



# THE HOLLOW LOG

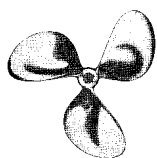
## The Classic Australian Wooden Power Boat Association Inc.

Volume 15, Issue 4

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*Winter boating — Sun out, flat water but very chilly!*

## Narrandera here we come!

Well our National get together weekend at Narrandera is rapidly drawing closer and I haven't heeded some of my own advice from the last Hollow Log. I'm now addressing issues I've known about since the last time I used the boats, and whilst sorting them out I've found some other problems, suddenly time appears very short. Anyhow, I'm probably not the only one that has found themselves in this situation. I'm sure that all over the country various obstacles will somehow be overcome in the next couple of weeks and boats will arrive at Narrandera ready to go, albeit with varying amounts of prior testing.

Once we all get to Narrandera, accommodation will be the first concern for many. For those that aren't aware some bookings from last year have disappeared and in some cases deposits too. Hopefully everybody that has made and confirmed a booking will have a place to stay. This isn't the first year that we've had problems and they seem to arise with the change of caravan park Managers, something that appears to occur quite regularly. I'm not sure what the answer is, some have muted a change of venue but there are pro's and con's with that. I'm guessing it will be a topic of

conversation over the weekend and perhaps at the AGM.

This newsletter has been a bit trickier to put together than my previous two, partly due to the lack of action over Winter but also because what has been happening is quickly posted on the Bulletin Board or other social media and therefore I didn't really want to include old news unless there could be some more added to the story. This is something that I know Greg mentioned many times so I won't harp on but if you do have a project you're working on, an event you were a part of, or some other wooden powerboat related news, please send me a few photos and words. I'll certainly appreciate it and I'm sure your fellow club members will be interested too.

What I have put together for this edition is a mixture of recent events, new construction and scale versions of a couple of club members boats that I hope will be of interest to everyone.

For those heading to Narrandera, have a safe journey and myself and family will see you there.

## Marong Car Show

I was talking to Ross Foster a while back and he mentioned that the Federation of Veteran Vintage and Classic Vehicle Clubs annual meeting at Marong, just outside Bendigo, was on again on the coming Sunday. Ross was going to take his Monaro with his little skiff, *Ratbag*, hanging off the back.



I was heading back to Melbourne for the weekend, but had no hesitation in changing my plans. I'd heard this meeting was big, with many hundreds of cars attending, and was keen to have a look. I thought I would take *Stormy* along as well.

Sunday came and on arrival we joined the queue of vehicles entering. I was behind Ross and *Ratbag* as they were waved through. As I attempted to follow, a hand went up and the marshall said: "Mate, there is no way I can let that vehicle in there". I said my Kluger tow vehicle was eight years old, well on the way to qualifying, but he did not see any humour in the point I was making. After some discussion, I convinced him that without the tow vehicle, the boat would never have got there and that the vehicle would be removed from the arena as soon as the boat was dropped off. He reluctantly let me through with lots of warnings and final words of "... and I really like your boat, mate" - maybe a bit of an olive branch.



We parked the boats on the perimeter of the grassed display area, which was the centre of a trotting track. The event was huge, with cars eventually having to park on the track itself as the centre became full. Both Ross and I were looking forward to having a look around, but such was the interest in our boats that we really couldn't get away.

## Greg Carr

During the day we learnt about two runabouts that the owners were looking to sell. We learnt about the interesting journey made by *Mouse*, a very competitive Lewis skiff raced extensively in Victoria, as it travelled from country Victoria to Western Australia where it is currently undergoing restoration. We also learnt about the little skiff *Jinx* that had come to Victoria from Tasmania and even found out a little more about the Eddie skiff *Impact*, that is now in Tasmania.

As is always the case with these shows, so many people just want to talk about the old wooden boats they owned, or grew up with, skied behind, raced, etc., and what fond memories they had of those past days.

We had a great day, but now just need to follow up on those two for sale.



## Rebound sold!

*Rebound* has been sold to a new club member from Victoria, Jeff Palmer.

