



Summer Edition 2023

Coming Events

GETTING BACK ON THE WATER

RCBC will be at Clayton Bay 17 - 20 March 2023

This is our first chance to get back on the water since the 2022-23 flood. The Goolwa Lakes area have not been greatly affected by high flows and water levels, so this will be safe and easy boating.

BOOK CAMPSITES DIRECT WITH CLAYTON BAY RIVERSIDE HOLIDAY PARK BY 10 FEBRUARY

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 3 MARCH.

CONTACT: Lindsay Dent

Email: lindsay.dent27@gmail.com

ph. 0421 493 397 or between 30 January and 28 February on 03 6363 5106.

Mini Run



7 to 10 July

***Morgan to
Donald Flat (to be
confirmed).
Event manager
Paul Knifton***

**Dinghy
Dawdle**

**Approx 22 to 25
September**



***Lindsay or
Edwards River or
a SA River Towns
Run (to be
confirmed)***

COMMITTEE REPORT - by Lindsay Dent



Once again, I apologise for not being able to attend the AGM due to a period of ill health. I am probably now as close to normal as I will ever be and keen to help keep the RCBC the vibrant club it has always been. On behalf of the membership, I thank Elaine and John Ashworth, Vic Breeding, Sandi Todd, Paul Knifton and David (Krackacan) Jones, outgoing Committee members for their excellent service and to Lissa Selga, Peter Hunter, David A (Waikerie) Jones, Lynne Griffiths and Terry Mowbray for continuing. Thanks also to Peter Cannon for joining the Committee this year and for agreeing to take on the very important role of Treasurer.

Congratulations to Peter Hunter, newly elected Mayor of the Renmark Paringa Council. Peter is stepping into this important role at a most critical time for our Riverland community.

Our thoughts are with our many members who are currently experiencing difficulties associated with the flooding of our much-loved river. It is a time of great challenges, but also of renewal. In time our river will be the better for it.

Having successfully navigated our Club through pestilence over the last few years, now comes the flood. It sounds rather biblical doesn't it, especially as we have also had the fires. As with COVID, the flooding also makes it difficult to plan for events and as you know, we have already had to cancel or postpone some activities. We have had to re-think

some of what was planned for 2023, taking into account not just river levels, flow rates and the safety of the river itself, but also what potential campsites might be like over the coming months, after the floodwaters recede. We are doing this with a smaller committee and that will also be a challenge. Thankfully some of our past committee and other members have kindly offered to continue supporting the organisation of events.

La Nina may be weakening, but another wetter northern summer is likely and a strongly positive Southern Annular Mode in January 2023 (another correlate of a wet summer for eastern Australia), suggest that rivers of the Murray Darling Basin may continue to be high for some time yet.

So what do we have in mind? The Committee met again on 14 January and the programme of events was a major agenda item. Our first event will be on 17 - 20 March at Clayton Bay and environs. I am the Event Manager for this and there are plenty of places to see and things to do. The lower lakes are still open for boating and are not experiencing very high levels or flows at the moment. This will not change as the flood peak moves downstream. **So put Clayton in your diary now.**

We also have a Mini-Run planned for 7 - 10 July and whilst the location might change, the dates probably won't. This may involve largely bush camping as originally proposed, but as an alternative, we might run between river towns or even try another waterway.

The third event for the year may be less certain with respect to date and location, but at the moment the plan is for a Dinghy Dawdle of some kind around the 22-25 September.

As always, your Committee welcomes your input. Suggestions for types of events and locations, and especially, offers of help to organise events, will be gratefully received and discussed.

That's about it for now. Keep safe, keep active and enjoy this latest edition of your newsletter, kindly prepared for us by Elaine Ashworth.

