

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

What a way to start the year at Manly Yacht Club!

In January we had the absolute privilege of hosting the **2026 National Open Skiff Championships**, and I can say without hesitation: this was a regatta to be proud of. To every competitor — thank you for bringing your energy, talent and sportsmanship to our waters. Watching these boats launch each day, seeing the confidence, skill and pure joy on display, was a powerful reminder that the future of sailing is in very good hands.



This event also came at a particularly special time for our Club. In

2026, Manly Yacht Club celebrates **75 years of sailing in Manly Cove**. Seventy-five years of races, friendships, wins, losses, lessons learned, and memories made. One of the great joys of being President is meeting members who say, often quite casually, "I learnt to sail at Manly". That pride says everything about what this Club has stood for — and continues to stand for.

A championship of this scale simply doesn't happen without an extraordinary volunteer effort. I want to sincerely thank our Race Directors, **Bevan McKavanagh** and **Michael Gallagher**; Junior Sailing Director **Bruce Davis**; Race Officer **Steve Tucker**; the Race Organising Committee, **Gavin Reed** and **Johanna Bergqvist**; photographer **Marg Fraser-Martin**; and the 30-plus volunteers who supported race management, safety, catering, administration, and logistics. And to the parents — your time, commitment and endless support are the backbone of junior sailing. We are in awe of you.

At our recent **Board Meeting**, the Board reflected on a very strong operational period. Highlights included the successful delivery of the Open Skiff Nationals, our highest membership, increasing forward venue bookings for 2026 and 2027, and progress on wharf repairs, which will be completed this winter.

Strategically, the **MYC 5-Year Strategy** is complete and will be voted on at the next board meeting. Revenue initiatives remain on track, while participation growth remains a focus area. Policy development continues across risk management, Club-owned ILCA usage, and volunteer recognition.

From an operations perspective, we are seeing encouraging momentum in venue hire from school and corporate bookings. We are slightly ahead of budget; key financial reporting enhancements have been agreed; and work is underway to draft the budget for the next financial year.

None of this happens without the dedication of our volunteers, staff, committees and Board — thank you all. I am really proud of where Manly Yacht Club stands today; excited about what's ahead; and grateful to everyone who continues to make this Club such a special place.

BIG EVENTS COMING UP:

- ILCA Metros - 14/15 March
- Helly Hansen Women's Challenge - 21 /22 March
- Easter Manly to Pittwater Race - April 3rd



Lisa Callaghan - President



COMMODORE'S REPORT

It's been a while since my last report in the newsletter. A lot has happened, and a lot more is coming up. We are more than halfway through our sailing season and have lots of sailing still to do. In my opinion, February through to May is the nicest time of year to sail. AND, we still have 5 more twilight races to go. Here are some of the events coming up...



This is the biggest sailing event on Sydney Harbour all year. All of the main yacht clubs support this event including MYC who have been a part of it for 21 years.

We will be providing a race committee and a Ppn boat to support this regatta. So, no MYC club racing that weekend. I encourage you to enter there as there are 180 keelboats across 17 divisions over 7 course areas, throughout Sydney Harbour as well as offshore, near Sydney Heads.

There is something for everyone... even the race committee duty!

Notice of race is here:

<https://www.shr.mhyc.com.au/racing/notice-of-race.html>

Entry can be found here:

<https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/152/profile?tab=entry>



10 MARCH SKIPPER'S MEETING



It is that time of year when the Sailing Committee starts considering next year's sailing program.

Being a community sailing club, it is the members who should drive this process. Therefore, there will be a **SKIPPER'S MEETING ON THE 16TH FEB STARTING AT 6:30PM** where you will have the opportunity to tell the Sailing Committee what you think and what you want.

This is critical input to next season's sailing agenda. It may say skippers meeting, but ALL MEMBERS are welcome to come.

The club will even buy you a free drink to help lubricate the discussion.



14 & 15 MARCH



Manly Yacht Club will be hosting the ILCA Metros. It is expected that there will be 80 to 100 ILCAs racing on this 2-day event, so, no MYC club racing on the weekend.

You thought 80 juniors on the water was hectic!!!



21-22 MARCH



This is the 31ST year of the Manly Yacht Club Helly Hansen Women's Challenge (HHWC). Hansa 303s, Open Skiffs and ILCAs compete on Saturday with yachts on Sunday. Sunday is usually MYC's busiest day of the year with fierce competition between the yachts, and a great party back at the club afterwards.

There are divisions for All female crews and mixed crews with a Female Helm, so, time to start training your female crew and skippers if you haven't already.

Entries will open shortly

More Information can be found here:

<https://www.myc.org.au/race-series/womens-challenge/>



3 APRIL GOOD FRIDAY PITWATER OFFSHORE RACE

This is a RACE – PARTY event. RMYC host us and they look after us brilliantly. And you find yourself in stunning Pittwater and the Hawksbury River where you can cruise around for the rest of the long weekend.

