

# The 'Paddle Wheeler'

PS 'Industry' Newsletter—November 2018



Chairman	David Natrass
Vice-Chairman	Peter Ireland
Secretary	Helena Whitman (ex-officio)
Treasurer & Roster Co-ord	Denise Bihun
Maintenance & Operations	Mark Hazelwood
Promotions	Sandra Daniel
Safety Officer	John Brodie
Facebook	Don Smith
Newsletter/Website	Helena Whitman
Committee	Barry Sullivan
	Tom Walsh
	Barrie Elliott
	Donna Rayner
Quartermaster	Kathleen Hazelwood (ex-officio)

## PS Industry

Address: PO Box 671, RENMARK SA 5341  
Email: [psindustry.renmark@gmail.com](mailto:psindustry.renmark@gmail.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/PSIndustry.Renmark](http://www.facebook.com/PSIndustry.Renmark)  
Website: [www.psindustry.org.au](http://www.psindustry.org.au)

## Upcoming Events and Cruises:

**November:** Sun 11th Depart for Mannum  
Sat 17th & Sun 18th  
**All Steamed Up—Mannum**  
Mon 19th Depart for Renmark  
Fri 23rd Arrive Renmark  
Wed 28th Charter—Lifestyle Club

**December:** Sun 2nd Monthly Day Cruises

**January:** Sun 6th Day Cruises  
Sun 13th Day Cruises  
Sun 20th Day Cruises  
Sun 27th Day Cruises

**March:** Sun 3rd Monthly Day Cruises  
Sat 30th Charter  
Sun 31st Going down to Berri to put on Slip

## PHOTOS & STORIES

**If anyone has any photos or stories that they are willing to share with either Facebook or the Website we would be happy to have them and to acknowledge the source. Please email or send to [psindustry.renmark@gmail.com](mailto:psindustry.renmark@gmail.com).**

## What's Happening

### Promotional Strategy:

The PS Industry is taking on a whole new promotion strategy which includes:

- A new Facebook Page
- A new Website
- A new Brochure
- New publicity in tourism publications

**The Facebook** page has been active since mid October and is looking for support from Members through 'likes' and 'invitations' to friends to spread the word and also encourage sharing of information.

**The Website** has a general public section which will be used to promote the 'Industry' and its history while the Members Only log in section will have an interactive Calendar of Events showing any activities involving the Industry as well as a Roster which can be filled in on-line. This site will also include information useful to Members such as the SMS for the Industry, the Constitution and Newsletters. Any other suggestions are welcome.

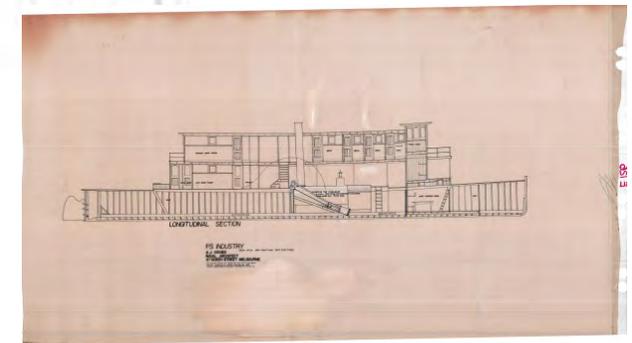
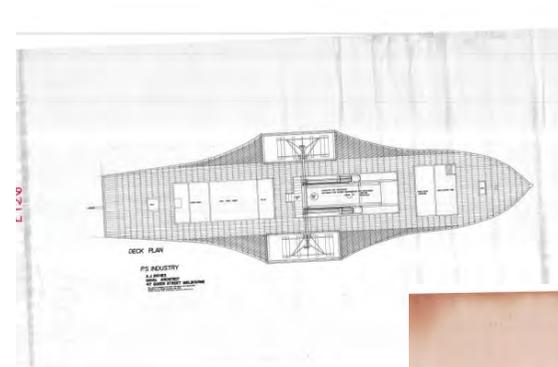
### All Steamed Up—Mannum

The Industry will be sailing to Mannum on the 11th November to participate in the All Steamed Up Festival on 17 & 18 November. This year marks the 120th Anniversary of the Shearer Steam Carriage and the official launch of an operational replica.

