

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's been a big and exciting month at Manly Yacht Club! From our elegant 75th Anniversary Ball to Rules Night, the Skippers' Briefing, and the official kick-off of the new sailing season, there's been plenty to celebrate and look forward to. The clubhouse is buzzing, the pontoons are busy, and our sailing club is back in full swing.

75TH ANNIVERSARY BALL

What a night! 135 guests came together to celebrate 75 years of MYC. The evening raised \$14,000 and was a wonderful reminder of the friendships, teamwork, and spirit that make our club so special. A huge thank you to our Ball co-chairs and volunteers for making it such a success.



NEW SAILING SEASON

- The summer sailing season is officially underway! We had a fantastic turnout at the Skippers' Briefing and Rules Night, setting the tone for an exciting few months ahead.
- We're especially excited to host the ILCA Metropolitan Championships this season. To show our support and pride for our ILCA sailors, the club is funding MYC racing bibs for each competitor.
- Twilight racing is shaping up to be another highlight, with 36 series entries expected — it's going to be another cracking season on the harbour!

MEMBERSHIP & CLUB STRATEGY

Behind the scenes, our new Membership Director has drafted a strategy focused on improving our member offering, building engagement, and increasing the value of club membership. The goal is simple: make MYC an even more rewarding, vibrant, and welcoming community for all members.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- The 2030 MYC Strategy draft is complete and will soon go out for member feedback.
- Venue hire continues to perform strongly, bringing in income while keeping the clubhouse active and vibrant.
- New Members we've seen a huge uplift in members joining the club. Thank you to all the skippers who have been checking that their crew are active members.

With Twilight racing underway, ILCA and Open Skiff events coming up, and an enthusiastic membership base, we're set for a season full of energy, camaraderie, and fantastic sailing.

Lisa Callaghan - President



MANLY YACHT CLUB

CHRISTMAS PARTY SPECIAL
40% OFF VENUE HIRE FEE + FREE USE OF BBQ*

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD & ALCOHOL
*WEEKDAY HIRE 9AM TO 5PM, UP TO 40 GUESTS
VENUEHIRE@MYC.ORG.AU
VALID FOR NOV AND DEC 2025 BOOKINGS

WELCOME NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

ADULTS

Glen Roeder
Nathan Gobsill
Natasha Davis
Tanya Jones
Rohini Kuttysankaran Nair

JUNIORS

Oliver Jackson
Caleb Cash
Leo Bergefall
Timeo Gaignard
Joel Fragar
Charlie Price

RETURNING

Paul Immerglück



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

CLUB RACE OFFICER WANTED!



Manly Yacht Club is looking for an experienced and qualified Race Officer (with a boat licence) to join our Sunday racing team!

What it involves:

Yachts typically start from 12:30pm with either a scratch or allocated start. Oversee a dozen yachts racing around the AS marks, while also managing our ILCA 6 & 7 fleet, who sail two short races during the afternoon.

Yachts finish on the starboard side of the start boat.

When: Sundays (afternoons)

Where: Manly Yacht Club



Enjoy operating from our brand new, spacious start boat, custom-built for MYC — complete with a bathroom!

Why you'll love it:

- Join a community-focused club where passion for sailing comes first.
- Experience a competitive but friendly culture — safety is always our first priority.
- Be part of a volunteer team that is valued, adored, and politics-free.
- Lunch provided
- Sail, socialise, and share the best vibes on the water with fellow sailing enthusiasts.

If you're keen to volunteer and make a real impact on club racing, we'd love to hear from you! Email president@myc.org.au to join the MYC Race Crew.

COMBINED CLUBS INSHORE SERIES

RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/27/results/series/4857/races>

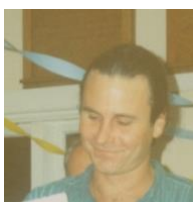


FIRST MARATHON RACE
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Part of your Summer Series Entry

Just want to do the Marathon?

Enter [here](#)

The year is 1989... who is this mysterious young man?



