



On the Coast
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Wooden Boat Festival sets sail this month

The 2011 SA Wooden Boat Festival will celebrate its 12th year this month and will set sail on Saturday, February 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 Riverport of Goolwa and wooden boats.

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

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 hard 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, 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 line up of activities, including the Puppet Palace, an 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 9am on Saturday, February 26.

For more details contact the festival office on 8555 7240 or visit the website at www.woodenboatfestival.com.au



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