

## Cruise Report 31<sup>st</sup> October 2009 From Paynesville.

By Edwin Flynn (Wanton C22/110)

Due to trailer brake trouble we were delayed leaving for Paynesville by 3 days. We finally arrived at Paynesville on Saturday around 3p.m. well after the fun of the opening sail was finished. What a fantastic turn out it was too, we only wished we could have sailed around the commodore's Meander with appropriate projectiles to join in the fun.

When we arrived at Paynesville we were welcomed by a number of fellow Baysiders and told that due to the large numbers in attendance the fleet was split in two with two overnight destinations. Half went to the Tambo river and the other to Chinaman's creek. Some chose to go to other overnight spots more to their liking. We chose Chinaman's creek. Chinaman's is always a good spot to start the cruise we think. As usual we were the last to arrive but there was enough space for us to tie up stern to beach with difficulty. We remained at Chinaman's for one night and the next day a small contingent comprising of us in Wanton, Crème Caramel, Zest, Small Change, Scallywag, Serenata, Sapphire and Winsome set out for a quite sail down to Barrier Landing, where we lunched. With a nice South to South East breeze we sailed back to Chinaman's creek with the wind off our beam. Sometimes we were able to run with the wind squarely off our stern reaching 5 to 6 knots. At Chinaman's we were joined by Inspiration, Playmate, Meander, Take it Easy and other yachts that I cannot remember.

With very strong South Easterly's forecast we tied up and stayed at Chinaman's for two days. We walked into Metung for coffee and cakes in the evening Jenny and Gary arranged for the Swan Reach Hotel mini bus to come pick us up. We filled it two times, they were happy and so were we. Great food, great company what else do we need.

The next day we set sail in moderate easterly's to Ocean Grange and Steamers landing. It was a good challenging sail into the wind. As usual Wanton was the last to arrive, but it was a great sail.

Boats with dogs on board stopped at Ocean Grange and the remainder stayed at Steamers. We stayed for two nights there, befriended two friendly fishos who were not afraid to share their fishing secrets. The funniest event occurred during Happy Hour. The girls wisely set up table and chairs on the beach just near the pier. A little windy by no mossies. Brian Loh however decided that it would be better to set up at the park table in the bush a few metres away. Not windy there. He called over for the group to join him in that spot. Marching to the sounds of bleating sheep from Ron Attard we entered the sheltered spot Brian had found, to be confronted with a vision of Brian, with hat and adequate mosquito spray and surgical gloves, sitting at the park table; his head almost invisible in a cloud of mosquito. Like shrieking school girls we all ran out leaving Brian with a great big grin on his face.

I left out some of the adventures such as our terrific sail in Crème Carmel up to the first Blowhole. Well it's the one at the very end of Bunga arm. Terrific sail sometimes reaching 5 to 6 knots. It was during that sail that Ian made my year. He told me that he could not keep up with Wanton the previous sail from Barrier Landing back to Chinaman's creek.

