

Video transcript: Police take on the Murray River Paddle

Length: 1:17 seconds

*Transcript begins:*

Description:

Video of the Murray River Paddle showing paddlers in kayaks paddling along the river

Captions:

Police take on the Murray River Paddle

One of the longest river races in the world.

Each year Victoria Police teams up with Aboriginal youth for the Murray River Paddle.

This is the fourteenth year the Aboriginal-Police team have participated.

Description: An evening view of the Murray River showing the Massive Murray Paddle banner.

Justin Smith: With the Paddle, what are you trying to achieve?

Description: Justin Smith for Victoria Police sits at a table looking at his laptop screen. He is conducting a video interview with police at the Murray River paddle.

Description: Police officers Melissa Peters (Senior Constable) and Mick Watts (Sergeant, Ballarat) in front of the Murray River.

Melissa Peters: So the teams are a police member and an Aboriginal child. So what we're doing is breaking down stereotypes both ways. You know, preferring that we just both see that we're both human. We all make mistakes and we're here to work together.

Justin Smith: What's the sorest part? Which bit gets the sorest?

Mick Watts laughing: Depends on the individual.

Description: A sequence of scenes showing:

- A two paddlers from the team in a kayak at the bank surrounded by team mates standing in the water
- A shot of many teams heading out on to the river

Mick Watts: Personally for me, the hands. But the legs get a fair mention. And backs.

Justin Smith: You mention that breaking down of the barriers. As you go along the river do you just feel that happening?

Mick Watts: Look, absolutely. The start of the week, there's the divide. You know, there's police and there's them.

Description: A sequence of scenes showing:

- A view down the river of teams followed by a support craft.

- A police officer and young aboriginal team member in a kayak
- Video of the team as the paddlers come into the bank
- A police officer in uniform, and two members of the paddling team (one a young person, the other a police officer)

Mick Watts: By the first day, you're already starting to break down the barriers. It's all about team work and the only way we're going to pull through this is by acting as a team. Get on the boat with somebody you've only met for a couple of minutes.

Description: Return to video footage of interview with Mick Watts and Melissa Peters.

Mick Watts: And by the end of the week you're telling personal stories. You're having a chat about anything that comes up. And it's just amazing. It really is.

Description:

Logo: Please share

Logo: Victoria Police

*Transcript ends*