Last year we had 13 Yachts participate with well over 100 people at the party.



The NOR will be published shortly and the entry form soon after. Be aware that this requires a CAT 4 Audit Certificate so start preparing.

COMMODORE'S REPORT

UPCOMING CHANGES TO MYC SAFETY DECLARATION

In December 2024 there was a terrible accident on Sydney Harbour in a twilight race (not a MYC Twilight race) where a competitor was killed. Subsequence to that, Australian Sailing (AS) held an inquiry.

One of the issues highlighted in the report was the trouble emergency services had in identifying the actual location of the accident. Not easy to say where you are when there is no address or nearest cross street when you are in the middle of the harbour. A Latitude and Longitude would be accurate but not all boats in a twilight race would have the equipment or the skillset on board to derive this information so that it can be passed on.



But there is a very useful app called Emergency+ app which can be downloaded from both Google and Apple stores.

Whilst it does show Lat and Long, it also shows something called "What 3 Words" which is system which can identify any location on earth to within 3 metres. For example "Currently I am at ///famous.verge.reach". That's easier to say than a Lat and Long especially in a stressful situation. By providing a "What 3 Words" location

to Emergency Services they will know EXACTLY where you are and so respond quickly.

I suggest everyone download and install this App, but it will become a mandatory requirement for all skippers to have this App installed on their phones and declare so on the form.

Stephen Teudt - Commodore



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF OUR CLUB

LOVE MANLY YACHT CLUB?

- Join the Membership Committee and make a difference!
- Help grow and strengthen our club community.
- Contribute your skills to the future of our yacht club.
- Be part of the crew behind the scenes.

Contact Sarah: membership@myc.org.au

DO YOU HAVE HANDYMAN SKILLS?

If you have any handyman skills, the Club Committee would love to hear from you. We are building up a list of people we can call upon occasionally to:

- Nail a few planks back on the rigging deck from time to time
- Put a lick of paint on a pile or two
- Repair some concrete chipping
- Help on working bees

Contact Bruce: clubcaptain@myc.org.au

BE AMONGST IT!

Along with our regular racing program and duty boat allocation MYC also has a need to support major regattas. We need race officers, scribes, timekeepers, boat drivers, mark layers and observers to make these regattas happen. It's a great way to "be amongst it" if you aren't participating in the racing yourself.

Specifically, the Sydney Harbour Regatta and the ILCA Metros, both in March, will require some assistance.

WHY NOT VOLUNTEER OR UPSKILL NOW?

Contact Stephen: commodore@myc.org.au or
Peter: duty.roster@myc.org.au

TEARS AND CHEERS



VALE ROBERT DAY 1964-2025

*A lovely tribute to a best friend by
Stephen Teudt.*

Mainly known as Bob or Bobby or
sometimes Bobby Dazzler. Bob
passed in January aged 61.

He part owned *Ten Sixty*, now renamed in his honour as
DayDreamin'. A lovely gesture.

He was a regular crew on *Mondo* for both inshore and
offshore racing including Sydney to Hobart.

He was my dear friend and everyone's dear friend as well.
He was the nicest bloke, lending a hand whenever you
needed it; provided a shoulder to cry on if needed; and
had a wicked sense of humour.

He used to set verbal traps for me all the time and I
always walked into them. I spent days trying to think of
ways to do the same to him but without much success. He
was the master at it.

One of our last conversations was when he rang me to ask
if *Mondo* would scatter his ashes. "Yes, of course Bob" I
said. Then I asked the obvious question. Where would
you like *Mondo* to scatter them...in the harbour or offshore?
There was a small pause in the conversation whilst Bob
considered this proposition. He came back with "Yeah, off
the North Head sewerage works would be good". Even at
the end his humour continued to shine.

I will miss you Bob.

And, so will everyone else who knew him.



Our favourite head
coach, Johanna, has
just had a name
change.

Congratulations
Mrs Wilmot!



Congratulations

KATHERINE BENNELL-PEGG
AUSTRALIAN OF THE YEAR
2026



Our Peter Bennell, often RO on
Sundays is a very proud father.

His daughter Astronaut Katherine
Bennell-Pegg has been named 2026
Australian of the Year.

<https://australianoftheyear.org.au/recipients/katherine-bennell-pegg>



2026 AUS O'PEN SKIFF CHAMPS

19-24 JANUARY 2026



With the O'pen Skiff World Championships scheduled for early next year, The Kitchen Maker 2026 Australian O'pen Skiff Championships, presented by VAIKOBI, were always shaping up to be a major event. Held on Sydney Harbour out of Manly Yacht Club, the regatta lived up to expectations, attracting 83 sailors across three fleets and delivering a week of high-quality racing and development.

Competitors travelled from across Australia, including Western Australia, North Queensland, Victoria, and Christmas Island, with additional representation from New Zealand. Adding further depth to the fleet, several top-ranked Optimist sailors stepped into the O'pen Skiff class for the first time at national level and performed strongly.

