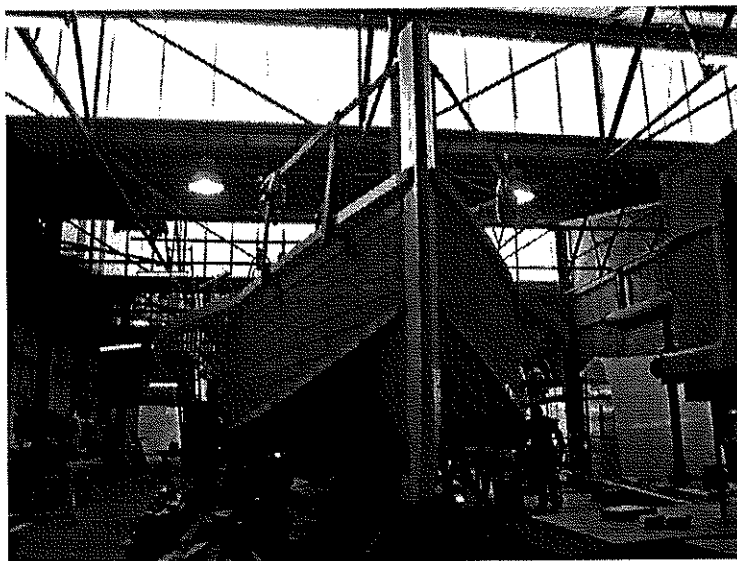


NEWSLETTER 4 JUNE 2008

## Full steam ahead!



Welcome to the fourth newsletter of the Paddle Steamer Curlip. For those of you who have received previous letters, it has been a long wait since the last one, but this gives you some idea of how busy things have been for the Curlip team!

PS Curlip is now looking very much like a paddle steamer getting ready to take to the water!. Her hull is planked, her beautiful timber deck is fastened (all solid 2 inches - or 50mm if you prefer - of rock hard bluegum planks), boiler and engine are in place and the paddle boxes are sitting in place, perched on the wing deck high above the workshop floor.

As we walk around her each day and admire her beautiful sweeping curves, we realize that once in the water we will have a very different view of the Curlip, with most of the hull invisible underwater. If you haven't been to the boat shed for a while, schedule a visit soon, just to gaze at her beautiful underbelly before it is hidden by the water. It is also a great opportunity for anyone obsessed by the colour orange to stare avidly at her sides and soak in the bright tones imparted by the red lead, the protective paint that will protect the timber from attack by borers. It will soon be over-coated by the more subdued cream and burgundy that will be her final colour scheme.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**The Curlip on the Snowy Festival  
28 - 30 November 2008**

28 November  
Pioneer Ball  
Orbost

29 November  
Commissioning and Festival  
Marlo

30 November  
Market Day  
Orbost

30 November  
Inaugural Cruise of PS Curlip

More festival details page 3

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## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### *Paddle Steamer Curlip progresses*

*The last planks are on. Robbie Greenwood and Colin Smith have done a magnificent job of completing the decking and the four side decks. They have also built a very strong sub rail to keep her safe at moorings and landings. Our volunteers, and Bill and Alan are busy. Work is being done on the galley electrical wiring and plumbing, and checking the hull for missing screws or bolts.*

*The new 300 KW diesel fired boiler and our engine refurbished by the students at the Orbost Secondary College have been installed. Whites Cranes carried out the delicate work in a very tight situation. The crane had to manoeuvre through the side door of the shed and there was very little clearance in the every direction. Both units are in place without mishap.*

*We have just had two very noisy weeks. We have employed four people from FJ Dooley Shipwright and they have completed the caulking of the hull and deck, planed and sanded the hull and area currently puttying the seams. Ferdie Darley, principal, Harry, Justin and Tom make an industrious team and have done a very professional job on Curlip.*

*In the engine bay, the drive chains have been fitted and the guards area ready to be installed where the plumbing for the boiler and engine is completed. A heat exchanger to utilize exhaust steam heat has been built and will be installed to preheat the boiler feed water and also hot water for the galley. This unit has the potential to reduce our fuel costs by up to 10%.*