2

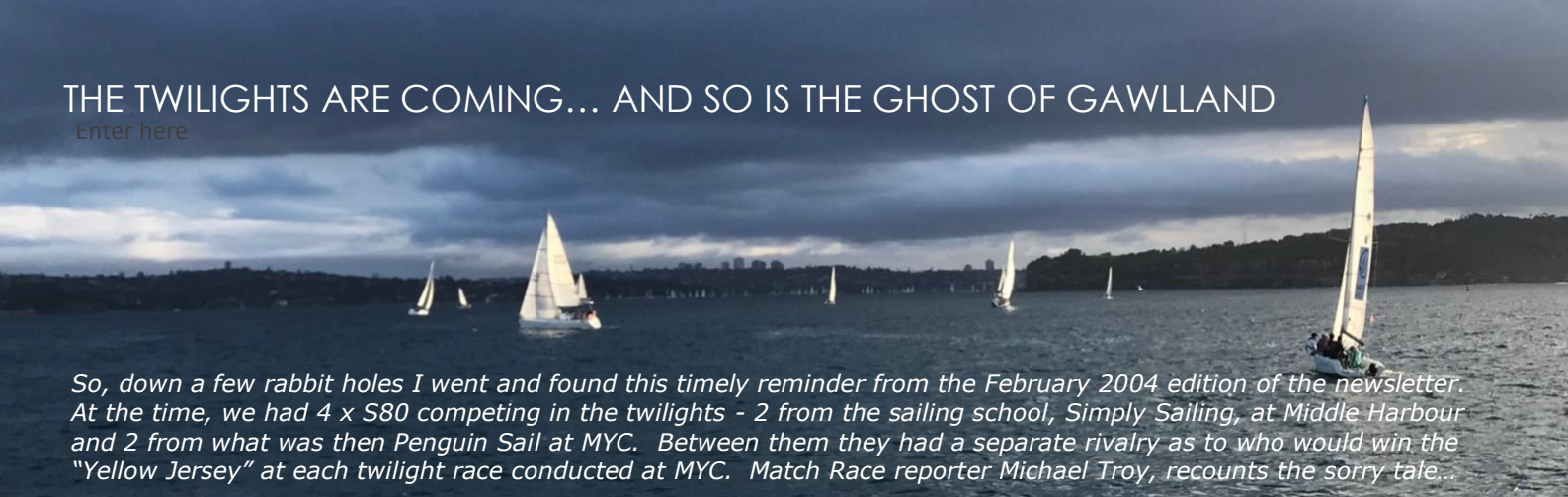


METROPOLITAN CHAMPIONSHIPS
14-15 MARCH 2026
HOSTED BY



THE TWILIGHTS ARE COMING... AND SO IS THE GHOST OF GAWLLAND

[Enter here](#)



So, down a few rabbit holes I went and found this timely reminder from the February 2004 edition of the newsletter. At the time, we had 4 x S80 competing in the twilights - 2 from the sailing school, Simply Sailing, at Middle Harbour and 2 from what was then Penguin Sail at MYC. Between them they had a separate rivalry as to who would win the "Yellow Jersey" at each twilight race conducted at MYC. Match Race reporter Michael Troy, recounts the sorry tale...

YELLOW JERSEY MATCH REPORT FRIDAY 23RD JAN 2004

Excess offends the ghost of Gowlland, sparking a wild thunder and lightning display during the most controversial round of the yellow jersey challenge yet.

Excess claimed line honours in both twilight competitions on Friday 23rd January with an excellent display of light wind sailing but failed to pay homage to the ghost that is marked by three cardinal markers off Dobroyd Head. Manly yachties know never to enter the "Bermuda Triangle" zone as the ghost of Gowlland will be raised. And indeed, he was as evident not long after the race with a massive thunderstorm.

It was in 1874 that Commander John T.E. Gowlland RN drowned while marking the Dobroyd Bombora. It is said he stood amidships on a calm day plotting the reef when the sea suddenly rose and tipped him and crew from their Butchers Boat. Despite being a strong swimmer, he never made it to shore.

Ever since that day Manly Yacht Club members do not venture into the area, more from fear than anything else, but unfortunately, it is also in the MYC rule book. So, while *Excess'* skipper cannot recall being north of the South Cardinal several other boats witnessed his course and cursed the bad luck it would bring. In MYC tradition (which no one really understands) a protest cannot be lodged but it is up to the skippers once challenged to repent, withdraw from the race and call to Gowlland for mercy.

Only by returning to the right side of the South cardinal and chanting this poem three times can *Excess* be excused and the ghost laid to rest.



*"Hail! Gowlland, man of Kent, our Navy's pride,
To famous mariners by birth allied,
Though who deep versed in geometric art,
Provid'st the seaman with his priceless chart
Wherein are seen, inscribed black and white,
The rocks and Sounding of each bay and bight."*

Ghosts aside a great night was had by all crews with some close racing and some surprising times. *Aida* started first, five minutes ahead of *Excess* and *Madama Butterfly* which went at 18 minutes past. *Choc Éclair* was still starting way back and was not seen for most of the night as the winds gave the tail Enders a distinct disadvantage.

Excess opened an early lead on the downwind run to Sow and Pigs, but *Madama Butterfly* closed in the beat back from Obelisk. The breeze filled in and it was at the south cardinal where *Excess* "cut the corner" gaining another minute or so on *Madama Butterfly* and throwing the result into doubt.

In Manly Cove *Excess* out pointed *Aida* to be the first of all yachts to finish in an elapsed time of 1:12:42. *Madama Butterfly* 2nd 1:15:22. *Choc* 3rd 1:17:30 and *Aida* 4th 1:18:43. Manly Yacht Club's quirky rules may have confused a few skippers, but as *Excess* was challenged at the post race barbie to admit to not sailing a proper course, but was not there to deny or agree, she was awarded a 9 minute penalty as the first boat home overall while Penguin Sail's *Aida*, which came in second, managed to score all the prizes and only get 6 minutes penalty.

After being stranded by the tender in North Harbour, one of the Manly crews finally managed to be picked up off their boat and enjoyed the hospitality of Simply Sailing's crew at the Skiffies. However, next social we will have to get there earlier so we can also enjoy the very tasty looking meal.

As far as who carries the yellow jersey into the next race?? The *Excess* crew of Mike, Gary, Tom, Barbara and Helen can only placate the ghost of Gowlland by handing the yellow jersey to *Madama Butterfly*. .OOOH! there's some controversy.

Until next week when the storms could be worse, all hail Gowlland, man of Kent!!!





PEPPER TREE WINES

WINE TASTING

FRIDAY 17 OCTOBER 2025

7:30PM

(Or as soon as the twilight fleet is
off the water)

All welcome,

even if you aren't racing



KIESER

PHYSIO | REHAB | STRENGTH

KIESER

PHYSIO | REHAB | STRENGTH

WILL YOU TAKE ON THE STRENGTH AND BALANCE
CHALLENGE DURING OUR TWILIGHT SEASON?

