

# Outback Spirit Lake Eyre Yacht Club 2016 Regatta

Mungerannie & Cowarie Stations, 3 - 8<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Apologies for the delay in providing firm details  
It's been a difficult year with floods coming and going and road closures

## WHERE?

### **Mungerannie Pastoral Lease** - manager Rodney Fullarton

On Mungerannie Rodney is allowing us to sail on a beautiful little lake, Poondulanna, near Caledonia Bore. This lake is one of the prettiest I've ever seen and I'm sure you'll be delighted. Fresh water, coolabahs and birds abound with just enough room to race on.

### **Cowarie Pastoral Lease** - lessee Sharon Oldfield

Should there be a suitable flood on the Warburton River (one is expected) a one day race down the Warburton River will be held on the Friday 8 April. There will be three divisions – catamarans, monohulls and kayaks. The yachts will compete in a stern chaser race for the Rear Admirals Mug. This is an adventurous race and will give participants a taste of a river trip.

### **Presentation Night – Mungerannie Hotel** – Phil & Deb

This year's presentation night will be held at Mungerannie Hotel on Friday Night to allow easier departure for those wishing to return to Queensland via Birdsville and enable us to maximise our time so far from Marree.

## GETTING THERE

Mungerannie is 203km North of Marree by road on the Birdsville Track. Today the Birdsville Track is a well graded highway suitable for 2WD with care but heavy rain can close it for 3-4 days.

Some participants may choose to arrive and depart via Birdsville to the north rather than Marree to the south. If so, they need to advise us on the entry form.

From Mungerannie a private station track will take you 70km ENE to Poondulanna Lake. This track is in excellent condition and is suitable for 2WD vehicles with care. As with all station tracks sharp corners, crests and cattle are not signposted. A driving guide is planned as was done with Lake Hope.

The Warburton River at Cowarie is accessed by public road 50km W of Mungerannie. Launch and retrieve locations will be accessed by station tracks between 5 and 25km long. The retrieve location is accessible by 2WD. We are working on transport options for the launch site (2WD access may be possible by then as roads are drying quickly).

## EVENTS

In keeping with the Club's fun approach to yachting in the outback events will be laid back and not run under strict racing rules with emphasis on enjoying the rare privilege of sailing in the desert. We are family/children/pet friendly and do not tolerate anti-social behaviour.

## AN IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE WHEN COMPARED TO OUR PREVIOUS EVENTS

Previous events have been held in early July. In April camping conditions are much warmer with an average minimum of 15 and average maximum of 30. Discomfort ruins a holiday so be prepared:

- Insects – flies and mosquitos - can be a real problem
- Face fly nets are essential
- A double bed insect net or netting sided gazebo would make life much more enjoyable
- A tarp for extra shade
- Lightweight full cover clothing for sun and insect protection, particularly in the evening
- Proper sun hat with tie, sunscreen essential

On the up side:

- You won't come anywhere near freezing to death. In fact it is beautiful to sleep under the stars.
- Water temperature will be above 20 degrees – light weight or no wetsuits!
- You can easily have a swim to wash

## WHAT WILL BE SUPPLIED

- A bush camping area with pit toilets.
- Firewood for use in approved fireplaces.
- Lake/river water for washing, boil for drinking.

## WHAT DO I BRING?

- An off the beach sized yacht with appropriate safety gear as required by SA Marine Authority.
- While 2WD is OK with care a 4WD is preferred, particularly when towing.
- Trailers are often the weakest component. Consider beefing yours up and carry spare parts.
- Camping gear, gas cooking gear, food and drinking water for 6 days + 3 days "just in case".
- Campers and off road vans are OK.
- A porta potty, although not essential, can be convenient.
- UHF handheld (waterproof or in waterproof bag). Channel 13. UHF in vehicle an advantage.
- Adequate clothing and bedding for temperatures from 15 to 30 degrees.
- Wetsuits, if you feel the cold, and spray jackets
- Hats and sunscreen
- Strong bags for rubbish and recyclables. Rubbish taken to Marree tip. Recyclables left at Clubhouse.

## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

This event is not intended to run at a profit. Main costs will include:

- Camping fee per vehicle (collected for Mungerannie Station) – \$30/night
- Day entry fee (collected for Cowarie Station) \$30/day
- Camping fee or accommodation fee at Mungerannie Hotel for 1 – 2 nights
- Entry fee \$30 per boat to supply fuel and reward volunteers who help with racing and safety.
- Firewood, grading of tracks, prizes etc donated by our sponsors:  
Outback Spirit, Bush Pilots Marree & Marree Hotel.

## IMPORTANT:

- There will be no casual access. All attendees and spectators must submit an entry form for each vehicle and are subject to the same fees paid before entry.
- Participants are expected to remain for the entire event. Penalties imposed for late arrivals and early leavers.
- Access tracks may be closed, or open in one direction only, at certain times for safety reasons. Penalty fees apply for other times.
- As we are driving on station tracks with crests and blind corners a vehicle flag is desirable.
- Free camping is available at the Clubhouse before and after the Regatta. If you prefer a room Marree town and Mungerannie Hotel accommodation needs to be booked early.
- No firearms may be taken onto leases.
- Chainsaws only to be used on firewood supplied. No standing timber to be damaged.
- Cooking/heating comfort fires only - NO BONFIRES as firewood and the environment is precious.
- Grouping of camps is mandatory to reduce firewood use and promote a community spirit.
- The use of generators is strongly discouraged and they must be placed well away from other camps. You may have to camp outside the best areas with a generator. Solar panels, modern low power fridges and LED lighting are preferred.
- Children and pets are welcome but remember this is not a tourist resort. As there are many unfamiliar dangers in the desert they must be supervised by their parents/owners at all times.
- As is normal for adventure activities a liability waiver is required to be signed at registration.

**TIMETABLE:**

... April 1	April 2	April 3	April 4	April 5	April 6	April 7	April 8
... Thursday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Construction volunteers return to Marree	Committee Meetings	Drive in to lake (5-6 hours) Launch boats.	Race Day 1	Race Day 2	Race Day 3	Casual morning Afternoon break camp and return to Mungerannie Hotel camp	Drive out to Cowarie Warburton Race start*
	BBQ & Briefing at LEYC Marree Slides/movie evening						Presentation evening Mungerannie Hotel (1 hr from finish)

\* Stern chaser start and individually timed.

**AND MORE...****The area is rich in history and has a number of locations of heritage significance:**

- The area is the traditional country of the Dieri and is on one of Australia's major indigenous trade routes that extended from the Gulf of Carpentaria to the Flinders Ranges and beyond.
- The iconic Birdsville Track and its pastoralists, drovers and mailmen.

To appreciate the historical significance and to maximise the personal experience of a visit to this area it is recommended that all participants read (or view) the following:

- *Land of Mirage* George Farwell
- *Back of Beyond* (DVD) Hellyer
- *Where Seasons Come And Go* Eric Bonython ISBN 0 958 9388 0 6

