

Signals from Sailability Manly

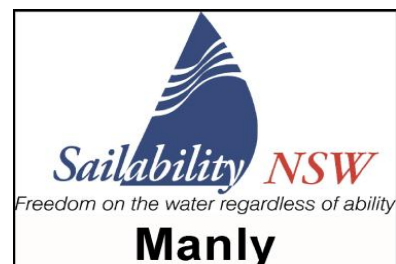
December, 2015 Edition 121

www.manlysailability.com.au

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Two drowned rats, Lynette and Denis. 2.12.15



John and Camp Sababa Companion, 8.12.15



Regatta, 12.12.15

Diary Entries

Sailability commences for 2016 on 9th January. We will be sailing on 9th, 13th and 23rd January with General sailing and booked groups.

26th January is Australia Day. Sailors and Crew for this regatta, please contact Caroline now on caroline.holdstock@gmail.com

February is our busiest month ever. Please note dates in Sailing Schedule. If you are available to tow boats to Nowra on 13/14th February, or to Dobroyd Aquatic Centre on Saturday, 27th Feb, please call Eli now on 9976 2747, or eli@manlysailability.com.au

Sailing Schedule

Day	Date	Booked Groups
Saturday	9 th January, 2016	Vac: Balmoral, Milky Way, Housing Connection, Rap'nRave, General Sailing
Wednesday	13 th January	CPA Grevillea, SEALS, Sunnyfield Fr Forest, Sunshine Pymble
Saturday	23 rd January	BIRDS, Inala, General Sailing
Tuesday	26 th January	Australia Day Regatta
Saturday	6 th February	Balmoral, Rap'nRave
Wednesday	10 th February	Truscott St, RFW, MAPS St Ives, Forest High
Weekend	13/14 th Feb	State Titles at Nowra. Names to Eli 9976 2747
Saturday	20 th February	BIRDS, Milky Way, General Sailing
Wednesday	24 th February	DYIM, Sunnyfield Fr Forest, Pymble, Forest High
Saturday	27 th February	President's Cup, Dobroyd. Bookings 99762747
Sunday	28 th February	SNSW 20 th Anniversary. (Fully Booked)

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What we got up to in December.

Wednesday, 2nd December.

A Wednesday Adventure.

It was quite difficult to relate the forecast this morning to what was actually happening. We decided to go ahead with sailing because everything looked fine at 8.30 a.m., despite the wind forecast trying to tell us that it was blowing at 15 knots, and that it would rise to 20 knots later in the day. We were expecting students from Royal Far West, Truscott St and Freshwater High, who have not sailed for a while, so it was thought that to go ahead would be fine, and that we could always stop if the conditions became too difficult. It would have been terrible to cancel, because we did manage to get all of the children sailing, either out on the open water early in the day, and later on, in the quieter waters close to the beach at Manly Cove.

Helpers this morning were: Barry, Denis, Malcolm, Warwick, Helen, Ralph, Col, Allison, Ray, Peter, Jim G and Jim Y, Ivan, Tony, Ken, Marc, Michael, Georges, David W and David G, Helene, Kye. Thank you so much to Kye, who came as a visitor, and ended up as helper supreme, as well as photographer.

The weather was perfect for sailing for our Far West Students: Emma-Lee, David, Jack, Anna, Jessica, Ashleigh, and Lachlan, who came with helper, Lisa. Jessica was a little scared at the beginning, but did manage a few minutes on the water before asking to be returned to shore. Not bad for someone who had been telling everyone how terrified she was just a few moments before. A little later on, Ashleigh was marooned on a desert island when her boat became grounded. She was extraordinarily brave when she was lifted ashore, then back into the support boat when it came along for the rescue.

