

Waterskiing and Water Activities on Manly Dam

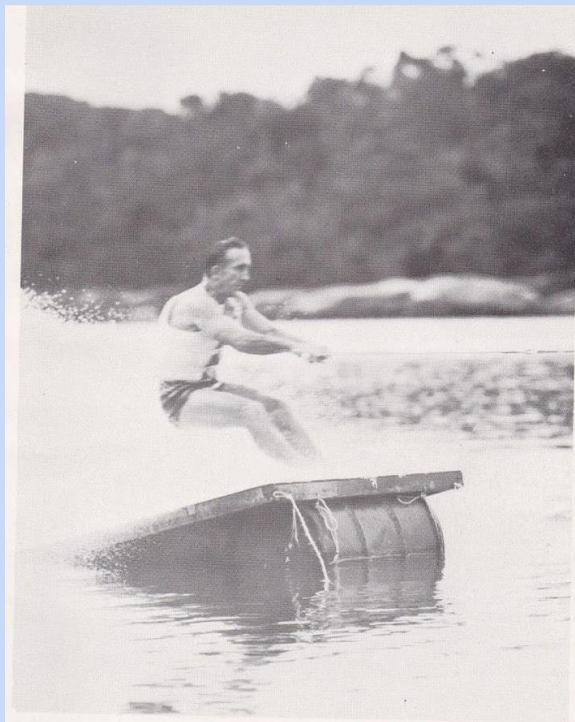
Manly & Warringah Water Ski Club

Manly & Warringah Water Ski Club was formed in 1962 under the Manly and Warringah Councils.

A public meeting was held at the Manly Council Chambers to discuss the formation of the Club. It was managed by District Parks.

In the last 57 years there has been many events of significance occur at Manly Dam.

Geoff Nicholls - 1st to Barefoot Jump in the World



Geoff, Nicholls of Manly - 1st in the world to jump a ramp barefoot.

Photo by Ray Leighton.

A WORLD FIRST TO AUSTRALIA BAREFOOT SPECTACULAR



At the Australian Barefoot Championships held in Sydney earlier this year, Sydney skier, Geoff Nicholls (pictured), became the first in the world to successfully negotiate the jump ramp — barefoot!

Geoff designed and made the ramp himself. It is 9ft. x 4ft., has a masonite surface and rises to a height of 2ft. 6ins. from the water. Geoff's boat speed is approximately 40 m.p.h. and he travels a distance of about 20 feet before landing.

Already this feat has received world-wide acclaim — the American "Water Skier" comments — "Not only are the Australians making a run at the world's best in conventional competitive skiing but now they've come up with a Barefoot Jumper!"

6,000 spectators and skiers from 5 States were present at Manly Dam in Sydney earlier this year to witness an unusual water ski tournament — unusual

because no skis were used — this was the Australian Barefoot Water Ski Championships.

Highlights of the day were really high-rating — Geoff Nicholls making the world's first barefoot jump over the ramp, Gary Barnard (W.A.) showed that it's just as easy to ski barefoot backwards as it is forwards, a deepwater start on barefoot from Bob Neville of Sydney and numerous barefoot beach starts, including a duo beach start from two South Australians.

The programme featured many different events—Quick step-offs, wake-crossing and a novelty step-off which was won by Keith Templeton who commenced his barefoot run by jumping off a disc.

Top point scorer of the day was Kevin Stewart (Sydney) and to Kevin goes the envious title of Australian Barefoot Champion.

Footnote: "Lost and Found" in NEWWSA magazine — THE AUSTRALIAN WATER SKIER, October, 1964.

