

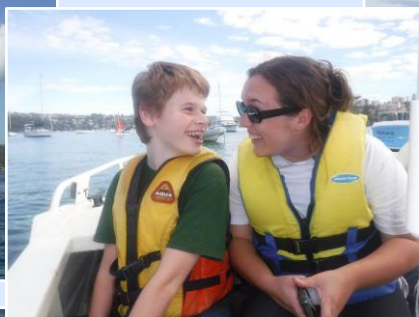
In This Issue:

- March-April Photo Board
- March-April Highlights
- Upcoming Sailing Dates and Special Events
- Our Generous Sponsors
- Committee Members and Key Contacts

Notes from the Editor

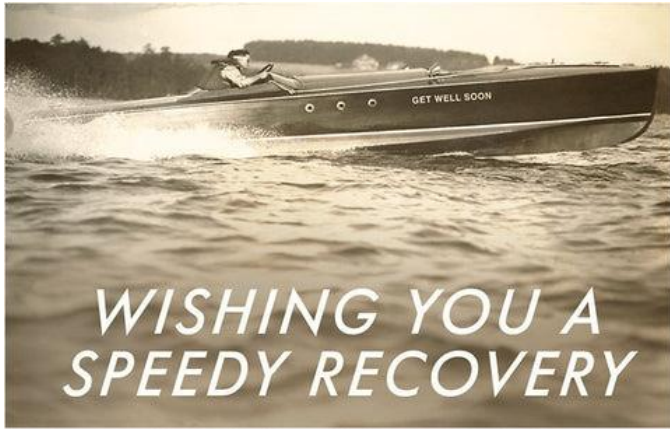
Firstly, apologies for the hiatus in Signals editions while I've been navigating a whirlwind of work and travel commitments. But we're now back on course with all the latest from our vibrant sailing community. As the racing season nears its conclusion, the competition for accumulated points has intensified, promising an exhilarating finale in May. Also coming up, mark your calendars for our annual Volunteer Recognition Evening! This special event is a celebration of the invaluable contributions made by our volunteers throughout the year. Open to all, it's an opportunity to come together and celebrate the hard work and dedication that keeps Manly Sailability running smoothly.

March-April Photo Board



You can find full reports about each of our past sailing dates on our website, along with a selection of photographs, under LATEST NEWS.

March-April Highlights



Get Well Soon

A number of our volunteers are recuperating from illness or injury at the moment. We're sending our very best wishes for a swift recovery to:

Helen Hendry
Ivan Demeny

Jackie Morgan
John Baker

Get well soon and know that you are missed!

A New Life Member

By Eli Demeny

After more than 20 years continual service to Sailability NSW, Helen Hendry has decided the time has come to retire.

The start of Helen's Service was when she observed our little boats sailing on Manly Cove. Wondering where they came from, she requested information from her husband, Francis, who at that time was a member of Manly Rotary Club. She decided that that in itself demanded a hefty donation, and so her relationship began from a distance.

Late that same season, she decided to come down in person, and soon established herself as a very dedicated volunteer, taking over roles such as Support Boat Driver, Registrar, Membership Secretary, Bi Monthly report presented to Sailability NSW, publicity gatherings for Sailability Manly, Chef for Saturday Barbecues, and many other duties.

To mark her farewell, the committee decided to throw a party for Helen, and present her with a Life Membership in honour of her wonderful contributions to our organisation. This took place on Sunday, 24th March, and we all congratulate Helen for her wonderful contributions to our club.



Helen and Eli at Helen's farewell lunch



Helen's farewell lunch

March-April Highlights

The Helly Hansen Women's Challenge Regatta

By John Weaver

The weather was ideal for the Helly Hansen Women's Challenge, sunny with a very light SE breeze. Bruce & Pam Davis and Graham Radford managed the racing, for the first time on the brand-new starter boat Ready, Set Go! Charlie's Chariot with John, Kerry and Jeremy on board laid the marks for the race and shepherded the boats around the course and official photographer Marg was also on board to capture all the action.