By the time the Truscott St children had arrived, it was definitely too windy for the open water, so our obliging helpers retreated to the calmer waters close to the beach for these smaller children: Rizwan, Liam, Ruby, Sion, Riarna, Annabelle, Jazmine, Ethan, Tazmira, Tsz Yu Au, Jin, Samantha, Syel, Mustapha, Ricky. Mustapha wanted the car-seat, Ruby and Rizwan went on Mum's lap, and the rest of the gang just sat nicely, some with cushions to hold them upright.

Freshwater High kids were perfectly behaved while they waited their turn, and we commend them for their patience. Next time, they are first off the blocks, so there will be no waiting time. Jordan and David looked to be having lots of fun doing donuts around the moored boats. While the rest of the group had fun in the rising wind conditions.

Lynette and Denis decided to brave the open water, dashing around the fixed buoys and managing to absolutely swamp the dinghy while attempting a double-tacking manoeuvre. It showed just how these boats can manage to sail perfectly well when full of water to the gunnels. Denis and Lynette did not realise that they would be sailing in a swimming pool on the way back, but both laughed it off as all part of the Sailability Adventure.

A huge thank you to all the participants, helpers and volunteers for bringing lots of enjoyment and fun into our lives.



Jim and Jack



Jessica ready for a sail.



Rizwan on Mum's lap



Mustapha

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Friday, 4th December.

St Andrew's College Camp. 4.12.15

Today was one of those dream days when everything works like clockwork including the weather, the team of volunteers, the participants and their helpers. It was so lovely to see our team, some for the second time this week: Warwick, Tony, Malcolm, Barry, Helen, David, Brian, Ralph, Steve, John, Jay, Col, Marc, Jim, Lyn, Jackie, Michael, Amaru and Khy. The only problem with this perfect weather was the lack of breeze at some stages, making a long and paddling sort of sail a necessity if we were going to give everyone a turn.

The SACC bus arrived down at sailing almost half an hour before their expected time, a lovely surprise as with 18 participants and some of their 24 helpers, it was going to be difficult to give everyone a turn. However, before 10 a.m. we had people into their life-jackets and onto the almost calm water. A special thrill was seeing Luca in a different setting than from the usual family group, and meeting some truly inspirational people, both participants and helpers. What a lovely end to the school year for Pryce, Miles, Mark, Luke, Annamieke, Georgia, Cameron, Kiahna, Nam, Tyron, Gianui, Joel, Will, Adam, Luca, Peter, Christopher. Their camp helpers were students from a variety of courses at Sydney University who have finished their studies for the year, and elected to go back to uni for a week's volunteering so that they could offer a few day's respite to some families who have one or two kids living with a disability. Several of the students commented that they are amazed by the fact that the children behave like regular children in such a huge number of ways, constantly reminding their carers of their abilities and their fighting spirit to have fun and get into mischief.

In fact, by 11.30, when the breeze had deserted us completely, and paddling was the order of the day for boats returning to the pontoon, the fantastic SACC helpers had lunch ready upstairs on the veranda. Participants and helpers wandered upstairs for lunch while the volunteers put the boats away, then went upstairs to join them and socialise.



Peter and his companion in Charles Chariot.
The group getting ready for sailing.
Michael and Luca.

Tuesday, 8th December.

Terrific Tuesday.

We had an early start this morning, as Freshwater High Special Group would be arriving at 9.00 a.m. to rig their own boats in preparation for their end of term regatta. Unfortunately, Amelia and Jordan, who had enjoyed several practise sessions over the last few weeks were not able to attend, so we filled in the spaces with a new young lady, Leah, and Tony, who is one of our volunteers. Each student helped their sailor to rig their own boat. Eventually all the rigging was completed and the boats taken to the water and launched, with Malcolm checking them over and inserting rudders and keels. Then it was a simple matter of going over to the other side of the Cove, where Barry and his team, Ken were waiting. As soon as everyone had arrived, they went through the start sequence and were away. It was fiercely contested race with crew and sailors striving to be first around the fixed buoys. After 3 times around, the race was finished and all hurried back to the pontoon for a snack and prize presentation. It was wholeheartedly agreed that everyone was the winner and that this class will be back next year to do it all again. Eddie, Emily and Ben have reached school leaving age now, so next year it will be a different group, but just as much fun.

