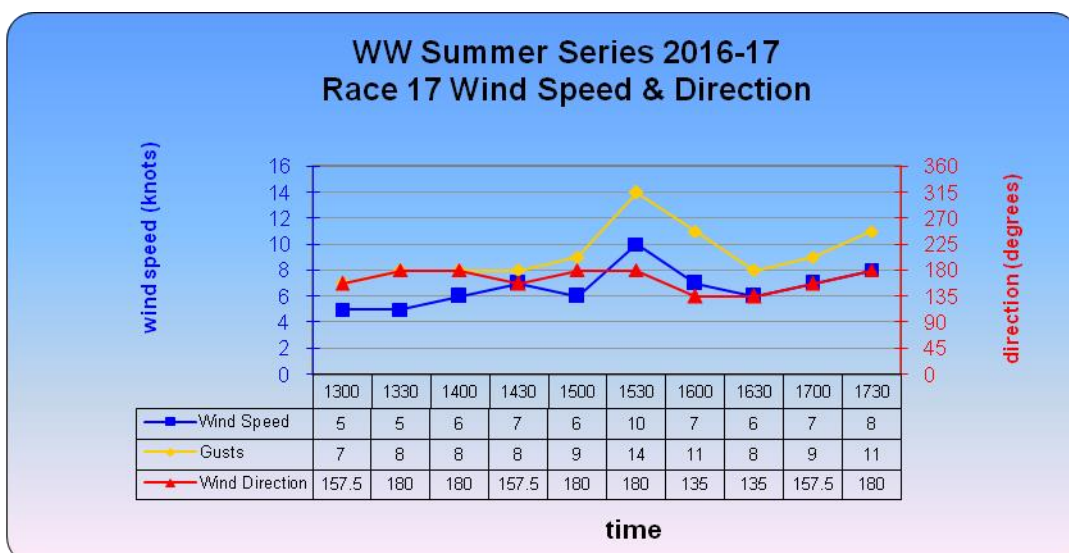


Late Start, Early Finish (and vice versa) WW Summer Series 2016-17 Race 17 (1 Feb 2017)



Despite the dull and overcast conditions the second largest fleet of the series went out on the water to contest race 17. The sea was flat but the breeze was variable in both strength and direction and may not have reached the expected strength. Fawkner Beacon observations indicated the breeze varied between a southerly and south westerly and averaged 7 knots for the afternoon (compared to about 14 knots for the series).

The below average breeze and longish course resulted in a race which was about 34% longer than usual. The average elapsed time was 153.72 minutes compared with a series average of 116.08 minutes.



None of the first 13 yachts to start the race were among the first 13 to finish. The majority of early finishers were 9 of the late starters. Only one yacht with a handicap of less than 40 minutes finished among the first 17. The most remarkable was the winner, NUTCRACKER II (Rob Davis & Andy Baker). She won Start of the Day and started the race 4 minutes 52 seconds behind the rest of the fleet; sailed the course 10 minutes 15 seconds faster than her closest rival; and, finished with a lead of 3 minutes 15 seconds. NUTCRACKER II has won Start of the Day on 3 occasions and a race on 2 occasions.

Also having an exceptional race and finishing 2nd and 3rd were CARPE DIEM (Paul Commins) and BARNSTORMER (Brian Barnes). CARPE DIEM started from 35th place; sailed the second fastest elapsed time of the day and finished 2nd – her first podium finish of the series. BARNSTORMER also recorded her first podium finish of the series. She was the 32nd yacht to start the race, sailed the course in the 4th fastest time and was 3rd across the finish line.

Finishing 6th was enough to take LEBROK (Theo Korbel) to the top of the aggregate. DÉJÀ VU (Peter Dransfield) holds on to 2nd place whilst INSX (Rob Sill) moves from 6th into 3rd place. Entering the aggregate top ten in 10th place is MELTEMI SYC (Ian Howarth). WHITE POINTER (Tom Raft) slips out of the top ten after being challenged by the light breeze.



