

January 2026

Edition 225

Edited by John Weaver

## In This Issue:

- January Photo Board
- Australia Day Regatta
- Upcoming Sailing Dates and Special Events
- Our Generous Sponsors
- Committee Members and Key Contacts

## Notes from the Editor

The Open Skiff National Championships hosted by Manly Yacht Club has just been held, with over 80 boats competing, and as this coincided with one of our sailing days we cancelled one Wednesday sailing. This means we only had three sailing days in January, however our Australia Day Regatta has just been held and all sailors had an exciting and wet sailing competition in challenging conditions.

Our next big event is the Helly Hansen Women's Challenge and we hope to have all eight boats, with all female crews, competing for prizes donated by Helly Hansen.

## January Photo Board



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



## 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](http://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. (continued p3)





## 2026 Australia Day Regatta

(continued from p2)

*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.



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

Go to [www.manlysailability.com.au](http://www.manlysailability.com.au) and click on BOOKINGS.

Choose your sailing date from the list and complete the form with your details.

For **larger group bookings** (more than 8) please reach out to Eli. ([demenyeli@gmail.com](mailto:demenyeli@gmail.com))

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

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



## Upcoming Sailing Dates

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

Saturday	7 February	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	11 February	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	21 February	<i>Bookings available</i>
Monday	23 February	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	7 March	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	11 March	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	21 March	<i>Helly Hansens Women's Challenge</i>
Wednesday	8 April	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	14 April	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	22 April	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	25 April	<i>Bookings available</i>
Monday	27 April	<i>Bookings available</i>

## Upcoming Special Events

### Helly Hansen Women's Challenge

**Saturday 21 March 2026**

The prestigious Helly Hansens Women's Challenge will be held on Saturday 21 March 2026.

Our goal is to have all eight boats competing, so we encourage all females associated with Manly Sailability and Manly Yacht Club to enter the event and be involved in a day of fun and competitive racing.

If you would like to be part of the Helly Hansen Women's Challenge, please get in touch with John by emailing him at [jweaver172@gmail.com](mailto:jweaver172@gmail.com) or calling 0413 507 596.



## Our Generous Sponsors



Lions Club of Manly



BALGOWLAH

## Committee Members & Key Contacts

<b>President Volunteer Coordinator Roster Manager</b>	Warwick McKenzie <a href="mailto:president@manlysailability.com.au">president@manlysailability.com.au</a> <a href="mailto:warwickmckenzie@yahoo.com">warwickmckenzie@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Patron</b>	Michael Regan, MP
<b>Secretary &amp; Membership</b>	Stephen Bush <a href="mailto:secretary@manlysailability.com.au">secretary@manlysailability.com.au</a> <a href="mailto:membership@manlysailability.com.au">membership@manlysailability.com.au</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sue Marshall
<b>Systems Coordinator</b>	Ken Boyes
<b>Safety/Maintenance</b>	David Webb, Brian Stitt, Denis Linney
<b>MYC Representative</b>	Peter Ward
<b>Group Liaison Officer</b>	Eli Demeny <a href="mailto:demenyeli@gmail.com">demenyeli@gmail.com</a>
<b>Grants Manager Social Secretary</b>	Warwick McKenzie
<b>Minutes Secretary</b>	Nola Borgelt
<b>Webmaster</b>	Scott Forbes <a href="mailto:webmaster@manlysailability.com.au">webmaster@manlysailability.com.au</a>
<b>Race Officer</b>	John Weaver <a href="mailto:jweaver172@gmail.com">jweaver172@gmail.com</a>
<b>Committee Members</b>	Rob Southam, Peter Bennell, Clare Archer
<b>Signals Editor</b>	John Weaver <a href="mailto:signals@manlysailability.com.au">signals@manlysailability.com.au</a>

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

Bruce & Pam Davis  
Maz & Graham Radford  
Helene Francois  
Dr Shue Zhang  
David Webb  
Brian Stitt  
Wilma Johnson  
Betty Baines  
Jeff Smit, Premier Automation