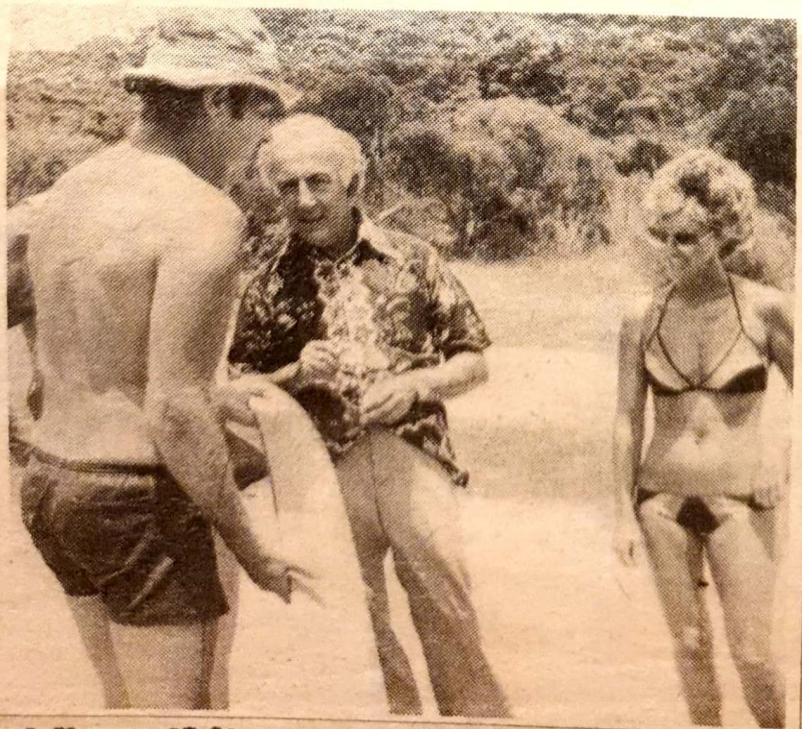
2nd person to
Barefoot jump was
Michael McEnally.

Governor General Sir Zelman Cowan

January 1979



The three children of the Governor-General, Sir Zelman Cowan, were introduced to the exciting sport of water skiing on Manly Dam at the weekend. Nick, Ben and Kate Cowan were given a short course by members of Manly-Warringah Water Ski Club. Above, the Cowan youngsters prepare for a trial run. Below, Sir Zelman inspects some of the gear with the club president, Michael McEnnally, and his wife Carole.



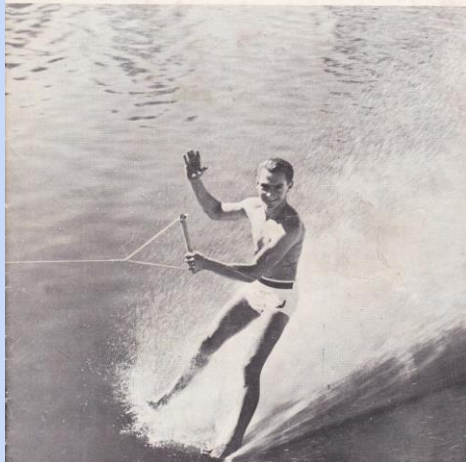






Competitions held at Manly Dam

AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS.

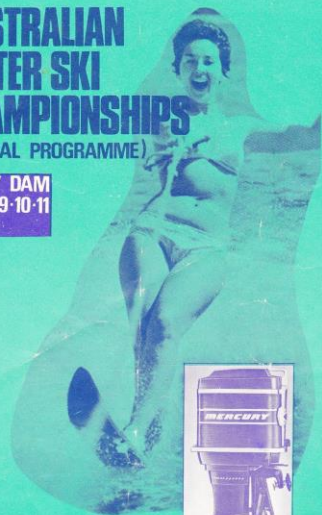


Photograph by Courtesy of "SURFERS PARADISE GARDENS".

MANLY DAM
25th, 26th APRIL, 1964.
PROGRAMME 1/-.

