

Updates from the Journey of Muzz

Day 5



Us, where are you.... Muzz. I do not know where Muzz is at the moment, so please accept the crew's summary for today.

Today we started our day with a beautiful sunrise (at bush camp - river marker 1581):

..and continued our journey down stream towards Koondrook (River marker 1522) - so who is quickest today??

The weather started out well as you can see from the photograph but rain set in and it was windy.



The currents with a river do not operate in a straight line, rather there is generally a faster central flow and slower flow to the outsides - until you come to a bend, where the outer side is generally carving out the bank and the slower inside of the curve can often have sand deposited - but not always!

The base of the river is not smooth, so you often get water being forced to the surface after hitting rocks, fallen branches and it swirls around quite differently, causing the boat to steer with the swirls / currents, rather than where you wish to point the boat. This means that we had to take extra care on many bends.

We followed each other closely, with each boat signalling to those behind about shallow water, snags which extend into the centre of the river, floating debris and even snakes - **Yes, we have seen snakes swimming across on most days. Just like on land, they are not generally a problem if you leave them alone & they swim past - but it can be unnerving none the less.**

Well it was not all smooth sailing with many snags, tight bends sandy patches - even several reefs!! Not quite a coral reef but the shallow base of the river which is made of stones.

Sadly, it was hidden below the surface of the river - so guess who hit the reef - no, not Muzz but his crew, who has to get out of the boat into the river, along with a local fisherman AND with one boat pulling us backwards against the current.

It does not appear to have any major damage as the boat is still floating but we were high & dry in the middle of the river - it's after Sovereign Bend (River Marker 1530), where we hit the reef.

I hear a noise, yes it must be Muzz - no one else snores like that!! There he is sleeping with his favourite River Murray Flags.



Tomorrow we head down river, firstly to Barham (2km) for some to get Fuel & then for our next bush camp somewhere near River Marker 1470. I wonder what we will see tomorrow?

