



The Traverse Board

Newsletter of the Friends Of The Paul McGuire Maritime Library Inc

March 2026

Proudly Supporting the Paul McGuire Collection of The State Library of South Australia.

President's Report March 2026

Greetings to you all, and writing this on the eve of a burst of tropical weather, interesting to see how much rain we get in total. meanwhile I hope you are all keeping well.

I am pleased to say that our recent combined AGM and BBQ was a good event, the business part was dealt with effortlessly, the financials were accepted as healthy, and we all did well on the eating and drinking side.



A pleasant surprise was a visit from Judith Roinich and Eric Taylor, Judith was Editor of the Traverse Board a few years ago, and it was delightful to catch up with them again; they also brought a big box of books!

Only three weeks to go until our big day out, our next journey aboard PS Marion, this time from Bow Hill down to Mannum, after taking the bus up to Bow Hill. Last time we did this, a few years ago, it was a great experience, looking at all the geology and wildlife as we steamed quietly past. So I hope as many of you as possible manage to join us on this wonderful vessel, to enjoy this peaceful style of travel.

I'll wrap this up now so that Neil can get his fantastic contribution all stitched up before lunch! Thank you all for your continuing interest and support, it means a lot.

All the best, regards, Julian.

PS Marion

Sunday 22nd March 2026

Bow Hill to Mannum

Bus leaves Mannum 10:30 am for Bow Hill to join the Marion.

Members are welcome to join us: Please book directly with the Mannum Visitor Information Centre.

Phone: 08 8569 1303

or online at

<https://exploreidmurray.com.au/experience/heritage-riverboats/ps-marion/>

The Hankey Panorama is one of the State Library's treasures. It is a series of watercolours from the Birkenhead side of the Port River painted by Frank Hankey between 1855 and 1857.

The Library will put this on show on the Treasures Wall in May for History Month.

Details may be found in this Traverse Board.

The Traverse Board

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Collision between container ship *Maersk Shekou* and tall ship *STS Leeuwin II*

Fremantle, Western Australia, on 30 August 2024

ATSB Transport Safety Report

Marine Occurrence Investigation (Defined)

MO-2024-001

Final – 3 November 2025

Investigation summary

What happened

On the morning of 30 August 2024, the *Maersk Shekou* was navigated into Fremantle Port by 2 pilots. As the ship was inbound, it experienced strong winds including a south-westerly squall of about 50 knots in the inner harbour entry channel.

As the ship passed the wheel over point for the inner harbour, it did not turn. Instead, the ship travelled in the direction of Victoria Quay, where it subsequently collided with the *STS Leeuwin II* and the wharf edge.

While the *Maersk Shekou* sustained minor damage in the accident, the *STS Leeuwin II* sustained substantial damage and 2 of its crew sustained minor injuries.

What the ATSB found

The ATSB found that as the *Maersk Shekou* was approaching the charted wheel over point at South Mole, the pilot did not provide the helmsman with a course alteration instruction. While the pilot used a combination of the 4 available tugs and the ship's main engine to turn the ship, the helmsman's attempts to maintain the ship on the previously instructed heading prevented the turn into the inner harbour.

It was also identified that monitoring required of the entire bridge team was inadequately implemented, with improper oversight maintained during the pilotage. Further, the secondary (monitoring) pilot was occupied in non-essential phone activity at the critical stage of the passage.

Finally, the ATSB found that several risk controls established by Fremantle Ports for the safe operation of ships had not been adequately implemented.

Safety message

A properly functioning bridge team requires that all its members maintain a shared mental model to actively monitor the ship's progress. To ensure this is effective, where deviations from the passage plan are required, this information should be conveyed to all members of the team. Similarly, actions that are incorrect or missed should be immediately identified, communicated and rectified.

Distractions on the bridge should be minimised, especially during critical stages of a passage. Several maritime accident investigations, both in Australia and overseas, have highlighted the use of mobile phones during critical phases of the passage as possible contributing factors. In 2020, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority released an advisory notice to say pilots should have their phones turned off or in silent mode when conducting a pilotage. This will minimise the potential distraction for the bridge team and the pilot.

