



Signals from Sailability Manly

February 2021

Edition 179 Edited by Heather Mackay www.manlysailability.com.au

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Please send articles to:
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Please send Web content to Alan Bimson:
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February: A Time for Awareness by Heather Mackay

February is widely celebrated around the world as “the month of love” with Valentine’s Day falling on the 14th, right smack in the middle. However, another special day in February deserves our attention as well. Did you know that beginning in 2004, the 18th of February has been recognised as **International Asperger’s Awareness Day**? The aim is to highlight the challenges of people and their families who are coping with this high functioning form of Autism. This often misunderstood syndrome can manifest itself in a variety of forms, and affected families inevitably must adjust routines and many other aspects of daily life, plus seek help to manage. Asperger Services Australia is just one of many support services available for people affected by this complicated developmental disorder. For more information check out www.asperger.asn.au.

As we go to print, the equally significant **International Wheelchair Day** (1 March) just past, which has three noteworthy aims:

- 1) Enabling wheelchair users to celebrate the positive impact a wheelchair has in their lives;
- 2) Celebrating the great work of the many millions of people who provide wheelchairs, who support and care for wheelchair users and who make the World a better and more accessible place for people with mobility issues; and
- 3) Acknowledging and reacting constructively to the fact that there are tens of millions of people in the world who need a wheelchair, but are unable to acquire one.

Many of our active Sailability participants are wheelchair users and we take great pleasure in assisting with their freedom on the water! Several other important World awareness days fall in March which will be explored in next month’s edition of **Signals**.

In other news, a vacancy still exists for a Saturday BBQ Chef. This volunteer role is very special to our operation. All food is provided but we are in need of a competent Chef to toss it all on the Bar-B! For this job, the Chef arrives at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday sailing days (see calendar) to start the BBQ, cook the snags and onions, and then give the grill a quick cleaning to finish up by 1:00 p.m. Perhaps a family member of a sailor would like to take on this job to pass the time on deck? If this role is right for you, please message Eli@manlysailability.com.au for more details.



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Dates for Your Diary - through May 2021

Women's Challenge Regatta, 27 March 2021: The Women's Challenge Regatta is fast approaching on 27 March. Vacancies are still open for female Skippers / Crew and general helpers. Anyone interested in either racing, crewing on Charlie's Chariot, helping with rigging / de-rigging or setting up lunch at the end of the day, please send an email to Ken Boyes (kboyes@optusnet.com.au) specifying your desired position.

No Sailing Scheduled over Easter Weekend or Anzac Day Holiday 2021: Please note Sailability will not be sailing over Easter long weekend or the last Monday in April due to the Anzac Day Public Holiday.

25th Anniversary Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, 5 May 2021: Our "Thank You to Volunteers" Dinner is scheduled for Wednesday, 5 May, at Manly Yacht Club. The Hall is now able to accommodate up to 50 people. Bookings will be open at the end of March. Please check the March **Signals** for more details.

May Regatta, 22 May 2021: Our exciting final Regatta for the year will be held on Saturday, 22 May, including presentation of the Wayne Black Cup. This prestigious trophy has been in operation since 2012 when it was donated in memory of one of our most dedicated sailors, Wayne Black. The winner is determined by totaling up all scores from each Regatta over the year. Skipper and crew receive separate traveling trophies which are kept for a whole year of bragging rights and then handed over to the new winners at the next May Regatta. The ceremony is a sight to see and all are welcome! Please mark the date in your diary and send EOI's to Ken Boyes.

Sailing Dates - March through May 2021

Saturday	13 March	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Wednesday	17 March	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Saturday	27 March	Women's Challenge Regatta
Monday	29 March	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Wednesday	31 March	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Saturday	10 April	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Wednesday	14 April	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Saturday	24 April	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Wednesday	28 April	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Wednesday	5 May	25 th Anniversary Volunteer Recognition Evening
Saturday	8 May	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Wednesday	12 May	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Saturday	22 May	May Regatta
Wednesday	26 May	Booked Groups, General Sailing
Monday	31 May	Booked Groups, General Sailing

Reminder: Group Leaders, please contact Jennie Fogarty at **bookings@manlysailability.com.au** for a group booking.

Contact Us

**SYSTEMS
COORDINATOR:**
Ken Boyes

**SAFETY AND
MAINTENANCE:**
David Webb, David
Goldner and Denis
Linney

RACE ORGANISERS:
Denis Linney and
Ken Boyes

**MYC
REPRESENTATIVE:**
Peter Ward



**Sailability Trivia
Question of the Month
Test your Knowledge!**
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Thank You to Our Generous Sponsors!

