Sailability NSW
Freedom on the water
MANLY

Signals
from Sailability Manly

October 2026 | Edition 233 | Edited by John Weaver

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Notes from the Editor

One of the things that makes Manly Sailability a success is the wonderful support we receive from our local community. We simply couldn't keep doing what we do without the generosity of our supporters, and **Community Bank Freshwater Bendigo Bank** has been a terrific friend to Manly Sailability since 2012. We are very grateful for their continued support and commitment to helping us get people out on the water.

The photo below was taken at **Dart Sailability in Devon**, where Rob and Sachi Southam were warmly welcomed during their visit to the UK in May. They enjoyed meeting the local sailors and seeing Hansa boats in action on the other side of the world.

Work on the wharf rebuild is progressing slowly, and at this stage it seems our next sailing day will be on Wednesday 28 October. Please check the Manly Sailability website for any updates.



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

Community Bank Freshwater Bendigo Bank – Supporting Manly Sailability

Manly Sailability could not operate successfully without the generous support and assistance of businesses within our local community.

One of our strongest and most valued supporters is **Community Bank Freshwater Bendigo Bank**, which has provided funding for a range of important items that have enhanced the safety, accessibility and wellbeing of our participants and volunteers.

Since 2012, Community Bank Freshwater Bendigo Bank has provided funding assistance to Manly Sailability for the following:

- Funding assistance for the printing of brochures promoting and advertising Manly Sailability activities.
- Donation towards the purchase of a new defibrillator, together with funding assistance for new life jackets.
- Funding assistance towards the purchase of a new canopy, providing a sheltered area for sailors with disabilities while waiting for their turn to sail.
- Funding assistance for the purchase of six new slings, which are used to safely hoist people with severe disabilities into and out of our sailing boats.
- Funding assistance to replace our out-of-date Automatic External Defibrillator (AED).

This ongoing support has made a significant contribution to the safety, accessibility and enjoyment of sailing for our participants, while also assisting our volunteers to provide a safe and welcoming environment.

Manly Sailability sincerely thanks Community Bank Freshwater Bendigo Bank for its continued commitment and generous support of our organisation and the people we serve.



Excited participants waiting their turn to sail under the shelter of the Community Bank Freshwater Bendigo Bank canopy.



Slings are vital for the safe hoisting of the severely disabled into and out of our boats.



The potentially life saving AED is readily accessible on the dock at Manly Yacht Club.

Manly Sailability meets Dart Sailability in the UK

In May, during a holiday in the UK, Manly Sailability members Rob and Sachi Southam were fortunate to visit our counterparts at Dart Sailability.

Dart Sailability is located at Dartside Quay, Galmpton Creek, on the River Dart, near Brixham and Dartmouth, in Devon.

Arriving at Galmpton Creek, Rob and Sachi were warmly welcomed by Sailing Manager Chris Tamlyn and his merry band of dedicated volunteers.

Dart Sailability has an impressive fleet, including several Hansa 303s, along with a range of other sailing and support vessels. Their main rescue vessel is *Farries Flyer*, their version of *Charlie's Chariot*, and it is particularly interesting — a landing craft ideally suited to the role. Thankfully, the high safety standards and procedures observed by Rob and Sachi mean that it is rarely required to undertake complex rescues.

While the Dart Sailability team prepared and rigged the fleet, Rob and Sachi were invited aboard *Farries Flyer* for a wonderful harbour tour, which took them all the way down the Dart River to its mouth, where the river meets the sea.
(cont. p4)





Dart Sailability is located at Galmpton Creek, on the River Dart, near Dartmouth.



Waiting for the tide to come in.



The sailing schedule at Dart is largely dictated by the substantial local tides, adding another interesting dimension to the group's operations.

After a very pleasant three hours on the water, Rob and Sachi joined the team for coffee and cake before bidding everyone a fond farewell. As a small thank you for their wonderful hospitality, they presented the Dart Sailability team with a number of Manly Sailability shirts.

The visit provided a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow Sailability volunteers, share experiences and see how another organisation operates.

All Manly Sailability members are encouraged to consider visiting fellow Sailability groups around the world if they happen to find themselves travelling nearby. Rob and Sachi found the experience a memorable and rewarding addition to their UK holiday.



Sachi, with 600-year old Dartmouth Castle in the background.

Driving Farries Flyer*, their version of* Charlies Chariot.







Sailability around the world

Sailability boats can be found in some surprising places, anywhere around the world.

John Pens and his wife Leah recently spotted a number of Hansa 303s in the Singapore River during a stopover on their way to Turkey.

It’s wonderful to see familiar Hansa boats being enjoyed by Sailability groups around the world.

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

Go to 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 Rob. (robsoutham9@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.



Cory, our ever-reliable radio operator is counting down the days until we can sail again. Currently we expect that to be on Wednesday 28 October.

Upcoming Sailing Dates

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

Wednesday	28 October	*Bookings available*
Saturday	7 November	*Bookings available*
Wednesday	11 November	*Bookings available*
Saturday	21 November	*Bookings available*
Wednesday	25 November	*Bookings available*
Monday	30 November	*Bookings available*
Wednesday	9 December	*Bookings available*
Saturday	19 December	*Christmas Regatta*
Wednesday	23 December	*Bookings available*
Saturday	9 January	*Bookings available*
Wednesday	13 January	*Bookings available*
Saturday	23 January	*Australia Day Regatta*

Upcoming Special Events

Christmas Regatta

Saturday 19 December 2026

Although still a few months away, it's time to start thinking about our series of regattas held throughout the sailing season, the first being the Christmas Regatta, to be held on Saturday 19 December.

As we did last year, in addition to the prizes for the best sailors, there will also be a prize for the "best dressed" boat and crew who best epitomise the Christmas spirit.

Places will fill quickly so if you would like to participate please let John know on 0413 507 596 or jweaver172@gmail.com

Our Generous Sponsors

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