graeme Langsford proposed that the report be accepted.

Seconded by Gary Love / **All Agreed**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Val Pym presented the financial report (see attached). The RMBOA is in a very strong financial position with a positive balance of \$13,952.53. This is due in part to our funds being placed in high interest bearing accounts Val Pym proposed that the financial report is accepted.

Seconded C Veenstra / **All Agreed**

There was some discussion that Ramble 2009 might make a financial loss; however the meeting agreed unanimously that the Ramble must go ahead.

**Michael Wright proposed a motion** that “The management committee be given full control of the Ramble organisation and should be authorised to make what ever financial arrangements necessary to see that it takes place”

Seconded Colin Hill / **All Agreed**

## REPORTS FROM ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES

**Colin Hill (River Murray Urban Users Committee, Murray Care and Sustainable Recreation Committee):** The RMUU has been in existence for 10 years, but their funding has been cut dramatically, down 60% and now has an uncertain future, letters and meetings have been organised with the minister. Funding was withdrawn from the SRC without notice, project officer, Karina Rose is gone. The committee would like to carry on but NRM funding cut by Federal Government. They are replacing it with a new “caring for country” scheme which is taking over natural resource management. There was an ineffective meeting with Peter Garrett. New system appears to be very bureaucratic, the future is uncertain.

**Craig Birbeck (Recreational Boating Council):** As the “RMBOA” delegate to the Recreational Boating Council I have attended a number of meetings. It has not been all that productive as it is dominated by coastal groups. A letter was written to Karlene Maywald concerning bank erosion by wake boats, her response indicated that she did not understand the damage caused by these boats.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

All positions were declared vacant by the returning officer Gary Love. Nine valid nominations for committee as set out in section 18 of the 1993 Constitution had been received.

- Rob Potter – President
- Craig Birbeck – Vice President
- Val Pym – Treasurer
- Michael Heuzenroeder – Secretary

**General Committee Members:** Julie Birbeck, Colin Pym, Susan Holland and Mark Little.

The returning officer declared all officers and committee members were duly elected unopposed.

**Rob Potter then assumed the Chair as the President.**

## APPOINTMENT OF THE AUDITOR

Val Pym, the treasurer, indicated that Kevin Hodge will be our auditor if available and asked that he be reappointed. Val also asked the meeting to allow her to find an alternative auditor if required, Bill Saunders who does the Wooden Boat association was suggested as an alternative.

Gerry Potter seconded the motion / **All Agreed**

## WEBMASTER REPORT

Mark Little said that there had been over 10,250 visits to the site since its inception. River levels were the most popular pages, followed by the trip calculator and Ramble 2009. Chris Bodinar proposed the Reports be accepted.

Seconded Colin Hill / **All Agreed**

Colin Hill proposed a vote of thanks to Mark Little the webmaster.

**All Agreed**

## OTHER BUSINESS

**2<sup>nd</sup> Edition SA Waters Atlas** is available to members for \$60, RRP is \$69.95

**WDS at Walker Flat:** Colin Hill said the design was less than perfect, the platform being too small making it difficult for large boats to make fast their sterns.

**WDS at Mannum and Murray Bridge:** These will soon be temporarily closed for a short time to allow dredging underneath the platforms.

“**New snags**” members should inform Ron Greening so they can be buoyed.

**Ukee Boat Club:** Rob voiced his appreciation of the members of the Ukee Boat Club, who assisted Walter and Celia Schollar (Past Presidents and Life Members) after their cruiser sank at its moorings.

**Walker Flat Boat Ramp:** Chris Veenstra said the jetty was now completely out of the water.

**Name Tags:** Gerry Potter suggested that name tags be worn at RMBOA functions these can just be paper stickers, the meeting agreed this was a good idea

**Slogan for Ramble 2009:** David Potter asked members to think about a catchy short slogan for Ramble 2009.

The President thanked all those in attendance.

Meeting Closed at 12.00 noon

# RMBOA Committee

E-mail: [secretary@rmboa.org.au](mailto:secretary@rmboa.org.au)