Further, due regard should be given to the risk controls that ensure safe port operations. The dynamic nature of marine operations often results in actual conditions varying from those expected. It is essential that any associated risks and consequences, particularly those affecting pre-defined limits, are carefully reassessed and communicated between all concerned parties so that safety is not compromised.

https://www.atsb.gov.au/publications/investigation_reports/2025/report/mo-2024-001

The Hankey Panorama - Panorama of the Port River and North Parade, Port Adelaide

The State Library will mount a display of the Hankey Panorama on the Treasures Wall for the month of May 2026 in conjunction with History Week.

It is series of watercolour paintings by Frank (Francis) George Hankey, son of William Hankey (1807-1872) of the Hankey mercantile and banking dynasty of London, who arrived in Adelaide aboard the 'Madras' on 11 January 1855 with Samuel Francis White.

It is a view of Port Adelaide, looking approximately south with the Port River in the foreground and the buildings of North Parade behind.

The scene includes figures in boats and along the shore, and several horse-drawn carts. Many of the buildings depicted in the panorama were destroyed in a large fire in November 1857.

The panorama is in eight sections. It is believed that a ninth section originally existed at the far left, but is now lost. A note on the second section reads 'from memory'.

A number of wharves, buildings and ships are identifiable, including McLarens Wharf, the 'Burra Burra' steamer, Queen's Wharf, the clipper 'Kangaroo', Custom House, Port Admiral Hotel, Government Bond Store, Blackler's Port Hotel, Crocker & Hamilton, James Menpes' Dover House, Union Bank of Australia, premises of Charles G. Germain, premises of William Smith, Tom King's Eating House, Ship Inn, premises of J.G. Malin and James Grosse, Harris's Auction Rooms, W.J. Turner's Medical Hall, William Mart's British Hotel, premises of E.H. Butler & Co, the paddle-steamer 'Leichardt', Albert House, premises of Nathan & Bastard's, Prince's Wharf, Prince's Hotel, Port Adelaide Steam Mills.

The Friends are proud to be supporting this.



Part of the Panorama. Visit the Library's Treasures Wall during May, History Month, to see the original.

Work to begin on Penneshaw jetty; ferry out of service with electrical issues

16/02/2026 Stan Gorton



The historical timber jetty and the refreshed cruise ship landing area as seen from the Sealion 2000 ferry departing Penneshaw last week. (Stan Gorton: 534919)

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport is about to begin rebuilding the Penneshaw public jetty to increase the structure's lifespan and improve safety and access for all users.

The Penneshaw jetty upgrade will improve safety by realigning historical timber jetty away from the busy ferry terminal and works will include a new concrete boardwalk connecting it to the land for improved safety.

Work will include the placement of new steel piles, refurbishment of remnant timber jetty, new lighting and removal of the temporary cruise ship landing and crane pad.

The refreshed cruise ship landing area and public access to the jetty will be open in time for the 2026/27 cruise season.

The work will extend from mid-February 2026 to late 2026.

It will be done Monday to Sunday 6am to 6pm, with some intermittent night works will be required

The department says it recognises the importance of protecting marine life and the natural environment on Kangaroo Island.

"We are committed to protecting the environment by using sustainable practices, completing environmental assessments, choosing suitable construction methods, and working closely with relevant stakeholders to reduce any

negative impacts.”

During the works, some noise could be expected, however the department said it would make every effort to minimise impacts as much as possible.

The construction lay down area will be adjacent to the SeaLink ferry terminal and will remain in place until all works are complete.

Access and parking to the area will at times be restricted.

The department has previously stated the repair of the surface of the parking areas at the terminal was the responsibility of SeaLink and the KI Council with work required to be completed within two years of the port works wrapping up.

In other ferry news, the Sealion 2000 ferry was out of service over the weekend and into Monday, February 16 with electrical issues.

The Spirit of Kangaroo Island ferry continued to sail as normal, taking up the slack.

SeaLink’s two new ferries are due to enter service by June 1, replacing the older ferries.