David Webb: \$1000 for radio and extra bits and pieces
Betty and Peter Baines: \$500 for membership subsidies and Volunteer Recognition Evening
Patron: Michael Regan, Mayor of Northern Beaches Council
Hansa Sailing Systems: \$5000 for seven new sail suits for Invictus Games and then donated to Manly Sailability
Premier Automotive, Jeff Smit: Boat trailer inspection for registration
Manly Yacht Club
Lion's Club of Manly: \$2,000 towards maintenance of Charlie's Chariot
Warringah Mall Community Club: \$500
Balgowlah Masonic Lodge: Donation \$3,000
Bendigo Bank: New Marquee \$1533.40
Cromer Golf Club: Hansa 303 Black Swan
Cerno Insurance: Hansa 303 Vin
Alice Cleary's Running Team, Membership for BIRDS and Royal Far West
Lynette Gould Ruffled Painting bought Stabilo Equipment
Federal Government Grant paid for First Aid Courses
Northern Beaches Council for supplying Parking Permits
Northern Beaches Council Grant for radios and radio training, \$1650.00
David Goldner and David Webb: Improvements to storage, trolleys, cupboards
Club Totem: Providing a room for our monthly Committee meeting

The Committee of Sailability Manly 2020 / 2021

President: Warwick Mackenzie	Secretary, Volunteer Coordinator and NSW Rep: Eli Demeny
Treasurer: Sue Marshall	MYC Rep: Peter Ward
Membership: Helen Hendry	Webmaster: Alan Bimson
Race Organisers: Denis Linney and Ken Boyes	Social Committee: Jackie Morgan and Ragnhild Purcell
Systems Coordinator (including Covid-19 Officer): Ken Boyes	Safety/Maintenance: David Webb, David Goldner and Denis Linney
Sailing Groups Coordinator: Jennie Fogarty	<i>Signals</i> Editor: Heather Mackay
Committee Members: Warwick Mackenzie, Jackie Morgan, David Webb, Ragnhild Purcell, Denis Linney, Eli Demeny, Sue Marshall, Ken Boyes, Peter Ward, Alan Bimson, Jennie Fogarty, Heather Mackay and Caroline Holdstock	

Sailing Reports

Wednesday, 3 February 2021 - WOW, Wednesday!

What a fantastic Wednesday! The sky was blue, sun shining, wind firm and constant and our helpers were fantastic. Thanks so much to Caroline, who took on the role of Sailing Coordinator for the day with aplomb. Brian navigated Charlie's Chariot while Ken served as photographer, Helen handled the registrations and temperature-taking, Wilma was our life-jacket guru and Malcolm helped out on pontoon duties with assistance from Eileen. Corey manned the radio during the early shift. John W. arrived later in the morning and helped with everything, David G. gave a hand with the radio and then went off to help elsewhere and David W. arrived much later to test the radio. Our Sailors for the day were Denis, Rob, Michael, Jennie, John P. and John B.



Rob and Will in Eli D.

Our volunteers were greatly appreciated by all of the participants of the day: William; Angel and Brock from Royal Far West with their helpers Craig and Jenny; Jack with Keira from Ability Options; Ben and Peter Baines; Michael and Jillian with Jacob from Sargood; Andrew and Thomas Conlon from Catholic-Care; Hanlin with Adelyne and Ashief; plus Sally and Simone from Catholic-Care with Zoe, Jake, Bart, Allan, Zac, Georgie. We were happy to welcome this group back after a long hiatus! They gushed about having a great time and will return on the last Monday of each month. The day finished with a quick hose down, clean up and pack away. Thanks so much to all those who helped.



Zoe and John B. in Vin



**Ben and John
in Black Swan**



Jennie and Jillian in Alex

Sailing Reports

Wednesday, 17 February 2021 - A Warm Wednesday

Our volunteers arrived bright and early this morning, looking forward to a perfect day on the water. Wilma served as the Life-jacket lady, working really hard to make the day a success. Helen was the Registrar, Denis was our Boat Operations manager with words of advice for the riggers, Corey took over on the radio, Warwick captained Charlie's Chariot while Eileen worked as photographer, John W. helped with the radios, David kept busy fixing the tender and Eli assisted on the Pontoon with helpers

John P. and Ragnhild. Jim, Brian, Michael, Ted, Jennie, Ivan, John B. and Rob were our trusty sailors, helping with our participants who came from a variety of regions.

