

# M.V. Archie Badenoch



Motor Vessel "*Archie Badenoch*" was built in November 1942 at the G.M.H. plants at Woodville and Birkenhead. She was constructed as a Second World War supply-tender vessel for the Royal Australian Navy.

In 1946 the vessel was acquired by the South Australian Police Department and served as the Number 1 Water Police Launch. The vessel was named by the Police to commemorate Mounted Constable Archibald Badenoch, the first South Australian Police Officer to be killed in action during the Second World War at El Alamein, North Africa on 1 Nov. 1942.

From 1946 to 1978 "*Archie*" was the only all weather deep-sea Police patrol vessel. In November 1978 it was replaced with a larger, more modern vessel, the "*Warrendi*".

During her time as the principal Police launch, "*Archie*" established an outstanding sea working record, featuring in hundreds of rescues throughout South Australian coastal waters.

In 1978 the vessel was transferred to Wardang Island to be used by the Department of Further Education, and was abandoned some years later in poor condition.

In 1985 the vessel began to be faithfully restored by the South Australian Police Historical Society, which took place over a period of 2 years by the vessel's former master with the South Australian Water Police, Senior Constable Ron Newton (Rtd).

The "*Archie Badenoch*" is now run by the South Australian Maritime Museum, as a cruise boat on the Port River and is surveyed to carry 24 passengers. She can be chartered for any occasion and runs cruises in School holidays.

## **Dimensions**

Length 40' x Breadth 11'6" x Draught 5' (length 10.1m x Breadth 2.79m x Draught 1.52m)

Tonnage: 18 tonnes (Approx)

The hull is of carvel construction with copper sheeting.

## **Sources**

South Australian Maritime Museum

The South Australian Police Historical Society Inc.