READ MORE HERE: <https://www.sail-world.com/news/293270/2026-Australian-Open-Skiff-Championships-overall>

Thank you, [Marg Fraser-Martin](#) you captured the action brilliantly throughout the Regatta, and to our sponsors The Kitchen Maker and Vaikobi.



MORE
IMAGES
HERE





2026 AUS O'PEN SKIFF CHAMPS

19-24 JANUARY 2026



*It takes a community to create a successful regatta.
you parents and volunteers that made this happen!*





2026 HODGES SANDRINGHAM J24
AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP
6-10 JAN

J24
Australia

RESULTS: <https://topyacht.net.au/results/syc/2026/kblt/j24nationals/series.htm>

Looks like some tough racing, and tough competition at the recent J24 Nationals at Sandringham Yacht Club.

MYC Vice Commodore Catherine Thornton-Rofe, just recently off Kanreki in the Sydney to Hobart race, pitted her J24, Kaotic, against some of the best J24 sailors in Australia. Crew members Lyn Humphreys, Peta Rose and Kate Rowe, also on Kanreki, made up the all-female crew on Kaotic, along with Summer Rose and Ellie Budge whose results have gained entry into the J24 Worlds 2026 in November. To top it off, Catherine was awarded Top female helm - congratulations!

(side note: Catherine returned to Sydney after the race to Hobart so that she could hook up Kaotic and tow her down to Victoria for the nationals - what a gal!)

Fabulous photos from Marg Fraser-Martin, as always. Follow her on [Facebook](#) or click the QR code below.



On the road, surrounded by trucks!





PEPPER TREE WINES 2026 TWILIGHT RACING



Twilight race 5 - Image Xav Decomps

TWILIGHT RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/4912/races>
FEMALE HELM RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/4913/races>



PEPPER TREE WINES

TWILIGHT RACE 11/ FEMALE HELM 3 9 JAN 2026

The first twilight for 2026 and a tough decision for the race committee, who ultimately made the correct call.



09/08:30pm	24.2	-	-	-	-	NNE	46	54	25	29
09/08:00pm	24.3	-	-	-	-	NNE	46	56	25	30
09/07:30pm	24.4	-	-	-	-	NNE	46	56	25	30
09/07:00pm	24.5	-	-	-	-	NNE	46	56	25	30
09/06:30pm	24.6	-	-	-	-	NNE	44	54	24	29
09/06:00pm	24.7	-	-	-	-	NNE	39	46	21	25
09/05:30pm	24.7	-	-	-	-	NNE	44	56	24	30
09/05:00pm	24.9	-	-	-	-	NNE	48	57	26	31
09/04:30pm	24.8	-	-	-	-	NNE	43	50	23	27

TWILIGHT RACE 12

16 JAN 2026



The day started out looking like a repeat of the previous Friday but the fleet of 18 hardy boats took to the water. Course 8, took the fleet to Obelisk, the Edwards Beach AS before a swift run home to Manly.

Fastest around the course was Sirius, who also come 3rd on the day with Kia Kaha and Waterhound ahead of her in first and second place respectively.

Waterhound collected the starters prize.

The weather is looking grim for the next few days. Fingers crossed that it clears up for the Open Skiff Nationals being held at the club next week.

TWILIGHT RACE 13

23 JAN 2026

You can tell that everyone was itching for a nice twilight for a change. 28 boats hit the water and course 9 to Eastern Channel, then Chowder Bay

South before finishing off the club. The breeze softened a bit as a couple of boats just squeezed in before the cut off time.

Stephen got the "Top Gun" cap, finishing first on *Mondo*, with *Manly Sailing Supernova* in second place and *Esprit* in third. But let's not give Jan and Greg the credit, unless they sailed *Esprit* remotely from the Italian ski slopes. This editor is fairly certain than Seamus was in charge of the vessel. *Mondo* also claimed fastest around the track while *Manly Sailing Supernova* nailed the start. Thank you race committee from *Knotty but Nice*, and our sponsors



PEPPER TREE WINES

A special thanks to Karrie, Danielle and Zara in the kitchen - we only just had enough to feed the masses.



SAME SAIL NUMBER; SAME BOAT; NEW NAME ...

For everyone present on the deck, you will understand the heading. We lost a fellow sailor this year - part owner of Ten Sixty, Bob Day. In remembrance of Bob; the other owners, Albert James and Barry Henderson have renamed the boat "Daydreamin".

(Albert assures the editor that they have followed all the rules for removing any bad luck that may be associated with renaming the boat.)





