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Media Release

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## Murray Rose Malabar Magic Ocean Swim, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024

### **Bringing the joy of swimming to children with a disability**

Governor of NSW, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, as Rainbow Club patron, to officially start the Splash, Dash and Magic 1km

**Malabar, Australia** - The highly anticipated 16th Annual Murray Rose Malabar Magic Ocean Swim is set to make a splash on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024, marking another year of camaraderie, competition, and support for a great cause.

With the picturesque backdrop of Malabar Bay, the event has grown over the years to now attract nearly 2000 swimmers to hit the water. In 2024, over 1,500 passionate swimmers are gearing up to take on the challenge of the 1km, 2.5km, and 5km courses, making this edition of "The Magic" a testament to the enduring spirit of the swimming community.

This year, The Malabar Magic is honoured that the Governor of NSW, Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AC KC, as Rainbow Club patron, will officially start the Splash, Dash and Magic 1km events where Rainbow Club member can test their ability in an ocean swim and share their love of swimming.

The Malabar Magic is the principal fundraising event for the Rainbow Club, a not-for-profit charity dedicated to providing swimming lessons, water safety and social participation across 77 clubs in NSW, QLD and the ACT to children and young adults with a disability.

Race Director Rob Lloyd OAM said: "We are thrilled to dive back into the water for the 16th Murray Rose Malabar Magic Ocean Swim. The unwavering support of our incredible swimmers, donors, volunteers, surf lifesaving crews, Randwick Council, and the extraordinary Malabar community makes this event possible. Every year, the funds raised leave a lasting impact on the lives of young people with a disability in our community.

"The funds we raise make a huge difference in the lives of these children and help us continue our mission of providing a network of social swimming clubs and a lifesaving skill to those who need it



most. Our goal is to expand our reach by opening more clubs in areas of need, and we encourage everyone to join us for this special community event.”

Olympic Champion and Event Ambassador Bronte Campbell expressed her enthusiasm for the Malabar Magic Ocean Swim, saying, "The Malabar Magic is not just a swim; it's a celebration of community, resilience, and the joy of swimming. I'm honoured to be part of this incredible event that supports the Rainbow Club in making a positive impact on the lives of children with disabilities through the power of swimming."

Mayor of Randwick, Councillor Philipa Veitch, echoed the council's pride in supporting the 16th year of the iconic Murray Rose Malabar Magic Ocean Swim, saying, "Randwick Council is proud to continue its support for this inclusive community event at beautiful Malabar Beach. We welcome all swimmers to the beach and commend the Randwick Rainbow Club for their invaluable work at the Des Renford Leisure Centre."

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### **About Rainbow Club**

For more information about the Rainbow Club, please visit [www.myrainbowclub.org.au](http://www.myrainbowclub.org.au)

Rainbow Club is a non-profit organization that provides swimming lessons to children with a disability. The charity was founded in 1969 and has since taught thousands of children with disabilities how to swim, helping to improve their quality of life and provide them with new opportunities for exercise and social participation.

### **KEY FACTS**

- Number of Rainbow Clubs - 77
- Number of kids getting weekly lesson - 2400
- Recent success - opening Rainbow Clubs in Queensland
- Funds from the 2023 event ensured the opening of clubs in QLD and the South Coast.- Opening in regional NSW in the coming year and funds raised from MRMM will ensure ongoing growth and success.



### **About Murray Rose Malabar Magic Ocean Swim**

To register for the 16th Murray Rose Malabar Magic Ocean Swim, visit [www.malabarmagicocceanswim.com.au](http://www.malabarmagicocceanswim.com.au) For more information, follow event on social media.

The annual Murray Rose Malabar Magic Ocean swim event is a community-based event that raises funds for Rainbow Club. The event attracts participants of all ages and abilities and has raised thousands of dollars for the Rainbow Club over the years.

This year we will celebrate the 16th year of the Murray Rose Malabar Magic Ocean Swim. The Magic has grown from the early passion and vision of Rob Lloyd OAM and Olympic swimming legend Murray Rose to become a celebration of inclusion and swimming across the broader community.

The Malabar Magic is proud of our reputation as the most inclusive swim and loves welcoming swimmers of all abilities.

### **EVENT DETAILS**

Date – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024

5km swim – 8am start

2.5km swim– 9am Start

Rainbow Club Splash and Dash – 10.15am

1km swim – 11am Start.

Where – Malabar Beach, Fisherman’s Road Malabar.

Talent

- Rob Lloyd OAM Race Director
- James Pittar - Blind Swimmer and Rainbow Club Ambassador (completed English Channel)
- Louise Sauvage – Paralympic legend and Rainbow Club Ambassador