

BMS 6 Day Australia Day Cruise Report - 22nd to 27th January 2024

While keeping a watch on the developing cyclone we made our way to Dux where the group met for a BBQ, briefing on the fishing competition, and meet and greet.

The next morning we up anchored and proceeded to Oak Island where the fishing competition began, as soon as we dropped anchor. We had great group participation. The Judges and Scrutineers were kept busy late into the night and from daybreak recording the catches. These varied from Bream, Catfish, Hammerhead shark, Eels, and Crabs. Some entries were rejected these included a Leaf, Golf ball, Cherrios, Portuguese Mackerel (a selection of cut up Pilchards), Smoked salmon, and a Coral Trout.

Wednesday we made our way leisurely to Canaipa Point, meeting ashore for a bus ride to the local Bowls club, where we all enjoyed a great lunch at a friendly club. We all tried to leave as many mosquitos at Canaipa as we could.

Thursday the flotilla travelled in convoy around the top of Russell Island, through Krummel passage, down the Main Channel and through an unnamed passage to Perry's Hole and on to Dux. This passage was really enjoyed by all as many had never been this way before. Everyone enjoyed sundowners aboard host Boats at Dux.

Australia Day kicked off in earnest at 10.30am, with a blind folded tender navigation course. One participant had a lot of trouble as she was giving her blindfolded husband hand signals to navigate with. Then it was time for the traditional 2up, followed by appetisers, an arrowroot biscuit which you were required to make into a map of Australia with your teeth.

We then all enjoyed a great Lamb Roast and Veggies cooked by Brian and Donna.

Between the main meal and sweets (Pavlova), we played an Australia Day Beer Quiz, which also included Beer tasting.

A great day was wrapped up with many Australian Jokes, Songs, and Poems being recited.

We would like to thank the sponsors Precision Marine for the bottles of wine for prizes, BMS for sponsoring the Roast lunch.

The feedback was very positive, everyone had a great time and enjoyed the variety of entertainment.
