



# WEEKLY BULLETIN

January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2012. No 81

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*The Lakes Hub is the initiative of the Milang and District Community Association and is part of the South Australian Government's Murray Futures program, funded by the Australian Government's Water for the Future initiative.*

## Milang to Goolwa Freshwater Classic

Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> proved to be a great day for the annual Milang to Goolwa Freshwater Classic yacht race albeit a little calm on the waters for the sailors chaffing at the bit to race. The race has always been a popular one on the racing calendar but due to the drought it had not been run for the past 5 years. The hundreds of boats with a myriad of coloured sails, the people and a beautiful day made for quite a spectacle.



## Local man in My Kitchen Rules

This may not be of environmental significance but never the less it is of community interest. David Hopgood was born and bred in Milang and is the son of the local Milang store holders, Mervyn and Joyce Hopgood. He is the taller of the two army guys competing in the new series of My Kitchen Rules which goes to air on next Monday 30<sup>th</sup>. David has promised Joyce that he mentions Milang as often as he can which will auger well for a bit more national recognition. The Lakes Hub wishes the guys the best of luck.



## Wellington Ferry /Punt

Information supplied by Andrew Dawes, Lakes Hub, Meningie

Map from Discover Murray web site <http://www.murrayriver.com.au>

The Wellington ferry ( or punt) was originally established as a private enterprise in 1839. It was the earliest and most important crossing on the Murray at that time being a vital link for travellers, stock and transport coming to and from Victoria.

In 1849 the South Australian Government took over its operation and constructed a new ferry landing which, in the early 1850s, served the escort coaches bringing gold to Adelaide from the Victorian goldfields.

Today there are 12 ferries crossing the River Murray in SA all of which are operated by the State Government.



- 1838 Charles Bonney drove cattle overland from Portland to Adelaide.
- 1840 Punt over the Murray River at Wellington commenced operation.
- 1847 Series of relay posts established between Adelaide and Mount Gambier to support the mail service - located at Lake Albert, Salt Creek, Tulley's Station, McBean's Station and Johnston's Station - where police were stationed. *Clyne, Robert - History of SA Police Force 1836-1916*
- 1849 South Australian Government took over the operation of the Wellington ferry (punt), and constructed a new ferry landing. Originally established as a private enterprise in 1839, the Wellington Punt was the earliest and most important ferry crossing on the Murray River.
- 1851 The South Aust Register Call for tenders for mail services between Wellington and Mt Gambier (weekly), between Adelaide and Mt Barker (daily), and between Mt Barker and Wellington (3 times a week)
- 1852 Account of first gold escort: Encountering a great deal of traffic on the road to Wellington, where he camped the first night, he recorded overtaking numerous parties heading to the gold-fields 'in almost every description of vehicle'.  
During February the Wellington ferry carried some 1,234 passengers, 1,266 horses and bullocks and 164 carriages. £64 in fees was collected.  
*Clyne, Robert - A History of the South Australian Police Force 1836-1916 p 111*
- 1852 Oct - Nov During October and November the Wellington punt over the Murray River serviced 3000 passengers, 361 carriages and 2777 draught oxen.



Left : 1905 A photograph showing an Argyll motor vehicle and driver (either Russell Grimwade or G.P.Smith) on the Wellington Punt. Russell Grimwade and G.P.Smith completed the first motor trip from Melbourne to Adelaide over 5 days from May 30th to June 3rd 1905, the actual travel time being 36 hours and 26 minutes for the 604 miles covered.

Right : 1929 ca Queues were common at the Wellington Punt even in the early days.

## Coorong District Local Action Plan Review

The Coorong District Local Action Plan (LAP) is a community-driven plan, focussed on improving natural resource management within the Coorong District Council area.

Since the last LAP review (2000) several 'new' natural resource management issues have become subjects of public debate and interest, particularly relating to climate change, water security and changes to Government Departments, the introduction of NRM Boards & Groups and, new funding programs.

