



Melbourne Whittley Cruiser Club Inc.

Bundalong on the Murray River 13th to 15th September 2019

Cruise Leader Ruby Tuesday with Marisca, Wilco & Dargo, Lucky Us - Gary & Lee, Impulse - Mike & Monica, Conkiki - Peter & Audrey, Our Time - Russell, Siennabelle - Mario & Filmena, Groovy RuVie - Paul & Marielle, To The Point - Dean & Tracey, Tinny Tot - Manning & Chelse.

After Dean finish work we finally got on the road to Bundalong. We met up with Manning close to his work so he could bring along Tinny Tot. We pulled up at the boat ramp in Pasley St Bundalong at 9.20pm, we knew we were in the right spot with another 7 cars and large trailers in the car park. The other 7 boats were already up stream at Mario's lagoon. We launched To The Point and tied up to the pier, Manning set up in the car park for the night ready to launch the next morning.

The sun rises over the river the next morning was beautiful with not a breath of wind. Manning and Chelse packed up their gear and launched Tinny Tot. After breakfast we slowly motored up river to meet up the rest of the fleet.

We then made our way down river and crossed Lake Mulwala, we followed the winding river with its red and green boys across the lake. The dead tree on the lake and in the river were home to many nesting cockatoos, ducking in and out of the holes in the trees. Manning now was at the back of the fleet was able in Tinny Tot cut his way across the lake ending up at the Mulwala Ski Club well in front of the rest of us.

We tied up the boats and made our way into the ski club sitting outside on the deck overlooking the lake and enjoying the warm sunshine. We enjoyed a cold drink and a feed, before returning to the boats and crossing the lake once again to find our home for the night. After checking out a couple of locations it was decided to go to Mario's Lagoon. Once the fleet was tied up and safe, it was on to fire wood collection, starting the camp fire and of course happy hour.



During happy hour Gary ran an informal training session, on rope skills first one was "How to properly toss a dock line" and other showed their equipment that they had made or used to help them to get their dock line to the dock and the second one was "How to tie a bow line knot". This was a fantastic idea, with the great knowledge base we have in the club to share everyone's experiences. We then moved to the campfire for more conversation about the upcoming regatta and the plans and ideas. Discussion about t-shirts and more including the crew photos. We then headed to our boat for tea. After tea returned to the fire before hitting the sack. A fantastic day.

We woke to a the sun rising over the lagoon and not a breath of wind. Enjoyed breakfast as the cloud started moving in. A couple of drops of rain tried to put a dampener on the trip. We packed up ready to head back to the ramp to hall out, with Mike and Monica as the rest headed up stream to



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check out more of the river. What a fantastic weekend, we wish we could have been there for more of the trip, but at least we made it.

Thanks to Marisca and Wilco for running the trip.

Tracey Worsley,
To The Point