

September 2025

Edition 221

Edited by John Weaver

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Notes from the Editor

It is with great sadness we note the passing of Helen Hendry, our long-time volunteer at Manly Sailability. Helen was an integral part of Manly Sailability for over 20 years, as well as being active with a number of other volunteer organisations. She will be greatly missed and our sympathy and thoughts are with Helen's family and friends.

In the last issue of *Signals* Eli provided background to the origins and naming of *Vin and Black Swan* and in this issue she outlines the origin of the name of *Woody*, one of our older Hansa 303's.

September 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.

What's In A Name?— By Eli Demeny

Woody

Woody, with sail no. 833, is the second oldest boat in our fleet, only preceded by *Dolly Wallis* with sail no. 735. *Woody* was donated to Sailability Manly in February, 2003 by the kind-hearted then President of Manly Yacht Club, Keith Woodward – hence the name *Woody*!

Keith joined Manly Yacht Club in 1996, became a Director soon after, and was President of Manly Yacht Club between 2002 and 2006, becoming a life member in 2016. He was a great supporter of Manly Sailability and “would often get a thrill when I saw *Woody* with the blue sails being sailed by a Sailability sailor”.

During his time with Manly Yacht Club Keith was the driving force in the development of the club, upgrading the kitchen facilities, the storage area and, most importantly for us, arranging for the disabled toilet to be built on the ground floor. His major achievement however was the delivery of the pontoon and rigging deck - obtaining grants and working with a team of volunteers to build the pontoon and deck over a two-year period.

Woody began life with dark blue sails matching the hull colour, however the current pink sails were donated by the Invictus Games organisers when the games were held in Sydney in 2018, and *Woody* was one of the entrants in the games.

The Hansa 303's are a one-design boat, so all hulls, sails and gear are essentially identical, and the success of any boat when racing essentially comes down to the skill of the skipper and crew.

We are all aware that *Woody* is “Denis’ boat” possibly because he joined Manly Sailability at about the same time as *Woody* was donated. As one of our most skilful sailors, Denis has many successes with *Woody*, winning the Australia Day Regattas every year from 2014 to 2020, and always with the same team of Denis as skipper, and Ivan as crew.



Keith Woodward presenting Denis & Ivan with the 2012 Wayne Black Trophy (l) and (r) Woody racing to victory once again.



September Highlights

An overseas visitor to Manly Sailability



Maki on the dock with Warwick prior to enjoying a sail.

A special guest recently at Sailability was Makiko Iida, (Maki) accompanied by her friend Tim Leehy, who was visiting from Sailability Enoshima in Japan.

Enoshima is a small offshore island, linked to the mainland by a 389-metre bridge. It is close to Tokyo and Yokohama and was the location for the 1964 Summer Olympics and also the 2020 Summer Olympics.

Maki enthusiastically sailed with Rob and was interested to observe our operations, which she conveyed directly in real time via Facetime to her own Sailability group, which was operating simultaneously.

She was able to show us via Facetime how their 303 boats were launched and operated in Enoshima. Maki plans to visit other Sailability clubs during her 3-week stay in Australia.

A new boat for our fleet

As many of you may be aware we plan to take delivery of a new Hansa 303 in October which will have a yellow hull and sails, and the Committee has been charged with the task of selecting a name for the new boat. With the sad passing of Helen all members of the committee unanimously agreed that's the new boat will be called *Helen Hendry* in recognition of Helens long service to Manly Sailability.

Helen joined Manly Sailability over 20 years ago and established herself as a very dedicated volunteer, taking over roles such as Support Boat Driver, Registrar, Membership Secretary, Bi-Monthly report presented to Sailability NSW, publicity gatherings for Sailability Manly, Chef for Saturday Barbecues, and many other duties.

We hope to recognise Helen by naming the new boat in her honour and plan to have an official launching ceremony for the new boat in the near future.

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.

Upcoming Sailing Dates

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

Monday	29 September	<i>Fully booked</i>
Saturday	4 October	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	8 October	<i>Fully booked</i>
Saturday	18 October	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	22 October	<i>Bookings available</i>
Monday	27 October	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	1 November	<i>Bookings available</i>
Wednesday	5 November	<i>Bookings available</i>
Saturday	15 November	<i>Family and Supporters Day</i>
Wednesday	19 November	<i>Bookings available</i>
Monday	24 November	<i>Fully booked</i>
Saturday	29 November	<i>Christmas Regatta</i>

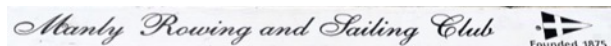
Upcoming Special Events

Manly Sailability Christmas Regatta Saturday 29 November 2025

Our next regatta will be the Christmas regatta, held on Saturday 29 November and our entire fleet of eight 303's will be competing. The regatta will consist of a series of three races, with prizes for the winners and a BBQ for all at the end of the racing.

So if you would like to participate as a skipper or as crew, and have a lot of fun, please advise John Weaver on jweaver172@gmail.com.

Our Generous Sponsors



Lions Club of Manly



BALGOWLAH

Committee Members & Key Contacts

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