PEPPER TREE WINES 2026 SUNDAY RACING



Club Champs race 1 - image Maz Radford

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RACE 6

11 JAN 2026

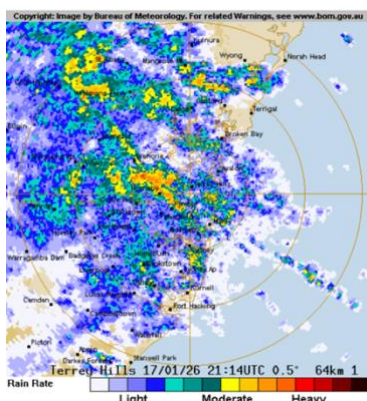
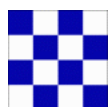
A small fleet braved the weather for race 6 with 3 boats in each division. In division, *Mondo* finished first across the line in just over 2 hours but came second on handicap to *Absolut*, with *Khaleesi* in third spot. *Absolut* still needs a few more points to knock *Mondo* off first spot on the series podium.

In division 2, *Kia Kaha* zoomed around the course in the fastest time, but with *Ça Va* a little under 4 minutes behind, it wasn't enough and *Ça Va* took first place on handicap, *Kia Kaha* second and *Stock Car* in third place.

In the series score *Ça Va* and *Kia Kaha* are on equal points at the top of the leader board. On countback, it's *Ça Va* first, *Kia Kaha* second and not too far behind; *Stock Car* in third spot. With 4 races to go we should see some fierce competition.

SUMMER SERIES RACE 7

18 JAN 2026



CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP RACE 7

1 FEB 2026



The weather gods are being particularly uncooperative with the Sunday racing fleet.

Only 2 division 1 and 2 division 2 boats made it to the start; only 3 finished the race! *Mondo* and *Khaleesi* started but *Khaleesi* retired in division 1. *Kia Kaha* and *Stock Car* made it around the course, finishing in that order.

Thank you race committee from *Absolut* - a hard call.

Thank you Will Tuckey from *Stock Car* for the pics.



PEPPER TREE WINES



ILCA 4P9/4P10 11 JAN 2026

The first races of 2026 and the Autumn Point Score & 4P Series heats were raced in 14-20 knots with 8 boats attending.

After racing from Fairlight Beach toward Cannae Point in solid breeze Ian Saunders took both bullets and, to top it off, took both on handicap! The rare "Double-Double". Apparently the training is starting to pay off, it seems.

Garth stepped up for the catering with hot pies & sausage rolls with plenty of beers and some dips.

Also, it looks like Richard Lacey made an appearance. It was the first two heats of the Keg Cup as well and with Ian qualifying this year he now leads that too.

Next week is the Club Championship heats with Hoppo on duty (I think).

Keg Cup Standings - <https://sailing-results-tracker.vercel.app/standings>



ILCA CC9/CC10 18 JAN 2026

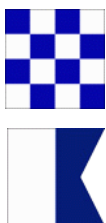


PEPPER TREE WINES

"Strong wind, high seas and severe storms affecting the race area" was the reason for a number of yacht clubs, not just MYC, to "pull the pin".

Flooding in some parts made it impossible for race committees and competitors to get to the club, so, for the safety of the on-water race committee, and the fairness to all competitors, the "N" over "A" was hoisted

A disappointed laser fleet as another race day was abandoned. With the shifty winds in the 10-22kt range, and the sun trying to come out, 7 hardy sailors took to the murky water, anyway.



SAVE THE DATE

14 & 15 MARCH 2026

HOSTED BY **MANLY**
YACHT CLUB

TWILIGHT RACE 14

31 JAN 2026



Image Katherine Cole

Course 6, the scenic route to Cannae, Eastern Channel, Chowder Bay North, grotto and home in a fruity NE'er, looked like the right breeze to bring *Moonraker* home first, with *Fast Company* and *Joss*, hot on their heels; with all boats crossing the finish line within half an hour of each other - congratulations to *Madama Butterfly* race committee for recording the results.

Casual entry *Joss* was fastest around the course in just over 55 minutes with *Waterhound* nailing the start. It's great to see that start times are improving and boats are trying... 14 boats all 8 seconds (or less) close to their start times. Peter Wilkins would be proud of you! Also, a big welcome to casual entry *Total Nuisance* ... hope to see you again.

The series score still has *Mondo* in first place, but there is still a lot of racing to go...



2026

PEPPER TREE WINES

TWILIGHT RACING



Joss- image Jum Nixon



TWILIGHT RACE 15/ TWILIGHT FEMALE HELM RACE 4

6 FEB 2026

A slow race sometimes means a stunning sunset; a late finish; or no finish at all. BUT, wasn't it a magical night!

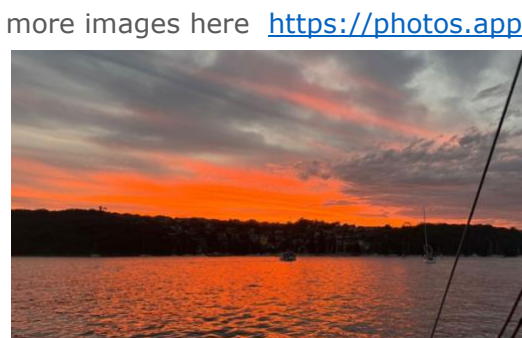
The largest fleet yet on the water with 34 boats starting; unfortunately, only 23 boats finishing, but that didn't stop lots of people coming back to the club - eating us out of food and drinking us out of red wine - apologies to anyone who missed out. Even after anticipating for more people, our crystal ball couldn't foresee the turnout.