While were finishing off with this group, our large Sababa Camp group had arrived and were waiting on the grass. The system was carefully explained to us...campers in green T-shirts, companions in yellow, leaders in blue, teachers and other staff in white. This works, until you notice that there were a few people in red, and one or two in purple....oh well, some of us are colour blind, and after all, we are all the same deep down.

Mia, Braedon, Jesse, Ben, Gideon, Jonah and Aly went off for their sail, while their companions watched anxiously from the side. As soon as they noticed that their charges were approaching the pontoon, they

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rushed back down, plucked them out of the boats and took them across to the beach area for a play on the sand. In the meantime, Ari, Penny, Josh, Rebecca, Kaide, Leanna and Rachel had arrived and were getting into PFD's so that everything would run smoothly. By this time, the companions had also decided that a sail may be nice, so there were a few extras included in this group.

We were well into the swing of things by this time, so that by the time Max, Emma, Tobi, Nicky, Mark, Roel, Bridgit, Ethan and Mila had their turn we were quite used to some of the campers wanting another turn, some campers deciding to ride on their companion's knees, and some of the companions and staff having their individual sails.

This is such a well-run camp that everything worked really smoothly. Everyone: staff, companions, campers, volunteers was exhausted by the time they had all had their fill of sight seeing, sailing, playing on the sand. I can well imagine that there were quite a few sleeping children by the time they arrived back at camp.

At our end of the spectrum, boats had to be washed and stored, a few words of debriefing, and home.

Helpers today were: Denis, Barry, Ken, Tony, Col, Malcolm, David Go, Helen, David W, Jim, John W, Eli, John B, Brian, David GR, Jackie, Khy, Georges, Sheila, Jay. Thank you all for your hard work today.



Saturday, 12.12.15 Christmas Regatta.

There was an air of excitement at Sailability this morning, as our volunteers and visitors arrived to celebrate two donations that had come in during the year, as well as completing our year's activities with a Regatta.

Representatives from Balgowlah Lodge and Freshwater Bendigo Bank were on hand to present the purchases we had made as a result of their generosity, 9 PFDs of different types and sizes, as well as a Defibrillator. One a very practical gift which will be used often and continuously, and the other which will be placed in an accessible position at Manly Yacht Club, just in case there is an occasion to use it, when it will become the most valuable item in the world, but hopefully will be rarely used.

Noela Roberts, Rohan Fell and Youth Ambassador for Freshwater Bendigo Bank representatives Nathan Tilley, Rohan Fell and Noela Roberts as well as John Purdy, his wife and a friend from Balgowlah Lodge were on hand, as well as several Sailability Members and volunteers. The presentation completed, we went straight into the regatta.

We had our 7 303's on the water and a most exciting race ensued, with constant changes of leadership and places in the race in the level 9 or 10 knot south westerly that had sprung up. Pleased winners at the end of the 3 race regatta were Denis and Ivan in Woody, first place, Grace and Jack in ING, 2nd place, Tony and David W in Vin 3rd place. Ken sailed with David G, Jay with Joshua, Ewan with Oliver, Michael with Eli. It was a close run race, very exciting to watch, and impossible to forecast the outcome until the very last second in each race.

The best part about the whole day was the wonderful lunch with dessert and lots of good natured bantering which endlessly re-ran the race in the finest of detail. Thanks, Caroline, and all of the volunteers who took part. Ralph, Caroline and Barbara in Charlie's Chariot and Colleen who minded the lunch up on deck.