FIRST CHALLENGE:
FRIDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2025

KIESER

PHYSIO | REHAB | STRENGTH

Manly Yacht Club x Kieser Mosman

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- **A Training Environment that is Inclusive and Distraction Free:** Our bright, clean training floor has no mirrors or loud music.
- **Train Smarter, Not Longer:** Achieve quality results with two 30-minute sessions per week.

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We can't wait to
hear from you!



RESULTS: <https://laser-scores.myc.org.au/main>

Today was the first four heats of the Micro Regatta (sprints), two short laps scratch starts. Ian Saunders along with Lisa Callaghan (thanks heaps Lisa), ran the show.

The first race had 7 starters with me starting a few minutes late as I blew my backhaul out, heading to the start, and had to return to the club to correct the situation. Mind you Philip Reid fiddled with that part of the rigging before the launch, so I blame him.

Iain Cameron sailed very quick and managed to win most of the races with Geoff Gill and Phil Reid also crossing with 1st's.

Gordon Lacy picked up a participation award because apparently that's what happens these days.

Hart's Automotive Service is offering a voucher for the winner of each of the Micro Regatta days... 30% off batteries, or 25% off a car service in Brookie. Looks like Iain won the voucher on a countback from Phil Reid - congratulations.

Iain advanced this season in the Catering Cup with a spectacular spread of shish kebabs, sausages cooked on the BBQ with crackers and dips & chips. Heaps of beer on ice in the esky.

Thanks heaps to Ian, Lisa, Iain and the *Robbie R* crew for running our races.

Our three MYC/Aussie representatives are heading to Italy this week for the World Championships so wish them well.

Next week is Club Championship so all the quick people will be there.



Cameron Wall - Lasers
(from MYC Laser Group FB)



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THE CHAMPIONS CUP
www.nbsailsports.com.au

BATTLE OF THE SOUND
NORTHERN HARBOUR INTER-CLUB LASER REGATTA

13:00.23RD NOVEMBER 2025

5th Annual Northern Harbour Clubs Laser Dinghy Challenge.

2 Races for ILCA 7 & ILCA 6/4 Fleets.

2025 Host Club: MHASC

Scan for Entry, NOR & SI.

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- Northbridge Sailing Club
- Vaucluse Sailing Club
- Manly Yacht Club

5 PORTO LASER EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

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MYC CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS RACE 1 (CCSS1) - 21 SEP 2025

The morning started out as a westerly and switched through a few points on the compass making it difficult for the race committee to pick a course. Eventually Course 9 the alternate NE course was selected - meaning 2 digs to Taylors Bay. This was going to test the smaller boats, normally in a shorter division 2 course. All competitors, this season, are in division 1. It ended up being a long day for everyone - 2hrs 46min for the fastest around the course, being *Mondo* with *Khaleesi* less than a minute behind - they left the rest of the fleet in their trail coming first and second on handicap respectively. Well done *Stock Car* ... on the racecourse for 3 hrs 47min - hopefully you had enough supplies on board!



Mondo, Khaleesi, Esprit... heading for the top mark. Who will get there first?



Our favourite photographer [Marg Fraser-Martin](#) was on the water to capture all the action at the top mark, before following the ILCA fleet around.

Thank you *Ludicrous Mode*, Arthur as RO and Iain as ILCA rep who served on the race committee. With *Ludicrous Mode* scoring average points, I'm sure the crew will be pleased to see that after the first race, they are equal first with *Mondo*!

More images from Marg and Maz here :

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/2BwMd38SLLV4GAsy7>



PEPPER TREE WINES

CC results : <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/4908/races>



Then it was Kites up ...



It was also the first race for the Combined Clubs Sunday Series and we were joined by MHYC boats *Cool Running*, *Wailea* and *Nawi* helmed by Nick Ewald and Sue Rice, two-up. (Nick and Sue were Manly Yacht Club stalwarts from last century and early this century, sailing their Adams 12 *Firstlight* with the club. Welcome back!)

CCSS results :

<https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/27/results/series/4929/races>



... and away?



That's better!





On Sunday we held the first two heats of the Club Championship in what turned out at the last minute as a light competitive Nor Easter. With the Club Champ in Italy with Dave & Phil Eadie also away and Iain Cameron on the start boat it was a great opportunity to pick up some single figure results for the rest of us. Hoppo didn't muck around picking up a bullet in the first heat and a 2nd in the next heat. He decided on the big rig and is going to keep that setup for the season.



Sam Byron also scored a bullet in the 2nd heat which was fantastic and a 4th in the first heat. Gordon grabbed a couple of 3rds for himself. In the point score Hoppo managed to also win a heat with Sam picking up the other so a great day out for Sam & Hoppo.

Rounding off Hoppo's amazing Spring day he also had his challenge for the Catering Cup and put on Fish & Chips brought in from Manly Fish Market along with a variety of beverages. Next week we have the 4P heats with Shaun O'Reilly on duty and Geoff Gill on catering.

More sailing images from Marg Fraser-Martin [here](#)



The 4th race weekend was predicted to have a 19 knot SE change in the afternoon, but the change arrived in the morning and settled into a nice steady 10-14 knot SE by race time.

The first race was pursuit and hotly contested in the middle pack with half the fleet finishing in a 30 second grouping. Ian Saunders sailed well in both races and made good use of the yardstick to take home a double - well done. Gordon was first over the line and claimed the handicap, proving that he doesn't need any charity 4th place bottles.

At the end of the first race the start boat crew were a bit distracted by one of the yachts ending up too close to Fairlight beach, but the second race still set off in time. The wind had picked up a bit by then which suited Tim who had a great season debut taking the handicap.

