



# Melbourne Whittley Cruiser Club Inc.

## May 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Cruise to Yarrawonga 2012

### Cruises Attended

<b>Shalimar</b>	<b>John &amp; Helen</b>	<b>Whittley 660</b>
<b>Zero Tolerance</b>	<b>Stuart &amp; Annette +2</b>	<b>Whittley 660</b>
<b>G &amp; T</b>	<b>Tony &amp; Gemma</b>	<b>Whittley Cruisemaster 700</b>
<b>Mickey Mouse</b>	<b>Ben &amp; Fiona + 1</b>	<b>Whittley Cruisemaster 700</b>
<b>Mabel 2</b>	<b>Peter &amp; Tuppence</b>	<b>Whittley Voyager 580</b>

The May Cruise was to commence from the Mulwala Water Ski Club boat ramp at 11:00 am.

All cruisers on the water, it was time to start the motors and do what they do best! That is put the cruisers up on the plane and feel the wind through your hair. (For people with hair.)

The first stop was on a nice segment of sand in the Murray where we moored for lunch, and let the dogs off for a run.

After lunch it was off again to find a spot for an overnight stay on the Ovens River, which we found after some searching and shifting a few times. We all agreed on a great spot for the night.

The cruisers were moored and rafted up together; it was time for happy hour celebrations with all the usual goodies and drinks.

John started the chain saw to get some firewood for the evening, and lit the wood for a very warm fire for all to sit around during the night's festivities.

Later that evening we all went to our cruisers for a good night's sleep.

Sunday morning was a very nice day, blue sky and hardly any wind. After breakfast Stuart, Ben and I decided to explore the Ovens River in our rubber duckies, Ben's rubber duckie was going nowhere as the seam in the bottom had split about 250mm letting water in so I asked him to join Tuppence and me.

Travelling at a snail's pace was pleasant, with the peaceful and beautiful scenery around the many corners we travelled. We ended up going under the road bridge which passes over the Ovens River or one of its tributaries before we headed back to the group for lunch.

When we arrived back, Gemma had painted a scenic view of the Ovens River in water colour and did a great job of it.

Fiona was looking after Carter her son and Winton their dog. John & Helen were looking after their dogs, and had restarted the fire from the night before.

My rubber duckie was secured to the back of the boat when I was called for a coffee, before I went on shore I removed my outboard motor and stowed it in the boat.

When I arrived on shore, Helen had made a birthday cake for me. When I arrived for the coffee they all sang happy birthday and then I had to blow out the candles and make a wish. I was embarrassed but accepted the good gesture and appreciated the thought.

Now it was time to hit the water again and head back to the Murray River, when we arrived at the junction of the two rivers our leader headed upstream towards Corowa a few miles where we found another great little beach with sand.

Most people disembarked with their dogs and children and had lunch.

All the while Winton a white Maltese and Tuppence a Cavalier played on the sand and explored further inland, Winton ended up falling into a swampy area getting wet so on his return he rolled in the previous nights ashes to dry himself ending up a funny greyish to blackish white Maltese. All the dogs ended up very tired after their romp while we had our lunch.

Now it was time to head back to Mulwala to reunite cruisers with their trailers, and make temporary repairs to Ben's trailer for the trip back home.

The repairs were made and on the road back Tony and Gemma led with Ben and Fiona in the middle and I followed up the rear to Melbourne.

This is an example of why it is advisable to be in a club, if you have trouble of any type, there is usually someone that can assist you; it gives you a sense of safety and security.

I have been in trouble on the water and if I had not been in the club I would have been stranded so it can happen to anyone.

All the participants who went on the cruise had a very enjoyable weekend on the Murray River.

Photos from the trip have been posted in the Photo Gallery in various sections so look at all the photos, more will be uploaded when I receive them.

Written by Peter & Lieutenant Tuppence