The Industry along other historical Paddle Steamers will be offering one hour cruises, as well as taking passengers for the Renmark to Berri leg.

## For your interest

These pictures were recently found at the Council Chambers and show early drawings for the design of the PS Industry.



### Some photos of the early restoration of the PS Industry

Courtesy Barrie Elliot  
& Donna Rayner



## Vale 'Johnny' Gurr

13/03/1928—11/06/2018

Yvonne Gurr or "Johnny" as she was best known, had a life long affinity with the River Murray. Born to seaman boatbuilder Henry and Mary Johnson, Johnny grew up in Alberton.

Johnny was a woman with a pioneering spirit who settled and developed a bare block at Yatco in early 1960, appointed editor of the Loxton News in 1964 and became the first female ABC regional journalist based in Renmark from 1970 to retirement in 1984.



Johnny was a character of many talents too numerous to fully recount.

In early years night schooling in mechanical drawings was followed by survey drawings for the State Land Tax office.

Irrigation was developed and cash market crops were grown at Yatco along with poultry, until permanent plantings came into production. Johnny working with her partner Mal Gurr whom she married in 1965 and divorced in 1975.

She also ran Gee Jays Photo Service. Johnny did the photos and Mal developed them from the dark room at their home.

Johnny became a popular and prominent member of Riverland communities, heading up many local organisations from sport to tourism, including Chair of Renmark Tourist Association and a Renmark Councilor from 1984. She also set up River Watch to focus on people's behavior and care of the river and environment.

In retirement Johnny continued her love of river boats having built many with her father. She wrote books on the Riverland and its history under "YM Johnson", including "The Paddle Steamer Industry and other work boats". Johnny was a solid supporter of the PS Industry and has bequeathed the Copy Writes to FOTI. Copies of the book are available on board.

(taken from articles by Sally Sara (ABC), Murray Pioneer & Yatco Landcare Group)

**Facebook & Website Assistant Administrator**—there is also a vacancy for one or two members to assist with the role of administrator for either our Facebook page or the Website especially when current administrators are on leave or otherwise unavailable.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2018

Thanks to Mary Mills for her secretarial duties over the last two years and Jackson for producing the Newsletter and maintaining the Face book page. Both members retired from their roles at the AGM. Denise Bihun, Peter Ireland Tom Walsh, John Brodie, and David Natrass were elected to serve for 2 years and Donna Rayner and Mark Hazelwood for a one year term. Helena Whitman offered her services as Secretary and Newsletter Editor; not surprisingly it was accepted. Welcome aboard Helena. Don has restored the Face Book page.

In our last news letter we called for volunteers to crew the Industry on the trip to Mannum. These long trips are proving exceedingly difficult to roster. However we have finally been able to raise a crew to fulfil our commitment. Thanks to you all! The work load to operate and maintain the Industry with the current number of volunteers is placing an enormous strain on those few dedicated members. Unless we gain the services of more and younger personnel we will have to restrict our operations. That said we have agreed to participate in The Moorook anniversary function on the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2019 so we will need a crew for this trip. I encourage all members to seek out and invite new faces to the join the group.

Inspection of the boiler at the annual survey revealed the potential for accelerated wastage of the fire box wall due to the fire bar mounting racks construction. We have recently modified the supports to rectify the situation. The chains and wires which operated the telegraph system were replaced with a new cable system to improve its reliability. A developing knock in the port side big end has been tracked down and hopefully repaired. A new ladder has been installed on the aft starboard side to provide safer access to the tender.

We are also trialling a ladder on the tender to facilitate recovery of people in the water. Our drinks fridge gave up and thanks to Massey for supplying a replacement. In our spare time we have been concentrating on splitting wood to replenish our dwindling reserves. Thanks to Beryl for suppling the morning tea for the Tuesday workers.