Three casual entries took out the podium spots - *Joss* in first place, *Public Nuisance* in second and *San Toy* (with its barnacled bottom) in third. A lot of wind holes allowed that to happen!

Overall series results still has *Mondo* leading the fleet with *Kia Kaha* in second place. There will be a battle looming for third spot currently held by *Magician V* on a count back from *Sirius* with *Gecko* only 0.4 of a point behind!

Twilight female helm Race 4 and President Lisa, sailed *Magician V* to

first place on handicap, followed by Deb Kelly on *Kia Kaha* and Wanda and Deanie co-helming *Escape*, in third spot. This puts *Kia Kaha* firmly in the lead with one race to go, followed by *Mondo* and *Magician V* close enough to battle it out with *Fast Company* and *Escape*.



more images here <https://photos.app.goo.gl/WoRRuCTK3NTVQfQ8A>

TWILIGHT RESULTS:

<https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/4912/races>

FEMALE HELM RESULTS:

<https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/4913/races>

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.

SHWKS 2025-2026

Sydney Harbour Women's Keelboat Series



CYCA
28th SEPTEMBER
2025



MNYC
19th OCTOBER
2025



RANSA
23rd NOVEMBER
2025



SASC
18th JANUARY
2026



BSC
1st FEBRUARY
2026



RSYS
22nd FEBRUARY
2026



MYC
22nd MARCH
2026

[RESULTS](#) [RESULTS](#) [RESULTS](#) [RESULTS](#) [RESULTS](#) [NEXT RACE](#)

MYC HANDBOOK PHOTO COMP

Desire 12 months of fame?

*

The front cover of the 2026-2027 handbook is waiting for an exceptional photo.

*

Must be MYC sailing related

*

Contact newsletter@myc.org.au



MANLY SPRINT SERIES RACES 4-6

8 FEB 2026



Wet! Wet! Wet! With shifty winds!

The Manly Sprint Series makes up Combined Club Sunday Series races, so while only 2 boats competed in division 1 and 5 in division 2, with a further 3 CCSS competitors the racing was on. The forecast NE breeze turned out to be S switching between SW and SE making it difficult for the race committee to lay a proper windward / leeward course. By the next race the wind became the promised NE, so the course was re-laid. Thank you all for your perseverance.

MSS RESULTS: <https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/23/results/series/4910/races>

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



ROLEX SYDNEY TO HOBART

CONGRATULATIONS
CRUX ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"What do we do now?"

By Carlos Aydos

Reprinted with permission

CRUX

Carlos Aydos + Peter Grayson

- 6th IRC Overall
- 4th IRC Div 6
- 4th IRC Corinthian
- 1st PHS Corinthian
- 4th IRC Double handed

What a race! First 36 hours were a grind to windward with heavy wind and waves against current creating waves with no backs on them. A sizable chunk of the fleet retired due to the harsh conditions. We felt "zero gravity" moments from our bunks for hours. These "zero gravity" moments followed with a hard landing and a terrifying hull and rig noise. At some stage, the launching and hard landings became so extreme we eased the sails to slow down. Yes, it's a race, but there is no point in not getting there.

Once we got to Gabo on the early morning of the 28th, the wind softened to about 15 knots and stayed in that range for the next 48 hours. With a slight



wind rotation to the SE, up goes the code-0 and we are heading straight down the rhumb line to Tasman Island. Wind slowly rotated through the day and by evening we had the S2 (spinnaker) up. 48 hours of sunny days and starry nights across Bass Strait and North Tassie without a single drop of water in the cockpit. What a change! A lot of well-deserved sleeps and nice meals were had in this part.

At this stage, we were coming in and out of contention for an overall win, but we knew the next southerly change would catch us between Maria and Tasman Island. The change would take place quickly, but we would have to sail to windward again for 3 or 4 hours before rounding Tasman Is. That would slow us down significantly.

Could the forecast be wrong by a couple of hours to our benefit? Update after update, the forecast looked solid and we realised that although we had been in first place with a lead of over 2 hours, that would evaporate very quickly once we reached Tasman Island. We put our heads down and did our best as we always try to.

In the early hours of the 30th, wind started to pick up and gusting above 25 and we downgraded to an S3. Then a most surprising encounter ... We were on port tack sailing dead square downwind and another fully crewed and much larger boat only running with their mainsail was on starboard tack and closing in. It was gusting 27-28 at this stage. After not spotting any boats for 2 days you don't quite believe in the situation that speeds and courses are such that it really was going to come down to a collision if nothing was done about it. I spoke with the other boat over VHF and they asserted their right of way. At this stage, there was only a minute or so of time for us to do anything about it. After getting off the radio, I turned to Pete and said, "What do we do now?". We eased the spinnaker and crossed their stern. After correcting our course, the spinnaker reset and blew into pieces. Turning disaster into comedy, the sentence "What do we do now?" became an ongoing internal joke to this day.

