



MWCC November Cruise to Eildon 2nd to 6th 2012

Participants who ventured out are as follows:-

The Malone Family	Zero Tolerance	Whittley 660
The Walters Family	Mabel 2	Whittley Voyager 580
The Elks Family	Kahala	Whittley CR2800
The Dickson Family	G & T	Whittley cruisemaster 700

To give a little pre trip info, most of the caravan parks we normally launch at had to refuse us entry due to the high water level hence no where for the public to park cars and trailers.

It was decided to Launch at Bonnie Doon boat ramp, leaving our cars and trailers locked at the ramp and out of the way.

When Greg and I launched around midday on Friday the plan was to secure our little piece of heaven in Woodbridge Point.

Both cruisers were launched and we took off to head down to Woodbridge Point, but as luck would have it Greg`s 2800 decided to over heat in the water system (motor, not the hotwater service) We checked it out and went back to Bonnie Doon Service Garage to asks for parts for a 350 Mercruiser 1/ Thermostat 2/ Raw water Impellor. Wonderful they had both.

So we headed back down to Woodbridge Point to refit the thermostat and impellor at some stage. We arrived and set up camp, two tents were assembled for Gregs children, that done it was time to relax.

Early evening Gemma and Tony were launching G & T and Greg had arranged for his kids to be picked up by G & T to ferry them back to the camp site.

Tony had started to move and a lot of smoke came from within the engine cover and there was a bit of a PANIC but all that had happened was the Serpentine belt had broken and jammed on a pulley causing smoke. Tony had a second hand one so he fitted that but did not venture down to the camp site. Greg and I had a powwow and we went to pick up his kids from the Bonnie Doon Boat ramp to bring them back to the camp site. The journey in the dark on the water is something all boat owners should try its not easy!! Any way we eventually got all parties back to the camping site around 10:15 pm.

Saturday morning Greg had to go to Bonnie Doon again so we left in Mabel 2 (International Rescue Tender for MWCC). When we arrived Tony had brought a new serpentine belt and fitted it keeping the second hand belt for a spare.

We missed G & T on the water on our way up and we didn`t catch up with them till later that afternoon and by then Zero Tolerance had arrived with Lewis (speedboat)

The rest of the afternoon and evening was spent relaxing eating and drinking.

Around the camp fire Emily, James and Chris from Gregs tribe played their Guitar, mouth organ, sang and told jokes keeping every one in a jovial mood.

Sunday morning after a hearty breakfast it was time for me to disassemble the front and one side of the 350 to get access to the water pump for the impellor replacement. A couple of hours later all back together for a test run, with all the work it still ran hot, removed the new thermostat and it ran a little cooler at a slower speed.

In the afternoon Greg decided to take his kids to Jerusalem Creek for an outing. Just going slowly didn't stop the 2800 from over heating, I had suggested I would follow him in Mabel 2 just in case something did happen. What transpired is that all the kids and Colleen came aboard Mabel 2 and left Greg to ponder and drift around Eildon for about an hour while we picked up supplies at Jerusalem Creek. On the way back International rescue tugboat Mabel 2 had Kahala back in tow, back to Woodbridge Point for tea and a relaxing stay around the camp.

We had decided on a pizza for tea so Greg and I got our Cobb Cookers out and fired them up. Stuart and family also used their Cobb Cooker for tea and Tony & Gemma had fish and veggies (No Tony did not catch them) then it was back to sitting around the fire again till late in the evening.

Monday morning all up and having a hearty breakfast again it was time for Gregs kids to return back to Melbourne so all the family packed their tents and stuff into Kahala and headed off back to Bonnie Doon boat ramp, all the rest of us were going to the Bonnie Doon Pub for Lunch.

Gemma and Tony decided to come with me, a short time later we had a call from Kahala, who had stopped due to over heating problem again. So International rescue tugboat Mabel 2 comes to the rescue again. The little tug boat pulling the biggest Whittley did a good job getting Kahala back to the boat ramp.

Gemma, Tony and I helped Greg get Kahala back on the trailer ready for home and then I assume a mechanic (I will let you know the out come of the overheating problem in a later cruise notice.) It was time to board Mabel 2 Tugboat and head over to the PUB for a meal.

In the Pub we met up with Neville, Marriane and Allan Whittley, we all had meal together and talked about different things including a little about Whittley Cruises getting a little free advice.

After the meal at the Pub which we all enjoyed it was back to our camp site, the Whittley family were invited for a coffee at our camp site. I dont think they have been in our little cove before. All moored up we all went on the unfinished Whittley CR2800 very nice boat but my Voyager is better than the 2800 as mine had a Table, Anchor and GPS for a start, but I think the finished cruiser would be nice to own I would swap the Voyager for the 2800 when finished

It was nice to have the Whittley family come to our little piece of heaven I hope they enjoyed it and hope to see the CR 2800 in its finished state one day
They left after a few drinks and around the table discussions and then back to their night accomadation.

Another meal was had on Eildon with the setting sun and the camp fire starting to glow for another evening of relaxing. Then to bed for the final day of the trip.

Tuesday morning most people had gone home off the reservoir and left it for us. Before we were about to leave Tony decided to do a bit of fly fishing in his Hobie (its like a canoe) so we were held up a little but that wasn't an obstacle we just waited till he came back packed up his Hobie and off we went to Bonnie Doon again this time by myself for the last time.

Well this is the second last cruise report for 2012 it shows why it is advisable to be in a club where you can get help for any problems, be towed without wating for outside people who charge a fortune, we may not fix it but we try and we wont leave you stranded. Just a little note if you have no ignition power when you turn the key check your lanyard safety switch.

Hope all attendees had a very enjoyable 4 days on the Eildon reservoir we didn't do may Ks but it was very relaxing.

Hope to see many more Whittley`s on the water in the near future.

By the way this is the last Report for 2012 the December report will be written in 2013.

Written by Peter & best mate Tuppence



Our little piece of Heaven

