

## MWCC Cruise Report

### **AGM Weekend, 10 - 11 October 2015: Sandringham Yacht Club and Port Philip Bay.**

This year the club has grown even larger than last year, again thanks to the support of the Whittley Marine Group. The AGM meeting was held at Sandringham Yacht Club in the Olympic Room with thanks to Erwin Abbinga's connections with SYC. There were 22 people attending the AGM and afternoon tea, which included a guest appearance by Adam Chicken Palmer. Whilst some of the humour was a little early in the day, we did enjoy matching up club members to the crew of the SS Minnow. Brad was Gilligan, Tony M being the skipper, Peter H was the professor, Gemma being Maryanne, Audrey was Ginger and of course the Howells were Rod and Brenda. (Apologies if I got any of them wrong)

The AGM minutes can be sourced separately to the cruise report....however some highlights were presentation of a plaque to Stuart Malone as he is stepping down from the committee after many years of valued commitment to the club. Gemma was given some beautiful flowers as a thank you for nurturing all of us and the club and her continued role as Commodore. Peter Nicolopoulos has bravely taken on Treasurer. We then adjourned to the Club bar for a few drinks whilst the room was set up for dinner. We were then joined by Neville and Marianne Whittley and two new members Anne and Nigel who have recently taken possession of their 2600. ( Seems to be the new most common size acquisition???) We were waited on by Lewis who was superb and so was the meal. A very enjoyable night!



Erwin launched his boat, "Black Betty" on Friday and was meant to be joined by others but as commitments in our lives change so did the numbers that were meant to be berthing for the weekend. There was an impromptu dinner Friday night attended by Erwin, Betty, Tony, Di, Gemma and Tony. "Black Betty" was joined Saturday by "Why Knot" and "Serenity". Our three boats took up the same length as the neighbouring boat in its berth.



Neville and Marianne had motored up from Patterson Lakes for the night and left the next morning for their journey home. We three lead by our fearless leader Erwin and his crew, borrowed from "G&T", and braved *THE BAY*. It was a little choppy, about a 1.5m swell. We sailed around the New Spirit of Tasmania, dreaming of taking our boats on her to help setup a new club in Tasmania (as mentioned by Neville) and then stopped in Beacon Cove for coffee. Just because we could! We then headed back towards Fawkner Beacon and had a bite for lunch off Brighton. A bit rough to raft up.

We had intentions to cruise out to Half Moon Bay and have a look at the beach but some crew members were happier to head back to Sandringham. The plans for fishing at dusk were abandoned due to an incoming storm. We battened down the covers and headed for safety in yet again, the club bar. The view of the storm was amazing and quite beautiful (as we weren't in it). After the storm, we had dinner on our boats and settled down for the night. We all pulled out on Monday morning in the rain and headed home.



Thank you to Erwin for organising the venue and all the events for the weekend. Much appreciated by all.