

Updates from the Journey of Muzz

Day 8



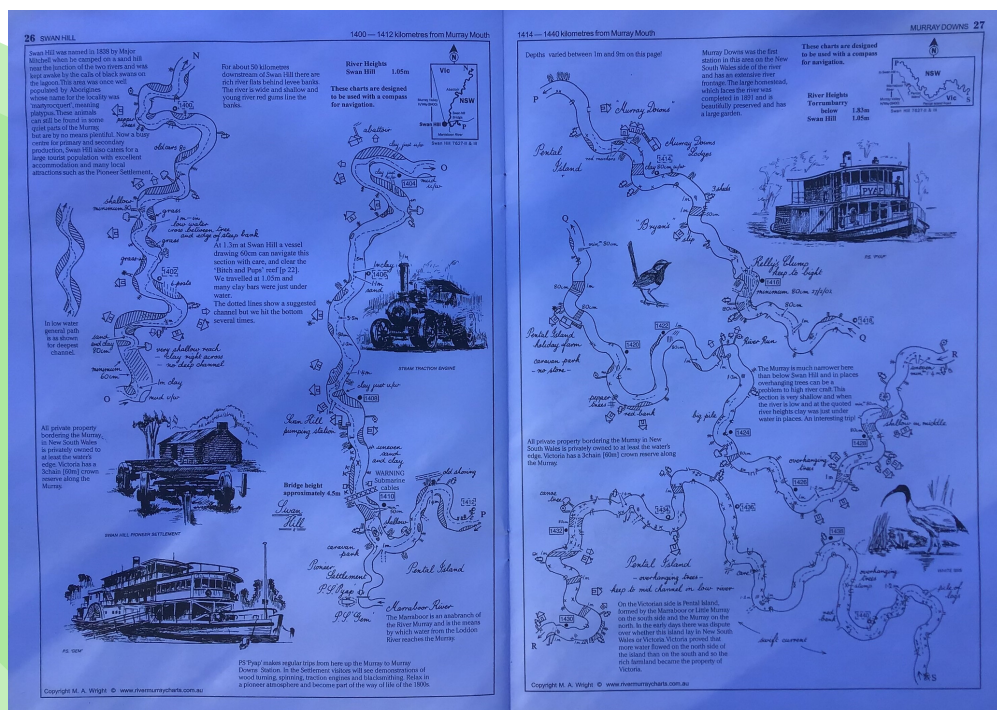
We left Swan Hill this morning in strong winds - gusts close to 60km/h, which for a car is not much but for a boat, combined with the strong currents - meant that on some river bends, the boats were pushed sideways.

Each boat handled it a bit differently but some sections of river had waves which we were pushing into while others had either a side wind or tail wind. This stretch of river also had a great number of hazards - fallen timber, sand banks, clay pans extending into the river & I have published the chart sections for you to view & discuss.

Our boat (Osprey) hit the clay banks 8 times, with two of them lifting the boat..... Thankfully, we were able to motor over the hazards without needing any help but it was probably the most difficult section of the river to date - when you combine the wind & current with the hazards.

How are you going with your map skills?

I will publish the key very soon, so that you can check how many symbols you have correct. We travelled over 50km today but here is the tricky section, starting from Swan Hill.



Muzz got a bit carried away today. He was so busy trying to find new places to play - not doing any of his tasks as Admiral!



We may need to send him from Osprey to another boat soon, so that he can begin to understand all of the boats in the fleet - AND give the crew a break!

Today it took ages to find him..... **yes he climbed to the top of the mooring light pole - the highest part of the boat and then couldn't get down.**

Yes, he needed to stay there for quite a while & we didn't find him until we moored for lunch. He was hanging on very tightly!



You will note the narrowness of the river at this section - many bends, often tight, fallen timber. We passed Beveridge Island today. It is totally surrounded by the Murray to the North and the Little Murray to the South.

The owner of the land has his own ferry to take animals to graze the island. This island is a good example of how a river can change its course with strong flows cutting through what was land to create a new 'shortcut'.

In time the main part of the river will silt up and the southern section will become the main part of the river. There are many 'horseshoe' shaped sections along the river, where this has happened.

Tomorrow we travel to Tooleybuc at river marker 1319, a fairly short run which we could achieve by early afternoon. Yes, Muzz needs to travel on another boat in the fleet - now who can we convince to take him on for the next section???

The Crew