Back on deck, Geoff Gill laid on burger patties with cheese melted on top and condiments, washed down with some Young Henry's craft beers from a well-stocked Esky to watch the sunset. A great day out on the harbour!

Following MYC Laser Group : <https://www.facebook.com/manly.lasers>



Harts voucher to Iain from the Day 1 of the Micro regatta



Burgers... yum!



Course 7 was the pick for the first race in the summer series - and a pretty good pick, too! Starting at Fairlight Beach, the boats went off in their allotted time slots - *San Toy* and *Ludicrous Mode* taking the starters prize jointly - before heading to Eastern Channel, Chowder Bay North, and Rose Bay where the last boats were finally catching up to the earlier starters with *Magician V* and *Cheap Thrills* in a battle of their own



On to Taylors Bay and then one last work to Shark Island, mixing it up with the SHWK yachts, before catching up to *Waterhound* on the long reach heading home to North Harbour. With a nine-minute start on *Mondo*, *San Toy* did well to hold her out at the "almost" photo finish - 3 seconds, to get the "hooter", whew!

On handicap, *San Toy* was first, with *Mondo* second and *Waterhound* third. Fastest around the course was *Mondo*. With only 24 second between 1st and 3rd, and less than 2 and half minutes for the first six boats it was any body's race and the handicapper should be congratulated.

Thank you *Absolut* Race Committee and Peppertree Wines.

Results here: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/4911/races>

More images here: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/tWr7wQQEatWr6KBU6>



All Female/ Female Helm

The Sydney Harbour Women's Keelboat Series was also held on this day with *Sirius* and *Kaotic* representing Manly Yacht Club.



Cath was a bit too keen at the start so had to go back!



CYCA
28th SEPTEMBER
2025



MHYC
19th OCTOBER
2025



RANSA
23rd NOVEMBER
2025



SASC
18th JANUARY
2026



BSC
1st FEBRUARY
2026



RSYS
22nd FEBRUARY
2026



MYC
22nd MARCH
2026

[RESULTS](#)

[NEXT RACE](#)

SHWKS images by Marg-Fraser-Martin. More [here](#)



SUMMER SERIES RACE 1...

FROM OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER REPORTER SCOTT BREAKWELL,
AND THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF LUDICROUS MODE

Image Colin Cameron

I don't even know where to start...

I mean seriously it just doesn't get any worse ...

Summer Series Race One! The crowds gathered early to see *Ludicrous Mode* proudly hit the racetrack after a recent antifouling and rigging check. And wow what a sight! The boat looked sharp and the crew looked splendid - Jimmy, Rich, Daf, Peter and I were fired up and ready for glory!

If only we knew the disaster that lay ahead ...

As we prepared for action, conditions were perfect. Blue skies and a 10-15 knot southerly were right in our wheelhouse. We hit the start line at pace, timed to such perfection that we even won the starters prize (to be fair

we tied with *San Toy* and they kindly let us have it after a tough day) but it was clear we were running hot! With the bottle of sticky secured, we snapped into race mode. Course 7 is a beast, crisscrossing the southern end of the harbour and rounding Shark Island before heading back to Manly.

I don't even want to talk about the race because it actually went pretty well. I mean honestly it was quite good! We rounded Shark Island for the final leg home, and with the southerly building it was a perfect opportunity for our secret weapon - the kite!

The hoist was sharp, (although my hurried kite packing produced a wine glass that took a while to unwind... woops) and with a brand-new fractional kite halyard installed a couple of weeks ago, we felt in more control than usual. Something wasn't quite right as it was a bit difficult to hoist fully, but we managed to get it set and explode down the harbour at speed.

Within seconds we were absolutely flying, embarrassing the Manly Fast Ferry as the breeze hurtled us forward.

And before we knew it, we'd crossed the finish line! Wow! We were definitely potential podium material, but not sure. Maybe second or third? Dunno? We'd find out later back at the club.

Meanwhile, the kite was still flying - and we needed a quick drop as we were headed straight for Fairlight beach. As the rocks loomed we tried to drop the kite, then soon realised we couldn't get the bloody thing down. Oh no... surely we could release the halyard! Nope, it was absolutely stuck, immovable and f****k!

A quick start of the engine lasted ten seconds as a kite sheet got itself wrapped around the propeller, killing all power. A desperate hoist of the headsail was too late, and with the southerly showing no remorse ... bang! We had hit the reef.



Continued next page ...

SUMMER SERIES RACE 1...

FROM OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER REPORTER SCOTT BREAKWELL,
AND THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF LUDICROUS MODE

...continued from previous page

For the hundreds of onlookers at Fairlight this was quite a spectacle, but for the crew it was a total nightmare. The boat lurched from side to side, washing past the pool and towards the beach in seconds. There was no option to sail off as this would have seen us sail straight into Fairlight Pool. Thankfully *Robbie R* came to our rescue and attempted to pull us off backwards. But they didn't have the power, and the skiff club launch soon joined the fight.

With two boats pulling us off the reef and with the kite flying wildly behind the boat, the crowds on the headland could only stand and cheer... "we love you Ludicrous Mode!" It was quite humbling to see the fans so supportive. Their uncontrollable laughter was a little concerning, but whatever.



Towed back to the mooring in shame, we pondered how to get the bloody kite down which was still stuck and flying wildly behind the boat.

It soon became apparent that we need to buy a bosuns chair (I'm buying one tomorrow) and thankfully *Sirius* lent us theirs.