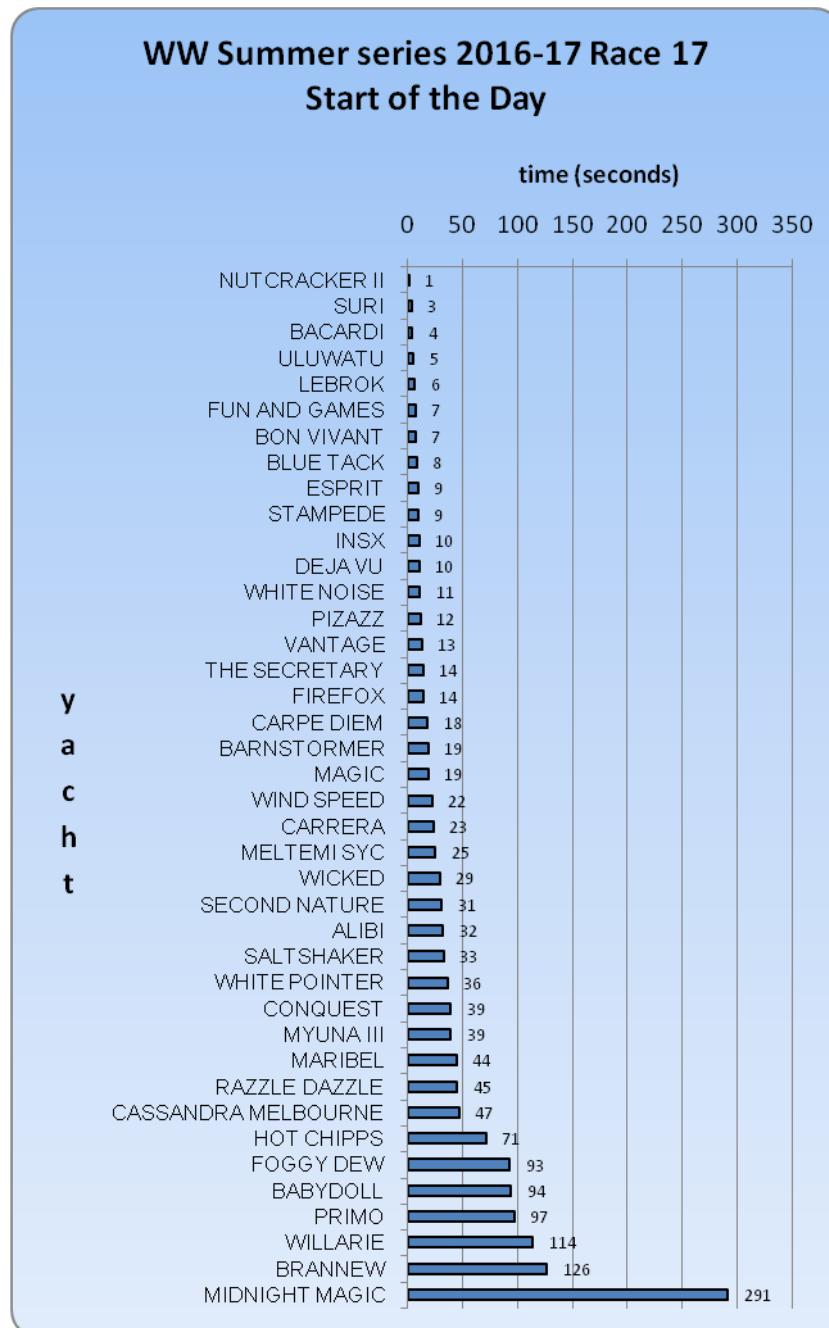
NUTCRACKER II has completed 12 races and reserved her best performances for the lighter conditions. She won race 9 when the breeze averaged 11 knots and followed that up with a win in race 17. NUTCRACKER II started this race 1 second late for her 56 minute handicap. She started the series with a handicap of 58 minutes which became 57 minutes following race 5 before falling to 56 minutes for this race. She sailed the first 4 legs of the course (approximately 6.1 miles) in 1:13:45 and rounded number 4 for the first time in 6th place. Her final 3 legs of the race were sailed in 40 minutes 40 seconds and she was 1st across the finish line at 16:20:26. After race 16 NUTCRACKER II was 25th in the aggregate. She is currently in 15th place.

CARPE DIEM is one of 7 yachts to have completed 14 races. She has 4 top ten finishes including her only podium finish collected in this race. CARPE DIEM started the race 18 seconds late for her 49 minute handicap. By the first rounding of number 4 she had moved from 35th into 8th place. She sailed the last 3 legs of the race in 43 minutes 55 seconds crossing the finish line at 16:23:41. CARPE DIEM started the race 11 seconds and one place ahead of WICKED (Mike Welsh). On completion of the first 4 legs of the course CARPE DIEM was 3 places and 1 minute 2 seconds ahead. By the end of the race CARPE DIEM crossed the finish line 2 minutes 28 seconds ahead of WICKED who was now only 2 places behind. This 2nd place recorded by CARPE DIEM puts her up from 30th into 23rd place in the aggregate.