How do we keep our speed up now? The S2 would have too much sail area at this stage. The other option we had aboard was the A3. To keep sailing deep, we poled out the A3 and kept going. Around lunch the wind dropped a little and up went the S2 again. The last couple of shifts were broken by sail changes and decision making and sleep was disturbed a few times specially for Pete.

When we passed Maria Island, the wind temporarily died and turned South as expected. We set the J3 and started sailing to windward again. I went to sleep at this stage. Wind got softer: "Carlos wake up!" and we set the J2. A while later, I was up in the cockpit and Peter just went to sleep. The wind swiftly picked up to 25 knots and we set the J4 and tucked in 2 reefs. That is also the moment we heard Richard's chopper and he took this incredible shot.

Continued on next page...

ROLEX SYDNEY TO HOBART
CONGRATULATIONS ★
CRUX ★ ★ ★ ★

...From previous page



Soon after, it started gusting 35-38 and the waves became very steep and short spaced. I recall twice *Crux* dove into a breaking wave and during those brief moments, the only thing sticking out of the water was the mast and a few stanchions. We tacked around Tasman Is and kept going on a long tack to Cape Raoul. Peter got up at this stage and I could not wait to get some sleep and warm myself up. Those were the wettest 3 hours of sailing of my entire life. I woke up at the Iron Pot and Peter went down for a sleep. We set the S2 at this stage and had a smooth straight-line sail to the finish. 7 sail changes in those last 24 hours were intense. I woke up Peter 5 minutes before the finish line as he was completely out. We crossed at 23:49 on the 30th in 6th place overall.



We were leading at some stages of the race and I did feel the weight of that and a temporary disappointment. At times, it felt like someone was dangling a carrot in front of us. But after a while, when reality sinks in and you have time to process what just happened, I am so proud of getting to the finish line, let alone arrive in 6th place overall, beaten by sailors whose prowess and experience I can only admire.

The Hobart finish line and Constitution Dock atmosphere is one of the most welcoming places ever. However, arriving at night when most had already left was a first or me. Luckily, Silvia was there on that cold and

windy night to cheer our arrival. I love you Si!

The messages of encouragement and congratulations we received before, during and after the race from you, our friends and family made the whole experience very special. I can't quite put this into words, but it seems that just before the race I get into a type of full concentration trance. My head is thinking about all the things that need to be in place for us to get to the start line. Then it continues during the race. It seems it only wear off several days after one arrives. These are the moments we receive these messages and although I haven't replied to them on the spot, each one was important to keep us going! Thank you!

Thanks to Pete's family Danielle Grayson, Rachael and Maddie who let me have him for all this time! Finally, Thank you Peter Grayson, the great co-skipper!

As I write, Peter Grayson, Danielle Grayson, Andrew Ayliffe, Kim Dowdney are sailing *Crux* back to Sydney on a very wet ride! What a team!



WHAT'S COMING UP

28 FEB - 1 MARCH



Tickets and info here: <https://tickets.sailgp.com/sydney/>

7 - 8 MARCH 2026



Everyone loves a good 21st birthday bash, so get set to join in by entering the 2026 Nautilus Marine Insurance Sydney Harbour Regatta, as the event celebrates its 21st anniversary on the weekend of 7 and 8 March.

The Notice of Race is available and online entry is now open for the 2026 Nautilus Marine Insurance Sydney Harbour Regatta. Read more at <https://www.shr.mhyc.com.au/.../125-2026-entry-now-open.html>

21 - 22 MARCH 2026



MANLY YACHT CLUB HELLY HANSEN WOMEN'S CHALLENGE 2026

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www.myc.org.au



11 APRIL 2026
INVITATION

The Saltwater Veterans **ANZAC Commemoration**, Sail & BBQ is set for 11 April at MYC, and we would love to invite MYC boat owners, their crews, and the wider club community to be involved in supporting our veterans.

To help with planning, our first step is to gauge how many yachts may be available to support the day. If you are a boat owner and keen to support, could you please complete the registration below using your Australian Sailing number:

<https://www.revolutionise.com.au/svsp/events/336703>

Likewise, non-boat owners who are keen to support, crew, or be involved on the day are warmly encouraged to complete the same registration.

Thank you for your continued support of the Saltwater Veterans community — we look forward to sharing a meaningful day both on and off the water.