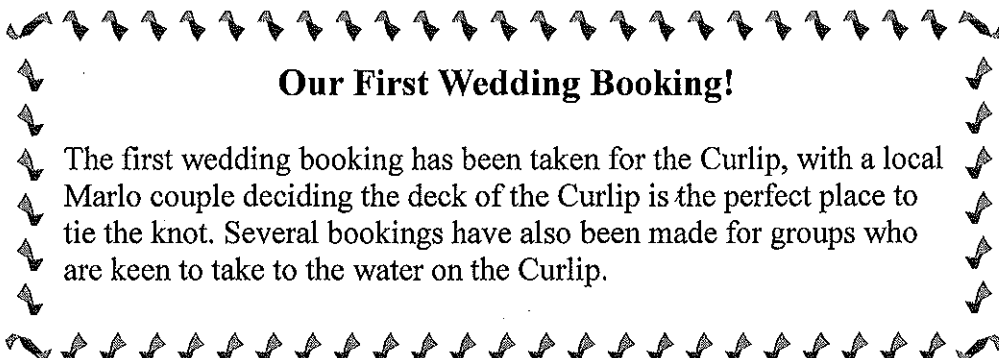
*Currently the paddle boxes are having fitted hand rails, and the frame work to carry the canopy and side curtains is in progress. When these fixtures are completed they will be removed for transport and launching and then re-assembled. Our schedule is to have Curlip fully operational for the Commissioning celebration starting on Saturday, 29 November.*

*To assist Jan with planning the commissioning celebrations, Liz Mitchell has joined the Curlip team. Liz has take to planning a promotion like a duck to water and is an energetic addition to the Curlip team. Jan continues to work tirelessly at gaining all the necessary permits to allow Curlip to become operational. We have planned berthing and loading facilities.*

*At Tabbara we hope to have a landing after the style of the original land and an interpretation centre on the old mill site to explain the history of the area in the pioneering days of the original Curlip. Turpentine poles from NSW have been harvested and transported to the Reynolds mill site, ready for use at Tabbara. We also have to plan for a convenient fuel, water and power supply in the area of operation.*

*At the Curlip shed our visitor numbers continue to increase and the community involvement and interest in the project is very gratifying. I take this opportunity to thank the Curlip executive and all our volunteers for their ongoing support and look forward to the completion of their project.*

**Gil**



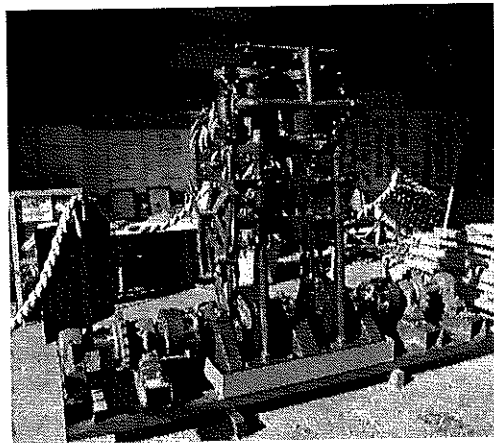
## The Curlip on the Snowy Festival

*A Paddle Steamer Reborn*

Friday, 28 November – Sunday, 30 November 2008

The Curlip will enter public life on Saturday, 29 November, when she is officially commissioned. As is fitting, we are planning a big celebration with the Curlip on the Snowy Festival.

The festival kicks off in style on Friday night with a Pioneer Ball. The Briagolong Bush Band will expertly call the dances and entertain you, accompanied by bush poets and our MC. A delicious supper will refresh you, ready for another round of dances!



PS Curlip II will “make her entrance” at around 1pm on Saturday, accompanied by a flotilla of wooden boats and other craft as she comes in to the jetty. The foreshore will be alive with music, art, every form of vintage transport from horse and wagon to bicycles and vehicles, delicious food, displays, flying kites and fireworks! The Curlip will be open for inspection on Saturday afternoon.

Sunday will see Forest Park, next to the Snowy River in Orbost, come alive with a market day, an art exhibition opening and auction, performances, an old fashioned games carnival and plenty to see and do around the town.

### Inaugural Cruise of PS Curlip

It's a once in a lifetime opportunity!

*Be one of the few who will be able to say they went on the first cruise of the Paddle Steamer Curlip II.*

*The inaugural cruise departs Marlo jetty on Sunday, 30 November, for an exclusive experience that will include a gourmet brunch and very special musical entertainment. Guests will be joined on the cruise by the committee that has worked tirelessly to build this boat, as their dream comes to life.*