Jimmy - as the lightest and least keen - was chosen for the job. We strapped him up and started hoisting, but ropes started fraying and it was all looking a little life threatening. A quick phone call to Westie the Rigger and he assured me there was plenty of strength in the rope core, don't worry about the frayed cover! Jimmy had understandably decided not to risk dying but Westie had convinced me I'd be ok, so I was soon up the mast myself. It seemed to be going fine and I was soon standing on the second set of spreaders, then.. crack!

Something happened with the winch, or the halyard, not sure .. but it wasn't sounding good. I was clearly too heavy, and they lowered me down, right in time for heroic Lisa to come to our



rescue by offering to go up the mast herself! What a legend! She was up in a jiffy and released the kite. The halyard was still stuck up there but at least the kite was down!

We packed up, mortified, traumatised and exhausted, then headed back to terra firma. The entire yacht club was waiting for our arrival. Great! We went straight to the bar, watched the presentation (in which we featured heavily) and waited for the results. We came 5th... Bugger!... no podium today but still a reasonable result. We then headed to the skiff club for a debrief. Our wives had booked a table for dinner and the shaken crew arrived, ashen faced with a hell of a story to tell.

It had been a day they would never forget. We polished off a few beers and headed home to process everything. I think it will honestly take days.

Lessons learnt... always hoist the headsail before a kite drop, even if the race is over. Check for loose sheets before starting the engine. And make sure the rigging is in good shape.

We are off to the boat doctors to have the standing rigging replaced, the carbon mast repainted, the keel checked, the running rigging replaced, and so on and so on. But we'll be back asap... this is not over!

Till next time 🍷

THANK YOU

Manly 16ft Skiff Sailing Club for the rescue
and tow



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2025 MANLY CUP 29 -30 November 2025

Looking forward to seeing you on 29-30 NOVEMBER for some fierce competition and a lot of fun!

The Regatta is a youth event for O'pen Skiff Sailors up to 17 years old and for ILCA sailors up to 21 years old.

The regatta is open to boats complying with the current O'pen Skiff class and International Laser Class Association (ILCA) rules for ILCA 4 (4.7) and ILCA 6 (Radial) rigs.

The regatta will include four fleets: O'pen Skiff (Gold), O'pen Skiff (Silver), ILCA 4 & ILCA 6. O'pen Skiff (Green Fleet) will run independently of the main regatta.

Our traditional Christmas dress up theme fun race (with prizes for best dressed) will occur on Sunday 30TH NOVEMBER.

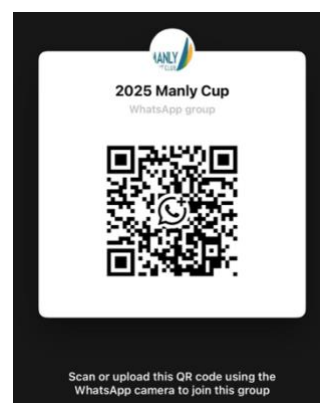
See Notice of Race here : <https://openskiff.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/2025-Manly-Cup-NOR-01-10-2025.pdf>

Don't miss out on the early bird offer. Enter here :

<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/myc/events/306215>

Open Skiff class boats will be available for charter and can be booked online here: <https://square.link/u/pljfsuuu>

Use the QR Code for the Manly Cup WhatsApp group to stay informed.





Post weigh-in breakfast

The J24 World Championships were held in Plymouth from September 5th to 14th. There were fifty competitors from all over the world and a strong Australian presence with four teams... *Innaminka* from MHC; *Ace* from MHC; *Tinto* from Cronulla and *Jab* from Melbourne. I was on team *Innaminka* with John Crawford, an old hand at J24 World Championships; Will Hough from Manly, competing in his second world championship; Taylah Prime-Harris, who has been sailing for just 18 months on *Oka*, *Sirius* and *Gambler*; Peta Rose from NYC and part of *Kanreki's* offshore crew.

We all met on the 5th and had a very modest dinner. On the 6th we were keen to weigh in asap and then have a huge breakfast; I don't know where young Will puts all that food. Our last weigh-in in Australia had suggested we would only just make the 400kg limit, but we had 15kg to spare. One Australian boat only made it with 100gms to spare!

On the 7th we went out for training which we cut short, we didn't want to break the boat or the crew in big seas and strong winds. On the 8th we had a practice race which consisted of a lot of general recalls under black flag and finally all the Australian boats were out due to breaking the line. At least we got it out of our system.

The plan was two windward leeward races every day for five days. They did manage to get nine of the ten races completed. There were two race areas, one inside the sea wall and one outside. Unfortunately, the slightly calmer area inside the sea wall was largely unavailable due to ship movements.

Conditions were tough, there was a 3 to 4 metre swell and 20 to 30 knots of wind for most races with gusts up to 37 knots. Weather was extremely variable, starting out in the morning in lovely sunshine, then being hit by high wind, freezing wet squalls and thunderous dark clouds to finish under rainbows.

I think we had "normal" conditions for one race where we got to use the genoa, rather than the Jib. Someone might have commented that we had come a long way to sail in Melbourne.

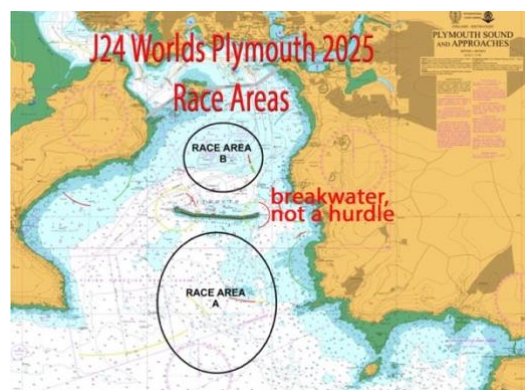
At times it was mayhem with boats going everywhere and people in the water. One boat recorded a boat speed of 14.9 knots. We did our share of broaches. Taylah, who is new to sailing, took it all in her stride and kept smiling and functioning.