Committee member profile

Peter Cannon



Peter fell in love with boating and particularly sailing in 1961, sailing a friend's single-handed Moth all around Sydney harbour. On returning home to Adelaide he quickly purchased a Rainbow yacht followed by a fishing boat he converted to a cruiser, a cold moulded trailer sailer, a clinker cadet dinghy and 25 ft Sunbird yacht which he still has over 30 years later. More recently Medina a pretty trailerable river boat. Also, of course, canoes and as an ex-competition rower and coach, a scull.

Peter is married to Margie and has three sons and 2.5 grandchildren.

Peter trained in Engineering and worked in the building industry designing and building low energy houses. This transformed into retail shops selling energy equipment and a manufacturing business building wood heaters (Nectre named after the shops Natural Energy centre) and solar power systems. He sold the business in 2018 to provide more time for boating.

RCBC Merchandise Available

Club Flags 600 x 350cm \$25.00
 Club Flags 450 x 220cm \$22.00
 Broad Brim Hats \$18.00
 Embroidered Caps \$15.00
 Safari Caps \$15.00
 Screen Print Caps \$6.00



Email: secretary@riverlandcruisingboatclub.org.au or **Phone:** Lissa Selga on 0438 867 863

RCBC Bank Balance as at 31/12/2022 \$13,796.43

Customs House to Lock 7 and return Mini Run 6th to 13th May 2022

By Jill Rainbow
Photos by Elaine Ashworth

Expertly organised by Lindsay and Joanne Dent, this week was very enjoyable. We launched on the Friday morning at the Customs House. The group was made up of the Dents, the Kniftons (for the upstream run), the Beythiens, Trevor Edwards, the Ashworths, Lissa Selga and the Rainbows. David and Lynley Jones joined us on the Tuesday for the last few days.

There were several last-minute cancellations due to work commitments and ill health and we commiserated with these people.

Lindsay and Joanne had a late change in boats and a rushed trip to Murray Bridge to pick up *Curramulka* from the shed where she had spent the previous 3 years. They had purchased a new (to them) boat for this run but despite Lindsay's best efforts, the mechanic who was working on the boat for a month prior to the run failed to complete the jobs in time. We held our collective breaths as Lindsay loaded *Curramulka* with all their camping gear and then went to start her. She roared into life on the first go!!!

The weather was cold and clear as we all set off at 12:30pm. A leisurely 2 hour trip upstream took us to our first campsite where we soon had the campfire going, camp ovens cooking gently in the coals and a lovely evening of conviviality around the fire.



'How to cook sausages – first find bricks (not wood). (A message for our intrepid leader from a Mini Run participant.)'

On Saturday we woke to better weather as the sun came out. We set off on another easy day of 13 river kilometres to Wompinni Station which was a delightful surprise as most of us had never been there before.



This station had originally been part of Kulcurna Station and about 2 years previously it was sold to a couple from Adelaide who are renovating the original farmhouse and setting up cabins and campsites, both powered and unpowered. Kerry and Eric have set up amazing shower blocks built in containers and the offer of unlimited gas heated showers was very welcome. They are gradually setting up a really great area for guests. They can supply pizzas to order from their pizza oven conveniently set up next to a covered camp kitchen with river views. Moorings were basic at the time, but they have future plans to upgrade them.



Wompinni Station moorings (and boat ramp)

Eric and Kerry are great hosts. Helping them to run the property were a young couple. Jasmine Rose is the Artist in Residence and we were able to do a tour of the garden to view her works and then look at her gallery in a renovated part of the old house.



Wompinni Station moorings

We relished the calm weather and the huge outdoor fireplace next to the camp kitchen and pizza oven which Eric put to good use for our dinner. The artwork and pizzas were truly exceptional. Some of us toured the property to see past Aboriginal camp sites in the sandhills and the old shearing shed, while others simply basked in the sun and watched the preparation for the pizzas to come.

On Sunday we had a longer day on the water heading for Lock 7. We really enjoyed the calm nights, the warm days and the beautiful sunsets. Our camp that night was about 2 sandbars below Lock 7 in splendid isolation. There was no-one else on the river that week. Our campsite was so good that we decided to use it for the next 3 nights as several people were putting up tents. The campfires were wonderful.

