



MEDIA RELEASE

A successful day on the Harbour - Kids on the Boat for Make-A-Wish Foundation

Wednesday 9th April

On Sunday the 6th April, the Kids on the Boat for Make-A-Wish Foundation event was held. Despite the looming clouds and eventual rain, the spirits of the children and their families could not be dampened. Setting sail from Middle Harbour Yacht Club in the morning, coping with the wet weather conditions became just another part of the fun.

The day was the kick-off event for Kids on the Boat, who hope to make it an annual campaign. Teaming up with Middle Harbour Yacht Club members Scott Saunders and Colin Pitstock, local Manly resident, Juergen Kaus (JK) created the event for Make-A-Wish kids to experience the wonder and freedom of sailing – an inspirational encounter that aimed to provide the hope, strength, and joy that they need to forget about their illness. Some much needed escape for the children and their families, the day consisted of fun lessons in sailing safety and a two hour cruise on beautiful Sydney Harbour, aboard a number of different vessels.

The children, their families and the yachties were treated to an excellent celebratory barbecue supplied by the club, and each child received a surprise Easter goodies package at the end of the day.

"Despite huge rain clouds hanging over us, the children weren't going to let the weather affect them. They were excited, they got to steer the boats, and they experienced what sailing is all about. As they returned from the sail to the club, all I could see was their huge smiles off the back of the boats, and a chatter of excitement", said JK.

Juergen and the team at Kids on the Boat would like to thank members of the cruising division of Middle Harbour Yacht Club, in particular Colin Pitstock, Scott Saunders and Michael Hazelton, and the Middle Harbour Yacht Club for its hospitality and assistance in making this event a success.

Below are some photos from the day.

About Make-A-Wish

Make-A-Wish Australia grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. According to a study of wish impact, most health professionals surveyed believe a wish-come-true can have positive impacts on the health of children. Kids say wishes give them renewed strength to fight their illnesses, and their parents say these experiences help strengthen the entire family.

Kids on the boat

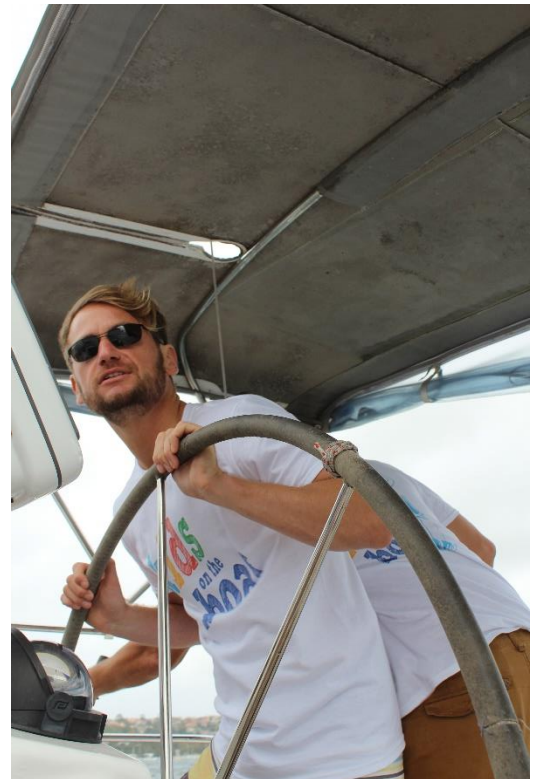
Notes to the editor

This fantastic event was an exciting and enriching experience for all the children and their families. A once in a life time opportunity for the kids to experience the delights of sailing.

We invite all media to contact us and share this wonderful story. Please advise if you would like photos in another format.

Contact:

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