

Renmark - April 20th until April 25th 2005

Renmark Riverfront Caravan Park is located in the Riverland 256kms North East of Adelaide.

WED 20th APRIL 2005: With Sally not working due to the school holidays, we were able to leave for Renmark as soon as I was home from work in the afternoon. If today's weather was going to be any indication as to what the weekend was going to be like, then it was looking pretty good. We enjoyed idea travelling conditions to arrive at Renmark by 5:15pm which allowed us enough time to have things set up before the light diminished. Bruce & Maree would join us on the Friday night

THURS 21st APRIL 2005: Today was spent fitting our recently purchased 12 volt power inverter to the inside of one of the cupboards. As it is our intension to do more free camping in the future, the inverter will come in handy for such occasions. We very quickly became aware that one has to ride shotgun over the bbq even while it was switched on and cooking as the pelicans were very fast to help themselves to a free feed. After hearing about the local Hotel at Paringa on the radio, we decided to try out their Thursday night Schnitzel meal deal before retiring for the night.



This was the view of the Renmark Hotel that we had from the front of our site.



There was no shortage of shade available within the Park

FRI 22nd APRIL 2005: Once we were up and mobile, we decided that we would go for a drive towards Lyrup to check out some of the river side camping spots that we had heard about. The main one that we did like was situated at the Collogans Campground near the Lyrup Ferry. From here we drove to Berri pulling into as many spots along the Murray that we could find roads into. Sally commented on how it would be nice to explore some of the back waters with a small boat which would allow us to get into some very pretty locations that we would otherwise not see. It was 4:30pm when we heard that Bruce & Maree had just left Adelaide heading to Renmark where they were to join us by 7:15pm



Some of the backwater locations that we found between Lyrup and Berri.



SAT 23rd APRIL 2005: We were on the road and heading for Mildura by 8:00am for a sight seeing trip for the day. While at Mildura we visited the Lock on the River Murray only to time the arrival of a Paddle Steamer nicely at the Lock. It was interesting to watch the Paddle

Steamer enter the Lock and then to see the lock empty it's water to allow the Steamer out on the downstream side.



Paddle Steamer as it was approaching Lock One at Mildura



River Murray Weir near Lock one

As we were leaving Mildura, we took the opportunity to call into Stanley Wines where we purchased a few bottles for the happy hours that lay ahead of us. The lady behind the counter was very nice and once the power went off, the excitement began. From here we travelled on to Wentworth where we enjoyed a very good meal at the Services Club before visiting the Tourist Information Centre for some directions out to the Perry Sand Hills.



Sand high around the gum tree and Sally on top of one of the sand hills.



Before turning back for Renmark we also visited the junction of the Murray River and the Darling River systems.



The Darling River channel is to the left and the Murray River flows in from above the Darling River.

After such a good feed at the Wentworth Club, it was nibbles only for our evening meal when we arrived back at the Renmark Caravan park.

SUN 24th APRIL 2005: The weather all weekend had been very kind to us and today was a day that we just sat back and took it all in. It was unusually hot for this time of the year, but very nice to be sitting along side of the river all the same. BBQ's for lunch and roast lamb for dinner, what a life but someone has to do it. The evening was a warm barmy night ideal for sitting outside talking.

MON 25th APRIL 2005: As I was starting night shift tonight, we were out of bed and heading for home by 8:00am with 90% cloud cover and no wind. Bruce and Maree were one and a half hours behind us. After a quick bite to eat for lunch in Gawler, we were soon home wondering where the time had gone. As long as it isn't pouring with rain, it is only four more days before we leave on our next short trip for the weekend to Burra Creek Gorge.