On Monday we did a day trip to Lock 7 and up the Rufus River. At the lock, the water was up to within 30 cms of the top of the lock gates, and the water from Lake Victoria was being let out of the Rufus, which was wider than we had ever seen it, and flowing swiftly. Lake Victoria in contrast looked very empty as they were letting water out for irrigation and to ready the lake for future storage with the river level rising each day.

(ED note. Well and truly an indication of things to come!!)



Lock 7

On Tuesday the Beythiens and Trevor Edwards set off on a leisurely cruise downstream with the promise of meeting the rest of us at Kulcurna on Wednesday. Rain was forecast for late in the day and as Jo & Lindsay were tenting and had fortunately booked beds at Kulcurna Homestead, they set off before the rain arrived. Lissa also had to go to work so headed back to Customs House where she left her boat and tent set up with the plan of returning Wednesday night.

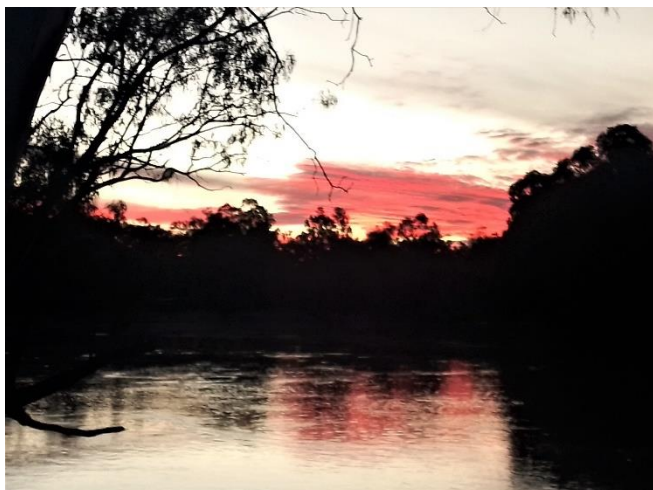
The Rainbows and the Ashworths spent the day exploring the country behind our campsite then getting the fire going as a welcome for the Joneses who arrived at lunch time.



It's a tough life!!

After their meal they continued up to Lock 7 and the Rufus then made it back to us in time for drinks around the fire before the evening meal. The expected rain held off until 9pm so we had a lovely evening.

On Wednesday we packed up camp and set off for Kulcurna Station.



Another beautiful river sunset

As we left, the rain came down and settled in for the day and night. We arrived at Kulcurna at 1 pm. Most people headed straight to the Homestead and settled into the warmth of an open fire, and a room stacked with games and books while our host Paul cooked lamb shanks and vegetables in the covered outdoor kitchen and the Ashworths abandoned their boat for the warmth of a room for the night.



Kulcurna Station

We waited for Lissa to arrive, totally sodden from her trip upstream from Customs House, then headed up to the house. Lissa was introduced to her room and the shower, and we all settled into the amazing warmth of the welcome from Paul and his sister Belinda. We were offered a tour of the house by Belinda which was an amazing treasure trove of our early settler history. Paul in the meantime was out in the cold evening cooking our main course and Belinda had the wood stove going cooking apple crumble and custard to which we later added cream..... Yum!!

After dinner Paul gave us a history of Kulcurna which was settled by his great-grandfather in 1859. The property has remained in the same

family's hands ever since. A great night was enjoyed by all.



The happy crew - warm and well fed

On Thursday it was still drizzling. Those people who slept up in the house enjoyed its home comforts and the rest of us struggled up the slippery slope to the house for an amazing breakfast of tea/coffee, bacon, eggs, tomatoes, sausages, toast and marmalade and quandong jam. Coming and going we tried hard not to leave too much mud on the veranda. (No shoes inside the house, which was not a commandment, but we tried very hard to be good guests).