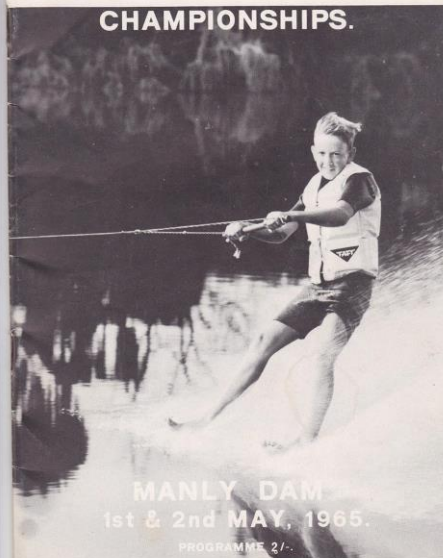
AUSTRALIAN WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS (OFFICIAL PROGRAMME)

MANLY DAM
APRIL 9-10-11
1966.



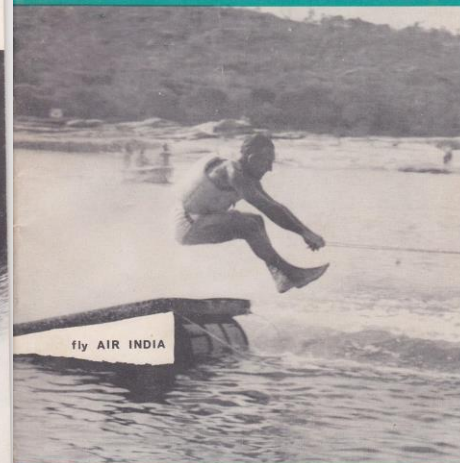
SPONSORED BY
MERCURY OUTBOARDS
CARIBBEAN BOATS

3rd AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS.



MANLY DAM
1st & 2nd MAY, 1965.
PROGRAMME 2/-.

4th AUSTRALIAN BAREFOOT WATER SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS



14th & 15th MAY, 1966
AT MANLY DAM
SPONSORED BY NEPTUNE OIL CO.

Community Groups that access the water

Warringah Triathlon Club- Sunday Training Session

Life Saving NSW - Nippers board training

State Emergency Service - Water Rescue training

NSW Police - Survival Swim Training

NSW Fire and Rescue

NSW Water Ski Federation Disabled Division

Manly & Warringah Water Ski Club

Film crews - Banished

NSW Police Tactical Operations Unit

Hi Geraldine,

We used the Dam last year for a "survival swim" which is normally run in the Harbour between Balmoral and Manly Wharf, due to the time of year there were concerns about sharks so a decision was made due to risk mitigation to try and find an alternative and that's how we landed at Manly Dam. The Dam made the exercise easier to control as there weren't anywhere near as many external factors we had to worry about such as public and commercial vessels which would be in the harbour. We would be likely to use the Dam again in the future for the same course and possibly other water related activities and possibly Bush related training as well.

Cheers John



NSW Water Ski Federation Disabled Division

New South Wales Water Ski Federation – Disabled Division is a Water Ski program open to all ages with various physical disabilities or vision impairment.

Our Water Ski Days are usually held at NSW Waterski Gardens (Wisemans Ferry) or at St George Rowing Club (Cooks River) or at Manly Dam.

It is a great alternative sport that can operate on different levels, depending on the skier. The skier can enjoy an experience of being towed behind the boat at a low speed or, they can experience a faster speed, crossing & jumping the wake. Its totally up to the skier!

(<http://www.disabledwaterskinsw.com/>)

Disabled Division Water Ski Come and Try Day

The MWWSC has been hosting a come and try day since 2014. The session is in February when the water is an ideal temperature for the participants. The days have always been highly successful and it is wonderful to be a part of.

We have met so many different people over the years

a 10 year old boy with vision impairments, men and women with spinal cord injuries due to an accident (car, boat, falling and horse riding) young people with cerebral palsy.

Each person has impacted my life with their story.