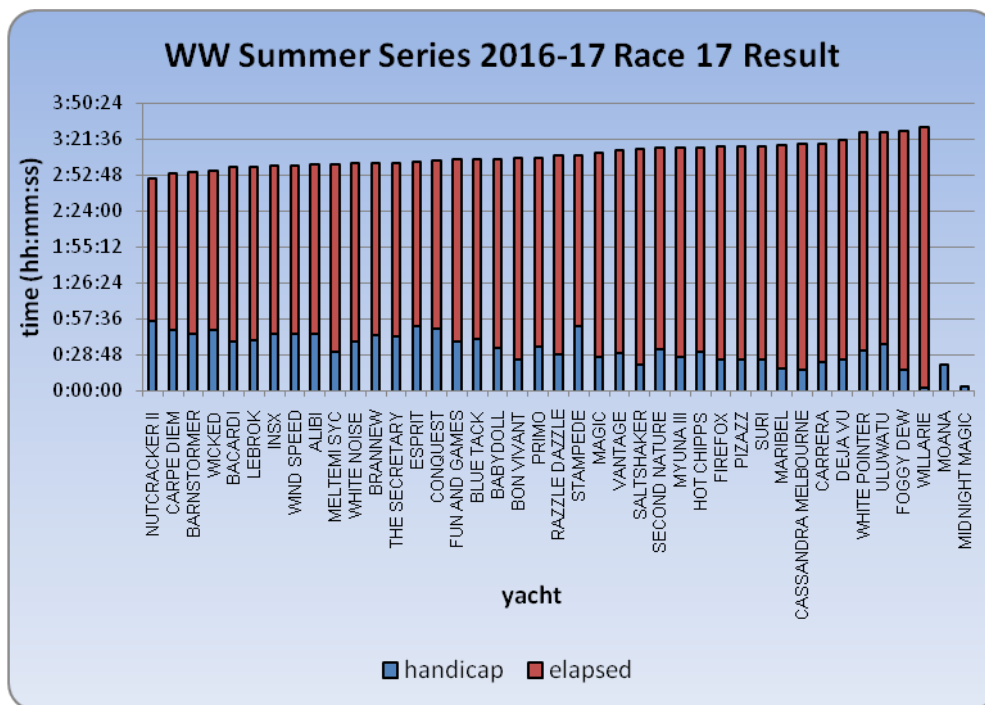
A 3rd place by BARNSTORMER was enough to lift her 11 places in the aggregate from 24th to 13th – her highest position this series. In 12 races she has recorded 4 top ten finishes including a podium finish in this race as well as winning Start of the Day for race 7. BARNSTORMER was one of 4 yachts with a 46 minute handicap. She had the second best start of the four, only 19 seconds late. At the completion of the first 4 legs BARNSTORMER was in 7th place – 6 seconds ahead of CARPE DIEM and 5 places ahead of the closest 46 minute handicap rival. She sailed the course in 2:09:31, the 4th fastest elapsed time of the race, and crossed the finish line at 16:25:31 only 1 minute 50 seconds behind CARPE DIEM. BARNSTORMER was the best of the four yachts with a 46 minute handicap, finishing 4 minutes 35 seconds and 4 places ahead the closest – INSX (Rob Sill).

The median start time of 20.5 seconds was over the 12.5 second average for the series. Nevertheless 12 yachts started within 10 seconds or less of their handicap. NUTCRACKER II won Start of the Day only 1 second late for her handicap. At the opposite extreme MOANA (Stan Rankin) started more than a minute too soon and recorded DNS in accordance paragraph 18 c of the Sailing Instructions. Of the 15 races completed so far Start of the day has been won by a start of 0 on 6 occasions; 1 second on 5 occasions, 2 on 3 occasions and once with a start of 3 seconds,