I was very surprised at how quiet and polite the start line was compared to start lines I have experienced here. Only one time when a boat took a whole group of boats to the wrong side of the start boat was there enthusiastic technical banter.

Head Case from Ireland won, *Bangor Packet* from the USA came second, and *Gekko* from Japan got third. Amongst the Australian teams:- *Jab* got 27th, *Innaminka* got 31st, *Ace* 38th and *Tinto* got 40th.

There were two youth teams and only two female teams. The British female team were from Saltash. *Saltash* is about one hour up the river from Plymouth (by ferry) and they admitted to not having sailed much at sea but were thoroughly enjoying the challenge. The German female team were excellent; won the female cup and came 26th with a strong start with a 12th in race two.

There was a social night at Saltash. We were taken there by ferry at sunset and brought back after. It was made very clear that we were now in Cornwall, not Devon and only reluctantly still in England. A great band; Cornish pasties; a backdrop of the Royal Albert Bridge (designed by Mr [Isambard Kingdom Brunel](#)); and a harvest moon made it a fun night - the Australians definitely leading on the dance floor.



We are already planning for the World championships in Melbourne, sponsored by [Epigen](#), in November 2026. Cath Rofe will be skippering *Kaotic* with a female team. Will Hough will be skippering a junior team and helping to train a Manly female, junior team. The National qualifying races are in January, so training starts now, with the first big test being the States on the 1st of November. It would be great to get three Manly teams in the Worlds for 2026.

We are starting to form two solid junior teams but if you know a junior who might like to try a J24 for fun or for serious competition, please get in touch.

To summarise, I learnt heaps, had fun and survived.

Lyn Humphreys



In the last issue of Signals Eli provided background to the origins and naming of Vin and Black Swan and in this issue she outlines the origin of the name of Woody, one of our older Hansa 303's.

What's in a Name? by Eli Demeny

Woody

Woody, with sail no. 833, is the second oldest boat in our fleet, only preceded by *Dolly Wallis* with sail no. 735. *Woody* was donated to Sailability Manly in February 2003 by the kind-hearted then President of Manly Yacht Club, Keith Woodward – hence the name *Woody*!

Keith joined Manly Yacht Club in 1996, became a Director soon after, and was President of Manly Yacht Club between 2002 and 2006, becoming a life member in 2016. He was a great supporter of Manly Sailability and "...would often get a thrill when I saw *Woody* with the blue sails being sailed by a Sailability sailor".

During his time with Manly Yacht Club Keith was the driving force in the development of the club, upgrading the kitchen facilities, the storage area and, most importantly for us, arranging for the disabled toilet to be built on the ground floor. His major achievement however was the delivery of the pontoon and rigging deck - obtaining grants and working with a team of volunteers to build the pontoon and deck over a two-year period.

Woody began life with dark blue sails matching the hull colour, however the current pink sails were donated by the Invictus Games organisers when the games were held in Sydney in 2018, and *Woody* was one of the entrants in the games.

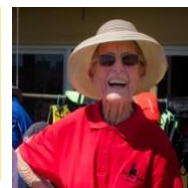
The Hansa 303 is a one-design boat, so all hulls, sails and gear are essentially identical, and the success of any boat when racing essentially comes down to the skill of the skipper and crew.



We are all aware that *Woody* is "Denis' boat" possibly because he joined Manly Sailability at about the same time as *Woody* was donated. As one of our most skilful sailors, Denis has many successes with *Woody*, winning the Australia Day Regattas every year from 2014 to 2020, and always with the same team of Denis as skipper, and Ivan as crew.



It is with great sadness we note the passing of Helen Hendry, our long-time volunteer at Manly Sailability. Helen was an integral part of Manly Sailability for over 20 years, as well as being active with a number of other volunteer organisations. She will be greatly missed, and our sympathy and thoughts are with Helen's family and friends.



A NEW BOAT FOR OUR FLEET

As many of you may be aware we plan to take delivery of a new Hansa 303 in October which will have a yellow hull and sails, and the Committee has been charged with the task of selecting a name for the new boat. With the sad passing of Helen all members of the committee unanimously agreed that the new boat will be called Helen Hendry in recognition of Helen's long service to Manly Sailability.

Helen joined Manly Sailability over 20 years ago and established herself as a very dedicated volunteer, taking over roles such as Support Boat Driver, Registrar, Membership Secretary, bi-monthly reporting to Sailability NSW, publicity gatherings for Sailability Manly, Chef for Saturday Barbecues, and many other duties.

We hope to recognise Helen by naming the new boat in her honour and plan to have an official launching ceremony for the new boat in the near future.

CONTINUING A LOOKING BACK OVER OUR 75 YEARS

(After our recent 75th Anniversary Dinner Life Member and former Historian of the club, Brian Wilson reflects on the women of Manly yacht Club, who should be celebrated).



My memory is very poor now and in addition I am out of touch with the current state of affairs at the Club (*good thing as Historian, you documented some of the history of "WOMEN IN MYC" in 2006 which I have included here...Ed*)

Jenny and I sailed from the UK to Australia via Cape Town on the Castel Felice, an ex 1920's Mediterranean cruise liner and WW11 troop ship. As we sailed through the Heads into Sydney Harbour on the morning of St. Valentine's Day in 1969 I thought this would be a great place to take up sailing. The Harbour was bathed in sunshine, the shape of the Opera House was visible through a mass of scaffolding and we thought this would be a suitable place to stay.