## President: Rob Potter

Home: (08) 8332 5675  
Work: (08) 8431 1334  
Mobile: 0408 089 753

## Vice President: Craig Birbeck

Home: (08) 8523 2023  
Mobile: 0429 677 368

## Secretary: Michael Heuzenroeder

Home: (08) 8269 1530  
Work: (08) 8222 3275  
Mobile: 0417 870 955

## Treasurer: Val Pym

Home: (08) 8569 1875  
Mobile: 0409 698 863

## Webmaster: Mark Little

Home: (08) 8250 3753  
Mobile: 0434 602 091

## General Committee:

### Colin Pym

Home: (08) 8569 1875  
Mobile: 0409 698 863

### Sue Holland

Home: (08) 8269 1530  
Work: (08) 8354 7789  
Mobile: 0407 399 520

### Julie Birbeck

Home: (08) 8523 2023  
Mobile: 0404 481 719

## Public Officer: Peter Allen

Home: (08) 8379 1540  
Mobile: 0407 044 920

## Calender

### Members Meeting

#### Tower Hotel Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March

Contact Rob Potter to book for dinner

[president@rmboa.org.au](mailto:president@rmboa.org.au)

Food to be ordered by 6.30 pm

### River Ramble 2009

14<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

RIVER MURRAY BOATOWNERS ASSOCIATION OF SA INC  
YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS  
GENERAL ACCOUNT

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 2007		\$ 12,257.84
RECEIPTS: -		
Bank Interest:	Cheque Account	\$ 16.97
	Term Deposit	<u>\$ 529.05</u> \$ 546.02
Donations		\$ 25.00
Membership:	Joining Fees	\$ 170.00
	Subscriptions	<u>\$ 4,200.00</u> \$ 4,370.00
Stock Sales		<u>\$ 122.00</u>
	<u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u>	\$ 5,063.02
LESS PAYMENTS: -		
Audit Fee		\$ 150.00
Boat Show Expenses	\$ 565.00	
Catering:	Amble, etc	\$ 642.52
Donation:	Recreational Boat Council	\$ 50.00
Insurances		\$ 1,834.15
Newsletter Expenses	\$ 1,522.80	
Printing, Stationery, Postage etc		\$ 534.08
Post Office Box Rental		\$ 70.00
Petty Cash Expenses (Secretary)		\$ 76.90
Travelling		\$ 50.00
Website Costs		<u>\$ 91.83</u>
	<u>TOTAL PAYMENTS</u>	\$ 5,587.28
	EXCESS OF PAYMENTS OVER RECEIPTS	<u>\$ (524.26)</u>
	<u>BALANCE OF FUNDS AS AT 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008</u>	<u>\$ 11,733.58</u>

FUNDS COMPRISE: -

Bank SA Cheque Account (part)	\$ 2,542.72
Bank SA Term Deposit (part)	\$ 9,155.11
Cash on Hand	<u>\$ 35.75</u>
	<u>\$ 11,733.58</u>

RIVER MURRAY BOATOWNERS ASSOCIATION OF SA INC  
YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008  
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS  
RIVER RAMBLE ACCOUNT

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD 2007		\$ 2,134.68
RECEIPTS: -		
Interest – Term Deposit		84.27
LESS PAYMENTS: -		<u>Nil</u>
	<u>BALANCE OF FUNDS AS AT 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008</u>	\$ 2,218.95

FUNDS COMPRISE: -

Bank SA Cheque Account (part)	\$ 760.74
Bank SA Term Deposit (part)	<u>\$ 1,458.21</u>
	<u>\$ 2,218.95</u>

RIVER MURRAY BOATOWNERS ASSOCIATION OF SA INC  
CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS AS AT 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008

Associated Funds as per attached statement		\$ 11,733.58
River Ramble Funds as per attached statement		<u>\$ 2,218.95</u>
	TOTAL FUNDS	<u>\$ 13,952.53</u>
Which are represented by: -		
Bank SA Cheque Account No 105-022 111284040	\$ 3,303.46	
Bank SA Term Deposit Account No 085 4035591760	\$ 10,613.32	
Cash on Hand	<u>\$ 35.75</u>	
	TOTAL FUNDS	<u>\$ 13,952.53</u>

AUDIT REPORT

I report that I have audited the books and records of RIVER MURRAY BOATOWNERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC in respect of the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008. The Secretary has supplied me with an inventory of the sale value of the sundry items of merchandise on hand as at the balancing date and details of items of merchandise that were given away as prizes during the year but as these financial statements are prepared on a cash flow basis such items are not reflected anywhere in the statements. I have not been able to verify by audit either the stocks of merchandise or the cash in hand but have accepted the information supplied by your Secretary and Treasurer and subject to this I report that to the best of my knowledge and belief the attached Statement of Receipts and Payments and the above Statements are correct according to the books records vouchers and other records and information supplied to me.

K D Hodge – Auditor 26.08.2008

**\*\*This is a copy of the original financial statements for the year ended 2008 for the RMOA. Copies of the originals, signed by the Auditor, are available through the Association Secretary, Michael Heuzenroeder. \*\***