

Out of the fire and into the

'Frying Pan'



Lake Cruise

November 9-10 2019

By Graeme and Charmain Schubert "Crosswind".

The NHTYA's ability to schedule windy weekends far in advance is becoming the stuff of legend.

The lake cruise on 9 and 10 November lost it's beginning at Warners Bay, Music at the Podium, due to strong westerlies blowing straight onshore.

One hardy cruiser launched at Styles Point in that wind but took overnight refuge in the relative calm of F Jetty. He then realised that the pontoon on the concrete apron adjacent to F jetty was complete and that launching there would have been a much calmer experience. So, four more hardy cruisers assembled at F jetty during Saturday morning.

Hummalong had put in on the Eastern side of the lake because it was so close to home. Launched into that wind, immediately had the boat attempt to get back onto the trailer. More repairs! Coming across the lake was a daunting experience but they survived and assembled at F jetty where we had lunch before setting off straight to our destination which meant abandoning the planned lunch at Pulbah Island.



Hummalong, True North, Ice Dancer, Wanderer 2 and Crosswind had an invigorating though well reefed sail down the lake and had many a close encounter with the Lake Macquarie and Wangi fleets in the vicinity of Pulbah Island.



Though brief in duration, the sail to Frying Pan Bay at Summerland Point was very satisfying and the entry through the little channel into the calm little pond was a wondrous experience for those who hadn't seen it before. With the winds forecast to traverse from west to east and back again it was good to have all round protection.

Happy Hour was enjoyed before some dined out and some dined in and a very restful sleep was reported by all.

After a few walks and leisurely breakfasts, Ice Dancer (with Ryan, the five-year-old trainee helmsman and Elsa the ships dog), and Wanderer 2 chose to head back and retrieve whilst True North, Hummalong and Crosswind set off to make another attempt at landfall on Pulbah Island.

However, as we got there the wind strength increased and shifted further to the east, enough to frustrate that attempt too. We did get close enough though to take some pictures and plan for next time. Those giant lizards will just have to wait until then! Whatever! Its good to go for a sail.

Adding to the adventure, the resident shark also made an appearance !!

