

the Mainsheet

January 2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Welcome to 2026, and this, the 25th edition of the 'new' eMainsheet.

How lucky are we, here comes yet another year of sailing adventures and socialising with our favourite crewmates. These crew members possess varying experience and skill levels and each time we go out we experience unique challenges together. We venture out in a variety of boats, each designed for a specific set of conditions. All these variances are what makes sailing unique.

As we enter the second half of the 25/26 sailing season, we all look a little closer at the various Series pointscores to see what needs to be done to win one of those elusive sheep stations. Of course we are all winners, but the Series overall winners prove they can perform consistently, and in fact improve, in whatever weather we are dealt.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT CSC?

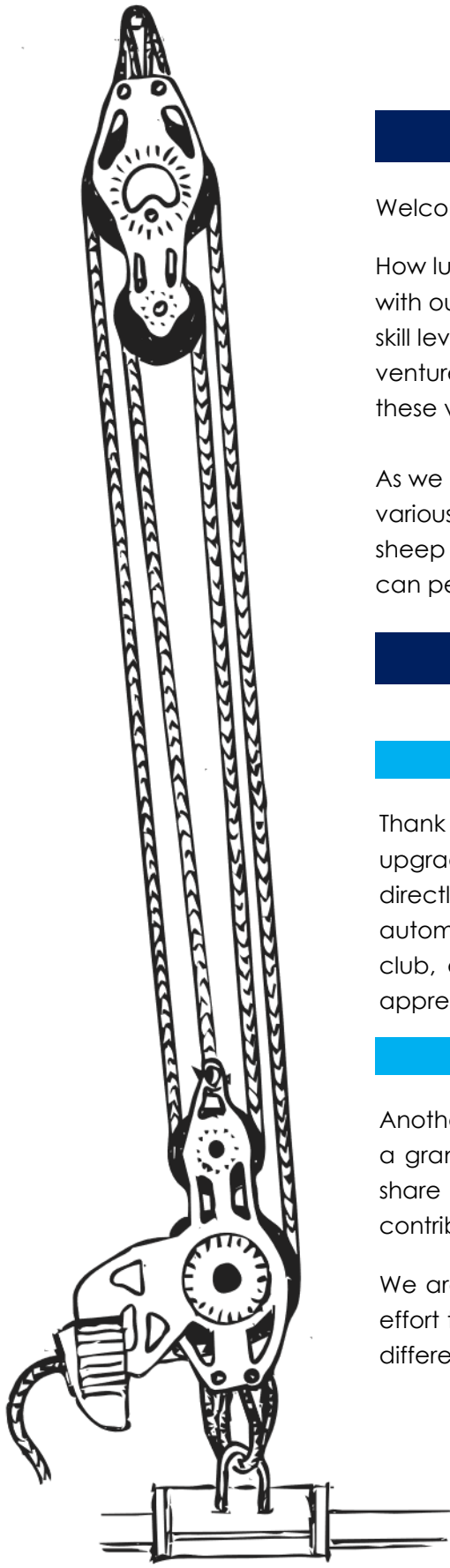
WIFI UPGRADE

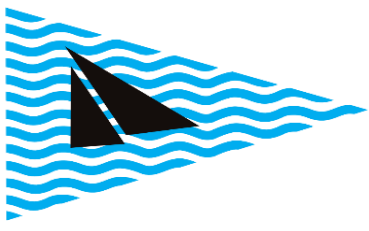
Thank you, Bruce, for your time, effort, and expertise in organising and delivering major upgrades to our internet connection. The NBN has been upgraded with fibre now run directly into the building, and a Starlink backup system has been installed to automatically fail over during any outages. This is a significant improvement for the club, especially for Friday trading and POS reliability, and your work is very much appreciated.

GRANT SUCCESS

Another huge thank you to Tim MacGillivray for taking the time and initiative to submit a grant application to assist with the deck reunification project. We're delighted to share that Tim was successful in securing this funding, which will make a significant contribution to the work ahead.

We are incredibly grateful to volunteers like Tim, who generously give their time and effort to make such a meaningful impact on the club. Your dedication truly makes a difference.





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2026 SYDNEY TO HOBART WRAP UP

The Boxing Day start was a downwind start line, which always turns into carnage, drag racing down Sydney Harbour with around 120 other starters to the first two rounding marks. Once clear of the Heads, we settled into a solid 20-25 knot southerly, which carried us into the first night beating away in a 2.5–3 m swell.

The breeze remained southerly all the way down the NSW coast, where we had to dodge patches of northerly current generated by the prolonged southerly flow. During the first night the breeze softened, putting the boys to work with multiple sail changes to keep the boat moving.