In July 2011, the committee released a discussion document summarising LAP achievements to date and providing data on these 'new' emerging issues.

The feedback we received was positive, with universal support for the LAP and inclusion of the new issues.

This document reflects the latest scientific data, local opinion and regional policy directions.

The Plan can also be accessed on the Coorong District Council's website <http://www.coorong.sa.gov.au> and follow the link in "Latest News"

Hard copies will be available for viewing at Council Offices.

Hard copies can be made available by contacting Graham Gates, Samantha Blight or Tracey Strugnell at Councils Tintinara Office (08 85723611)

**The period for comments on this discussion paper will close on the 6th of February, 2012.**

(NOTE: page containing logos and acknowledgements still to be finalised)

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## Passionate about the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth region?

Expressions of Interest are being sought from members of Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth community to provide advice to the SA Government about projects and activities proposed within the region.

Further information and the Expression of Interest form are available from the [DENR website](#) and [Water for Good](#)

**Expressions of Interest submissions close 5 pm 27 January**

## RIVER MURRAY – weekly FLOW ADVICE

For weekly flow / level reports on the River Murray and Lakes go to the following website

[www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au)

Up-to-date River Murray flow and water level information can be accessed at the Department for Water, SA Water and Murray-Darling Basin Authority websites:

<http://data.rivermurray.sa.gov.au>

[www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm](http://www.sawater.com.au/SAWater/Environment/TheRiverMurray/River+Murray+Levels.htm)

<http://www.mdba.gov.au/water/live-river-data>

Details of river height and rainfall information in the River Murray within Victoria and New South Wales are available at the Bureau of Meteorology website:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/flood>

Information on the discharge of acid drainage water into the Lower River Murray can be accessed online at

[www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au](http://www.waterforgood.sa.gov.au)

## DAILY RECORDINGS – RIVER MURRAY DATA

Data received from <http://e-nrims.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/Telemetry/Default.aspx?App=RMW>

DATE

JAN16 -20 2012

DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
16	GOOLWA	0.731	743
17		0.748	738
18		0.657	655
19		0.643	687
20		0.677	635
	AVERAGE	0.691	692
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL ( AHD)	SALT (EC)
16	MILANG JETTY	0.688	554
17		0.686	550
18		0.657	549
19		0.669	555
20		0.670	560
	AVERAGE		554
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
16	RAUKKAN OFFSHORE	0.677	493
17		0.688	549
18		0.666	583
19		0.644	560
20		0.650	500
	AVERAGE	0.665	537
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
16	MENINGIE JETTY	0.661	4976
17		0.702	4697
18		0.703	4433
19		0.601	4152
20		0.575	4420
	AVERAGE	0.648	4536
DATE	SITE	WATER LEVEL (AHD)	SALT (EC)
16	NORTH WARRENGIE POINT LAKE ALBERT	0.674	5131
17		0.750	5129
18		0.723	5123
19		0.620	5139
20		0.607	5068
	AVERAGE	0.675	5118

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS for more info contact the Lakes Hub

If you have any relev

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20	Greening Australia –Revegetation & Restoration workshops - Mt Barker Contact : Jo Clarke, Vegetation Consultant, Greening Australia, M 0427 181 585 <a href="http://www.greeningaustralia.org.au">www.greeningaustralia.org.au</a>
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22	Fresh Water Classic – Milang to Goolwa yacht race
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27	Expressions of interest close for the Community Advisory Roles - DENR
28	Yesterday's Power Rally Milang Oval 28 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2012 Contact : Vintage Machinery Club 85363938
29	Yesterday's Power Rally Milang Oval 28 <sup>th</sup> and 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2012 Contact : Vintage Machinery Club 85363938
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If you have a community event or courses that you would like added to the Calendar of Events please contact the Lakes Hub.

### Disclaimer

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If you feel a link description, site, piece of advice or anything else mentioned here is inappropriate, do [let me know](#) and I will endeavour to correct it where necessary.