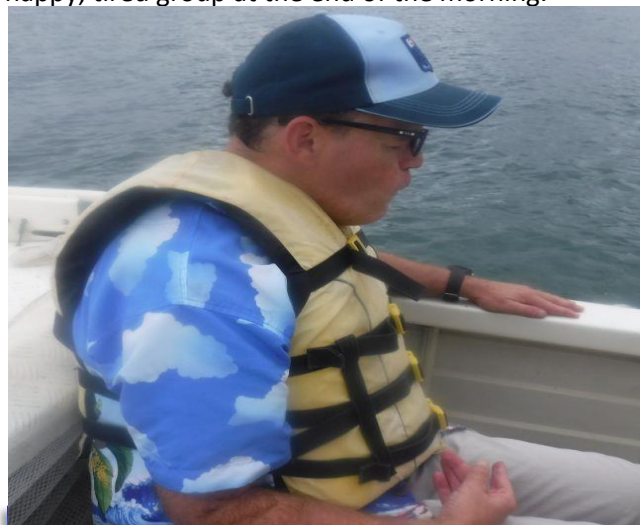
Peter and Ben went for the early sail, and then next up were Janice and Brooklen who came from Nowra, via Royal Far West, with helpers Craig and Jenny. Vicki and Jennifer from Sunnyfield brought their charges: David, Sophie, Tamara, Peter, Sue, Kane, Vanessa and Arryn. Ashief brought Hanlin, who jumped into the closest boat before we even had it tied up securely! Then Zoe arrived from Hornsby with her carer, Sally. She enjoyed her sail with Jim immensely, attempting to shoot Charlie's Chariot out of the water with a water pistol. It didn't take long for the boats to be dismantled and put away by a happy, tired group at the end of the morning.



**Jennie and Brooklen
in Black Swan**



**David enjoying a splash in
Ralph Newman with Brian**



**Peter opted for a ride
in Charlie's Chariot**



**Janice and Rob
in Alex**



**Jim and Zoe
in Vin**

Sailing Reports

Monday, 22 February 2021 - A Busy Monday Sail

Our team of 14 volunteers put in an amazing effort to make today the roaring success that it was, supported, of course by the carers and parents of the groups that arrived for sailing. Warwick, Brian and Eli arrived early to put out the boats so that the racks were open for a small repair that needed to be carried out. It did not take long with Brian's super drill, Warwick's sweat and Eli's gymnastic ability, and by the time the repair was completed there was a team already rigging the boats. By 9.00 a.m. we had all seven boats completely ready to hit the water.



Jim and Krissy in Black Swan

Collin as the Coffee Company; and Catholic Care with Simone as Carer, with Thomas, his Dad and sailing partner Andrew, then Bart, Doug, Sean and Gordon. Next to follow were Barb from Sunnyfield, with Melissa, Krissy, Rodney, Ben and Luke. Limor arrived with her daughter, Adar, and then the last group for the day; BIRDS, with carer Gaynor, Danielle, Alan, Carlo, Brad, Stuart, James, Peter and Steve. Not everyone sailed, but all enjoyed socialising in the warm sunshine and pleasant southerly breeze.



Melissa and Brian in Dolly Wallis

Helen was set up as the Registrar, Denis the boat operations manager, Malcolm on the Pontoon supported by a hand-held radio in contact with the deck, and John W served as the Sailing Coordinator. Our sailors for the day were Caroline, Jim, Michael, Jackie, Denis, Brian and John P. Nola helped out everywhere, Corey worked the radio, Warwick was the early shift Charlie's Chariot captain and John W. was the later shift driver, with Eileen the energetic photographer. Two groups seemingly arrived simultaneously; Warren, from House With No Steps with James, Kyle and Eddie, and



Michael and Rodney in Eli D.



Andrew and Thomas in Vin

Sailing Reports

Saturday, 27 February 2021 - A Special Saturday

This morning we experienced a very limited number of volunteers and sailing participants, perhaps due to confusion regarding Sailability's post-Pandemic operating schedule. We hope our numbers will soon return to normal as Covid safety precautions continue to relax.

Warwick took on the Sailing Coordinator duties and Eli assisted on the Pontoon, with help from Ragnhild and John. Ken was assigned to the radio, Helen served as the Registrar and Wilma helped with Life-jackets. With our strong group of Sailors - Jim, Maleea, Scott, Ivan, Michael, Ros and Helene - we managed to take Nola, Eileen, Matt, Cheryl, Bianca, Alex, Fiona, Arabella, Kieran and Trevor out into Manly Cove for our one and only Saturday sailing of the month.