On the second day the breeze increased again and continued to build as we headed offshore, eventually swinging to the south-west. Conditions ramped up with a challenging and uncomfortable sea state, but both the crew and the boat handled it well and continued to charge on.

As the wind continued to build, we progressively reduced sail area before ultimately making the call to preserve the main and drop it when the breeze began peaking at around 50 knots, with 6 m swells rolling through. Unfortunately, not long after, we lost the D1. The crew acted quickly to get everything down and secure the rig, but this ultimately meant our race was over.

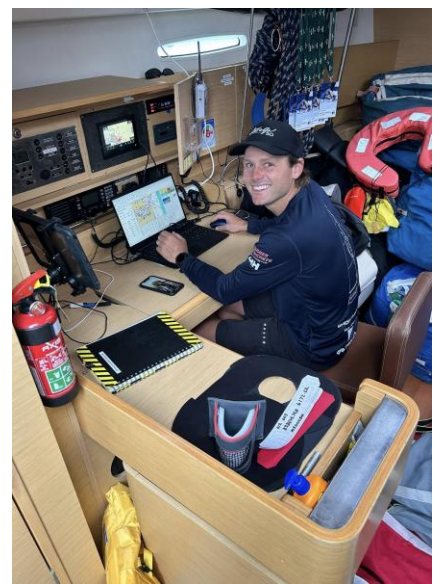
We headed to Ulladulla to refuel, dry out, and prepare to get the boat home. During this time we were flooded with calls and messages from multiple Cronulla members offering assistance – go Cronulla! Eventually the boat made it safely back to the port, where the boys were greeted by a bunch of club members with cold BEER.

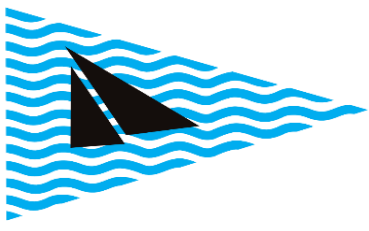
Despite having to retire, it was unreal to have a true Cronulla team racing together, even getting Bucko out of retirement. Having the experience of the old salts aboard paired with the drive of the young blokes proved to be a great combination. The team dynamic was one of the best I've been part of – great crew, tremendous banter.

First-timers Todd, Jack and Haakon held their own throughout the race and proved to be valuable members of the team. A huge thanks to Mick, who made it all happen and took his mates along for the ride.

While it wasn't the result we were chasing, I'm incredibly proud of all our Cronulla guys – great sailors, even better mates. Onya boys.

Jacob Broom





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NAVIGATORS' CUP REGATTA



Held every year since 1837, the Australia Day Regatta is the world's oldest continuously run annual sailing event.

This year, the 28th Navigators' Cup Regatta was again our opportunity to come together and participate in friendly sporting competition on Australia's amazing waterways. CSC has proudly hosted this annual event since 2003, and continues its vision to make the Navigators' Cup one of Sydney's great ADR sailing events, commemorating our local sailing and maritime history.

After unsafe conditions caused postponement on 17th January, rescheduling saw our 28th Navigators' Cup Regatta run and won in idyllic conditions on Saturday 31st January 2026.

With about 25 yachts on the single start line in the Port Hacking estuary, it was quite the spectacle for onlookers lining the Bate Bay and Port Hacking foreshore. Three courses were sailed, one inshore passage course around Bate Bay, one offshore course to Botany Bay, and another offshore course around Wedding Cake Island.

The Navigators' Cup event is open to all complying yachts, with this year seeing a great fleet of mono and multihull yachts from CSC, RMYC(PH) and the Multi Cruising Yacht Club.

A small fleet of yachts participated on the Inshore Course, starting near the Bass and Flinders Monument, sailing a Bate Bay Passage Course, and then home to the Port Hacking finishing line.

Group 3 Scratch 1st **Endless Summer** (Russell Barnes), 2nd **Banshe** (Corinne Feldmann)

Group 3 Navigators Cup PHS 1st **Banshe** (Corinne Feldmann), 2nd **Endless Summer** (Russell Barnes)

A fleet of 8 yachts, including 6 multihulls, participated on the short Offshore Course, starting near the Bass and Flinders Monument, sailing into Botany Bay to the Captain Cook bellbuoy, around the Waverider, and then home to the Port Hacking finishing line.

