



Melbourne Whittley Cruiser Club Inc.

Lake Eildon January 2019 Cruise Report

The Boat & Crew:

- Mabel II – Peter Walters & Tuppence
- G&T – Tony & Gemma Dickson & Gypsy
- Zero Tolerance – Stuart, Annett, Lachlan and Ethan
- Archie – John, Jane, Matilda & Fletcher Archibald
- Impulse – Mike & Monica Jones
- JJ – Jay Davis
- Sea-Ya – Craig, Alannah, Cody, Talia & Zac
- Sienna Belle – Mario & Filomena Greco
- The Boss – Renato & Domenica Greco
- Groovie Ruvie – Paul & Marielle Van Pampas
- Black Betty – Erwin Abbinga

Each year at Eildon is spectacularly different. The water levels change and a new adventure begins with finding the best mooring position for a complete chill out and wind down from the Christmas rush and end of another year's work. Sometimes we need to find a new destination because the preferred spot is no longer accessible, or we have a large group arriving, or to accommodate an unusual weather event or just because our preferred spot was already taken when we arrived. This year with some planning G&T and Mabel II arrived on Boxing Day, but not without a story getting there.

Poor Pete. This was not his day. We arrived at the turn off to Eildon via Alexander only to find Pete not only had a shadow following his trailer tyre, but that the shadow was actually the tyre! The tyre had come off. Woe is this scenario.... Tony always packs a 3T jack so we did what we could to limp back into Alexander and assess our repair options. The tyre was holding on for now but the axle was damaged and we needed a particular size nut. We sighted a workshop open with a few 4WD vehicles and it was suggested they would be our best bet.... Well weren't we lucky, the guy gave Pete a nut off the truck he was working on. So disaster averted for now.... Pete did the adjustments and we headed off to launch at the Jerusalem Creek public boat ramp. Within half an hour we were zooming off with the promise of a snooze, lunch and a G&T at the other end.



We expected the house boats to be out on mass, but thankfully not as many as on the 28th in the previous year. Having said that, none of our normal destinations were free. So onward we head until we ended up in an entirely new spot just around from McDiarmid Point and into Ford Inlet. Wow...



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this was an awesome destination for this water level of water, being around 53%. It was a wide lagoon-like inlet with enough protection for at least 10-15 boats, was deep and clean for swimming and had internet and phone coverage! What more could we want!

Early days of rest saw a few snoozes and swims with an early arrival of Stuart and Annett with their now adult kids Lochie and Ethan coming and going at various times for parties and work. Our little group of three boats saw the New Year in with a party on G&T that lasted till around 1.30am, which was an absolute hoot. Much better than some previous years too, when I think we might of collapsed into bed before midnight...?!@%&#



John, Jane, Matilda and Fletcher came to stay for a few days which was awesome. We swam, sipped a few G&T's, beers, went for adventures and even participated in Fletcher's drone film. Mabel II, G&T and Archie all headed out to let Fletcher video and track our circuits in front of the Delatite Arm with his sensational skills with his drone. To view, you'll have to look on Facebook to MWCC's The Boathouse site.

We had gorgeous weather with a few absolute scorchers hitting over 40 degrees. Apart from lots of swims and fruit-ice-sticks, a wet towel was the best way to get your temperature down at the mid-afternoon blast of oppressive heat!

Gypsy found a ball and had a gorgeous time playing with it. Even swam to the boat with it.... Then she discovered mud!!! Had a very thorough roll in it too!!



We had a lunch at Bonnie Doon, visitors for the day and overnight, we had some seriously hot weather, and a fantastic arrival of 5x club members boats having completed the much talked about and awesome Glenelg Trip. So lovely to see you!



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Great to see our Tassie family with Craig, Alanna, Cody, Talia and Zac.
Thanks To Domenica for organising such a fabulous game too.... Everyone loved it, including the kids!!



The above photo shows Pete's boat loaded up for a ride home. Time for some work in the home garage!!



Written by Gemma Dickson
G&T