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Edited by John Weaver

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Notes from the Editor

At our last sailing day Eli, our longest serving and most revered volunteer announced, to our great surprise, that after 33 years involvement with Manly Sailability and Sailability NSW, this would be hers, and Ivan's last sailing day with our club. They will shortly be moving to a retirement village at Toukley to be nearer to their two daughters. A farewell to Eli and Ivan is on page 2.

Manly Sailability's Annual General Meeting is to be held at Club Totem on Monday 13th July at 6.30pm. Elections will be held for all committee positions and all members are invited to join the committee and contribute to the management of Manly Sailability. *See page 5 for details*

June 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.

A Fond Farewell

Sadly, at our last sailing day Eli informed us that this would be her last sailing day with our club as she and Ivan are selling their home in Manly and are moving to a retirement village at Toukley, to be nearer to their two daughters.

Eli's involvement with Sailability began when she retired from her career in teaching students with severe disabilities, and her daughter announced she had 'found a new project for her'. Sailability was then in its infancy in Australia and, within a year, Eli was deeply involved in the fledgling organisation, devoting long days of service to this cause where her skills and experience meant she could have a huge impact in bringing a new activity to people with disabilities.

Eli has been an integral part of Manly Sailability for the last 30 years. Her commitment and dedication has left a lasting mark on our community and we owe her so much for the successful club she has built..

Former president Keith Woodward put it simply and concisely: "Eli is Sailability. She started with two boats and four disabled sailors." Eli's daughter, Beth, told us that "all the things Eli does are just normal for her, she doesn't realise how special she is." Current President, Warwick McKenzie, remarked that "Eli has always been the backbone of Manly Sailability."

Eli's dedication and commitment to Sailability is well known, and she has been recognised for her long service to the local community through her volunteering. *(continued p3)*



Eli with the volunteers and clients on her last sailing day

(continued from p2)

In 2009 she was recognised by the Australian government with the awarding of an OAM for services to people with a disability. At a State level, in July 2023 the NSW Community Sports Awards presented Eli with a Distinguished Long Service Award, for over 25 years' service to Manly Sailability, during which she acted as main fundraiser and volunteer coordinator, as well as serving on the Sailability NSW Board.

In November 2023 Eli was inducted as a lifetime member of Sailability NSW by the Board of Sailability NSW, to mark her retirement after 26 years of service, and at the same time she was made the inaugural lifetime member of Manly Sailability

In June 2025 Eli was honoured by Warringah Rotary with their "Pride of Workmanship" award as recognition of the outstanding qualities of dedication, involvement and commitment in the community.

Ivan likewise has been a dedicated volunteer at Manly Sailability for many years, making an impact both on and off the water. Among his proudest achievements is winning the Wayne Black Crew Trophy several times alongside Denis, which is awarded to the skipper and crew who perform the best over a series of three regattas.

Ivan's volunteering has always gone beyond sailing, as he's offered encouragement to new members and helped out on countless sailing days. More recently, Ivan began transitioning from crew sailing to singlehanded, finding renewed joy and independence on the water sailing *Clea*. Ivan's story is woven into the fabric of Manly Sailability, inspiring everyone who sails beside him.

As we say goodbye to Eli and Ivan, it's hard not to think of the countless laughs, kindness and genuine warmth they've brought to our group over the years. Eli's dedication and compassion made every sailing day brighter, and Ivan's friendly nature always put a smile on our faces. We'll miss the fun they shared and the way they made everyone feel welcome. We thank them, and wish them both a happy, healthy and less hectic life in Toukley.



Eli's Pride of Workmanship Award from Warringah Rotary



Ivan sailing *Clea* on North Harbour



David and Eli enjoy her last sail at Manly

Charlie's Chariot Antifouling

As any boat owner will tell you, boats are in constant need of maintenance and repair and ours are no exception. Brian, David, Denis and Warwick regularly repair any damage our sailing boats may suffer during our sailing season and several of our team have recently completed essential maintenance on *Charlie's Chariot*, ensuring its seaworthiness for the year ahead.

In driving rain David and John slipped *Charlies Chariot* at the Manly Rowing & Skiff Club and then our dedicated team diligently attacked the barnacles and weed on the hull with high pressure hose and hand-held scrapers.

The following days were sunny and clear enabling *Charlie's Chariot's* hull to be repainted with antifoul, leaving it gleaming and protected. While on the slips, Pittwater Marine serviced the outboard motor, ensuring the boat's mechanical reliability. Warwick also called on his artistic skills to touch up the Sailability signage on the side of the hull.

Special thanks to David, Brian, Warwick, Peter, Robert, Nola and John for their hard and dirty work, and many thanks also to Manly Rowing & Skiff Club for letting us use their facilities and slipway free of charge.



CIRCUS QUIRKUS is back

International Entertainment's



International Entertainment Australia's CIRCUS QUIRKUS is a contemporary take on your favourite, traditional circuses of ages past. Over the many years they have brought to their audience, an eclectic and entertaining mix of Circus acts from all over the world. Internationally renowned Clowns, Jugglers, Acrobats, and more have delivered funny, hugely engaging and sometimes death-defying acts of unbelievable skill.

Lions Club of Manly are again proud to be hosting our annual show for local children and their families. This is our yearly event which funds community projects such as specialised medical equipment for local hospitals and is a non-animal acrobatic circus that has wide-ranging appeal for all ages.

Admission to the show is **FREE** and we are partnering with Eventbrite to offer online ticketing and access. Please note that these tickets have been generously sponsored by Sydney's business community to give your clients/children 90 minutes of family entertainment, which is guaranteed to amuse and astound the family.

When distributing this link for e-tickets, please ensure they are given to those living with special circumstances such as cost-of-living pressures or domestic difficulties. Single parent families are especially welcome also. Remember - these tickets are offered on a first come, first served basis - when they are gone they are gone! Dates and times for performances are:

Norths Cammeray, Abbott St Cammeray

Sunday 12th July – Sessions at 11:00am, 1:00pm and 6:00pm

Monday 13th July – Sessions at 11:00am, 1:00pm and 4:00pm

The link for tickets click is:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lions-club-of-manly-circus-quirkus-2026-tickets-1990458290328>

For more information, please refer to the website at www.circusquirkus.com.au

We sincerely hope you enjoy the show.



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 Eli. (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.



Warwick and Eli on her last sailing day with us.

Upcoming Sailing Dates

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

Monday	29 June	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	10 June	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	4 July	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	15 July	<i>Bookings available</i>
Monday	27 July	<i>Bookings available</i>

The sailing day roster for the remainder of the year will be available later in July.

Please note that there will not be any sailing in August or September due to the wharf at Manly Yacht Club being replaced.

Upcoming Special Events

Annual General Meeting

Monday 13 July 2026

Members of Manly Sailability are cordially invited to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM), scheduled for 6:30pm on Monday, 13 July at Club Totem, Balgowlah.

All committee positions will be vacated, and elections will be conducted for each role within Manly Sailability. Members interested in joining the committee and contributing to the management of our organization are encouraged to attend or, alternatively, to nominate themselves by contacting the current president, Warwick McKenzie, at warwickmckenzie@yahoo.com.au

Our Generous Sponsors



BALGOWLAH

Committee Members & Key Contacts

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

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