

# MASSIVE MURRAY PADDLE



Yarrowonga to Swan Hill  
November 20-24, 2017  
404km over 5 days



## Taking on the Challenge



*"The Massive Murray Paddle provides an opportunity for people to overcome challenges, whilst forming lifelong bonds.*

*There is a cultural connection between the river, the people and the land."*

The Massive Murray Paddle is an amazing 5 day paddling adventure & paddling race, that raises funds to assist local community-driven programs.

It is a perfect race for junior paddlers in a relay format.

Check out our website for lots of information.

[www.massivemurraypaddle.org.au](http://www.massivemurraypaddle.org.au)  
or call 02 9969-4590



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**Tony Lovett – Organiser of the Blues & Brothers  
(An Indigenous Youth Group that has paddled the past 14 events)**

Embodying the best of the spirit of Australia, the Massive Murray Paddle is a celebration of community and landscape. Now in its 49th year, the marathon has long been supported by leading secondary schools as an elite sporting event for older students. Recent years have demonstrated that the event is hugely rewarding and achievable, even for younger students with little or no paddling experience. As a result of this experience, a key aim of the event is to continue building the marathon as one of Australia's premier outdoor education experiences for secondary school students of all ages.

Paddling in relay legs as part of a school team for five days over more than 400 river kilometres, the paddle challenges and supports the youth of Australia with an unforgettable, life-shaping experience. Depending on how you set up your team, students can paddle as little as one leg per day, travelling perhaps 20km in two or three hours.

For the other three legs, your team partners take over at the relay points to paddle their leg – it's easy, and fun!

- The event is professionally managed by Sydney Harbour Kayaks & Mirage Sea Kayaks, with proven risk and safety management procedures provided by Phase Zero.



## WHAT YOU NEED:

- Commitment and keenness, not necessarily experience. Students with at least a moderate level of fitness, a dollop of enthusiasm, and a willingness to 'give it a go' can participate, be challenged and enriched by the five days on the river. Years 7-10 are especially suited to the event – and watch out boys, the girls can paddle fast!
- Teams can be a minimum of four, paddling single kayaks, one each over four legs – or up to 8-10, with two paddlers for each of four legs per day;
- Schools from NSW and Victoria have shown that active input from parents is essential – get your Mum, Dad or teachers involved – they may want to paddle, too!
- At least one or two teachers and a group of parents are needed to accompany and help organise each school team, even if they are not paddling;
- The MMP has always supported those in need, so choose a good local community service or national cause that you'd like to support – get friends and family to sponsor your big adventure on the Massive Murray Paddle!

## COST:

- Registration costs per student depend on numbers in each team  
– see the Massive Murray Paddle website for details  
– and there are big discounts for getting in early;



## LOGISTICS & ACCOMODATION:

- Your school will travel along the mighty Murray, from Yarrawonga through Tocumwal, Picnic Point, Moama, Murrabit and Swan Hill. A range of accommodation options are available from cabins, motels and caravan parks to camp grounds;
- Our Schools Ambassador, Bill Robinson (booyak@bigpond.com) can help you with logistics advice – how to plan your trip, the fitness and training you'll need; Bill can supply you with a separate sheet on accommodation and logistics for each day of the event, which will make it easier for you and your school to plan a memorable event; We do recommend the official accommodation booking site **[www.visitthemurray.com.au](http://www.visitthemurray.com.au)**
- Oh yes - the most important thing – a kayak – 'What can we use, where do we get them?' You can paddle in single or double kayaks – if you're unsure, talk with Bill Robinson about what would best suit your school. If you don't have access to any craft, talk with Bill Robinson, he should be able to help get you on the water!

Mirage Sea kayaks have special prices for Schools to purchase a fleet of single or double kayaks as well as paddles, life jackets and other essential accessories.

## FURTHER INFORMATION:

- Most of what you need to know is on the Massive Murray Paddle website [www.massivemurraypaddle.org.au](http://www.massivemurraypaddle.org.au)
- Schools Ambassador, Bill Robinson (booyak@bigpond.com)
- Sydney Harbour Kayaks [www.sydneyharbourkayaks.com.au/](http://www.sydneyharbourkayaks.com.au/)

Contact – Sydney Harbour Kayaks

Phone:

(Line 1) 02 9960 4389

(Line 2) 02 9969 4590

Email: [murrayriver@sydneyharbourkayaks.com.au](mailto:murrayriver@sydneyharbourkayaks.com.au)



## Testimonials:

"At Blue Mountains Grammar School, we're keenly aware of the value of outdoor education and Australia's natural environment.

In addition to our school based programs that make regular use of the Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, BMGS has been involved in the Massive Murray Paddle for several years.

The MMP is a fantastic event that provides a great adventure for our students in a dynamic environment along Australia's Murray River. Our students learn about their country and themselves as they take on a personal challenge, accept responsibility, collaborate with others and have fun whilst having a go. They also also raise funds to assist with local community programs and projects. They're all great outcomes".

**TREVOR BARMAN**

Headmaster

Blue Mountains Grammar School

Massive Murray Paddle. It stands true to its name It is MASSIVE I had the most fabulous time though. It was tough and more than a challenge. It was an adventure. I could not have done it without the truly inspirational girls around me. We struggled through the tough times together and managed to finish the paddle with smiles on our sopping faces. We worked so well together. It was the best 5 days ever and I would like to thank the girls from the bottom of my heart for making the trip so enjoyable.

**SOPHIE Toorak College team 2015**

Today I finished one of the hardest things I have ever done, but the most rewarding thing! I finished the MMP Murray Marathon with the most beautiful girls I have ever met, paddling 404 km in 5 days. I have learned so much, achieved so much, learnt how to deal with people when extremely tired, but most importantly it has reinforced my love for paddling and the environment. I would like to thank the gorgeous girls that paddled the 404 km with me and also to the staff, parents and friends of Toorak College who made our adventure possible.

**KELLIE Toorak College team 2015**