The first race saw Woody, sailed by Sophie and Skye take the southerly side of the course and round the top mark just ahead of Lisa and Felicity in Vin. Macie and Lily in Alex Martin followed closely behind, then Ragnhild and Eli in Eli D. Lyn and Francesca in Dolly Wallis then led in Helene and Ros in Ralph Newman, and Black Swan sailed by Catherine and Mabel.

The second race saw all boats initially take the preferred southerly course, and the light breeze meant that sailing was very close. Alex Martin managed to hold off a fast-finishing Black Swan and win by 9 seconds followed by Woody, Vin, Dolly Wallis, Eli D and Ralph Newman. The racing was very competitive, with only 95 seconds between first and last place.

Once again, in a tight third race, with a little more breeze from the southeast, the fleet were very competitive. Alex Martin led throughout the race from the start, closely pursued by Woody, Vin and Eli D. They were followed by Black Swan, Dolly Wallis and Ralph Newman.

Following our very successful morning sailing and a welcome lunch on the dock, Macie and Lily were awarded first place overall for the regatta, with Sophia and Skye second and Lisa and Felicity in third place. Catherine presented the winners with prizes generously provided by Helly Hansen, for which we are very grateful.

Thanks to all the competitors, Graham Radford, Bruce and Pam Davis, the support boat crew and all the onshore supporters, particularly Wilma, Denis, Michael, David and Wolfie. Thanks also to Eli and Wilma for supplying the sandwiches and drinks. The efforts of all our wonderful women sailors and supporters contributed to making the day a huge success.



Bruce Davis in the new start boat, Ready Get Set!



The fleet at the start line



Competition round the mark

March-April Highlights

Sophie and Clare Visit Town Hall

Sophie (skipper) and Clare (crew) recently went to Town Hall to collect their medals for winning the Australia Day Regatta. Despite the regatta comprising a single race, courtesy of weather woes, we still felt like champions in the grand surroundings. Councillor (Waskam) Emelda Davis hosted the event and presented the medals.

During the ceremony, in which regatta winners from clubs all over Sydney received trophies and medals, we learned that the Australia Day Regatta is oldest continuous sailing regatta in the world, having first been run in 1837. It was a proud moment for us to be a small part of history!



Sophie and Clare are presented with Australia Day Regatta medals



Michael in action at the MHYC Inclusive regatta in Black Swan

Copyright: Marg Fraser-Martin

MHYC Michael sailed

Our very own Michael B flew the flag for Manly Sailability in the Middle Harbour Yacht Club Inclusive Regatta held over Easter, along with sailors from all over the country and across the Tasman too. Unfortunately, Michael’s boat, Black Swan, sustained damage on the short tow round to Middle Harbour which did not become apparent until later, but hampered his efforts in the racing.

Strong Competition for the Wayne Black Trophy

At the end of each racing season we award the Wayne Black Trophy for best skipper and for best crew, based on overall points accumulated across the season (the fewer points the better!).

As the racing season draws to a close, there’s fierce competition for the Wayne Black Trophy this year. Currently, Sophie leads the pack in the skippers' point score with an impressive 4 points, closely trailed by Jonathon at 5 and Denis at 8. Jeremy, Michael, and Helene are also in contention, each on 10 to 12 points. Meanwhile, the crew point score sees Skye and Clare neck and neck at 5 points, with Ken not far behind at 9. Ivan, Ros, and Nola are also vying for the top spot with scores ranging from 10 to 14. Don’t miss the final regatta on May 18!

March-April Highlights

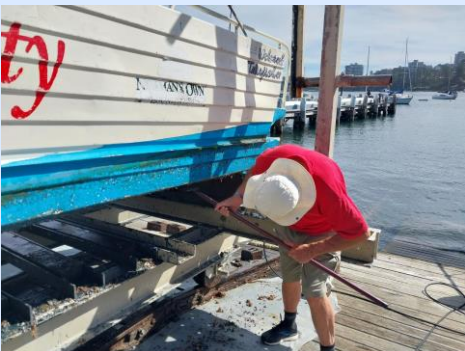
Boat Repairs & Maintenance

As any boat owner will tell you, boats are in constant need of maintenance and repair and ours are no exception. Brian S, David W and Warwick repaired a couple of our sailing boats recently, which had sustained some damage during racing season. However, two more of our boats are in need of repairs after the regatta at Middle Harbour, with a replacement mast, centreboard and rudder required! We hope you're up to the challenge, chaps!