Jeff is a fan of boat racing from the 70's & 80's and recalls the skiffs racing at Albert Park Lake, Eppalock & Yarrowonga.

Jeff plans on running *Rebound* at Carrum before heading up to Narrandera.

We look forward to seeing *Rebound* tearing around Lake Talbot once again.



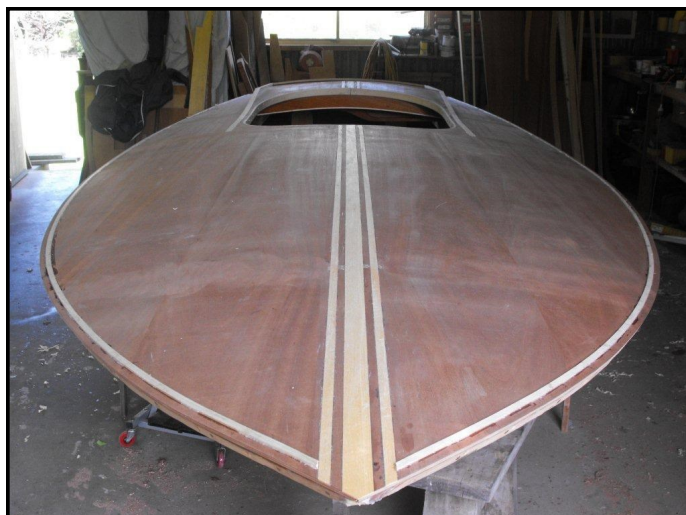
*Rebound at Narrandera in 2010*



## Skiffo — part 2

Here are a few more photos of the construction of Paul Siddall's 17' 10" skiff, *Skiffo* and Ron Johnson's craftsmanship.

The rounded corners of the engine bay were a feature that Paul liked on other Lewis skiffs and requested Ron include.





## Powerboat Picnic Days at Goolwa

The Goolwa Aquatic Club continued to run its Powerboat Picnic days over the last 3 months to give boaties the opportunity to take their boats for a run around the buoys in front of the Club over the Winter months.



*Maryanne*

With the particularly cold Winter we've seemed to have this year in the South, picking a good day can be difficult. This was the case in July with the first proposed Saturday being postponed a week due to the forecast of thunderstorms and hail. The weather on the following Saturday however was completely the opposite, beautiful blue sky, hardly any breeze, meaning pretty flat water. Nevertheless, the air and water were still very, very chilly. More than one person donned a Beanie whilst they raced across the water, launching and retrieving was done with more attention than usual taken of the height of the water up one's legs.



*RUSH & HiFi*



*Shooting Star*

So with the weather being kind, many different styles of boats turned up, both old and relatively new. Wooden powerboats were well represented with Hydroplanes, Runabouts and a Skiff.

The oldest boat present was the Hydroplane *Maryanne*, making its return to Goolwa after more than 50 years, and only its second outing since being completely restored. *Maryanne* is a boat I've known of and heard about my whole life as its original owner/builder/driver, Ray Loffler and my grandfather had been friends since they were young Motor Mechanics. Interestingly though *Maryanne* hadn't been in the water my entire life as Ray stopped racing and sold her in 1964 without the engine, 2 years before I was born.



*Graham with Pace Set'R*

After spending many years being neglected and deteriorating under a tree, Ray and his son Robert bought *Maryanne* back, with the plan to restore her to the glory days. Sadly Ray passed away before the restoration was complete but Robert and his son Jason continued to work on her until she was relaunched earlier this year near Murray Bridge.

As Goolwa was only the second outing since her restoration, the day was spent learning and enjoying the idiosyncrasies of running and driving a 50 year old Hydroplane. *Maryanne* is powered by the same Jaguar XK150 engine she ran at the end of her racing career as Ray and Robert had held onto the engine since 1964.



*Scott in HiFi*

After Robert and Jason had done quite a few laps, Robert offered me a drive just as he did at its relaunch in January. I was keen as *Maryanne* had looked to be travelling very well over the smooth water, so as I was being pushed out I was anticipating some quick laps. But it wasn't to be.



