

The Melbourne Whittleby Cruiser Club



Torrumbarry Cruise 17th to 19th August 2018

Attendees

ConKiki	Peter and Audrey Nicolopoulos
Sienna Belle	Mario and Filomena Greco
Lucky Us	Gary and Lee Honeychurch
J B Squared	John and Joy Beckman
Braveheart	Mike and Venora Smith
Hollywood	Peter and Cobie Morris
To the Point	Dean Tracey Manning and Bryce
G & T	Tony and Gemma Dickson
Mabel 2	Pete Walters

ConKiki and Sienna Belle arrived at Torrumbarry boat ramp on Thursday afternoon. We launched the boats and headed off to the lagoon at the 1640 marker. After tying up, the first thing to do was to collect wood for our bonfire for the night.

We sat by the fire for an early happy hour. Then back to the boat for dinner.

We returned to the fire and as there was no wind it wasn't too cold so we stayed there until it was time for bed.

Friday morning the fire was still smouldering, so after some gentle teasing from Filomena we had flames. It was time to collect more firewood, soon we had enough to last us well into the evening.

Lunch time we cooked pizza, hamburger patties and spanakopita {fetta and spinach pie} on the bbq hot plate over the fire.

Early afternoon Braveheart and Hollywood arrived, and we couldn't wait to start happy hour.

Lucky Us and J.B Squared arrived later, just in time to taste our first attempt at making damper in our camp oven, served with jam and cream, it was yum.

G&T and Mabel 2 were at the boat ramp waiting for Tony to arrive by bus from Melbourne. To the Point also arrived at the ramp, but as it was already dark they all stayed there for the night.

It rained overnight and in the morning our fire was nearly out.

When all 9 boats were together again we decided that it was too cold to be without our heat, we only had 3 logs left, so it was back to collecting more wood. The boys returned with plenty enough to last until lunch time.

After lunch we all headed to Deep Creek Marina. When all boats were tied up safely it started to pour down with rain. We all headed in to the pub, where Jeanette the owner had the heater blazing for us to keep warm. Most of us stayed in the room for the whole evening, but some of the younger members of our group returned to their boats for nanna naps.

We had a good feed for dinner and lots of drinks to keep us warm, well that's the excuse. When it was time to head back to our boats, Manning and Bryce set up their swags in the marina's sunroom and slept beside the heater, they were the warmest of our group for the night.



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Sunday morning Sienna Belle and Braveheart returned to the ramp to retrieve their boats and head for home. The rest of us headed towards Echuca. Half way there G&T and Mabel 2 decided to turn back and retrieve their boats. The rest of us decided to continue on as we had never made that trip before.

We arrived in Echuca and continued on until we went under the road bridge, that was far enough, we then turned around to head home.

We passed Hollywood just up river from Deep Creek Marina they had snuggled into the bank as they were going to stay one more night.

By then our fuel gauge was very close to the empty mark, but we were comfortable in the knowledge that we had 3 other boats just in case. We made it back to the ramp without any problem.

With all our boats back on their trailers it was time to head for home after another perfect weekend on our Whittlebys.

By *Audrey Nicolopoulos*

(the better half of ConKiki).