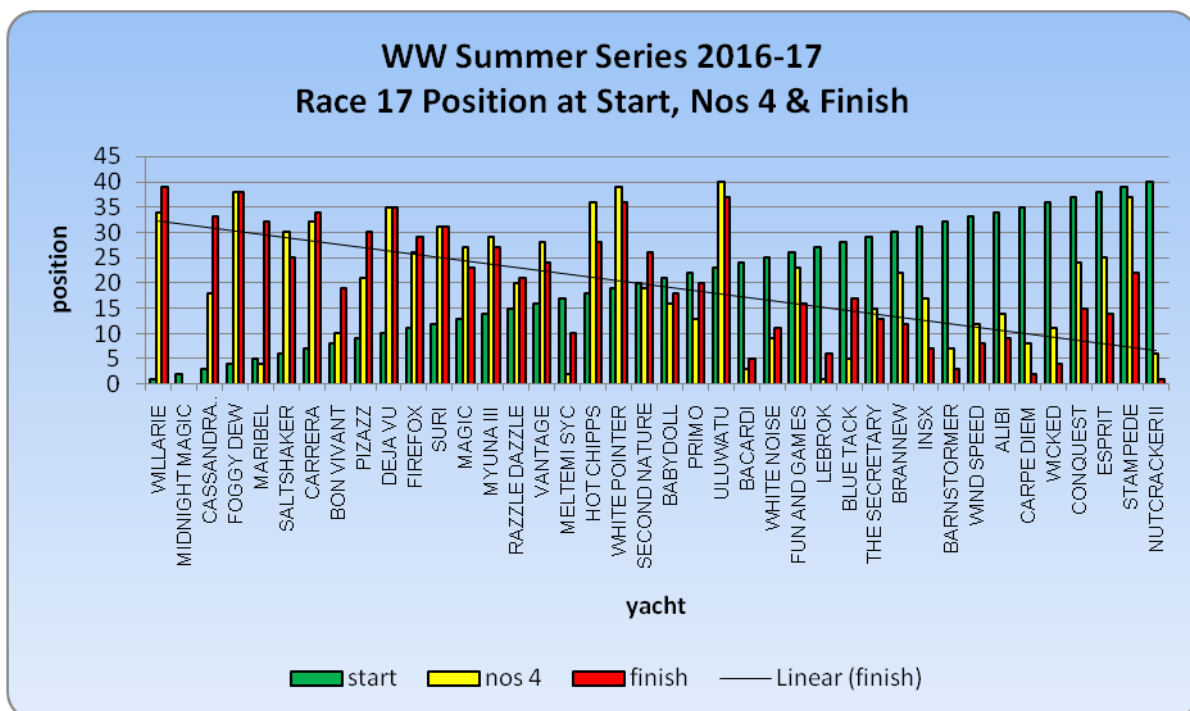


The fleet started the race 51 minutes 7 seconds apart. By the first rounding of number 4 the gap had reduced to 17 minutes 7 seconds. However, by the end of the race the gap had increased to 40 minutes 7 seconds. Only 7 of the 39 finishers crossed the line within 10 minutes of the winner. There was a close finish of 1 second between FIREFOX (Kim Beveridge & Howard Davies) and PIAZZ (P. Martyn & R Kemp) who finished 29th and 30th. CASSANDRA OF

