

BMS 7 Day Days Gutter (Koorinal) Cruise 9th to 15th of February 2024

Cruises to Days Gutter are always popular, as it is considered one of the best anchorages in Moreton Bay. However, local knowledge is required to navigate the entrance sandbars. Therefore, it was no surprise that we had twenty-five boats registered well before the departure date. The number was capped as anchoring room in Days Gutter is limited. At one stage there were eight boats on the waitlist, however due to some early withdrawals most were able to join the cruise.

As is often the case, the weather was not suitable for our scheduled stay in Days Gutter, so we had two nights at Canaipa Point with the usual BBQ at RQYS then lunch at the Russell Island Bowls Club the second day, which they appreciated. The weather was potentially looking promising, so the next anchorage was Myora as it is close to the entrance to Days Gutter. Happy hour was on boats with seven host boat and four additional guests on each, randomly chosen. This is popular, as it is a great way to get to know other cruisers.

It was only the following morning's forecast that was suitable for Days Gutter, so the decision was made to go. Due to a couple of withdrawals with boat problems, seventeen boats went into the Gutter. Of course, lunch at the Gutter Bar was a must and greatly enjoyed. Conditions in the anchorage were excellent providing a very pleasant night. Unfortunately, due to tides and Valentine's Day two days away, we could only stay one night, The flotilla therefore headed out the following day and anchored at Blakesley's Anchorage on North Stradbroke. Sundowners on the beach is always enjoyable, with nibbles, drinks, mixing and watching the sunset.

The next day eighteen boats ended up at Dux for Valentine's Day. Not wanting to miss out on another feed, most had lunch at Tipplers Café, which was very enjoyable. The afternoon and evening Valentine's Day celebrations included a happy hour get together and BYO nibbles, drinks and BBQ. An excellent and appreciated effort was made to dress up as though the ladies were being taken out for a flash dinner date. A red, long stem rose was presented to each lady, which they appreciated. Decorations included Valentine balloons and heart shaped chocolates. Our resident games master from Recovery entertained everyone with a couple of participation games, resulting in much laughter, fun and frivolity. Then of course the boat random draw for 6 x bottles of wine, sponsored by Seve Hargraves from Precision Engineering, then the members random draw for 7 x \$50.00 club credit, sponsored by BMS. The evening concluded with some music and dancing, naturally including a couple of slow romantic cuddle songs.

The flotilla travelled home the following day.
