

Melbourne Whittley Cruiser Club

MWCC Eildon Easter 2017

Attendees:

- **Karalyn II** - Jeremy & Karen Bowler
- **Impulse** - Mike & Monica Jones
- **Black Betty** - Erwin & his brother Tony Abbinga
- **Braveheart** - Mike Smith
- **Sea Ya** - Craig, Alana, Cody, Tahlia and Zac
- **Groovie Ruvie** - Paul and Marielle Van Pampus
- **Full of Beans** - Nigel and Ann Cousins
- **Navara** - Neil and Lyn Laver
- **Zero Tolerance** - Stuart and Annette Malone (short visit only)



After overnighting at Tooborac (a great brewery/pub), **Karalyn II** (Jeremy & Karen) arrived at Jerusalem Creek on Wednesday morning and were soon joined by **Impulse** (Mike & Monica) and **Black Betty** (Irwin & Tony). We launched and headed, in perfect conditions, to Woodbridge Point, where after collecting wood for a fire, we settled in to wait for **Braveheart** (Mike) who was coming from Jerusalem Creek. He eventually found us (with some help from Impulse) as with the setting sun in his eyes we were a little hard to find. On Thursday morning, we returned to Jerusalem Creek for lunch, again in beautiful conditions, while Black Betty went fishing. Mike Jones headed to Eildon for some cold medication as he and Monica were leaving for China on the following Thursday. **Sea Ya** (Craig, Alana, Cody, Tahlia and Zac) and **Groovie Ruvie** (Paul and Marielle) arrived. Sea Ya launched and went to the middle of the lake for some knee boarding and water activities, while the rest of us waited for Mike.

As it was getting late, Braveheart led Karalyn, Sea Ya, Groovie Ruvie and Black Betty to the Howqua, where we stopped at Mike's "secret" spot. Cody Talia and Zac, along with some helpers, built a fire for the evening and, just as it was getting dark, Impulse arrived with **Full of Beans** (Nigel and Ann).

Friday dawned to another beautiful day and Tahlia and Cody distributed beautiful handmade Easter cards to each boat from Mike's dinghy. Tony and Irwin headed off fishing, and to Jerusalem Creek for supplies and coffee. Groovie Ruvie went for a run and See Ya headed out onto the lake for some water activities. In the meantime, both Mikes disappeared into their boats to search (successfully) for some annoying water leaks. Then they, along with Monica, went exploring in their dinghies. Sea Ya returned from their morning on the water, the fire was restarted and, after lunch, the crew climbed the nearby hill.



Black Betty returned with newspapers and ice along with **Navara** (new members Neil and Lyn), who had arrived at Jerusalem Creek hoping to meet up with us. After joining the group, out came the rods and instantly Neil started pulling in redfin. Irwin and Tony and then Cody and Zac also joined in the fun. The fish were expertly baked in foil on the campfire by Neil and Lyn and there was plenty for all – Yummo!

On Saturday, after the mist and fog had lifted, Groovie Ruvie, Navara and Karalyn headed to Jerusalem Creek for supplies and coffee and watched Black Betty retrieve from beside the ramp. The rest of the group cruised around to the Delatite arm where they were joined by the others in time for lunch. Mike walked to the top of the adjacent hill and found a spot for the

evening. Sadly, when he backed out from the bank, his prop caught his dinghy rope and dragged it in, cutting one of the pontoons.

We made our way round to the night spot with Sea Ya enjoying more water sports. After tucking into a really sheltered spot, the chainsaw was put to good use by Neil and a decent pile of timber, as well as stepping stones, was accumulated. We again had a great fire to sit around. In the meantime Cody climbed the very steep hill behind the inlet.

Sunday dawned overcast, but calm. Mike Jones climbed Cody's hill and this feat was later emulated by Monica, Paul, Marielle, Karen and Jeremy. The views from up there were terrific and we were able to watch Sea Ya depart for home. Braveheart followed soon after.



Neil was again restocking the timber pile while Mike was contacted by Jay, who had come up for the day. After sending him to the Howqua, where of course, he couldn't find us, Mike, realising he had had a senior's moment, gave him our actual location and he was able to join us, driving his son's SeaRay.

Jay, Karalyn, Navara, Groovie Ruvie and Full of Beans went to Bonny Doon for lunch at the pub, which we enjoyed in the sunshine, which had returned. Mike stayed to watch over the wood pile and guard our spot. When we got back, **Zero Tolerance** (Stuart and Annette) were paying a brief visit. We again had a wonderful fire to sit around, but without Sea Ya's lively crew, it was rather quiet.



Monday was again sunny and calm and after a very leisurely morning, everybody returned to Jerusalem Creek and retrieved their boats from beside the ramp. Karalyn spent the night in the car park before a relaxed trip home.

It was a great cruise (Thanks Mike and Monica) and the weather could not have been better. Clear sunny days and mild moonlit evenings enabled us to enjoy the lake and each other's company to the maximum.

Karalyn II