



Hawkesbury River Cruise -

14-15 September 2019

By John and Lisa "Humm-Along"

We arrived at Parsley Bay Friday afternoon. Jocimo and Enchantress were set up and we soon went to the Brooklyn Pub for tea.

Hart Peters had come over on the train to join us for the evening. Ross & Katrina who are new members also found us for a chat.

On Saturday morning we left Parsley Bay at 9am and as we were running 30min early we went via Little Wobby and Tank creek. With this area getting a lot of water 2 weeks prior, I had expected a lot more water coming off the waterfall.

Heading up the Hawkesbury River we passed by the original railway piers and were at Mooney Mooney by 10am, where Crosswind, Sail Away and Waterbago joined us. Both Sail Away and Waterbago had their masts up and Brian and Val (Waterbago) enjoyed a bit of a sail.



We headed to Cascade Gully and had a look at Australia's first warship, the HMAS Parramatta built in Scotland in 1910.



On our way to Spencer, we looked at an area that had a large land slide which had occurred some time ago, wiping out some houses. It made us aware of how risky this area could be for building.

Anchoring at Spencer, Graeme kindly ferried those who wanted to go to shore in his tender. The store owner was a bit rude only allowing us to use the suitable jetty if we were buying food at his shop. In the end, he was lucky to get our business, but the hamburgers, large table and company were good.



Wanderer II joined us, and we were soon off again via Peats Bight to Joe Crafts Bay for the night. Arriving at Joe Crafts Bay at 3.40pm with low tide at 4pm, I was hoping for happy hour on the sand banks. Some of us grabbed courtesy moorings and I dropped my anchor in 7m of water and backed onto the bank.



Phil and I set up happy hour and we organised with Charmain to come in for a meeting. At around 4.20pm, Graeme brought Peter and Jacquie in with Charmain. Within minutes of them getting to shore however, the tide was coming in too fast. I guess it was not low tide at 4pm at that particular spot.



So, our happy hour/meeting was quickly changed to Sail Away and as the sun set, Graeme had to get us all back to our boats before dark. Thankfully he did.



Sunday morning was very foggy and pretty as the sun poked through the mist sitting on the still waters. Most of us tied together for a while before heading off to Berowra Waters where John Haig got some fuel.

Not in a rush we slowly made our way to Twin Beaches for lunch, enjoying the scenery along the way. Twin Beaches was a nice spot, and we had a 2-hour lunch stop.



Again, due to the quickly changing tides, we had to occasionally push our boats out to prevent them from completely drying out. (Lake Macquarie spoils us!)



Taking the short cut via Milson's Passage, Sail Away and Crosswind got straight into Mooney Mooney, while the rest of us went back to Parsley to retrieve. We picked the wrong 30 min to arrive at Parsley however and had to wait in a lengthy line. A fisherman in the meantime, tried to catch Enchantress with his fishing line.



We had good weather, great company and an enjoyable weekend. Thank you for coming along everyone.

