



Melbourne Whittley Cruiser Club Inc.

Bundalong Cruise Report –28-30 September 2018

The following crews attended the cruise to Bundalong on the Murray River:

Ruby Tuesday	Wilco & Marisca Seinen (Cruise Leaders)
G & T	Tony and Gemma Dickson with Gypsy
Sienna Belle	Mario and Fil Greco
The Boss	Renato & Domenica Greco
Black Sheep	Peter & Caroline Holyoake
Lucky Us	Gary and Lee Honeychurch
Navara	Neil Laver
Mabel 2	Pete Walters with Tuppence
To the Point	Dean, Manning and Bryce Worsley

Thursday, 27 September 2018:

The weather on Thursday was perfect when we arrived at the Bundalong boat ramp after a six-hour drive from the Latrobe Valley. Lucky Us and Ruby Tuesday found 4 other boats (Sienna Belle, The Boss, Navara and To The Point) waiting for us to launch. Once on the river, Marisca & Wilco lead us upstream to find a camping site. We found a good overnight camp site only 10 minutes from the boat ramp – we named this “Camp 2”. Once we were moored, it was out of the boats via the boarding ladders and off to collect firewood, so we could enjoy a fire after dinner. The evening was clear with thousands of stars on display. We all enjoyed sitting around the fire and catching up with what had been happening since we last had been boating.



At Bundalong Boat Ramp



Domenica & Fil



Gary & Renato collecting firewood



To The Point



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Friday, 28 September 2018:

Friday morning was crisp but sunny with the temperature at a cool 4 degrees. We heard a splash in the water, to find to our amazement Wilco up bright and early enjoying his traditional morning swim in the river. He assured us that the water was warm, but we know he was joking!! After a lazy breakfast and friendly banter with the other crews we thought it was time to leave. Ruby Tuesday and Lucky Us headed back to the boat ramp whilst the rest of the crews headed upstream to find Mario's secret lagoon. Mario's lagoon was about 30 minutes from the boat ramp, hidden behind a narrow entrance with a few stumps. Manning and Bryce did a great job in their new tender guiding Lucky Us, Ruby Tuesday, G&T and Mabel 2 into the lagoon. The lagoon was lovely and very secluded with lots of protection from the south westerly wind. Black Sheep found her way up the river and into the lagoon in time to join us for happy hour. As Manning and Bryce lit the fire, Marisca organised us into two teams to battle against each other in our first cruise trivia quiz. It was lots of fun with each team claiming they should be the winner!! After dinner we headed back to enjoy the warmth of the fire and to eat some yummy toasted marshmallows!!



Entering Mario's Lagoon



Bryce & Manning lead the boats into the lagoon.



Safely moored in Mario's lagoon



Happy Hour



Marisca & Wilco with the Regatta flag



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Saturday, 29 September 2018:

After breakfast we all headed back downstream behind Ruby Tuesday to tackle the trip across Lake Mulwala. It was still windy, but it did not affect our trip across the lake. Marisca had organised lunch at the Mulwala Ski Club. We were able to moor our boats directly in front of the Ski Club. Some of us enjoyed a drink on the terrace overlooking the lake before having a delicious lunch. The Ski Club had lots of televisions for lots of people wanting to see the Grand Final. We found a table outside in the sun to watch the game and soak up the atmosphere of the day. We had to leave at half time, so we could get back to Camp 2 in the daylight. Peter W and Tony keep us entertained on the radio on the way back across the lake with regular score updates. Happy hour was on dusk sitting around the fire on the river bank. It was a wonderful way to spend the last night of our cruise.



Crossing Lake Mulwala



Heading back to Bundalong



Moored at Mulwala Ski Club



Mulwala Ski Club for Lunch and to watch the AFL Grand Final



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Sunday, 30 September 2018:

We woke to the sound of an ultralite buzzing around us. What a great surprise to see Stuart!! He had flown from Shepparton to visit us. Thanks Gemma for organising a wonderful surprise. Unfortunately, it was Sunday and time for us to leave. We enjoyed breakfast in the sun and then slowly headed back to the Bundalong boat ramp. It had been a great weekend on the Murray.

A big thanks to Marisca and Wilco for leading their first cruise. Great job!!



Surprise visit from Stuart



Our morning river view

Hope to catch up with you somewhere soon on another MWCC boating adventure.

Lee and Gary Honeychurch

Lucky Us