



Melbourne Whittley Cruiser Club Inc.

June 7th to 10th Cruise on Gippsland Lakes 2014

Cruisers attending were :-

Kahala Greg, Peter & Tuppence

Archie John, Jane, Matilda, Fletcher & Bindi

Both cruisers started their voyage to Gippsland Lakes on the Friday morning, and met each other around 12:30 that afternoon.

We in Kahala launched our cruiser before having lunch and Archie decided to have lunch first, but once both were in the water we headed off for the night to The Grange where our two dogs are allowed. The prospect of surf fishing just over the sand dunes was a draw card as well.

Once secured to the jetty we walked over the dunes to check out the surf and a good spot to try to catch some fish of any type, size, breed, whatever, even an old boot would have done. When we returned it was time for tea so the first thing was to fire up the BBQ and guess what, SOMEONE had forgotten to check the gas cylinder, and yes it was empty, and also no washing up liquid so how can a person fly like an Eagle when having to put up with a Turkey.

Saturday morning after a sleep in it was off fishing over the dunes along the foreshore to a spot that was supposed to be the bees knees for all types of fish, after many casts different baits and rigs it was time all fisher persons held their head low and slowly headed back over the dunes to the cruisers (NO FISH WERE CAUGHT). The plan for the rest of the day was to get the gas bottle refilled at the Metung Fuel Depot and then head back to Box`s Creek for the night. At our mooring in Box`s Creek we all started to fish again, with no success except for Fletcher catching some small prawns which they saved for breakfast the following morning. With the light dimming it was decided to get the old Cobb out and make Pizza for tea with a mixture of stuff to make it a bit gooey but very tasty, all that were made were eaten and no complaints. Later that evening John and Jane came over onto Kahala for some refreshments and a chat, once all of us had finished what we had to say and do it was off to bed for another nights sleep.

Sunday morning after breakfast it was a quick trip to Lakes Entrance for a look a walk around and a coffee, by this time the weather had deteriorated and we all decided to head back to Box`s Creek again for the night. The way to Lakes Entrance had changed from the last time I was there, the sand bars have grown and shifted, but with all the navigational aids it was not a problem for either of us. Kahala was leading and decided to go to Metung, and once we

arrived, The Metung Wine and Food festival was held in a huge Marque on the lawn next to the Pub. It was a nice day with a little wind but as the day got older the wind became stronger and COLDER. Greg and I tried fishing off the pier in various positions, different rigs, and I had a good bite but lost it, and lost about 4 prawn baits, I gather it may have been crabs below eating the bait. Greg on the other hand said he caught a Bream, good size but it fell off as he tried to bring it up on to the jetty. Once it was dark it was time to eat this time the BBQ did light up and a meal was served from it, very enjoyable I must say, by the way Archie had gone back to Box`s Creek before it got to dark. I suppose it would have been around 8 to 8:30 by the time we headed back to Box`s Creek again for our last night on Gippsland Lake. When we arrived back to Box`s Creek Fletcher had caught a good sized bream which he kept.

During the early part of monday morning the rain had been falling spasmodically so we decided to head back to Melbourne early to miss the traffic, wash and unload the boat. The trip back to Paynesville was in the rain, and the closer we got the fog got thicker then just near the entrance to Paynesville it all but disappeared, strange, the rain had eased also, we tied the boat to the jetty and reunited Kahala with its trailer, then we headed off to the cafe for breakfast. Then it was to the road back home, this was another wonderful weekend on the water with friends with a Whittley cruiser.

Archie stayed another night and headed over to Picnic arm for the night, then an early morning to retrieve their cruiser and head off home as well.

Thank you all for a very relaxing and enjoyable weekend, I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did, Being in a club makes outings like these possible and with company more enjoyable.

Written by

Peter and Admiral Tuppence AO