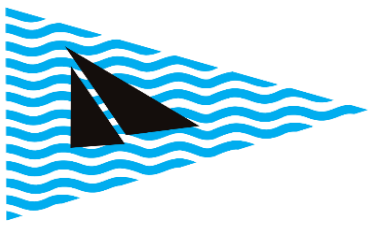
Group 2 Scratch 1st **Multihull Central Starship** (Brent Vaughan) , 2nd **Sea Twist** (Rod Nairn) 3rd **Chillout** (Paul Booth)

Group 2 Navigators Cup PHS saw 1st **Sea Twist** (Rod Nairn), 2nd **Chillout** (Paul Booth), 3rd **Catty Shack** (Lynne Clark)

A fleet of 14 yachts participated on the long Offshore Course, starting near the Bass and Flinders Monument, sailing into Botany Bay to the Captain Cook bellbuoy, around Wedding Cake Island, and then home to the Port Hacking finishing line.

Group 1 Scratch 1st **Let's Go 50** (Michael Stuart) , 2nd **Sea Hawk** (Pete + Drew Van Ryn) 3rd **Let's Go 30** (Tim MacGillivray)

Group 1 Navigators Cup PHS saw 1st **Let's Go 30** (Tim MacGillivray), 2nd **Jazz Bar** (Jared Macquart / Tony Landers), 3rd **Let's Go 50** (Michael Stuart).

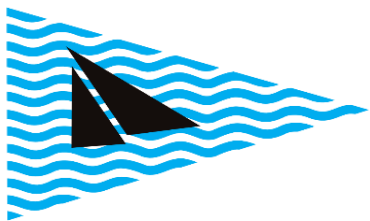


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The Navigators' Cup trophy race was won by low flying **Let's Go 30**, piloted by Tim MacGillivray and his trusty flight crew. Full results can be found at the LINK below, or under the Race Results tab on the CSC website.
<https://app.sailsys.com.au/club/18/results/series/4659/races>

Growth only comes with effort, volunteer effort. We will endeavour to expand participation and sponsorship to make next year's Navigators' Cup Regatta bigger and better. CSC would like to extend their thanks to Rear Commodore: Yachts Jared Macquart, our starters Dave and Fiona, our presentation announcers Bronny and Bucko, and all members who volunteered their time this year, including of course Tayla again heading the Catering Team. A big thank you to our Navigators' Cup sponsors.. Mudgee Concrete, Multihull Central, Barracouta Sails, Macquart Marine, Cronulla Sailing Club, and Australia Day Regatta 189. Thanks guys.





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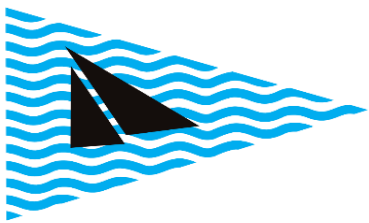
LEARN TO SAIL

Over the January school holidays, we were excited to welcome some new faces to the club through our Learn to Sail program. Our junior sailors had a fantastic time on the water, building skills, confidence and friendships along the way. Best of all, all seven participants enjoyed it so much they'll be coming back for more when the program continues in February.



WHAT'S COMING UP?

7-8 February	Harbour Weekend
7-8 March	MG14 State Titles @ Cronulla
28 March	Cronulla Cup



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HARBOUR WEEKEND

7th - 8th February we have our infamous Race to Sydney Harbour and Return to Port Hacking. The course on the Saturday sees the yachts start in the estuary at the Port Hacking start line, sail up the coast to Manly Cove, to then have an elegant sail down the harbour to the Clarke Island finish line.

The yachts then proceed to the Cruising Yacht Club of Australia, to berth the boats, to then spend the afternoon and evening at the Sydney To Hobart Bar, telling stories of the day's events, the camaraderie is second to none. Some crew and skippers are smart, they opt to go to bed early and live to fight another day. The Sunday starts early with crews rolling off boats, with little sleep rushing to the CYCA or neighbouring cafes in search of coffee and greasy bacon egg rolls, with some crews catching the train back in after a sensible early night. The Sunday race sees the yachts start in Watsons Bay, with the race started by our mates at Vaucluse Yacht Club with Hayden Skelton as RO. From Watsons Bay the yachts work their way down the harbour exiting the harbour to race down the coast to the Port Hacking finish line. Many crew often find themselves sea sick from the previous night's festivities. Those brave enough to have another catch up with harrowing tails and yarns, often meet at the RMYC marina bar for round 2 of the camaraderie.

Casual entry can be done via SailSys. Please let Jared know 7 days prior if you intend on racing so he can ensure you have a berth at CYCA.

MG14 STATE TITLES

CSC is excited to host the MG14 National Championships on 7-8 March. With a long tradition of running fantastic regattas, our success is built on the amazing support of our members and volunteers.

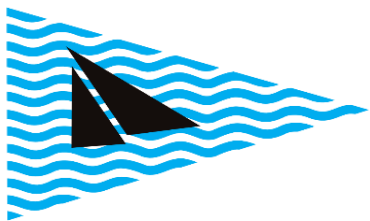
If you'd like to be involved and help make this event a success, please contact OTB Rear Commodore Craig Smith centreboards@cronullasailingclub.com.au or MG14 Rep Neil Murphy.