My new job was at the State Planning Authority of NSW and my boss went sailing on Wednesday afternoons at Middle Harbour Yacht Club. I had told him that I was keen to take up sailing, so every now and again, an important cabinet meeting would be held on a Wednesday afternoon and he would ask me to go in his place. Imagine that! Being told to go sailing whilst still being paid! The yacht that I sailed on was called *Aphrodite*. Neil Wilson an MYC member bought her many years later and I think she sailed at MYC on occasion.

Through Wednesday afternoon sailing, I became involved with the MHYC half ton fleet which was very active at the time. I sailed on *Granny Smith*; she was green. Offshore and overnight races were common. After each race the crews (all men) would congregate on the upper floor in the bar for a few beers. Wives, girlfriends and children (we had two daughters by then) would sit or play on the beach and accept cans of soft drink that were thrown down from the balcony. Women were not allowed in the bar. Jenny put up with this on two occasions before she spat the dummy.

So, I bought a little catamaran and sailed off the beach at Manly Yacht Club. I was in the company of Stingrays, Paper Tigers, Manly Graduates and Manly Juniors. MYC at the time was located between the existing boat clubs on the east side of Manly Cove and the beach. Manly Yacht Club was an old timber shed on two levels. The upper level contained the club room which was slightly larger than the present one and the lower one was boat storage. The great storm of 1974 shifted the clubhouse on its piers but did not destroy it completely. It did, however, strengthen the arguments for the Club to move into the old brick Swimming Bath Building which had become available. Once the deal to move into the Baths Building had been finalized the Club was obliged to demolish the old Clubhouse. Club members carried out the demolition.

Over the years, women have become increasingly involved with Manly Yacht Club. In the early days of skiff sailing, there were no women sailors and the female role was one of "Ladies Auxiliaries", where the social planning and catering was performed by wives, mothers, and daughters of the skiff sailors. As with any club at the time, this was an essential part of the management of the club, but the women were missing out on the sheer delight of sailing.

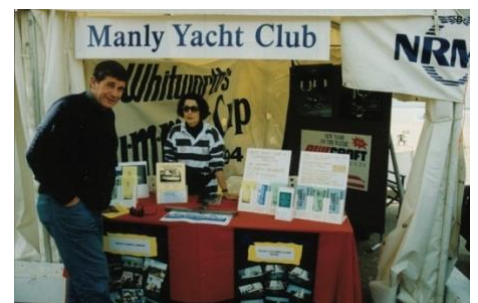
During the late 60's and early 70's, families started to move into MYC, and wives and daughters began to learn skiff sailing in the MG's, the MJ's, and the catamarans. Of course, they still continued to do the catering for the "après sailing" activities, fund raising, etc. Some of the girl skippers in the MJ's started to make their presence felt in the State and National competitions... Janet Thomson (now Syme), Suzy Ebeling, Lee Ebeling (won the MG States at 17 and 15 respectively with brother Grieg), Vanessa Dudley (now a well-known sailing journalist and 25 time Sydney-Hobart competitor).



1960 "Ladies Auxiliary"

Some of the wives became forward hands on the MGs with some funny consequences - quite a few "domestics" of course - David and Patsy Holmes had an important social engagement one Saturday afternoon for which Patsy had had a very special hairdo and wore a shower cap; although it was a very windy morning, David was never forgiven for the two capsizes which destroyed Patsy's coiffure.

Some of the girls (now women) sailing at this time were the Quinlan girls, Lee (now competing in J24s in various Worlds) and Suzy Ebeling, Janet Thomson (also competing in many J24 regattas), Kate Mellowes, Katie Holmes, Sally Mingay, Meg Girling, Kylie and Sally Hitchman, Helen Ebeling, Patsy Holmes, Kathy Brown (apologies for those I've left out).



Continued on next page...

CONTINUING A LOOKING BACK OVER OUR 75 YEARS ...continued

In the early 2000's Alex McDonald, Alice and Nicole Donaldson, and Philippa and Annabelle Mott were prominent in the MJ class. Mothers of our junior sailors joined the ranks on the water in sailing and coaching roles. Prominent women of the time were Relle Mott, Pam Davis, Ivana McAlpine, Sorrell Lambie, Jules Lawson, Helen Ebeling among others.

The State Flying 11 Association used to conduct an annual Team's Race. In the late 1970's Manly put together a team of all female skippers (five boats) which was held on Pittwater. By means of some clever sailing, and appreciation of the subtleties of team racing, the girls won, and strangely the event has not been conducted since.



Sometime later when I was President, the Sydney Amateur Yacht Club (SASC) hosted their annual flag officers' dinner for the all the presidents and commodores (and their wives) of other yacht clubs in Sydney Harbour. Maz fronted up as the Commodore from Manly (looking stunning) and surprised most, as she was the only female commodore in the room.

 Solings became very popular at Manly as the 2000 Sydney Olympics approached. Pam Davis and Sue Pocock sailed one with one another woman who failed to appear at the start one race day. They co-opted me as an honorary woman for the day to join the crew. We started off on the opposite tack from the rest of the fleet and benefited from a massive wind shift and were still leading on the last down-wind run to the finish. But we were sailing by the lea and the fleet were catching up fast, the situation called for a jibe, but Sue declared that she was not going to jibe that F----g spinnaker for anyone. To our surprise, we managed to win by the thickness of a coat of paint.