Casual Hirer - Local Resident







Christmas Functions

Company Christmas party



Andrew - New Zealand Ex National Slalom Champion

Dear Geraldine,

Just a catch up in regard to skiing on Manly dam. I was over a couple of weeks ago from New Zealand and my daughter Sarah (who lives at Dee Why) was able to link me up with 2 blokes who are members of the Manly ski club .A chap called Bob and another Barry

I thoroughly enjoyed my time with them and what a fantastic place to ski. One of the good things about skiing is that people are passionate about it and I have found over the years when you have something that's really good it is good to share it with others who have the same passion.

Skiing is a fantastic sport. If you could pass on to both Bob and Barry my thanks for their willingness to share a bit of their paradise that would be great.

Can't wait to come back

kind regards

Andrew

Current Competitors training at Manly Dam

Mark

Hayden

Josh

Steve

Barry

Bob

Ella

Mitch

Training at Manly Dam

Barry, Josh and Mark have been training on Manly Dam for over 10yrs and compete at Slalom waterski events from Albury up to Cairns and across to Darwin, Barry has even represented Australia as part of the over 35's team in Florida in 2014.

Training consists generally of at least one session (2-3hrs) often 2, during the week (during daylight saving) and one on the weekend when not competing, we are even crazy enough to train during winter on Saturday afternoons when the water temperature gets down to 12 degrees.

Bob and his family have been skiing at the Dam his whole life. Both Bob's Dad Paul and his Grandfather Harold were competitive skiers and both sponsored to ski.

Hayden and Steve have recently started competing and are enjoying learning and getting better

Some current Competition Results

	Barry	Josh	Mark
Australian Ranking Slalom – Age Group	4 th of 136	20 th of 33	14 th of 136
Australian Ranking Slalom (Overall)	11 th of 409	214 th of 409	43 rd of 409
World Ranking Slalom – Age Group	20 th of 285 (Over 55 Men)	113 th of 128 (Under 17 Boys)	150 th of 315 (Over 45 Men)
Australian Ranking Trick – Age Group		27 th of 58	
Australian Ranking Trick (Overall)		93 rd of 178	





Fletcher Family





My Family



My Family



My Role


I am currently the Booking Officer (for the past 7 years) and Hon. Secretary (for the past 3 years).

My Role is to liase with people who wish to book the water area in Section 2.

I ensure that all hirers have current Boat registration, Insurance and Boat Licences. This is to ensure everyone's safety.

For safety of all users only 2 boats are booked on at one time.

I am available via phone, text or email to chat.



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★ Disabled Skier Event

On Saturday February 7th, 2015 we are once again hosting a Come 'n Try day for disabled skiers through the Disabled Division of the NSW Water Ski Federation.

There will be about 10, mainly proficient skiers taking advantage of the slalom course and using the jump [\(more...\)](#)

★ Kid's Triathlon

The Go-Series Kids Triathlons are scheduled for Sunday 8 March and Sunday 29 March 2015. You will note the booking roster lists a "kid's triathlon" in the morning session.

It is expected the event will be finished by 9:00 am so the two crews with that afternoon session will be able to get an early start if they wish. [\(more...\)](#)

★ Tournaments

The club has a long history with competitive skiers. In October 2014 we had another member competing.

Below is the Club's presidents message. [\(more...\)](#)

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Member Login

You are trying to access a member's section of the website. Please login before proceeding.

Login (Email)

Password

[Forgotten Password](#)

Make a Booking

Use the calendar below to select a date. Once the date has been selected the sessions will be displayed below

Aug	September 2019						Oct
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	1	2	3	4	5	6	

Select the boat you would like to book in

Session	Status	Boat 1	Status	Boat 2
07:30 - 10:30	Booked	<input type="checkbox"/>	Available	<input type="checkbox"/>
10:30 - 12:00	Booked	<input type="checkbox"/>	Available	<input type="checkbox"/>
12:00 - 14:00	Booked	<input type="checkbox"/>	Available	<input type="checkbox"/>
14:00 - 16:00	Booked	<input type="checkbox"/>	Available	<input type="checkbox"/>