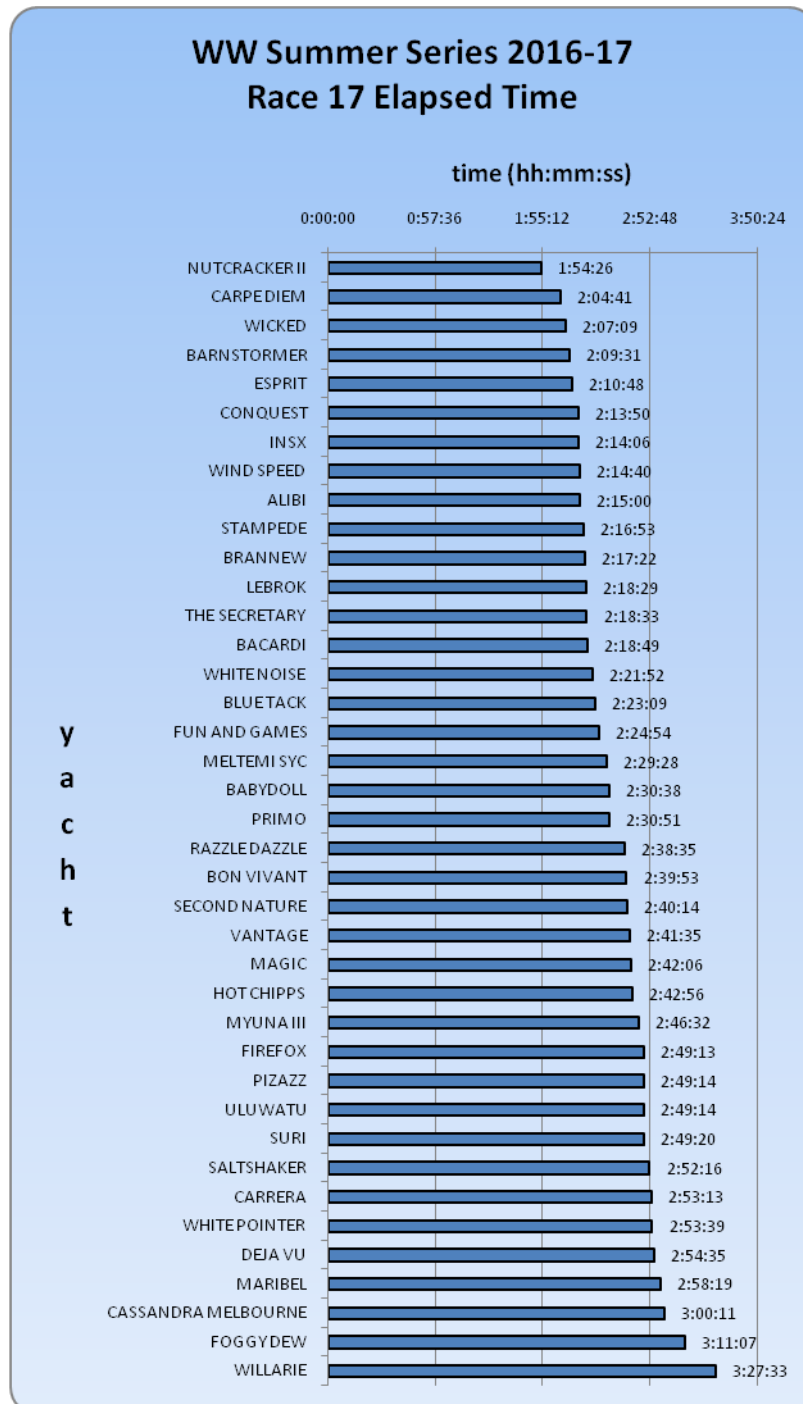
MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) beat CARRERA (Geoffrey Simpson) by 2 seconds across the finish line in 33rd place.



This was a race for the late starters with 17 finishing in a better position than when they started. The first 16 yachts to start all finished in lower positions. WILLARIE (Graeme Kaufman) was first to start but last to finish whilst NUTCRACKER II finished first after starting last.



With an average elapsed time about 34% longer than the series average, all but one yacht took more than 2 hours to complete the course. Three yachts became members of the exclusive “Three Hour Club”. The average elapsed time for the race was 2:33:43 with 2:30:51 the median elapsed time. Very rarely do two yachts record the same elapsed time but it did happen in this race. PIZAZZ and ULUWATU (Mal Billings & P Geary) both sailed the course in 2:49:14. PIZAZZ started with a handicap of 26 minutes compared to 38 minutes for ULUWATU.



Windward Buoy

Mark Windward is still taking a short break but Bruce Parry has been busy taking photos of race 17 and the following are part of his collection. Bruce has a collection of about 1200

photos which have been loaded on to the SYC computer. If you would like photos of a particular yacht or yacht then provide the Boating Department with a USB stick and they will download the photos as requested.



Seems very quiet for a Wednesday afternoon.

That's more like it. They must have been hiding.



Standing room only on NUTCRACKER II.

A STAMPEDE in 7 knots. Don't think so.





Moana started too soon and recorded DNS but still sailed the course.

All eyes on the tower lights and tell me when they change to 56.



ULUWATU - not enough breeze this race to get the cruiser to full speed.

Well set sails helped BARNSTORMER record a good result.



What's in a number? SM 1147 started at 13:47:47 finished 16:47:11. Spooky



LEBROK sailing away to the top of the aggregate

Thanks to Bruce Parry (White Pointer) for the photos.

LATE NEWS

Andy Lynch has just posted a video on youtube taken from BLUE TACK during the Festival of Sail. It can be found on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fIsRJudRVxi>

To email MARK WINDWARD Click on [HI MARK](#)
Mark would welcome your salty tales.