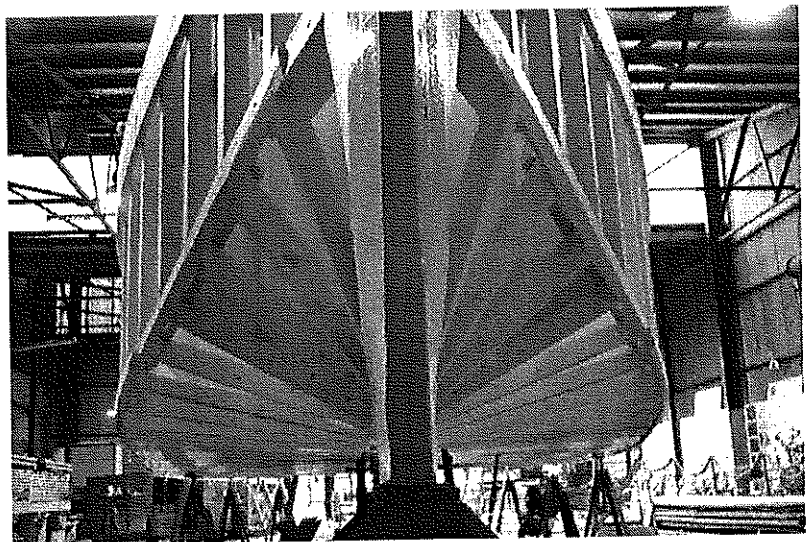
*Tickets are \$1,000 a head, with the funds raised supporting the PS Curlip operation to become a sustainable tour business.*

### Website Update

Our website is undergoing an upgrade to include information about the Festival in November and the cruises that the Curlip will be running once operation from December. The upgraded site will enable clients to contact us quickly and effectively, and we are investigating how to incorporate the capacity to book and pay for tickets online.

We expect the new site to be online by the end of June, so if you are web savvy take a look and let us know what you think.

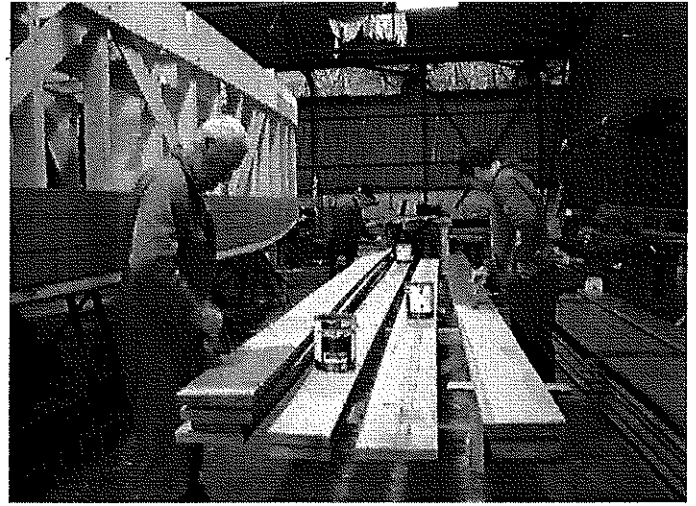
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## The visitors keep on coming

**A steady stream of visitors keeps coming to watch the construction process underway.**

While we are all very, *very* excited about how close she is to completion, it will not be without just a tinge of regret that PS Curlip finally leaves the shed where she has been created. The construction process has been such a wonderful thing to see: there is something profound about watching this boat being built. Visitors to the shed just stand and watch, marveling at the process happening before their very eyes.



## ...And the Volunteers keep on working too!

The volunteer effort going into the building of the Curlip is just fantastic with over 14,241.5 volunteer hours now recorded. The quality of the volunteers is outstanding. The list of volunteers includes painters, electrical engineers, engineers, carpenters, master builders and shipwrights. The Project has two retired shipwrights whose knowledge and input is invaluable. As well as a legion of locals, two volunteers from Melbourne travel up for one week each month, just to work on the Project. Everyone wants to help and be involved. Their input and enthusiasm is both stimulating and humbling.

Students and staff from the Orbest Secondary College have contributed enormously to the Project. The students completed 8 awesome murals which depict the life of the historic PS Curlip and now hang proudly in the construction shed for everyone to enjoy. The VET Engineering students have also completed the restoration of our steam engine which is amazing. One of the students received a special Engineering award directly related to his work on the steam engine.

Alan Edwards, who started as a volunteer on the Curlip as part of his school work experience, has now been taken on as an apprentice shipwright, with his apprenticeship to be completed with 2 other shipwrights once PS Curlip is complete. Two brothers from Melbourne, also high school students have come in their school holidays to put in work on the boat.

## Construction Milestones Dec '06 - May '08

February 2007	Main framing completed
March 2007	Internal bulkheads fitted
May 2007	Decking supports and beams fitted
June 2007	Galley constructed
	Fit out of drive train components commences
July 2007	Hull planking commences
September 2007	Paddlebox construction commences
	Paddle wheels constructed and delivered
January 2008	Engine refurbishment complete
	Hull planking complete
March 2008	Engine and boiler installed
April 2008	Decking completed

