

Callala Junior Sailing School

The Callala Junior Sailing School completed its 17th year of operation in the boatshed in Callala Bay which was completed in 2001. Twenty-five students attended the school in the two teaching sessions before and after the January School holidays. In addition, twenty students from the Callala Primary School attended special classes conducted on Fridays for 6 weeks during the same periods.

There is nothing to match the sheer joy and delight on student's faces as they experience the joys of sailing for the first time. Three Open Bic dinghies were added to the training boat fleet using a grant from NSW Local Sports Grant Program. Sadly, Keith Horne, one of the school's founders passed away recently. School members joined with his family to celebrate a wonderful life of community service. One of the Open Bics was named the 'Keith Horne' during a ceremony on the last training day on 14 April 2018 at the boatshed.

The new season will start in October 2018. The Sailing School is run by an enthusiastic group of volunteers who meet each Thursday (0830-1130) for the 'Seafarers' Working Group for chats and maintenance during the winter layoff period. Local men and women who are interested in sailing and 'mucking about with boats' are most welcome to join these activities. Volunteers who teach require a 'working with children' certification. The Sailing School offers classes each Saturday (0830-1130) for 7-14 year old boys and girls during the season (Oct-Dec & Feb-April). The fleet includes Pittwater & Manly Junior Dinghies, Open Bics, Lasers and a number of other boats. So there is a natural progression of boats for juniors of various ages and capabilities, both solo and crewed.