Paul and Belinda were the most wonderful hosts, and we were all very grateful for the shelter from the rain that they gave us. We eventually got away about 11 am and as we set off downstream the sun returned so it was much warmer. We all decided that in view of the mud on the banks and now in our boats we would head straight for Customs House and take the boats out. We worked as well-oiled teams, and all the boats were soon packed up and loaded on their respective trailers as we were thinking what a great week it had been. Good fellowship, good food, drinks and wonderful fires, calm weather (mostly) and very interesting stopovers full of history and amazing welcomes.

Travelling on the river in late Autumn / early Winter is highly recommended and if you can manage a visit to both Wompinni Station and Kulcurna Station, they come highly recommended.

Thank you to Lindsay for organising such a great trip!

The Rising River!

For those of you who are not lucky enough to live near the Murray (a mixed blessing for some recently!), we have included some photos of the developing flood over the last couple of months. While our thoughts are with those who have been adversely affected by the flood, it has been truly an amazing sight to behold. (Photos Elaine Ashworth & Lindsay Dent)

Loxton

If you would like to see larger versions of these photos, they can all be found on our website: riverlandcruisingboatclub.org.au



18 October 2023 Loxton riverfront 1

18 October 2023 Loxton riverfront 2



23 November 2023 Loxton riverfront

9 December 2022 Levee building to save the Pioneer Village



Berri



18 October 2022 Berri boat ramp

1 November 2022 Berri boat ramp



23 November 2022 Berri boat ramp

**9 December 2022
Berri boat ramp**





20 December 2022 Berri riverfront,
with the Defencell barrier

28 December 2022
Berri riverfront, at
the peak – more or
less



12 January 2023 – the boat ramp a couple of weeks after the peak

Moorook



9 December 2022
From the boat
ramp.
River runners
may remember
using the shelter
that you can see in
the background!

9 December 2022.
The red sign says
'4 knot limit'!



9 December 2022.
The boat ramp
with the floating
section pulled out.

Blanchetown



27 December 2022 Lock 1

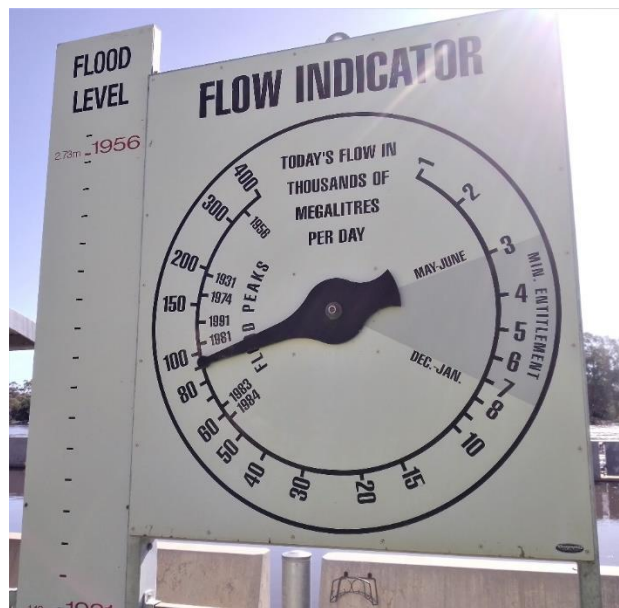


27 December 2022 Paisley

Elsewhere in the Riverland



17 November 2022 Overland Corner



17 November 2022 Lock 4



17 November 2022 Lock 4



30 November 2022 Water lapping the Berri-Loxton road just before it closed.



20 December 2022 Renmark Hospital Levee doing its job



27 December 2022 From the Waikerie Lookout. Holder Bend is down there somewhere!

Ukee Boat Club Murray Bridge



29 December 2022 before the river peaked

At the peak – 11 January 2023



Ukee Boat Club Murray Bridge

At the peak – 11 January 2023



Restrictions are in place for boating on the Murray River in South Australia.
Information as of 13 January 2023 is available in the Marine Safety SA
January Newsletter available at:

<https://marinesafety.sa.gov.au/newsletter-items/marine-safety-sa-january-2023-newsletter>.