## Powerboat Picnic Days at Goolwa - cont.

I fired up the Jag engine, she revved into life and we started to move forward but as the revs climbed we didn't pick up speed but actually slowed. I shut the engine down as it doesn't run a water pump and relies on forward movement for water flow. Once stationary, I tried again, with same result. I couldn't work out what was wrong, I had jumped straight into *Maryanne* after Jason came in from zooming around, what's changed I kept thinking. So I shut the engine down again, stuck my hand in the air and prepared to cop the flack as I was towed in by another mate in his Glass boat. Once back at the bank the

problem was quickly found, the Aluminium cavitation plate had fractured and bent up, presumably near the end of Jason's run, this was causing the propeller to cavitate.



*Maryanne*



*John in U Too*

Wooden powerboats that braved the cool conditions in July were *The Sting*, *Shooting Star*, *HiFi*, *Lady Bird*, *Pace Set'R*, *Rush*, *U Too* and *Maryanne*.



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## Powerboat Picnic Days at Goolwa - cont.

The September Powerboat Picnic had less wooden powerboats with *The Sting*, *Wiski Blue*, *U Too* and *Pace Set'R* turning up to a sunny, warmish but breezy and choppy Goolwa. I made the mistake of showing up without a boat, something that was mentioned a few times during the day. Those that did attend enjoyed themselves and another Powerboat picnic day is scheduled for November.



*Wiski Blue*



*The Sting*



*Wiski Blue & Pace Set'R*

When you want the **BEST** for your boat.....



*Quick Sticks with proud owner Chris Findlay*

..... come to Australia's leading wooden boat people.

Chris Findlay of Findlay Engineering declares "After the amazing restoration and refurbishment by the **Wooden Boat Shop** on my Lewis runabout *Wyh-On*, I had no hesitation in commissioning them again to repair a large puncture hole on my Seacraft *Quick Sticks*"

Chris added "I was impressed by their professionalism, attention to detail and ability to restore *Quick Sticks* back to immaculate condition".



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## Fury

South Australian member, and owner of the full size *Fury*, Glen Traeger was recently presented with this gift by Peter Newcombe. The 16 inch scale model of the Lewis Skiff, on its scale size trailer, was given to Glen on Fathers day by his family, apparently Peter gave the finished model to Glen's wife, Tanya and said something like "you'd better give this Glen".



Peter had previously been around taking photos and measurements so Glen knew the model building was underway but he just thought that it was destined to be displayed alongside the model of *The Sting* (named *Miss JoJo*) that Peter built many years ago.



Peter assisted Glen with the restoration of the full size *Fury* and was the original owner/driver of *Linda K*, a little Datsun powered Skiff that some members may have seen at the Aquafest.

## Model by Peter Newcombe



## Miss JoJo (The Sting)

Peter hadn't built a Clinker model before so that was the challenge he wanted when he built the *Fury* model.

This is the model of Dig Traeger's Hydroplane, *The Sting*, named *Miss JoJo*, on display at the 2012 Goolwa Aquafest.



## Model by Peter Newcombe



**The Classic Australian Wooden  
Power Boat Association Inc.**

Postal Address:  
PO Box 804  
Heathcote  
Vic 3523

Phone: 03 9370 2987  
E-mail: [secretary@cawpba.com](mailto:secretary@cawpba.com)

## President's Pronouncements:

*Hello all*

*Busy time of the year this, to quote my predecessor.*

*I assume all are flat out getting boats ready for the season.*

*While there has been hassles with the Narrandera regatta permissions and Aquatic Licence, (and it is not yet done) we are assured it's just waiting for the rubber stamp. Sure has made for a few interesting weeks. I am starting to think it's getting harder every year not easier.*

*Looking forward to catching up with many of you again at our annual regatta at Narrandera.*

*Take your time & travel safe the lakes not going anywhere.*

*If you know of any events coming up that you think members might like to participate in put it out there. If you think that an event might like our involvement as a group, please tell them to contact us.*

**Alan.**

## Around the Traps

### General:

- And still they turn up. I was at a swap meet in SA recently and a 1950's 15ft Clinker running a Y Block Ford was brought to the swap, and no I didn't buy it.