And perhaps even better than that was the wonderful help that happened when we were all exhausted. Sean from the Lasers, and lots of Dad's from the Manly Juniors helped us to put the boats away, and even put the tent and table in their correct place at the end of their day. This was a wonderful example of the cooperation shown to all members of Manly Yacht Club, and left us all with a great feeling of mutual respect and consideration. Thanks yet again, Manly Yacht Club for being there for Sailability.

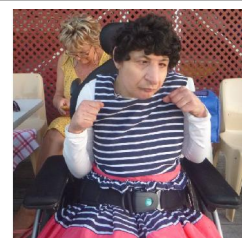


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New Year's Eve, 2015/2016

A most glorious evening welcomed Sailability down to the deck and pontoon of Manly Yacht Club on Thursday evening. Several group homes arrived, along with some of our volunteers and their families to welcome in the New Year. It was great to get together in a social fashion after a busy year of sailing. Chairs and tables were placed so that everyone could get the best view of the fireworks being displayed in Manly Cove at 9.00 p.m. and people intermingled in the way that we have come to expect. It was luck and good management that allowed everyone to find acceptable parking on this busiest of evenings, with a long walk ahead for Rob and his daughters at the end of the evening, but everyone else managed to find a closer position.

Manly Council and the businesses involved really outdid all former attempts, and everyone agreed with lots of OOOH's and AAHH's that it was the best fireworks ever.

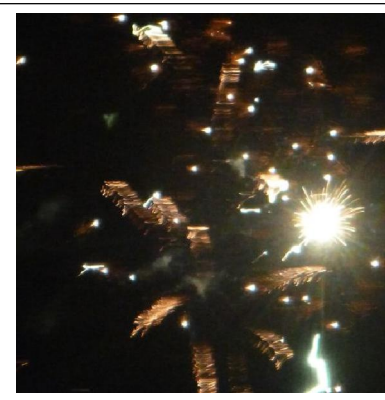
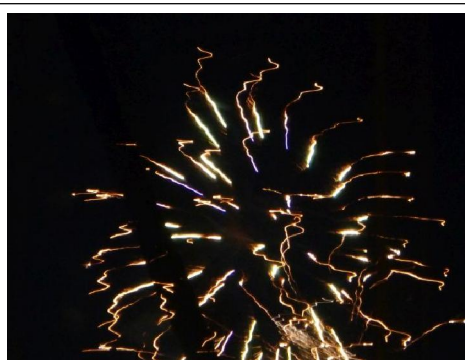


Judy, all dressed up for the party.

Some of the crowd on the beach.



Rose and Vanessa on the pontoon.



Do you have a spare room in your house so that we can billet a couple from Port Macquarie on the weekend of 27-28th February? Please call Eli 9976 2747 if you can help.

We thank all of our sponsors for their generous support.

• Patron: Jean Hay, Mayor of Manly
• Premier Automotive, Jeff Smit, Boat trailer inspection for registration.
• Manly Yacht Club
• Manly Council \$1,250.00 Charlie's Chariot Maintenance.
• Bunnings Warringah Mall: New picnic table and Umbrella Stand
• Balgowlah Masonic Lodge: Donation \$3,000.00
• Bendigo Bank: PFD's, part of the Defibrillator.
• Cromer Golf Club: Hansa 303 Black Swan
• Cerno Insurance: Hansa 303 Vin
• JayCar Electronics: Power Supply for Radio
• Jason Kozub's New Zealand Marathon brought in more than \$1,250.00
• Scot's Kirk, Mosman. \$400.00

The Committee of Sailability Manly.

President: Barry Newell	Minutes Secretary: Rob Southam
Secretary: Eli Demeny	Race Organiser: Caroline Holdstock
Treasurer: Patrick Alexander	Committee Members: David Grinston
Membership: Helen Hendry	Ray Rampton
Maintenance: Barry Newell+committee	Ralph Newman
MYC rep: Jackie Morgan	Peter Singer
NSW rep: Denis Linney	Vice President: David Webb
Volunteer Coordinator: Eli Demeny	Webmaster: Alan Bimson