As they become available, updates will be found at:

<https://www.marinesafety.sa.gov.au/latest-news-and-events>

Flood information is also available at

<https://dit.sa.gov.au/safety/emergency-recovery/river-murray-flood>

The most up-to-date information about the flood can be found on the
following Facebook pages.

SAPolice <https://www.facebook.com/SouthAustraliaPolice/>

Department of Infrastructure and Transport

<https://www.facebook.com/DFITSA/>

State Emergency Service

<https://www.facebook.com/SASateEmergencyService/>



Image courtesy of Marine Safety SA website.

Interview with Our First One and All Youth Voyager Ryan Walker-Kluske By Lindsay Dent



Last year the RCBC combined with the Wooden Boat Association of South Australia to co-sponsor Ryan Walker-Kluske in the Youth Voyager programme conducted on the Sail Training Vessel *One and All*. Ryan was selected by personnel from the *One and All* and sailed out of Port Adelaide for 5 days in the October school holidays with about 20 other youth voyagers aged 15-17 years. I have been involved in organising sponsorship for 5 Youth Voyagers over the last few years and I usually manage to meet them at Port Adelaide on their return. It wasn't possible this year, so just after Christmas I conducted a phone interview with Ryan to find out a bit more about him and

his experiences on the voyage. The following is a selection from our discussion.

LD: Ryan, how old are you, where do you live and where do you go to school?

Ryan: I turned 17 this December, I live in Lyndoch and go to school at Trinity College in Evanston.

LD: What are your general interests?

Ryan: I love anything related to Star Wars. I also enjoy a lot of outdoor experiences and I especially like climbing. I play footy, do martial arts and have had some success in competitive swimming. I mostly did the swimming for fitness and fun, but competition is too time-consuming, and it got a bit too serious, so I recently gave it away. I have also tried archery want to do more of this.

LD: How have you been getting on with school and do you have any ideas at this stage about what career you might choose?

Ryan: I have just finished Year 11 and found it to be pretty good. I got very good grades and was elected as a Year 11 Leader. I have recently been appointed as a Year 12 Leader, a Prefect. I am going for variety in my subject selections and for Year 12 I have chosen Music Explorations, History (which I enjoy), English core, Maths General and I will also do a research topic. I want to study at Uni to be a teacher, probably aiming to teach at primary level. I see this as a great way to mould kids' learning.

LD: How did you find out about the One and All Youth Voyager programme?

Ryan: I participated in a Youth Parliament in Year 10 and there was a presentation on it. I saw it promoted again on a poster at school.

LD: Prior to sailing on the One and All, did you have much experience in boating?

Ryan: No, but I saw it as an amazing opportunity and something I always wanted to do.

LD: What did you most like doing on the ship?

Ryan: I was elected to be navigator for our group, our watch, and I really enjoyed this. I also liked being at the helm, piloting the boat. We got to swing off the boat on a rope and drop into the sea. It

was fun and I did it more than once. The water was cold, but it was OK if you kept moving. The cooking was amazing, with the best mashed potato I have had in my life.

LD: Were there things that you didn't like? For example, did you get seasick?

Ryan: Nobody likes getting up at 11pm after just a couple of hours sleep, then working 'til 3am, but that's how the ship works. There is a bit of a long story regarding the seasickness. Yes, I did, but not until the third day. We experienced rougher weather, and the ship was rocking and rolling. We had been learning to tie knots the night before, so I made a hammock and rocking back and forth in this I got dizzy and lightheaded. I then went up the rigging and the rolling made me feel really dizzy. When I got down one of my shipmates put an egg in his tea and that was it, off to the stern I went.



LD: How was the weather on the voyage and where did you sail to?

