

September 2026

Edition 232

Edited by John Weaver

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Notes from the Editor

As many of you know, our regular sailing schedule is currently on hold while the Manly Yacht Club wharf is being rebuilt. We had originally hoped to get back on the water on 28 September, but with the construction work delayed, it now looks likely that sailing will not resume until **24 October**.

We know that many of our non-sailing volunteers have expressed an interest in learning to sail themselves and to help make this possible, we are introducing a **Learn to Sail Program** for interested volunteers. It will be a great opportunity to build confidence on the water and learn new sailing skills. If you would like to take part, please contact **Warwick** at warwickmckenzie@yahoo.com.au

In the meantime, thank you to all our volunteers for your continued enthusiasm and support. We look forward to getting everyone back on the water soon!

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**.

An exciting upgrade at Manly Yacht Club

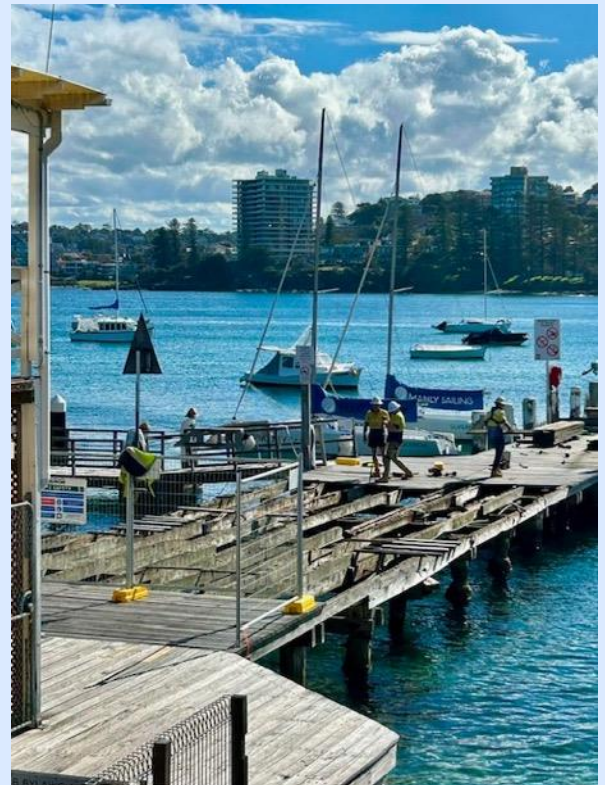
Our sailing season is currently on hold because of the changes happening at Manly Yacht Club, with part of the wharf being replaced, as part of an important upgrade to the club's facilities.

The replaced section of wharf between the rigging deck and the pontoon ramp will be built to be strong, durable and better suited to the marine environment. It will replace the existing timber sections rotting piles with a modern structure supported by steel piles and finished with a special grated decking.

The new decking will be grey in colour, helping it blend in with the remaining timber wharf, while its open design will allow sunlight to reach the water and seabed below. The replacement section is the same size as the existing area so the layout of the wharf will remain largely unchanged.

For Manly Sailability, these improvements are an important investment in the future. A stronger, longer-lasting wharf and improved facilities will help ensure that the waterfront remains a safe and accessible place for our sailors and volunteers for many years to come.

We look forward to getting back on the water and making the most of the upgraded facilities once the work is complete, however delays in the construction mean that our next sailing day will be 24 October.



The old timbers being removed, to be replaced with steel piles and grated decking.



Celebrating Community Service Across the Northern Beaches

The Northern Beaches came together in late August to celebrate the people who give their time, energy and passion to making our community a better place.

Held at Dee Why RSL, the **2026 NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards – Northern Beaches** brought together volunteers from across the region to share their stories and celebrate the incredible contribution volunteers make every day.

For Manly Sailability, it was a particularly special occasion. Manly Sailability was nominated for Volunteer Team of the Year, recognising the dedication of our volunteers and the difference they make in providing sailing opportunities and creating an inclusive community on the water. While we didn't take home the award this time, we were delighted to see so many wonderful volunteers recognised for their outstanding contributions.

Congratulations to the 2026 Northern Beaches Award Recipients

Young Volunteer of the Year: Tilly Cooper – Mona Vale Surf Life Saving Club NSW

Adult Volunteer of the Year: Kerry Gleeson – Lifeline Northern Beaches, Northern Beaches Council and WayAhead

Senior Volunteer of the Year: Melani Kypri – Mowana Safe Space

Emergency Volunteer of the Year: Christian Young – NSW State Emergency Service

Volunteer Team of the Year: Warrior Woman Foundation Wise Women Mentors

A special congratulations goes to Melani Kypri, founder of Mowana Safe Space, who was named 2026 Northern Beaches Volunteer of the Year for her deep commitment to mental health services and support. (cont p4)



Winners of the Northern Beaches Volunteer of the Year Awards with Gemma Rygate, CEO of The Centre for Volunteering, Matt Cross MP, Member for Davidson, Michael Reagan MP, Member for Wakehurst (our Patron) and Dr. Sophie Scamps, Federal Member for Mackellar.

The afternoon was a wonderful reminder that volunteering takes many forms. From helping out on the water and supporting people in need, to responding to emergencies and mentoring others, volunteers are at the heart of our communities.

As Gemma Rygate, CEO of The Centre for Volunteering, said, volunteers “help build strong and healthy communities across the state” and their contribution touches every part of community life.

NSW Minister for Volunteering Jodie Harrison also recognised volunteers as the “true heartbeat of our communities”, thanking them for the invaluable contribution they make across NSW.

Congratulations to all the award winners and nominees — and a huge thank you to every Manly Sailability volunteer. Your enthusiasm, generosity and commitment are what make our sailing program possible and help create a welcoming place where everyone can enjoy being out on the water.



Below: John accepting the nomination award on behalf of Manly Sailability, from Matt Cross, Michael Reagan and Dr. Sophie Scamps



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.



Upcoming Sailing Dates

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

Monday	28 September	<i>Cancelled</i>
Saturday	10 October	<i>Cancelled</i>
Wednesday	14 October	<i>Cancelled</i>
Saturday	24 October	<i>Bookings available</i>
Monday	26 October	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	28 October	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	7 November	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	11 November	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	21 November	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	25 November	<i>Bookings available</i>
Monday	30 November	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	5 December	<i>Christmas Regatta</i>

Upcoming Special Events

Christmas Regatta

Saturday 5 December 2026

Although still a few months away, its 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 5 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



Lions Club of Manly



BALGOWLAH

Committee Members & Key Contacts

President Volunteer Coordinator Roster Manager	Warwick McKenzie president@manlysailability.com.au warwickmckenzie@yahoo.com
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Minutes Secretary	Nola Borgelt
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Our deepest thanks to the individuals who have made donations and/or donated their skills and expertise:

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