The vessel Wanggami should this week depart from the shipyard in Batam, Indonesia, heading to Port Adelaide.

Sea trials and continued crew training will then take place in SA waters so it and the other vessel, named Ruwi, are ready to enter service by mid year.

<https://theislanderonline.com.au/news/2026/02/16/work-to-begin-on-penneshaw-jetty-ferry-out-of-service-with-electrical-issues/>

Heritage buffs gather as SA’s oldest paddle steamer turns 130

Moored quietly on the water on the weekend, *Daisy* carried the familiar scents of steam and timber – a reminder of the paddle steamer’s unique place in trade, transport and everyday life on the River Murray.

Built in 1896, PS *Daisy* entered South Australian waters in March 2024 after a journey down the River Murray from Wentworth, New South Wales, and has since made Mannum her new home.

On the weekend, around 80 people from across South Australia celebrated the 130th birthday of PS *Daisy*, South Australia’s oldest paddle steamer, at Mary Ann Reserve at Mannum.

Several historic vessels and river boats were moored alongside her for the celebration, including PV *Matilda* and PV *Kulkynne*, both of which were present when *Daisy* first arrived at Mannum.



Luke Carpenter, third from left, celebrates the PS Daisy’s 130th birthday with family and friends on Sunday. Photo: Zhen Pu.

Other vessels, such as PS *Jumbuck*, PV *Avalon*, MV *Falcon* and MV *Miss Orlando*, joined the festivities, creating a picturesque scene along the riverbank.

Despite strong winds sweeping along the river, community members and heritage enthusiasts travelled from Adelaide, Renmark, Loxton, Echuca and surrounding towns to gather beside the historic vessel.

Moored quietly on the river, *Daisy* sat in the open air, carrying the familiar scents of steam, timber and river water – a reminder that this was not a museum display, but a living piece of river history.

Launched during the golden era of paddle steamers, *Daisy* was central to transport, trade and everyday life along the Murray.

Over more than a century, she has witnessed dramatic changes in technology, communities and the river itself.

Yet unlike many vessels of her era, *Daisy* remains physically present, maintained and cared for by those determined to keep her story alive.

In 2024, *Daisy* entered a new chapter when ownership passed to South Australian local Luke Carpenter, still in his 20s.

Mr Carpenter is the third owner since the vessel's major restoration and has taken on the responsibility of maintaining one of the state's most significant maritime heritage assets.

Speaking at the celebration, he reflected on how his relationship with the vessel had evolved over the past 10 months.

"I've got a much deeper appreciation for what she is now," he said.

"Once you take over the maintenance, it really becomes your responsibility – everything that needs doing, it's all on you."

Since purchasing the vessel, Mr Carpenter has already carried out substantial work, including replacing flooring and enclosing the rear cabin.

Further interior fit-outs, including a galley, are planned as part of ongoing improvements.

Looking ahead, he hopes *Daisy* will continue to operate as a working vessel on the river rather than being confined to static display.

One of his longer-term ambitions is for *Daisy* to travel the full stretch from Mannum to Echuca, the town where she was originally launched more than a century ago.

"She belongs on the river," he said.

"That's where she makes sense."

Also attending the birthday celebration was Andrew Cook, who led the extensive restoration of PS *Daisy* after the vessel was salvaged in 2001.

For him, the day carried deep personal meaning.

He recalled first encountering Mr Carpenter *Andrew Cook, who originally restored PS Daisy, attends her birthday party on Sunday. Photo: Zhen Pu.*



"He came for a ride, and I could see straight away he had a genuine interest in steam," Mr Cook said.

Reflecting on his own journey with *Daisy*, he said the restoration project had been something he had dreamed of since childhood.

One of his most treasured memories came during *Daisy's* maiden voyage following restoration in 2014, when the vessel travelled from Lock Nine to Chowilla Station as part of the station's 150th celebrations.

"My father came along on that trip when he was 80," Mr Cook said.



PS Daisy's history stretches back to the 19th century; she is pictured here in about 1920. Photo: State Library of South Australia (PRG 1258/1/727).

