

# 2013 S.A. Wooden Boat Festival

Special Report by Di Ross and John Batty (photography)

There is something about wooden boats that really tugs at the heart strings of every boating enthusiast - and plenty of not-so committed members of the public, who gather at the various wooden boat festivals around Australia to pay homage to a time gone by. To craftsmanship that is slowly disappearing - but at the same time, rejoicing in the determination of so many wooden boat lovers who are absolutely committed to keeping the wooden boat building skills, the passion and the knowledge, very much alive. TBM's S.A. team went down to Goolwa on a mission that was truly a labour of love . . .

This fabulous festival is a biennial event attracting boat owners from near and far - a congregation of owners and families with their beloved wooden boats.

There were over 200 boats on display, all shapes and sizes and a variety of propulsion systems - sail, paddle, steam, diesel, petrol and racing level octane fuels.

These folk are extremely proud of their boats and they just love their day in the spotlight

showcasing their treasured timber masterpieces.

Collectively they thrive on the histories of their craft, the improvement and maintenance tasks they have undertaken, what needs doing next, swapping theories, sharing experiences and the lessons learned in keeping their craft in A1 condition.

Organised by the very pro-active Alexandrina Council, with support from the SA Government

