



## Come along and enjoy whatever ‘floats your boat’ at Yorke Peninsula’s Saltwater Classic

*Media Release, 21 March 2024*

The seaside towns of Stansbury and Port Vincent are gearing up for the 2024 edition of Yorke Peninsula’s Saltwater Classic with a spectacular display of wooden and classic boats from the past.

To be held on the weekend of 13 and 14 April, the event is returning to the regional tourism calendar after COVID enforced disruptions.

South Australia’s flagship *One & All*, based on the original rig of a 19<sup>th</sup> century brigantine, will headline the event alongside the Sydney to Hobart winning maxi yacht *Brindabella* with smaller craft parading under sail, steam and putt putt propulsion in the waters off Stansbury and Port Vincent.

Saltwater Classic Chairman, Doug Le Feuvre, said the event would feature a fascinating fleet of traditional wooden and classic vessels restored with passion to celebrate the boat building skills of a bygone era.

“The boats will be on display along the foreshore in Stansbury on Saturday morning allowing people to engage with the owners and restorers before launching for a parade in Oyster Bay then the 12 nautical mile run to Port Vincent accompanied by *One & All* and *Brindabella*,” he said.

“People attending the event can watch the fleet from elevated viewing areas on shore, and on Sunday morning the boats will be on display in the Port Vincent marina before a blessing of the fleet and parades close to the town wharf.

“Celebrations will extend to shore-based activities with the award-winning Stansbury Seaside Markets, displays of vintage cars and caravans, stationary engines from the past, blacksmithing skills, local arts, craft and regional produce.

“We are thrilled to announce that the Royal Australian Navy Band will provide entertainment in Stansbury and Port Vincent, and we can guarantee there will be dancing in the streets.

“In the Port Vincent Institute on Sunday there will be a magnificent marine art exhibition, including works from local artists, story banners from the Australian Maritime Museum in Sydney, and historic footage of the original ketch fleet that carried grain and other agricultural produce from small ports around South Australia.

“We’ll present double-ended St Ayles skiffs, four-oared rowing boats that are taking the world by storm, hydroplane and model boat displays and interactive exhibitions of wooden boat construction.

“Since its inception in 2003, the Saltwater Classic has become a major tourism attraction in the region drawing visitors from across the State and beyond to celebrate our maritime heritage.

“We look forward to welcoming big crowds in Stansbury and Port Vincent for a community-based event with many diverse on-water and shore-based features and fun for people of all ages.”

Zoe Bettison, the Minister for Tourism, said the State Government through the South Australian Tourism Commission was proud to support a diverse calendar of events across the State including Yorke Peninsula’s Saltwater Classic.

“Together they play an essential role in our visitor economy, showcasing regions and building pride and social connections while sharing South Australian stories,” she said.

“Congratulations to the passionate volunteers who help make the Yorke Peninsula Saltwater Classic a wonderful regional event and a warm welcome to all attending.”

Regional Tourism Manager, Jess Greatwich, said: “This iconic event is the quintessential Yorke Peninsula experience showcasing the best of our region’s beautiful coastal lifestyle with dedicated volunteers, boat owners, tourism operators and locals bringing it to life.”

For more information on the 2024 event, go to [www.ypsaltwaterclassic.org.au](http://www.ypsaltwaterclassic.org.au) or the Saltwater Classic Facebook and Instagram portals.

## **Interview:**

**Doug Le Feuvre is available for interview on 0417 559 046**