

## MWCC - the unofficial 2017 Australia Day cruise report.

About a week before Australia Day we decided to book into the Melbourne City Marina at Docklands for the Australia Day celebrations and fireworks. After a quick call to the marina to make a booking and see if they could accommodate any additional boats we had a berth booked. A post was placed on 'The Boathouse' and within a few hours we had 6 boats booked with berths confirmed. These were: Serenity (Tony & Di), Casper, Impulse, Mana 1, Groovy Ruvie and Sea-Ya. Daniel Earles and his family also joined us Friday morning in their SL22.

Everyone arrived on Thursday afternoon and was berthed stern on to the wharf, with the sterns facing Etihad Stadium for the evening's fireworks. Happy hour started late afternoon and seemed to keep going all evening, except for some breaks for dinner and a walk around docklands for the street entertainment and a visit to the food trucks (which had long queues).



The fireworks commenced at 10.15pm from the roof of the stadium, a magnificent display which was posted to several Facebook pages within minutes of finishing.



Friday was a very lazy start with no hard and fast plans for the day, some spent the day exploring the city's sights and shops, some relaxed at the marina or went for short trips. Unfortunately Mana 1 had to leave Friday morning.



Serenity went for a relaxing trip up the Maribyrnong River with the Earles, stopping at the Boathouse Cafe for a coffee and leisurely lunch. Mid to late afternoon found us all back at the marina swapping stories of the day's activities, happy hour and the hardest decision of the day '*what to do for dinner*'!!

Saturday was another magnificent day. With all except Impulse needing to leave early afternoon for the trip home.

Will we plan this as an official trip in 2018 with Australia Day falling on a Friday, the consensus was definitely. Watch the newsletters and the club calendar for details later this year.

Tony and Di (Serenity)