“At the time, I didn’t realise just how much it meant to him.

“It was only after he passed away in 2020 that my sister told me how excited he had been to be there with *Daisy*.”

For Mr Cook, *Daisy* has done more than preserve timber and machinery – she has drawn people together and surfaced long-held memories and connections.



Jackson Wickham, owner of the self-built paddle wheeler Avalon, travelled from Renmark to celebrate Daisy’s birthday. Photo: Zhen Pu.

“She brings history to the surface,” he said.

“Not just the boat’s history, but people’s personal stories as well.”

Visitors attending the celebration echoed those sentiments.

Mannum residents Dave King and his wife Christine said the sound of *Daisy* had become a familiar and much-loved presence since the vessel moved to Mannum last year.

“We live by the Murray River, and whenever *Daisy* passes by our property, we can hear her – she makes a wonderfully distinctive sound on the water,” Mr King said.

“We love it – that’s why we’re here today.”

Jackson Wickham, who travelled two and a half hours from Renmark with his own paddle wheeler, *Avalon*, launched his boat alongside *Daisy* for the celebration.

“I met Luke about five years ago at Goolwa, coincidentally on the water,” he said.

“I’ve witnessed the whole journey of Luke and *Daisy*, and I’m here today to celebrate her 130th birthday and the story she carries for the river community.”

Mr Carpenter’s parents, Dave and Maria Carpenter, decorated *Daisy* with a very special birthday cake, shaped like the vessel herself.

We are very proud of our son Luke, and we love *Daisy*,” Mrs Carpenter said.

“She’s become part of our family as well.”

One hundred and thirty years after her launch, PS *Daisy* continues to endure through the dedication of individuals and communities who believe heritage is something to be lived, not locked away.

The birthday celebration was more than a milestone for a boat; it was a reflection of a shared commitment to the Murray River’s past, present and future.

Words: Zhen Pu

<https://www.seniorcard.sa.gov.au/weekendplus/regional/heritage-buffs-gather-as-sas-oldest-paddle-steamer-turns-130>

River Murray ferries will remain free until at least 2034

A total investment of \$110 million has gone into ferry services along the River Murray.

Liana Webster 24 Sep 2024

A \$110 million investment will keep the ferry services along the River Murray operating for the next 10 years.

The state government announced on Monday that it would invest an extra \$37.4 million over that time to safeguard the future of the ferry services.

The funding will ensure the 12 existing ferries will remain free and continue operating 24-seven to service locals and visitors in the community.

Without the extra funding boost, Regional Development Minister Clare Scriven suggested, ferry services might have had to be downgraded, with reduced operating hours.

Ferry services along the river stretch from Lyrup to Narrung.

The 2022-23 floods highlighted the importance of maintaining the connections the ferry services provided, Ms Scriven said.

Locals needed to take lengthy detours while most of the ferries were out of action due to roads being closed because of water damage.



Every day, these ferries connect our communities to

Ferry services stretch along the Murray River from Narrung to Lyrup; this includes the twin ferries at Mannum. Image: Department for Infrastructure and Transport. Photo: Liana Webster.

The new contracts will provide for approximately 70 full-time-equivalent jobs, and will begin on November 1.

Winning service providers were:

- Kingfisher Ferry Services: Lyrup, Morgan and Waikerie
- Little Ferry Services: Cadell, Narrung, Purnong, Swan Reach, Walker Flat and Wellington
- Murrundi Ferry Services: Mannum and Taillem Bend

Most of the crossings were previously operated by a company called Radell Services.

Ferry services will operate as normal without any interruption.

Mid Murray Mayor Simone Bailey said the ferries were not only used for transport but were lifelines for local residents, businesses, schools and emergency services.

"This investment guarantees their continued role in our regional resilience," she said.

"The state government's ongoing support will provide peace of mind to our communities, ensuring the continued movement of people, freight, and vital services."

The government is working with existing and new contractors to ensure the transitions go ahead smoothly.

<https://www.murraybridge.news/river-murray-ferries-will-remain-free-until-at-least-2034/>