Lindy Hardcastle and Ivana McAlpine on Toy Boy III

Ivana McAlpine, the driving force behind the Women's Challenge raced her soling "Toy Boy III". (*FUN FACT: the MYC Mini Regatta started out as the Soling TOTO Cup - a trophy giving to the club by Ivana in honour of her father ... Ed*).

And, then there were the Lime Tarts (Liz Troy, Kate Pinnock, Maggee Twiddel and Relle Mott) who embarked on a serious training campaign taking on 3 others S80 in the 2003 Women's Challenge. (*Even got a mention in the Manly Daily!...Ed*)



SAILING SISTERS: Lime Tarts racing team Liz Troy (left), Kate Pinnock, Maggee Twiddel, and Relle Mott.



Liz Stubs sailed to Hobart in the 1995 race on my yacht EOS, having just found out that she was

pregnant. I was the only one who knew and the information that I received was that she would be OK. However, she was sick virtually the whole race and the crew thought she was seasick. She contacted me a couple of years later after she had been pregnant again and confessed she had been just as sick on dry land as she had been on EOS. Therefore, she had never been seasick.

In my time at the club, many women were, and still are, involved not only in sailing but also in the management of the club, for instance our Commodore, Maz Theaker, Pam Davis (skipper, race management, newsletter, board member), Ivana McAlpine, (skipper, race management, Women's Challenge, board member), Christabel

Casimir (Hon. Sec.), Margaret Lucas (Madam Shop and Newsletter Editor), Sorrell Lambie, Relle Mott, Helen Ebeling, Helen Scott, Jules Lawson, Eli Demeny (Sailability), Judy Richardson and Mary Peacock, (Race Starters/Finishers), Sue Rothquel (early membership), Jill Madden, Jennie Wilson, Judy Cole, Anne Cotton, Elisabeth Dalton (Sailability).

Today, MYC is still extremely well represented by women - Lisa Callahan, the President is a yacht owning Hobart veteran. Maz Radford is a powerhouse at the club and she has been sailing for years. I remember fondly two other women, Margo and Christabel, were prominent in club management. I have been out of touch with the membership of the club for quite some time, but I am sure there are many other women who are prominent club members. My knowledge of these others needs to be updated. Maybe someone else could do that. (*The MYC Board currently consists of 7 members; 4 of which are female - President Lisa Callaghan, Vice President Maz Radford, Vice Commodore Catherine Thornton-Rofe and Membership Director Sarah Richardson ... Ed*)

In my opinion MYC is and has been at the forefront of gender equality and is a much better club because of it.

Brian Wilson

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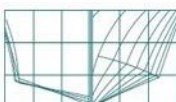
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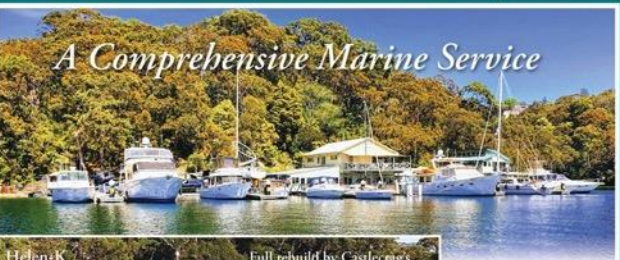


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Single Vineyard Stone Mountain Riesling	Orange	2023	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
Limited Release 'B17' Pinot Gris	Wrattonbully	2024	\$30.00	\$25.50		\$306.00		
Single Vineyard 'Venus Block' Chardonnay	Orange	2022	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
Limited Release Pinot Rosé	Wrattonbully	2023	\$30.00	\$25.50		\$306.00		
Limited Release 'Venator' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2022	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
Alt Series Barbera	Wrattonbully	2022	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
Limited Release Cabernet Sauvignon	Coonawarra	2021	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
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Platinum Range						12 Pack		
'Coquun' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2014	\$130.00	\$110.50		\$1,326.00		
'Coquun' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2018	\$90.00	\$76.50		\$918.00		
'Tallawanta' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2014	\$155.00	\$131.75		\$1,581.00		
'PJP' Cabernet Sauvignon	Wrattonbully	2016	\$175.00	\$148.75		\$1,785.00		
Single Vineyard Range						12 Pack		
'Venus Block' Chardonnay	Orange	2022	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'Stone Mountain' Riesling	Orange	2023	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'8R' Merlot	Wrattonbully	2018	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'The Gravels' Shiraz	Wrattonbully	2021	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'Tallavera' Shiraz	Hunter Valley	2018	\$60.00	\$51.00		\$612.00		
'Elderslee Road' Cabernet Sauvignon	Wrattonbully	2018	\$50.00	\$42.50		\$510.00		
'Rock Knob' Cabernet Sauvignon	Wrattonbully	2019	\$60.00	\$51.00		\$612.00		
'Block 21A' Cabernet Sauvignon	Wrattonbully	2021	\$60.00	\$51.00		\$612.00		
Limited Release Range						12 Pack		
'Home Block' Verdelho	Hunter Valley	2024	\$30.00	\$25.50		\$306.00		
Venator Semillon	Hunter Valley	2021	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
Venator Chardonnay	Hunter Valley	2024	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
4 Clones Chardonnay	Orange	2023	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
Alt Series Fiano	Wrattonbully	2023	\$30.00	\$25.50		\$306.00		
Pinot	Orange	2019	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
Caberbernet	Wrattonbully	2019	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$357.00		
'The Pebbles' Shiraz Viognier	Wrattonbully	2019	\$35.00	\$29.75		\$29.75		
Dessert & Fortified Wine						12 Pack		
Vin de Vie	Fortified	N/V	\$80.00	\$68.00		\$816.00		
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