



# Melbourne Whittley Cruiser Club Inc.

Trip Report for August 2016

## Melbourne City Marina

### ATTENDEES

#### **Boat Name:**

ConKiki

G & T

Black Betty

Black Sheep (Maaaaa)

Lucky US

JB Squared

Sea\_Ya

Mack 11

Impulse

Braveheart

Serenity

Hollywood

Why Knot

Mana1

#### **Skipper & Crew**

Peter & Audrey Nicolopoulos

Tony & Gemma Dickson

Erwin Abbinga & Betty Katirtzidis

Peter & Caroline Holyoake

Gary & Lee Honeychurch

John & Joy Beckman

Craig & Alanna, Cody, Talia & Zac Wighton

Hong & An, Aaron & Hayden Ngo

Mike & Monica Jones

Mike & Venora Smith

Jay Davis & Leanne Powell

Peter & Cobie Morris

Paul & Marielle Van Pampus

George & Sandie Antonopoulos

All week, the forecast for this cruise was ominous! With 15mm of rain on Friday, and possible hail, further rain, and thunderstorms for Friday and Saturday, it wasn't looking too good! So as Friday morning arrived, I'm looking out of the lounge room window and thinking to myself, maybe I should call off this cruise! What a miserable morning.

A few phone calls to some of the die hards and the consensus was that it's on, rain hail or shine!! Oh well, I guess if they are brave enough, so am I.

We arrived at the Warmies about 1.00pm and saw some empty trailers of members already launched!!! In this weather, you must be kidding me!!

*Impulse, Braveheart & Hollywood* were already at the marina, and I'm sitting in the car in the pouring rain. *Mana1* knocks on the car window, George says hello, and we sit in the boat until the rain eases. *Black Betty* is on the VHF and is entering the ramp area, solo, from Sandringham! You certainly are a brave and dedicated boater to come across the bay Erwin!

The rain finally eased and we hurriedly launch the 2 boats and as we are ready to leave, *Why Knot* arrives and we wait till they are launched. We made our way to the marina, and joined up with *Black Sheep* (Maaaaaaa), who had launched at Pier 35.

Happy hour commenced pretty well straight away as the remainder of the boats started to arrive, and made their way to the Marina lounge. Mack11 and G&T arrived after dark and yep, we all went to the lounge to warm up. Some cooked dinner, while others went out to one of the many restaurants nearby.

The weather had cleared up with not a cloud in the sky and no wind, but unfortunately the Fireworks had been cancelled. Oh well.

Saturday morning everyone woke up to a fresh morning, but with heaters and power, we were able to take the chill off our cabins! What a beautiful morning with sunshine and a light breeze. What a contrast from the day before.

The Home Show, the Fox car museum, Harbour town, the City. What to do? Some went to the Museum, others to the Home show.

*JB Squared* took aboard the crew of *Lucky us* and *Mana1* decided to cruise up the Yarra River, and *Why Knot* took aboard the crew of *Black Betty*, while *ConKiki* jumped aboard *G&T* and cruised the Maribyrnong River.

The two Boats that ventured the Yarra reached the formidable Spencer St Bridge and although it was low tide, decided that the return trip might find them stranded up river and so aborted their journey and headed up the Maribyrnong instead.

The crew on *Why Knot* moored at the Hotel along the way to enjoy a cooked lunch, while the crew of *G&T* ate lunch while meandering slowly to the Canning st Bridge, which took about 1.5hrs of gentle cruising. How perfect was this, given such a ghastly forecast?!

Most of the crews had started returning about 3.30 pm and the girls that went to the Home Show came back with some very expensive renovation plans!! Sorry guys.

Time for happy hour again, and the comfort of the Marina lounge, then dinner out for most of the crews.

Sunday was a little overcast with a fresh cold breeze and again a mixture of adventures. *Serenity* pulled out first as they had work to do at home. Some of the boats ventured out to check out the facilities at the newly opened Wyndham Harbour Marina just near Werribee, and planned to pull out on their return trip, while others vegged out in the marina. *Hollywood*

went shopping, *ConKiki* and *Mack11* stayed for a while, then decided to head to the Warmies boat ramp and retrieve.

The cruise from Docklands to Wyndham Harbour Marina was surprisingly calm, though there was some wind to make mooring a little tricky. We had lunch and a coffee, after Co the Harbour Master gave us a tour of the facilities. We could immediately see that this was perfect for an around the Bay stop off overnight, with magnificent views from the marina.

Once lunch was over, we took a photo of the adventurers, then made our way back to the Warmies. Erwin headed off to Sandringham Yacht Club on his own, but with pretty awesome conditions, he was there in no time at all. This was the perfect end to a weekend cruising, with the opportunity to open the throttle back.

Just as *ConKiki* had put boat to trailer, the radio went crazy as all the others arrived at the Warmies tool. Like clockwork, all the boats found their trailers and goodbyes were passed around as another weekend came to a close.

Considering the weather forecast and 14x boats registered, with all 14x boats attending, I think Whittley boat owners are keen to get their boats wet, in more ways than one.

Well done all.

This cruise report prepared by the crew of *ConKiki*