



## Melbourne Whittley Cruiser Club Inc.

### Trip report for Torrumbarry cruise 7th to 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019

#### Attendees:

Conkiki	Peter & Audrey Nicolopoulos
Sienna Belle	Mario & Filomena Greco
Navara	Tom Totsos & Karen Phillips
Aravan	Neil Laver & Jennifer ( ground crew )

ConKiki and Sienna belle decided to take advantage of the impending fine weather and set off on the Thursday and reached the shores of the mighty Murray river early afternoon and promptly set off to our little lagoon, and the first item on the agenda was to collect enough fire wood for the night.



With the bonfire well and truly lit we settled in for the night huddled around the warmth of the fire, happy hour and dinner followed and eventually time for bed.

Friday morning breakfast as usual, and the morning walk to collect enough fire wood for the day and that evening. We made a call to Serenity who were coming up that morning, but unfortunately circumstances prevented them being able to attend for the weekend. Navara rang to say they were on their way and had packed everything, including the kitchen sink for their first trip with the club and in winter. "Have we got enough warm clothes and bedding for the weekend", was the question asked.



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Mario and Peter set off to meet them at the ramp, and give any assistance if needed. A quick walk around the boat, and all was good for the launch. Karen got into the boat and Tom backed her into the water and released. Karen was nervous as it was their second launch and no jetty to tie to, just drive forward and beach on the bank. Tom got in and off we went, Karen wanted to drive the boat, so we said to radio us if we went too fast. It's only 10 kms from the ramp to the lagoon, and at 20 knots we were pulling away from Navara but we kept an eye on her. All of a sudden she was right behind us, and we found out later that Karen was a bit unsure of going around the bends so fast. I think we have another speed demon in the club, she got her confidence and increased her speed and loved it. **Bad luck Tom, it's Karen's boat now!**

All tied up and evening came around so fast that happy hour and dinner rolled into one and we cooked at the bonfire.

About 8.00pm Neil rang to say he had found the road leading into the lagoon and his GPS said he was right on us. Look for my headlights he said, we couldn't see anything. Mario and Tom walked up the track with torches, still nothing. Then all of a sudden we saw his 1,000,000 watts of bright headlights from the other side of the lagoon. How could we have not seen these things from miles away.

Neil parked the Caravan near the fire and happy hour continued well into the crisp night, no one was cold except for Tom. He simply sat closer to the fire and was content. Stumps was called at 1.00 am and off to bed we stumbled.

Saturday morning and the fire was well and truly lit and ready for breakfast, bacon and eggs, and out came the camp oven and Audrey whipped up a batch of cheese and chive scones for morning tea, then more bacon and eggs by Filomena for their lunch. **I love bonfires in the middle of winter by the river bank.**

After lunch we made a move to go to Deep Creek Marina and settle in for dinner, "Aravan" followed by road and parked in the car park. Happy hour was early as we had set up on the floating pontoons. Just don't walk around when sitting there, you might get seasick.



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Dinner in the pub, drinks in the pub, heater in the pub, nobody wanted to leave, but we had to eventually.

Sunday, mid morning and Navara had to leave and feed the animals back at the farm. We were assured that they could retrieve on their own, and they did. Neil offered us a lift in his car to go



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and look for somewhere to stay for the night. Somewhere for the boats and the caravan to be close to each other and not get bogged the next day as heavy rain was forecast for the night. After an exhaustive search we decided to stay at the marina.

Monday Aravan (the caravan) had to leave and get ready for work the next day, so ConKiki and Sienna belle headed to the lagoon to spend another night of bliss on the Murray. More fire wood was collected and a lovely night was enjoyed by the 2 crews.

Tuesday morning after breakfast we headed down river to put boats to trailers and made our way back home to Melbourne.

Apart from one evening of rain the weather was absolutely amazing for the whole weekend.

You could not ask for better weather, or company.

*This report was written by the skipper of ConKiki.*