Stay Salty

Scotty



Saltwater Veterans Sailing Project

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

ADULTS

Brie Whitton
David Dixon
Timothy Lees

YOUTH <25

James Watson
Elanor Budge

JUNIORS

Brodie Cooley
Max Devlin
Cooper Daly
Fraser Maxwell
Gigi Merryfull
Ario Roberts

Finlay Gleeson
Alex Easterbrook-Dreifuss
Caroline Ferrari
Ellia Kozinski Lederer
Summer Torbet



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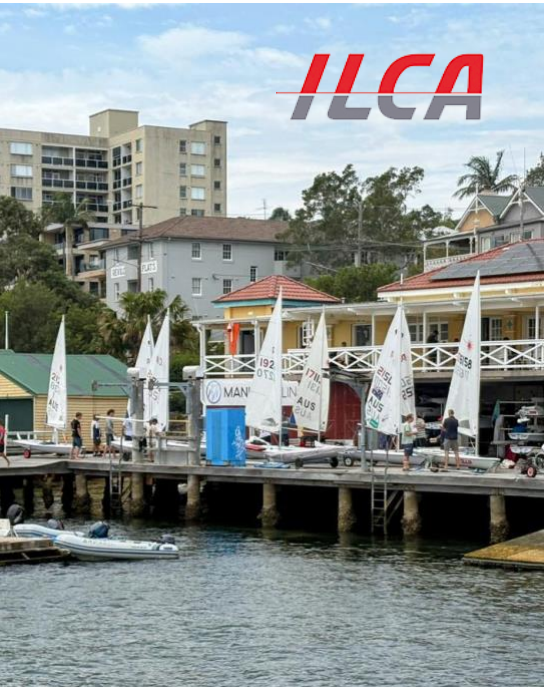
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CC11/CC12
1 FEB 2026



PEPPER TREE WINES

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

What a fantastic day of sailing. Heaps of wind and major chop. Sam Jackson was our RO and didn't disappoint with a long course and three long laps in 15-22kn.

The first race finally got underway after Gordon busted his mast and Tim dislocated his boom. They both managed to recover and start, an amazing performance.

The usual suspects dominated the uphill battle with Iain, Phil & Ian pushing each other and Dave Walton in the elite group these days ready to pounce.

Philip Reid managed to win the race and also claim corrected time for a double win! Gianni racked up a 2nd place well done in difficult conditions.

The second CC heat was reduced to two laps and Ian Saunders didn't disappoint cruising for the win. Phil taking 2nd and Iain

3rd. New guy Al Beasham took the handicap victory and looks threatening in heavy breeze. The good news is he's well over six foot and can get hulls out when Dutchy is wrangling sharks.

Sammy was on catering today and her fabulous family not only delivered the food and drink they also made sure that all the sailors had their dolly's and could exit the harbour. Fantastic effort.

No club racing next weekend as the Australian Masters is on and we have boats going. Good luck guys do your best in Port Stephens always solid breeze.

See everyone on the 15th when catering legend, Gordon, makes his shot at the title. Not to be missed, let's try and get 18 hulls at the start!



JOIN EVIE'S QUEST TO REPRESENT AUSTRALIA AT THE OLYMPICS

Evie started in Optimis, aged 8, at Manly Yacht Club. Her ambition was always to represent Australia at the Olympics. Let's give her a chance!



JOIN MY QUEST TO REPRESENT AUSTRALIA AT THE 2028 LA OLYMPICS.

I am

- the 2023 Pacific Games Gold Medallist;
- Australia's 2022 Youth Sailor of the Year; and
- I have improved my world ranking in the opens to 54th.

2026 is an important year for my progression towards Olympic Gold and will require me to compete in multiple overseas regattas over the European summer. My training costs are covered by my scholarship, but all other costs (equipment, travel, accommodation) require funding, at approximately \$15K per regatta for a total of \$70K for 2026.

Please consider supporting my campaign towards the 2028 LA Olympics. Small or large amounts will help me reach my Olympic dream and hopefully also inspire others to discover a love of sailing.

If you would like to find out more about my journey, follow this link to my website:

<https://www.eviesauanders.com.au/>

Evie's Sponsorship proposal is outlined [here](#)



Any donations to Evie's campaign are tax deductible (above \$2) and can be made through the Australian Sports Foundation here:

<https://asf.org.au/campaigns/evie-sauanders/evie-sauanders-olympic-campaign>





2026 AUSTRALIA DAY REGATTA

The 2026 Australia Day Regatta marked the 190th running of this prestigious event, which is recognised as the oldest continual sailing regatta in the world, having started in 1837.

This year's regatta featured a fleet of seven boats and was held under overcast skies, with moderate south to south-easterly winds and a choppy sea state and these challenging conditions tested the skills of all participants throughout the day. More information about the regatta can be found at www.australiadayregatta.com.



Bruce and Pam Davis once again generously took on the roles of sailing committee and starters aboard *Ready, Get Set!!!*. Support on the water was provided by Warwick and Guy who were responsible for laying the marks and ensuring safety from *Charlies Chariot* and Cecilia who took these wonderful photographs. Onshore, Michael provided valuable support and organised the barbecue with Cecilia, for the traditional after-race lunch.

