

MARITIMO 5 DAY AUSTRALIA DAY CRUISE

23-27 JANUARY 2026 CRUISE REPORT

Great interest was shown to join the cruise, with 30 boats registering, 3 of who cancelled for personal or mechanical issues. 21 boats showed up at Dux for the first evening, where 56 members and guests had a BBQ together.

Spectrum Marine donated 6 bottles of wine which were added to the 4 bottles they had donated in October. So, in all 10 boats were the lucky recipients of a bottle of wine.

As per the run sheet, some of the fleet stopped at Millionaires Row for a swim, while most relocated to Koureyabba. A fishing competition commenced at 2pm and continued overnight, the winners to be announced on Australia Day at Dux.

Six vessels volunteered to host visitors for late afternoon drinks and nibbles. Everyone appears to enjoy this format, with some hosts and guests enjoying it so much that it was several hours later when they returned to their own boats.

As planned, the fleet moved to Tiger Mullet channel for the overnight anchorage, but due to the fresh northerly winds and strong tides the planned meet and greet on the beach was cancelled. More than several boats moved to Dux to have a more pleasant anchorage.

The Australia Day celebrations commenced at 11am. Precision Marine Maintenance (Steve Hargraves, his wife Narelle and son William) came to Dux with champagne, wine and huge platters of fruit for the cruising group members to enjoy. A big thank to Steve and his family who have looked after the cruising group for several years.

Following the refreshments the traditional games began, such as an "Egg & Spoon Race", followed by "Toss the Thong", then a game of old fashioned "Quoits", with the winners receiving prizes of Club Cash. The winners of the fishing competition were also announced, they received Club Cash which was kindly donated by a club member.

In all 57 people, members, guests and cadets sat down to a BBQ lunch, it was a bit squishy under the "A" frame, with some members having sit outside under the umbrella. Phil Barlow followed the BBQ by providing a game of Musical Bingo.

After lunch, there was the Random Draw for Club Cash sponsored by Maritimo. 34 Gold and Associate members were in the draw and 6 lucky members each received \$50 Club Cash. Another random draw of boat names was held for the 6 bottles of wine provided by Precision Marine Maintenance.

Report by Nick Halsey