The long awaited training for heritage vessel skippers will commence in November. Don Smith, Tom Walsh and Peter Ireland have registered from Industry.

# Chairman's 2018 AGM Report

Welcome and thanks for your attendance to the AGM of FOTI for 2018

This year the demand on our volunteers has increased to an all time high with more than 3300 hours recorded in the log book. However we have been able to successfully fulfil our obligations with maintenance and operations. Our heat policy saw a couple of January cruises cancelled. Steaming days and charters are the main source of our income and have been generally well patronised. We cruised to Morgan, accompanied by the Marion for the Morgan Living River Festival. These trips are really demanding on our volunteers and serious consideration will need to be done when committing for future long distance cruises.

There is always a list of tasks requiring attention and new volunteers will be needed if we are to continue at current levels.

The biennial slip for maintenance and survey was done in April. Temperatures, for the first few days were in the high 30's, not ideal for workers and a wooden hulled vessel. Caulking was hardened up, seams pitched, 3 coats of tar applied, floats inspected and tightened and some painting completed. Several planks were identified for replacement and work is scheduled for April next year.

The starboard Stephenson link and valve slides were overhauled and work is slowly progressing on the refurbishment of the Worthington. We thank Dix Engineering for their assistance and cooperation; often at short notice.

Wood splitting and loading continues to consume large portion of our time and general boat maintenance takes second place.

Two model steam engines previously on display in the Visitor Centre have been relocated to Olivewood. These were purchased by FOTI from George Brine many years ago.

Thanks to Luke Bihun and the woodworkers group souvenirs manufactured from the old Oregon Industry boom and calendars were added to our sales items. Purchases have been slower than anticipated. Long serving committee member and Operations and Maintenance coordinator Allan Langley resigned to pursue holiday activities. His expertise and dedication has been greatly missed. Mark Hazelwood accepted the role of Operations and Maintenance director and John Brodie continued updating the Safety Management Systems Manual.

## Chairman's Report Cont:-

Congratulations to Steven Walsh and Jackson Wickham, who started as cadets on the Industry for obtaining their Inland Masters 4 and Coxswain Grade 1 Certificates respectfully and Clay Smith who has upgraded to inland Master 4.

LED Floodlights and replacements for the workshop fluros and deck night lights have been purchased from funds donated to the Industry in memory of our late Life Member Don Jungfer. Special thanks to Beryl Jungfer for providing morning tea at the Tuesday working bees and

Denise Bihun for her dedication in ensuring the finance and roster are in order.

Negotiations continue with AMSA in our search for a training pathway for volunteers to gain accreditation for ticketed skills on heritage vessels. The Friends Day in March, at lock 5 gave us an opportunity to socialise in a relaxed environment away from the action and enjoyed by all.

It is with sadness we note the passing of Garry Wright, Richard Veenstra and Johnny Gurr. Their services and support were invaluable during the initial restoration and operation of the PS Industry. The Committee extend their condolences to their families.

Thanks to all our dedicated hard working volunteers for another successful year. I would also like to thank Jenny and other wives and partners for their support.

**Roster Co-ordinator**—Our Roster Co-ordinator Denise Bihun is looking to step back from this position and would like to know if anyone is interested in taking this role on. Denise will give every assistance to learn what to do, and will be happy to help out when the new Co-ordinator is on leave.

**MEMBERSHIP**—Please note that our membership is paid annually from the 1st July to 30th June. Renewal notices have been sent out, so if you are still interested in being members, the form gives several ways of paying either via Direct Credit, at the VIC or sending a cheque to our PO Box 671 Renmark 5341. Please also remember to send your form back so that our records can be kept up to date.

**Please also note** that membership entitles you to our newsletters and complimentary tickets. All volunteers who work on the PS Industry are requested to have up to date membership, as this helps cover insurance for you.