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Congratulations Kay!

Here's a huge shout out to Kay Rawbone, CEO and Co-Founder, Sailability Hong Kong Limited on receiving her British Empire Medal (BEM) on Tuesday 19 March 2024. This is a hugely significant event for Kay, for Sailability and for Hebe Haven Yacht Club.

Formerly the British Empire Medal for Meritorious Service, the BEM is a British and Commonwealth award for meritorious service worthy of recognition by the Crown. In Kay's case, her BEM is unique since the award was proffered up to Queen Elizabeth the Second and processed as a final award by, the now, King Charles III. As an award, it was created in 1917 and was cited for those who were deemed worthy to receive it, for services outside the UK.

The award was presented to Kay yesterday at the British Consulate in Hong Kong, for her services to inclusive sailing in Hong Kong, recognition for all her efforts through Sailability Hong Kong to make sailing more inclusive for all. The award will also be celebrated at Buckingham Palace at a dedicated garden party along with other invited awardees of the BEM—a truly unique gathering of very special individuals.

Hebe Haven Yacht Club is happy to have made a home for Sailability here in Pak Sha Wan and are extremely proud of Kay's kindness and her charity to others, and of all her efforts, together with her volunteer "family" that is Sailability, in making sailing accessible to the wider community. We are honoured to have Kay as such an important part of the Club, and our heartfelt thanks go out to her and respect for all she has achieved to date.

While this is an award for Kay Rawbone, I'm sure Kay would also like us to include her late husband, Mike, in receiving this Medal posthumously. So, on behalf of everyone at HHYC we congratulate Kay and Sailability for all they have done for sailing in Hong Kong and far beyond.

Kay and her late husband, Mike, arrived in Hong Kong in 2003 and by 2009 they co-founded Sailability Hong Kong to offer sailing to people with disabilities. It started with students and staff from the Nesbitt Centre together with HHYC members and staff, who accompanied the students during their training. Spurred on by this, they were eager to expand the charity's reach to include people from all walks of life—irrespective of age, ability, gender, ethnicity or status within the community. Her primary aim was to help everyone involved enhance their self-esteem, gain independence, increase levels of physical activity and to develop new friendships. And Kay and Mike certainly achieved that. Mike sadly passed away on 3 August 2020, and he watches down as Kay continues to carry the Sailability torch.







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In 2022 Sailability took ownership of their first-ever sailing yacht *Mo Han* a 40 ft. Solaris performance cruiser with the support of the Li Ka Shing Foundation. In 2023 Kay and her crew, including parasailers, and runners; one an amputee the other with hearing impairment, as they competed in their first Solaris Four Peaks Race finishing in 2nd place in class.

Today, Kay with the help of her loyal base of volunteers and supporters, has grown Sailability Hong Kong to a worldwide recognised charity that encourages and celebrates the inclusive world of sailing.

Well done Kay

From all of us at Hebe Haven Yacht Club









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恭喜 Kay!

在此熱烈恭賀航能香港首席執行官兼聯合創始人 Kay Rawbone 女士於 2024 年 3 月 19 日星期二榮獲大英帝國勳章 (BEM)。 對於 Kay、航能香港和白沙灣遊艇會來說, 這確實是一件大事。

BEM 的前身是大英帝國功績勳章,是英國和英聯邦授予值得皇室認可的功勳服務的獎章。就 Kay 而言,她的 BEM 是獨一無二的,因為該獎章由英女王伊麗莎白二世頒發,並由現任國王 查理三世處理頒獎儀式。該獎項於 1917 年設立,為獎勵那些在英國境外提供服務而被認為合符資格獲得該獎項的人而設。

該獎項於今天在英國駐香港領事館頒發給 Kay,以表彰她為香港共融帆船運動做出的貢獻,並表彰她透過航能香港為讓帆船運動推廣到更多不同能力的人所做的努力。各地的 BEM 得獎者還將聚首一堂在白金漢宮的特設花園舉行派對,慶祝獲得此獎項,這是為非常特別的人組成的獨特的聚會。

白沙灣遊艇會很高興能為航能香港在白沙灣建立了一個家,並為 Kay 的善良和她博愛精神以及她一直的努力,為她的志願者"家人",即航能香港一起在帆船運動中所做的一切感到非常自豪。我們很榮幸 Kay 作為本會重要的一部分,我們衷心感謝她並尊重她迄今為止所獲得的一切。

雖然這是授予 Kay Rawbone 的獎章,但我相信 Kay 也希望與她的已故丈夫 Mike 一同接受該獎章。 因此,我們代表白沙灣遊艇會的每位祝賀 Kay 和航能香港在香港及世界各地航海活動的貢獻。







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Kay 和她的已故丈夫 Mike 於 2003 年抵達香港,並於 2009 年共同創立了航能香港,為殘疾人士提供航海活動。它始於為思拔中心的學員和員工提供服務,並由白沙灣遊艇會的會員及員工協助為他們提供培訓。受此鼓勵,他們渴望擴大慈善事業的影響範圍,以涵蓋各行各業的人一一無論年齡、能力、性別、種族或社區內的地位。她的主要目標是幫助每位參與者增強自信、訓練獨立、增強身體活動水平並發展新的友誼。Kay 和 Mike 確實做到了這一點。 Mike 於 2020 年 8 月 3 日不幸辭世,他在上天注視著 Kay 繼續傳遞航能香港的火炬。

2022 年,在李嘉誠基金會的支持下,航能香港擁有了他們的第一艘帆船無限號,這是一艘 40 英尺的 Solaris 高性能巡遊帆船。 2023 年, Kay 和她的團隊,包括殘疾航員、一名截肢跑者及一位聽力障礙者者參加了他們的首屆 Solaris 四峰賽,並獲得了組別第二名。

如今,Kay 在忠實的義工和支持者的幫助下,將航能香港發展成為全球公認的慈善機構,鼓勵和慶祝更共融的帆船世界。

Kay 做得好

白沙灣遊艇會全體人員