### Victoria

- Rebound* is sold! Bob will be keeping Turbo Fire (still trying to figure out how to have a bigger fuel tank/s fitted) and is still planning on a restoring his Chris Craft Nirvana, but that's a few years away.

### NSW

- Dave & Bob are still working on Rhonda Babe. The hull is finished. Bob is assembling the engine and it needs sign writing.
- Dave has had his boats on display at the Sydney Boat show and a recent machinery show.

### SA

- Graham is deconstructing Touche' and wondering where he'll stop.
- Paul has a new shed with all his boats nicely lined up. He has also added a 14ft Jones Hydroplane to the collection.

## 2014/2015 Committee Members

### PRESIDENT

Alan Price  
AH: (03) 5367 1941  
Mob: 0403 838 193  
Email: [president@cawpba.com](mailto:president@cawpba.com)

### VICE PRESIDENT

Darren Goldberg  
  
Mobile: 0418 171 042  
Email: [vicepresident@cawpba.com](mailto:vicepresident@cawpba.com)

### SECRETARY

Greg Carr  
  
Mob: 0408 937 029  
Email: [secretary@cawpba.com](mailto:secretary@cawpba.com)

### TREASURER

Greg Carr  
  
Mob: 0408 937 029  
Email: [treasurer@cawpba.com](mailto:treasurer@cawpba.com)

### COMMITTEE

Dave Pagano Mob: 0413 766 501  
Ross Foster Mob: 0409 018 415  
Ray Russell Mob: 0408 641 960

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

David Drewer  
Email: [editor@cawpba.com](mailto:editor@cawpba.com)

## Coming Events

### October 2015

- CAWPBA Annual National Regatta. Oct 31st & Nov 1st. Lake Talbot, Narrandera, NSW. Contact Alan on 0403 838 193 or Greg on 0408 937 029 for details.

### November 2015

- Lake Mulwala Rod Run. November 7th. To be confirmed.
- Goolwa Powerboat Picnic day. November 7th.

### February 2016

- Maribyrnong River Cruise . February 7th.

### March 2016

- Paynesville Classic Boat Rally. March 5th & 6th
- Yarrawonga – Bundalong cruise. To be confirmed.

### April 2016

- Goolwa Aquatic Club - Aquafest. 9th & 10th. Boats of all types ranging from vintage Skiffs, Hydros & Runabouts up to and including more recent BAD race boats. Spirited demos and more. Refer [www.goolwaaquaticclub.com.au](http://www.goolwaaquaticclub.com.au) for further details.

### Nagambie winery cruise – TBA

***Please check for confirmation  
of dates and venues***

### Quote for Today

*" Believe me, my young friend, there is  
nothing -- absolutely nothing -- half so  
much worth doing as simply messing about in  
boats. "*

*Kenneth Grahame, The Wind In The Willows*

## Club Contact Details

### New South Wales/ACT Chapter

For further information, contact Dave Pagano by phone on: 0413 766 501 or by e-mail: [davehotboats@hotmail.com](mailto:davehotboats@hotmail.com)

### Queensland/WA Chapter

For further information, contact Greg Carr by phone on: 0408 937 029 or by e-mail: [secretary@cawpba.com](mailto:secretary@cawpba.com)

### South Australian/NT Chapter

For further information, contact Paul Siddall by phone on: 0419 826 377 or by e-mail at: [lema033@bigpond.com](mailto:lema033@bigpond.com)

### Victorian/Tasmanian Chapter

For further information, contact Greg Carr by phone on: 0408 937 029 or by e-mail: [secretary@cawpba.com](mailto:secretary@cawpba.com)

### Membership Update:

Vic	27	NT	1
NSW	16	Tas	3
Qld	3	SA	9
WA	3	USA	1
ACT	1	<b>Total</b>	<b>64</b>