Ryan: The first day was OK, the second day was windy and cold, the third was cold with rain and a swell, but on the fourth and fifth days the weather was good. We sailed down to the bottom of Yorke Peninsula and stopped at a beach near the Cape Spencer Lighthouse. We then swung around Kangaroo Island and came back up.

LD: Were you frightened or challenged by any aspects of the experience and if so, how did you deal with this?

Ryan: No, I wasn't frightened. All I wanted to do was climb the rigging and when I did, I loved it. On the last day I was allowed to go to the top of the mast. I was hanging off one of the top spars when we came into port. I love climbing and I didn't mind the rolling of the ship when up in the rigging. In fact, I thought swinging out over water on the rigging was cool.

LD: Did you eat and sleep well?

Ryan: Yes, I loved the food. Eggs and bacon or sausages for breakfast, morning tea, plenty of food all around. The cook was amazing, she had great stories had cooked all over SA. Sleeping in confined spaces was OK. As the tallest Youth Voyager on ship, the bunks were almost too short, but the curtained bed was good, I was snug and when the ship was rocking and rolling it's like being a baby in the cradle. It's also why it sucked to be getting up at 11pm for the middle watch. We generally had early nights, with dinner, then in bed by 7:30. After the middle watch (until 3am), we went back to bed and got up again about 6am. I have lots of energy and didn't feel tired. Everyone rotated through different watches, some nights we could go to bed at 7:30pm and get up at 6am.

LD: How did you get on with the other youth voyagers and crew?

Ryan: My entire watch was great. I made a point of trying to get to know everyone on board ship. I met someone that had not seen for a long time. We were friends at Out of School Hours Care. I made some other amazing friends. Oliver from Sweden had just moved here with his dad. We agreed to volunteer on the *One and All* next year. Nobody on the ship did not fit in, everyone had someone to talk to.

LD: Were there any conflicts and if so, how were these resolved?

Ryan: There wasn't a single conflict on the ship, not even petty ones. Except perhaps you might hear "Let me go back to sleep."

LD: Do you think that sailing on the One and All increased your appreciation of teamwork and organization or discipline?

Ryan: Discipline and teamwork are nothing new to me. Competitive swimming requires discipline, and it requires teamwork, as does football. I also work in hospitality and that requires teamwork.

Although discipline and teamwork are big requirements on the ship, it didn't come hard to me. Some people did find it more difficult. I am usually a horrible organiser of my stuff, but it helped having an empty bunk underneath mine, so I had plenty of space.

LD: Were you given responsibility for any aspects of the sailing of the ship and how did you feel about this?

Ryan: The navigation and the helm were big responsibilities, and I liked the opportunity. Every member of watch got to take responsibility for the helm, but I got to do it for most of the middle watch. The members of each watch voted to appoint their Navigator and Watch Leader. I was elected Navigator and Sophie was elected Leader. I like to lead and have been given an Emerging Leader award for the Youth Parliament, but Sophie was an excellent choice for our Watch Leader. Most of the navigation used older techniques. I benefited a lot from doing SACE Stage II, Outdoor Education.

LD: Now that the voyage is a couple of months in the past, what memories have stayed with you?

Ryan: Being a part of a crew on a sailing ship, on the sea, it was like being in Pirates of the Caribbean. It was great to have a crew with energy and enthusiasm. There was a wide variety of people amongst the Youth Voyagers. One was an air cadet, there were other Indigenous people like me and there were more academic kids who didn't seem to get outside much. I am an all-rounder; I try to do as much as I can in everything, and this really suited the *One and All* experience.

LD: Would you encourage your friends and family to sail on the One and All?

Ryan: Yes, if I knew they could handle it and even if they didn't think they could, they probably would. It's not just about motivation, it is about trying to have fun, doing as much as you can.

LD: What advice would you give to other young people about to take a trip on the One and All?

Ryan: Although I was interested in the idea, I almost didn't want to do it. I didn't think it would be that much fun, but it was!

