



# Wooden Boat Festival setting sail next month

GOOLWA - The SA Wooden Boat Festival will celebrate its 12th year in February and will set sail on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27.

With free entry into the festival, Goolwa's historic wharf will be buzzing with an expected 10,000 people to join in the festivities over the weekend.

The festival celebrates the important history of the river and its link with the river port of Goolwa and wooden boats.

Wooden boats of all shapes, steam, sail, oar and paddle are all welcome to attend.

Boat registrations are now open and early bird registration is free so don't miss out.

The festival program will feature a range of sailing races, highlighting Goolwa's fleet of racing restricted 21's as well as sabres, mirrors and many more.

Maritime displays, as well as putt-putts, riverboats, dinghies, firebugs, rowing boats, kayaks and canoes, along with model boats, will be on exhibition.

Chairman Michael Moseley, who has been at the helm since 2001, said there has already been a strong interest in this year's festival.

He is also happy to announce the major sponsors for the event are AV Jennings and Riverbreeze.

The festival committee have been working to put together another fantastic

program with more highlights including boating and on-water activities and PS Oscar W cruises from the wharf.

A highlight will include the Woodstock Wine Pavilion offering premium Woodstock Wines from McLaren Vale and including the Woodstock Coterie and other local gourmet foodies.

The SteamRanger Cockle Train will be operating each day over the festival weekend from the wharf.

As part of the festival program, the sounds of gunfire, marching feet and fine music will echo around Goolwa Wharf with a traditional ceremonial sunset being performed to mark the end of the day.

The youth entertainment program will return with a special program including the Puppet Palace and highlight a youth art exhibition, with photography, sculpture, painting and model boats on display focusing on the historical and cultural awareness of wooden boats of South Australia.

Be part of this unique festival and this exciting maritime experience combined with the setting of historic Goolwa, good food and wine and great entertainment.

Gates open from 9.00am on Saturday, February 26.

For more details contact the festival office on 8555 7240 or visit the website at [www.woodenboatfestival.com.au](http://www.woodenboatfestival.com.au)