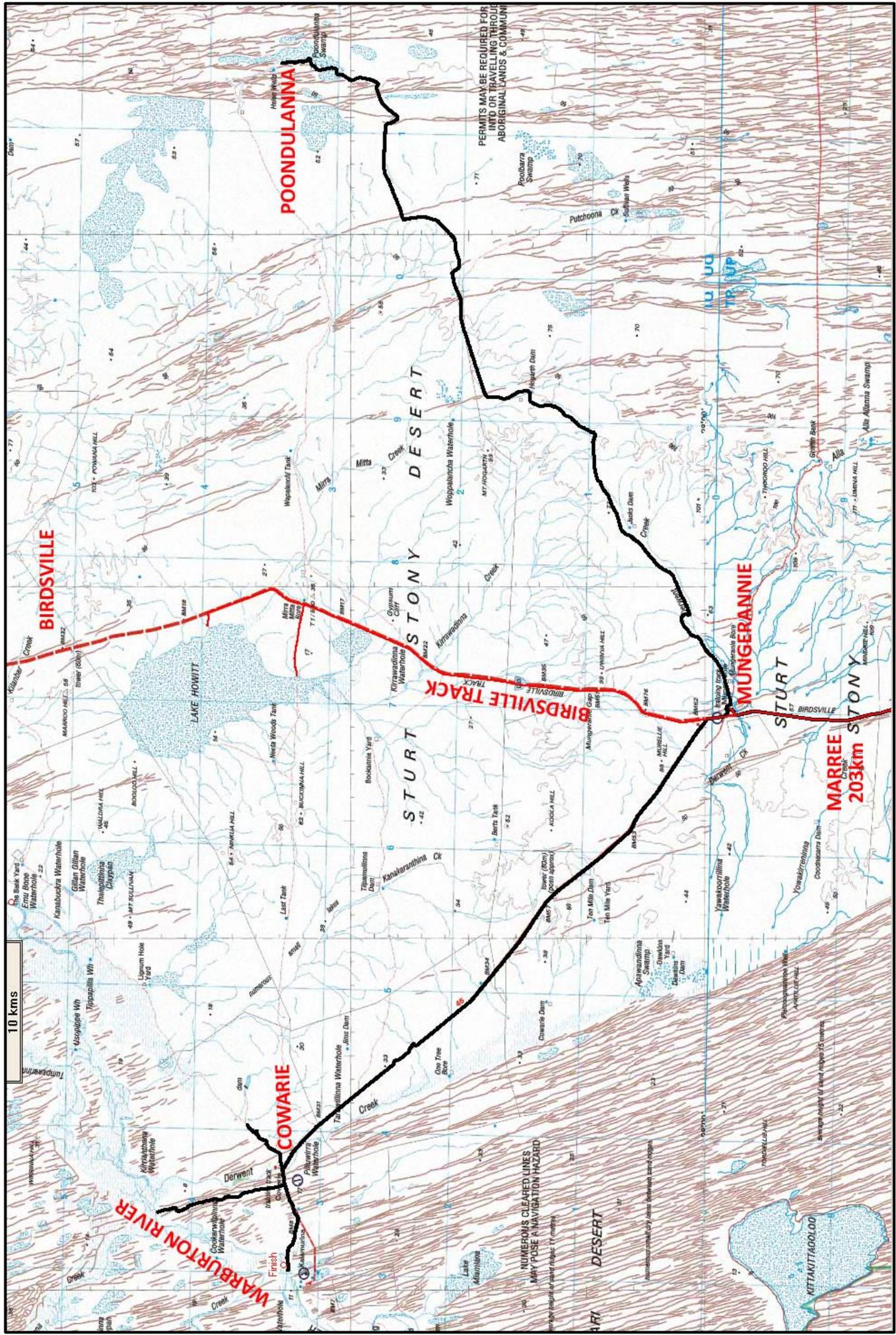
Ask your local librarian for help to borrow the books. They are also often found in second-hand bookshops.

**MAKE A HOLIDAY OF IT**

There is much to see and do in the wider area of NE South Australia either from a touring or boating perspective. Participants can be provided with information on request on how to make a complete holiday based on our event.

**VOLUNTEERS WANTED:**

The Club needs help to run this event and we treasure and reward our volunteers. We already have most of our volunteers however we still are short of race officials (starters/timers) and a person experienced with *Sailwave* handicapping software.



**BIRDSVILLE**

**POONDULANNA**

**STURTY DESERT**

**STONY DESERT**

**BIRDSVILLE TRACK**

**MUNGERANNIE**

**MARREE**  
203km

**COWARIE**

**WARBURTON RIVER**

10 kms

NUMEROUS CLEARED LINES  
MAY POSE A NAVIGATION HAZARD  
TO AIRCRAFT

PERMITS MAY BE REQUIRED FOR  
HIND OR TRAVELLING THROUGH  
ABORIGINAL LANDS & COMMUNITY