In the opening race, John W and his granddaughter Gigi, sailing *Eli D*, established an early lead, followed by Denis and Nola in *Woody* and Vince and Ken in *Black Swan*. The rest of the fleet—Michael and Ros in *Ralph Newman*, Jackie and Caroline in *Helen Hendry*, John P and Joel in *Vin*, and Jim and Skye in *Alex Martin* followed closely behind.



Eli D maintained the lead throughout the remaining two races and the battle for second place was tightly contested between *Woody* and *Helen Hendry*. At the conclusion of all three races, *Woody* and *Helen Hendry* were tied on points, however Jackie and Caroline, sailing *Helen Hendry*, secured second place on count-back, with Denis and Nola in *Woody* taking third. The remainder of the fleet, *Black Swan*, *Ralph Newman*, *Vin*, and *Alex Martin* followed. By the end of the series, all crews were thoroughly drenched, and most boats were half full of water, testament to the day's challenging conditions.



After racing concluded, participants gathered to enjoy a barbecue with sausages, sandwiches, fruit, and juice provided by John and Nola, and presentations were made to the winners.



Sincere thanks are extended to Bruce and Pam and all the volunteers who contributed their time and effort to ensure the 2026 Australia Day Regatta was a wonderful and memorable event for all involved.





DODGED A BULLET

After a recent sail, we packed up PAM, covers went on and we waited for the tender to take us in. Nothing out of the ordinary, so all was good.

As usual while waiting for our ride, I ran my gaze up and down the rig. Something wasn't right, as her port lower looked slightly out of place. Where the wire enters the mast, the T-ball end fitting was on a slightly different angle from the starboard lower. Alarm bells started to ring, so I notified my fellow crew mates who agreed something was amiss.

Later that week, I went up in the Bosun's Chair and to my dismay, I discovered her internal T-ball backing plate had failed. The continuity of the lower had been seriously compromised; big time! The stainless-steel backing plate had work-hardened to the point where it cracked horizontally in half (see photo), just above where the T-ball enters the mast. Later inspections found both backing plates had failed.



So, we ordered 2 new lower T-ball backing plates and while we were at it, had 2 new lowers (D-1's as they are called) and turnbuckles made up. Lowers take some incredible loads. It was a lot of uncomfortable hours in a Bosun's Chair, but I think we dodged a bullet.

Note to self: once in a while grab a few handy crew members and get dragged up your rig and have a slow and meticulous inspection of your rig. Also have a rigger check it at least once a season.

Advice if you ever go up your own mast: use 2 halyards just in case. Never attach your halyard to the chair with any of the hardware on its end (i.e.: shackles or snap shackles). Instead, tie both to the chair with a bowline.

Pete McDonald

KA16 PAM

PS: How old is your standing rigging? If you don't know, I would say it's too old. This may lead to future insurance issues.

MYC NORTHERN GATE

The northern gate has been installed! As you will recall from previous newsletters and communication the need for these gates.

The gate is unlocked and won't impact any of our usual activities.

As advised, it's there to address the chronic and ongoing issues we are having with fishing and youths jumping and diving off the wharf.

Our Club Captain, Bruce, has been working with the Northern Beaches Council and the police over the last 9 months on this project. It's been a lot of work. Thank you Bruce and the Club Community for all your time and energy!



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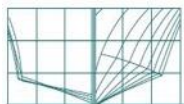
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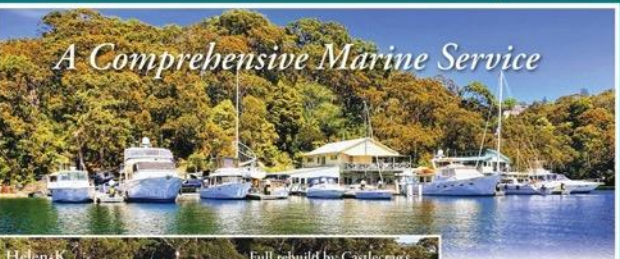


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Our Halvorsen 26, Helen-K had extensive timber rot which ruled out local repairs so we went for a full rebuild from the deck up. Ply and teak cabins with laminated oregon beams. Stayed true to the original shape and dimensions but added a helm door. It was a 12 month job and I can heartily recommend the work of Murray, Stuart and the boys at Castlecrag Marina - excellent workmanship throughout.



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ON TASTING	Region	Vintage	Bottle Price	MYC Bottle Price	Quantity Bottles	MYC Case Price	Quantity Cases	Total
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		
CASE SPECIALS								
Mixed Case Special - 20% off retail prices	1 x Riesling 2 x Pinot Gris 1 x Chardonnay 2 x Rosé 2 x Shiraz 2 x Tempranillo 2 x Cabernet Sauvignon					\$320.00		
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		
Sticky Pig' Late Harvest Pinot Gris	Wrattonbully	2021	\$30.00	\$25.50		\$306.00		
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DISCLAIMER:

All results published in the newsletter are as published on the Manly Yacht Club website at the time of going to press. All results are provisional until ratified by the individual Race Director and/or Sailing Committee prior to Presentation Night.