Everyone stayed and continued to help on the deck or Pontoon after returning from their morning sail, thus setting up a social atmosphere for grooming a few extra volunteers for the future.

Alex and Scott in Ralph Newman



Ivan and Matt in Vin



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Visitors to Sailability Manly are always welcome! Just \$5 to try and if you'd like to purchase an annual membership, which includes unlimited sailing, it's only \$25! Register one day ahead with Eli to ensure your spot. Sailing begins from 9:30 am. Volunteers are expected to arrive by 8:30 am. Sailing Day Instruction videos are available on [www.manlysailability.com.au](http://www.manlysailability.com.au) which cover most of what we do.

Be sure to call for a weather update before heading to the MYC at (02) 9976 2747.

### Venue

**Manly Yacht Club**  
East Esplanade  
(end of Wood St)  
Downstairs dockside via  
accessible ramp.

### Parking

**Parking Permits are Available**  
Special arrangements will  
be made for mini-buses and  
wheelchair lift vans.

### What to Bring?

**Sailors and Volunteers**  
must bring a hat that stays  
on, bottled water and apply  
good sunscreen. Life jackets  
are provided.

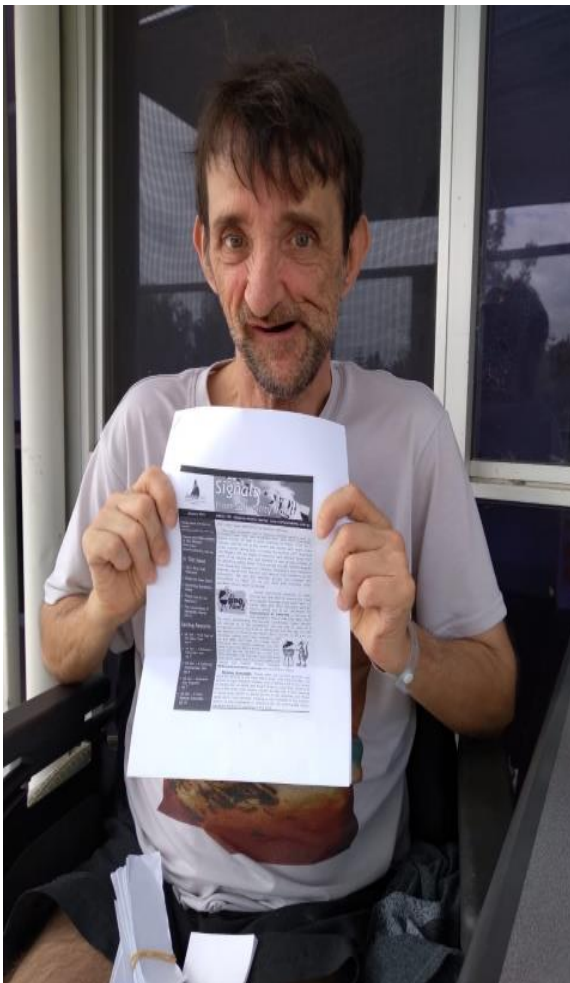


**Sailability Manly Trivia:** The answer to last month's January Sailability Trivia question, "**Where was Sailability Manly's original sailing area located?**" is... **In 1996 the inaugural sailing was divided between Milson's Point and Little Manly Cove. The boats were housed at Pittwater and transported by road.**

**February Sailability Manly Trivia Question:** Who is Charlie's Chariot named after and why?

## Member Correspondence

Tony Jones, Freshwater House - Sunnyfield



**Member Tony Jones enjoys reading *Signals* Newsletter**

At Sailability Manly we LOVE to receive correspondence from our members! Here is a special message we received from Tony Jones, who is currently in Mona Vale Hospital Rehabilitation Unit:

*"Hi everyone,*

*I miss going to Sailability and seeing you all.*

*I'm in Mona Vale Hospital Rehabilitation Unit. I want you to know that I want to be back there soon. I'm learning to drive a wheelchair.*

*I miss being on the radio and telling everyone what to do!*

*I'll be back when I can.*

*-Tony"*

**We miss you too, Tony, and look forward to seeing you back in Manly for a sail with us again very soon!**

*Correspondence, Articles and Feedback are welcome.  
Please send to:  
[signals@manlysailability.com.au](mailto:signals@manlysailability.com.au)*

