

Day16 TUE

Did a 22km paddle today and went through Lock1 (Blanchetown) reasonably early. Housing on the bank continues for about 14km south of the Lock. No where to stop, just keep paddling. Sustained damage to my rudder arm by a big boat going too fast and creating a tsunami like wave smashing kayak against bank. Managed to fix that with some ply, Araldite and screws. We have 4 days to Walker Flat so will do 16km/day.

 russell green
Yesterday at 7:46 AM

Day 16

Elapsed Time Distance
5h 51m 18.6 km



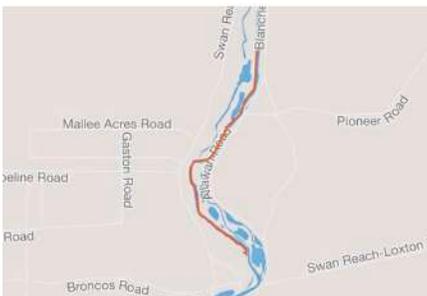
Day17 WED

Leisurely paddle of 12km today and set up camp at about 11am and enjoyed a relaxed afternoon. No wind, but 32c. Swan Reach only 4km in the morning.

 russell green
Today at 7:28 AM

Day 17

Elapsed Time Distance
3h 24m 12.3 km



Day18 THU

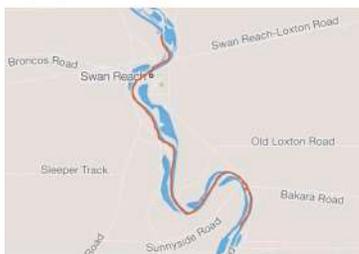
Set out to do 18km, but could not find a suitable landing and camping area, so finished up doing 22km to Greenways landing. Very flat waters to start the day, but by 10am a strong wind had come up, fortunately from the north (behind us).

Overcast day, forecast 35deg, thunder and perhaps some rain. Called at Swan Reach for food, but too far to the deli, we'll wait until Walker Flat. Shop not open at Punyelroo. May be too windy to put tents up. We copped thunder, lightning and rain about 4am. Went out to check boat and gear at 4am and found an apparition??

russell green
Yesterday at 7:21 AM

Day18

Elapsed Time Distance
5h 46m 22.5 km



Day19 FRI

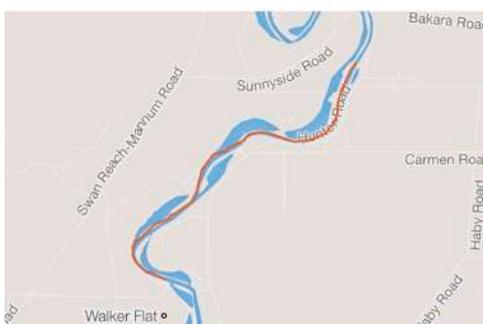
Did 18km today, down to Walker Flat, dead calm for the first 1.5 hrs, but then very windy, became a tail wind as we neared WF.

Arrived at WF landing to be greeted by big brown snake. It soon went away thank goodness.

russell green
Today at 7:20 AM

Day19

Elapsed Time Distance
5h 2m 19.2 km



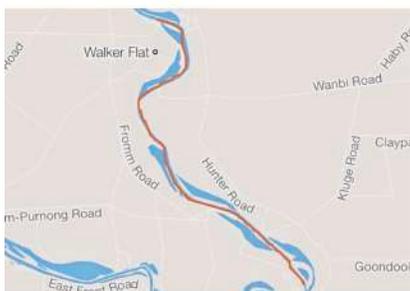
Day20 SAT

Set off from Hattner Landing (Walker Flat) at 7:10am. Overnight "rain" was the sprinkler system! Intended to do about 16km but due to a lack of suitable landing places, did 22km. Arrived at Bowhill about 1:30pm. Went to the General Store for meat for tonight's bbq and to get a couple of beers. Set the tents up on the foreshore and sat back and relaxed.

russell green
Today at 7:02 AM

Day20

Elapsed Time Distance
5h 51m 21.6 km



Day21 SUN

Did 18km to day and reached Younghusband. Weather was good, quite calm but a little warm. Lots of ski boats and jet skis at Younghusband and plenty of loud music.

We were looking forward to a nice cold beer from the general store, but not to be, the store has closed.

Put the tents up late afternoon and then the rain came along. There was a vacant house over the road, so we used their front veranda to cook and eat our evening meal. It rained late into the night, but had stopped by morning. Fortunately we packed up before the automatic sprinklers came on.

 russell green
Today at 7:24 AM

Day21

Elapsed Time Distance
4h 28m 18.2 km



Day22 MON

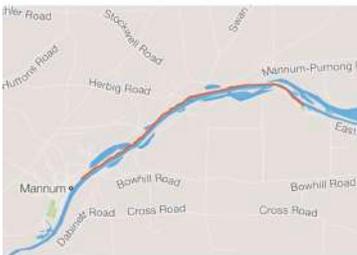
Didn't set out with the intention of reaching Mannum, but lunch saw us within 8km, so the thought of a cold beer and a pub dinner pushed us on.

Managed to secure the cabin for an extra day, so we will now have all day Tuesday and Wed off, before setting out on the final week.

 russell green
Today at 7:16 AM

Day 22 - Mannum!

