

At Sea – Day 46 Nov. 12:

The day started with a slightly rolling sea, overcast sky and temperature in the mid to low 50s. We were continuing on our route across the southern coast of Australia to Melbourne.

Barbara attended the Good Morning Amsterdam TV show where Gene Young and Adele were interviewing Jack McElroy and Andrea Missara from the Amsterdam Greenhouse Spa staff, as shown in the picture below. Jack is from Ireland while Andrea comes from California in the US.



One of Jack's jobs is to diagnose foot problems brought to him by passengers. He can fit them with pad-like appliances that fit in the shoe to help to correct foot misalignment and reduce pain. Andrea is the acupuncturist on board and can use that ancient Asian medicine using inserted needles to help passengers to cure or minimize various medical problems. Andrea actually gave Gene a treatment on stage to improve energy level, as shown on the right.



Later, Jack diagnosed Adele's foot pressure profile by making an imprint of her foot using a special ink-pad like device, as shown on the left. He found that she tends to put too much pressure on the front of her foot in the vicinity of the big toe. That condition was thought to be brought on by her wearing of high heels. Jack thought he could help her with the problem.



Today was the last day on board for those passengers who had booked only to Melbourne. There was a meeting in the Explorer's Lounge to brief those 100 or so passengers on disembarkation procedures.

The 11am Chat Time by Lucia and Henk with Cruise Specialists folks took place after we shoed the last of the other passengers out of "our" usual spot in the Explorer's Lounge.

At 2pm this afternoon the ship's clocks were all advanced one hour to 3pm to account for our eastward progress. We are now at the same time as Melbourne, Australia.

It was too cool and windy to comfortably walk around the outside decks so we did the promenade decks inside several times during the day to get some exercise. While passing the TV screen on deck 5 late in the afternoon we got a picture of the Amsterdam's position on the voyage across the bottom of Australia. The Amsterdam had been sailing along at about 20 knots since leaving Fremantle and we were nearing Melbourne as shown below.



At dinner tonight it was mixture of sadness and comradeship as we had our last meal on the Amsterdam with Elaine who will be leaving the ship in Melbourne tomorrow morning. She lives in a town south of Melbourne near the entrance to the huge harbor. We exchanged addresses and hope to meet again someday. This picture (with Elaine on the left) that we took on October 31 (Halloween) captures the spirit of our table better than any picture we could have taken tonight.



After dinner we went to the movie “The Help” that was showing in the Wajang Theater. We seldom attend movies when at home so movies are a treat for us when cruising. The place was packed with passengers who enjoyed this popular movie focusing on race relations in the 1950s and 1960s.

The good ship Amsterdam sailed on through the night. We arrive in Melbourne tomorrow morning about 10am.