LD: Has the experience increased your interest in boating? After your experience on One and All, what do you think about wooden boats (and ships) in particular? Are you interested in other tall ship experiences?

Ryan: Volunteering on the *One and All* is now an aim of mine. It has definitely increased my interest in sailing and tall ships.

LD: Would you consider a career in the boating or maritime industries?

Ryan: I am keen to be a teacher.

LD: Would you like to pursue boating and/or sailing as a hobby?

Ryan: Yes, and as I said, I am keen to volunteer on the *One and All*.

LD: Would you be interested in attending an event or meeting of the Riverland Cruising Boat Club (RCBC) and/or the Wooden Boat Association of South Australia (WBASA), to meet members, use their boats and talk about your experiences?

Ryan: Yes.

LD: Are you interested in bringing your family or friends along to a RCBC or WBASA event in the future? For example the RCBC has camping trips involving boats and multi-day cruises, mostly in the Riverland. The WBASA has evening meetings once every two months; an on-water activity, usually as single day events, on average about once a month; and is also heavily involved in the SA Wooden Boat Festival held in Goolwa every two years (e.g. 28-30 April 2023).

Ryan: I am interested in boating, provided the boat is big enough!

FOR SALE

CHASING RAINBOWS



Seamaster 5.2M fibreglass half cabin cruiser fitted with full vinyl cover of extended height.

Inboard shaft drive 8Hp Yanmar single cylinder diesel motor - original motor, approximately 800 hours since comprehensive overhaul.

Features include:

- Large V berth with recently re-filled cushions, sleeps 2 comfortably
- Insulated Cabin, sun/ insect screens
- Table
- Swim ladder & deck
- Cruising speed 10 kph, very economical on fuel
- Electric winch
- Manual bilge pump
- Two batteries
- Portable toilet if required
- Trailer fully roadworthy, good tyres including spare.
- Currently stored undercover in Berri SA.

Price \$10,000 Negotiable

Many more photos are available on the RCBC website at

<http://riverlandcruisingboatclub.org.au/membersboats/chasing-rainbows/>

Phone 0457 412 929 or 0422 066 141 for further information.

Desperately Seeking Princess 18



WANTED: Pre-loved Princess 18 for a novice (but keen) sailor. Would prefer a vessel with trailer, well fitted and established for overnight/weekend trips but any condition considered. The Princess 18 has been recommended by experienced friends who think she would be an ideal starter. She will become a much-loved member of the family so we hope someone may be ready to part with such a craft. She has a sheltered back yard and marina berth already waiting for her. She will start her new life lazily cruising the Murray River in the Riverland where her new family are based, with a view to more adventurous sailing jaunts as the captain's skills build!

Enquiries to Lissa

E: lissainpaki@hotmail.com or

M: 0438 867 863.

Committee Members 2023

Chairman/Webmaster	Lindsay Dent	0421 493 397	lindsay.dent27@gmail.com
Secretary / Membership Officer	Lissa Selga	0438 867 863	lissainpaki@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Peter Cannon	0417 866 747	pmcannon@adam.com.au
Member / Public Officer	Peter Hunter	0447 177 341	hunterps11@bigpond.com
Member / Amenities trailer officer	David (Solway) Jones	0409 692 295	dljones92@bigpond.com
Member	Lynne Griffiths	0409 432 469	imglivetolearn@gmail.com
Member	Terry Mowbray	0409 646 481	terrymowbray170@gmail.com
First Aid Officer	David Long	0428 848 454	davlyn@internode.on.net

Our website:

riverlandcruisingboatclub.org.au

Lindsay Dent is the webmaster and keeps this updated on a regular basis.

Please check it out!

Our website will keep you up to date on Up & Coming Events, etc.

Contributions to the newsletter are always welcome and can be submitted at any time. We would love to see more contributions from members, telling us what they have been doing in or out of boats!

Newsletter Editor	Elaine Ashworth	0457 412 929	ashej54@bigpond.com
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