Elapsed Time Distance
5h 5m 14.5 km



Day23 TUE

MANNUM Melbourne Cup Day - sit and relax - do some shopping.



Day24WED

MANNUM: Ron, Jeff, Les and Angela came up to Mannum. Had lunch and dinner at the Pretoria. Rose and Judy also came up. Ron & Jeff stayed over night as did Judy. Just as well we were not on the water, the wind blew very strong all day.



Day25 THU

A good morning's paddle, 18.7km, previous day's wind died down and we enjoyed smooth water. Reached a spot opposite Pompoota, same place we stayed at last trip, (that was 31/3/2012 and was the last day of daylight saving). Cold wind this afternoon.



russell green
Today at 7:25 AM

Day25

Elapsed Time Distance
3h 59m 18.7 km



Day26 FRI

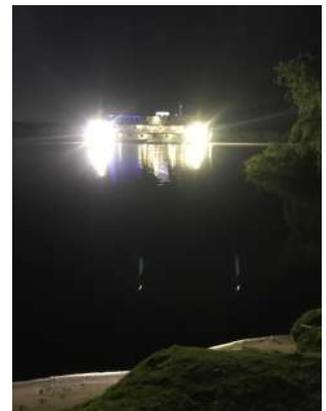
Easy paddle in near perfect conditions, did 16km. Made a landing at Avoca Dell about noon, then sat about and read. We timed it right because no sooner had we got off the water that the wind started to blow (upstream) and blew all afternoon. Got the tents up about 5:30pm .



russell green
Today at 7:25 AM

Day26

Elapsed Time Distance
4h 21m 9.4 km



Day27 SAT

Set off on glassy water. Made it to Sturt Reserve in Murray Bridge and had morning tea. It was possible that Mobilong Rotarians might meet us, but none did. We pushed on to White Sands, had lunch there but it just was not suitable for camping. Sunday's destination, Westbrook CV Park was only another 9km, so we pushed on. The day was still

windless, so great paddling. Passed the 100km mark and then met a Tiger Snake mid river. While taking a photo the kayak drifted forward and the snake fortunately dived under the kayak not climbing over it.

Reached Westbrook about 1:15 and have taken a bunkhouse for two nights.

 russell green
Today at 7:30 AM

Day27

Elapsed Time Distance
5h 40m 22.5 km



Day28 SUN

A lay day so no paddling. Geoff and Anne Keynes came and picked us up and took us into Tailm Bend for lunch. Had a roast. The lady of the shop gave us our lunch free because of what we were doing. Geoff then took us out to The Bend raceway. A minor race was underway and the view from the top deck of the hotel was of the whole circuit. All classic race cars were on display in the foyer. This made for a very interesting day and a break from paddling.



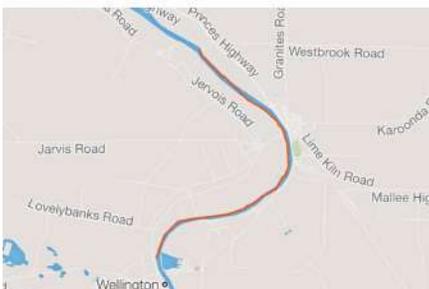
Day29 MON

Managed to leave early and head for Wellington, an 18km paddle. Water was flat, but then the wind came up, but fortunately from behind. I was able to surf some of the waves and a couple of times cracked 8.2kph. Peter's friend met us at Wellington with a trailer and transported us to Clayton where we managed to stay in a really executive class cabin for the night. We enjoyed the evening with most of our gear already in our boats ready for the next morning.

 russell green
Today at 6:45 AM

Day29

Elapsed Time Distance
3h 43m 17.8 km



Day30 TUE

Got away early again and unfortunately the wind was already blowing strongly from the SW, white caps right on the nose. We had to hug the coast of Hindmarsh Island to keep out of the worst of it. We eventually reached Goolwa having covered 11km. What would normally have taken 2hrs took 3.5hrs. We were met at the Sea Scout Centre by Rotarians Allan, Noeline and Diana and were given permission to stay overnight in the Centre. (It was too windy to put up a tent). We were then presented with a cheque for \$250 and interviewed by the local press. The wind has kept blowing strong all day. Forecast is for lighter conditions in the morning when we make the final assault on the Mouth, about a 12km paddle.

 russell green
Today at 6:41 AM

Day30

Elapsed Time 3h 28m Distance 10.8 km



Day31 WED

Set out from the Sea Scout Centre at 7am into a Westerly head wind, fortunately not too strong. However, once we reached the Hindmarsh Island Bridge and turned the corner heading southeast, the wind was over our shoulder. Reached the Barrage right on 8am and with a 15min wait, we went through into the salt water. From here it was another 7km to the Mouth. After about 4km we stopped at the Lindsay's shack and had a cuppa before heading down to the Mouth. Reached there about 11am. Had a walk right to the end-point and took a few photos. It was cold and windy, so rather than stop we paddled back to the Lindsay's and settled in on their veranda for the afternoon. Put the tents up for the last time and brought the kayaks ashore. Pete cooked the meal and we retired for the evening and await pickup by our wives first thing in the morning.

 russell green
Today at 6:49 AM

Day31 THE END

Elapsed Time 4h 7m Distance 15.4 km



THE END