CRONULLA CUP

The Cronulla Cup was a concept which was born to celebrate Cronulla Sailing Clubs 90th Season in 2025. It was decided to have it as an annual event where all yachts, dinghies and OTB boats, from both the RMYC, CSC and PHOSC, race together in a fun exhibition style race, which celebrates us all being together on the water. We have 2 starts approximately 10 mins apart, allowing the slower boats a head start, we sail a specially created short course that takes us from the Port Hacking start line down towards the Kingsway and across to Jibbon. Parading all of the boats that sail in the sailing and yacht clubs on Port Hacking. Yes the day is about fun, but there are still prizes for participating boats, 1st, 2nd and 3rd in PHS and CBH are awarded, prize for the best dressed up crew, and the biggest prize of all, who will be the winner of the Cronulla Cup?

After the fun out on the water, everyone is invited back to the CSC club house, to hear yarns and stories from the legends who built sailing up in the local area, we have the prize giving, bbq and camaraderie of everyone being together.





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IN OTHER NEWS

J24 NATIONALS

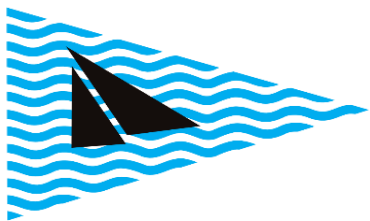
On the 6 Jan, 3 J24's from CSC ventured down to Sandringham Yacht Club for the J24 National Titles. The fleet got in 2 days of racing in some very challenging, windy conditions. The final 2 days of racing were cancelled due to 40+ knots.

Sean Kirkjan on **Checkmate** with his crew Keith, Shane, Tony and William had a great regatta and finished 3rd overall on scratch. **Tinto** skippered by Ian Goodbury with his crew of Alex, Karen, Mal and Garth finished 10th on scratch and Dave McKay on Stamped Urgent with Drew, Matty, Dog and Spike finished 16th.

All 3 boats qualified for the World Titles in November this year at Sandringham.

Thanks to Tinto and [Marg's Yacht Photos](#) for the great pics.





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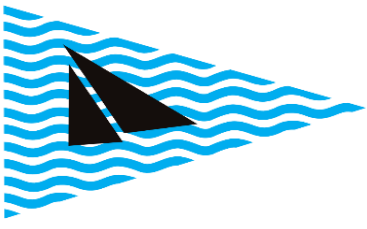
MG14 NATIONALS

On 5th Jan, 5 Cronulla boats made their way to Lake Cootharaba, QLD for the 2026 Riley Fittings MG14 National Titles. Congratulations to Danielle and Jon on **Rum Rage** who took out the Handicap Pointscore and Craig and Brendon on Waverider who were 3rd on handicap. Final Placings:

Barra	Neil Tasker & Jack Stafford	4th Scratch	20th Handicap
Cin Cin	Bernard Parker & Luke Johnson	9th Scratch	21st Handicap
Rum Rage	Dannielle Parker & Jonathan Dunstan	23rd Scratch	1st Handicap
SKOL	Neil Murphy & Anna Childs	19th Scratch	10th Handicap
The Kraken	Katelyn Parker & Luke Roberts	22nd Scratch	6th Handicap
Waverider	Craig Smith & Brendon Yiu	21st Scratch	3rd Handicap

Thanks to the MG14 Sailing Association and [Russell Witt Photography](#) for the pics.





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CAPE TO RIO RACE

Congratulations to CSC members Eric and Duncan who have just finished the Cape to Rio race aboard **African Skimmer**. They finished in 4th place after 21 days, 6 hrs, 38 mins and 4 sec.

Exceptional effort with some tough conditions at times. Nice to see the Cronulla burgee still flying there as they crossed the finish line. Watch some of their journey here <https://youtu.be/vfssSle-zU0?si=4gh9weZdnUVHdvza>



ANOTHER NEW GIRL

In December, CSC member Darren Morgan became the very proud owner of **Whispering**, a 2008 Jeanneau Sun Odyssey 36i. As **Whispering** currently lives on the Derwent, Daz plans to familiarise himself with his new girl by cruising Storm Bay and the Tassie coastline before embarking on an extended passage to Port Hacking sometime in the future. Expeditions already completed have seen him and his various crews of family and friends cruising around Storm Bay, Bruny Island and the d'Entrecasteaux Channel.

She's a sweet girl Daz, congratulations.

Recently they were Johnny-on-the-spot to witness the amazing aurora from a secluded Bruny Island anchorage. We hear he has gained great local knowledge, wisdoms like, whatever the Tassie weather app says, triple it!