Several of our team have also completed essential maintenance on Charlie's Chariot, ensuring its seaworthiness for the year ahead. Despite the threat of rain, volunteers diligently water blasted, scraped, and repainted the hull with antifoul, leaving it gleaming and protected.

Special thanks to David W, Brian S, Ken, John P, Warwick and Marese and her husband for their valuable assistance. Thanks also to Pittwater Marine for servicing the motor.

With the boats ready for action, we look forward to the winter sailing ahead!



The maintenance team in action!

Sophie Steps Up As SDC

Sophie, our youngest volunteer, has stepped up admirably as Sailing Day Coordinator (SDC) for recent Saturday sessions, ensuring smooth and safe operations. This crucial role involves organising volunteers and overseeing activities. Sophie is in Year 11 and is currently working toward her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Warwick, our President ensures that this role is rotated among the different volunteers, fostering a sense of teamwork and skill development among us. Look out for the volunteer in the orange vest when you're next at Sailability!

Upcoming Sailing Dates

For **groups of up to 8**, you can book quickly and easily via our website!

Go to www.manlysailability.com and click on **BOOKINGS**. Choose your sailing date from the list and complete the form with your details.

For **larger group bookings** (more than 8) please reach out to Jeremy. (jeremy@tebutts.net)

Check our website on the day of your booking to confirm if sailing will be going ahead under current weather conditions

Our **Saturday sailing dates** are often the least busy, so can be a great option for a relaxed morning of sailing.

All of our sailing sessions start at 9am and have a 'last sail' time of 11.30am.

Saturday	4 th May	<i>Only a few spots left!</i>
Wednesday	8 th May	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	18 th May	End of Season Regatta
Wednesday	22 nd May	<i>Bookings available</i>
Monday	27 th May	Fully booked
Saturday	8 th June	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	12 th June	<i>Bookings available</i>
Monday	24 th June	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	13 th July	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	17 th July	<i>Only a few spots left!</i>
Monday	29 th July	<i>Bookings available</i>

Upcoming Special Events

End of Season Regatta

Saturday 18th May

Please reach out to John Weaver (jweaver172@gmail.com) for more information.

Annual Volunteer Recognition Evening

Wednesday 29th May

Club Totem, Balgowlah

All are welcome at this special evening to celebrate the work our volunteers do. A two-course dinner will be served, with the cost subsidized by Manly Sailability. Cost \$35 per head.

Please reach out to Eli Demeny to RSVP (elidemeny@bigpond.com)

Our Generous Sponsors



Lions Club of Manly



Balgowlah



Committee Members & Key Contacts

President Volunteer Coordinator Roster Manager	Warwick McKenzie president@manlysailability.com warwickmckenzie@yahoo.com
Patron	Michael Regan
Secretary	Stephen Bush
Treasurer	Sue Marshall
Membership	Helen Hendry membership@manlysailability.com
Systems Coordinator	Ken Boyes
Safety/Maintenance	David Webb, Brian Stitt, Denis Linney
MYC Representative	Peter Ward
Group Liaison Officer	Jeremy Tebbutt jeremy@tebutts.net
Grants Manager Social Secretary	Nomusa Ngwenya
Minutes Secretary	Nola Borgelt
Webmaster	Scott Forbes webmaster@manlysailability.com
Race Officer	John Weaver
Committee Member	Eli Demeny (honorary)
Signals Editor	Clare Archer signals@manlysailability.com

Our deepest thanks to the individuals who have made donations and/or donated their skills and expertise:

- The Foster Family
- Helene Francois
- Dr Shue Zhang
- Keith Woodward
- Nola Borgelt
- David Webb
- David Goldner
- Britta Huttel
- Betty Baines
- Lynette Gould
- Macca, Freelance Electrical (0418 239053)
- Jeff Smit, Premier Automation