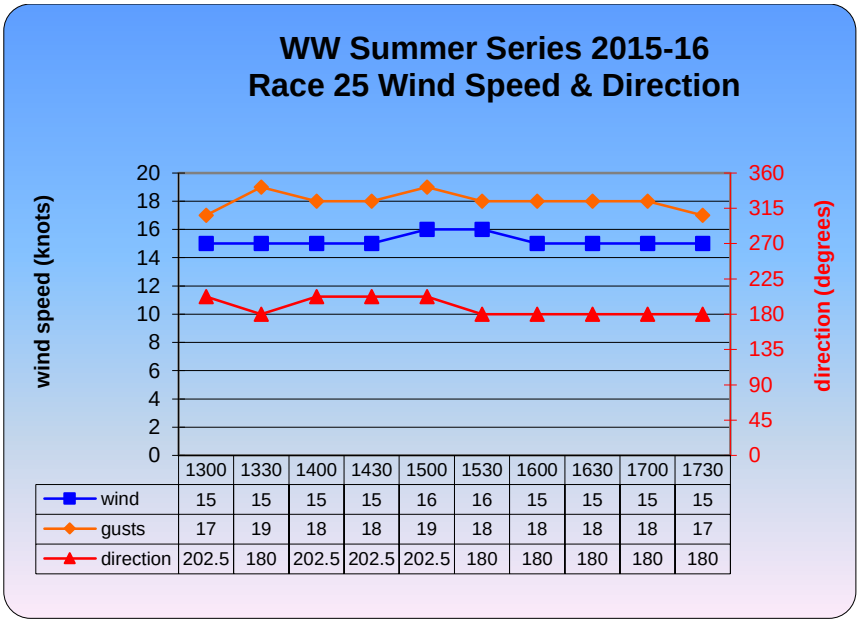
One last Chance

Wednesday Wonders Summer Series 2015-16 Race 25

(30 mar 2016)

A fleet of 37 yachts contested the remaining race of the summer series for a last chance to win either the aggregate or one of the perpetual trophies. The race was around the six leg, 9.8 nautical mile course 14 that was selected for the sixth time this series. There was a 5-minute pause to the start when gremlins momentarily gained control of the tower display. This was not enough to prevent a good start to the race with 19 yachts starting within 10 seconds or less of their handicaps. Start of the day was won by ESPRIT (Garry Anderson) making this her 4th win of the series. Not only did ESPRIT win the start she also sailed a remarkable race to finish 4th in the fastest elapsed time of 1:29:54 – 5 minutes 55 seconds faster than her closest rival. The race was won by MOANA (Stan Rankin) recording her 4th win and 7th podium finish for the series. Winning more than 10% of the available podium finishes in the series is an enviable achievement.



	1300	1330	1400	1430	1500	1530	1600	1630	1700	1730
wind	15	15	15	15	16	16	15	15	15	15
gusts	17	19	18	18	19	18	18	18	18	17
direction	202.5	180	202.5	202.5	202.5	180	180	180	180	180

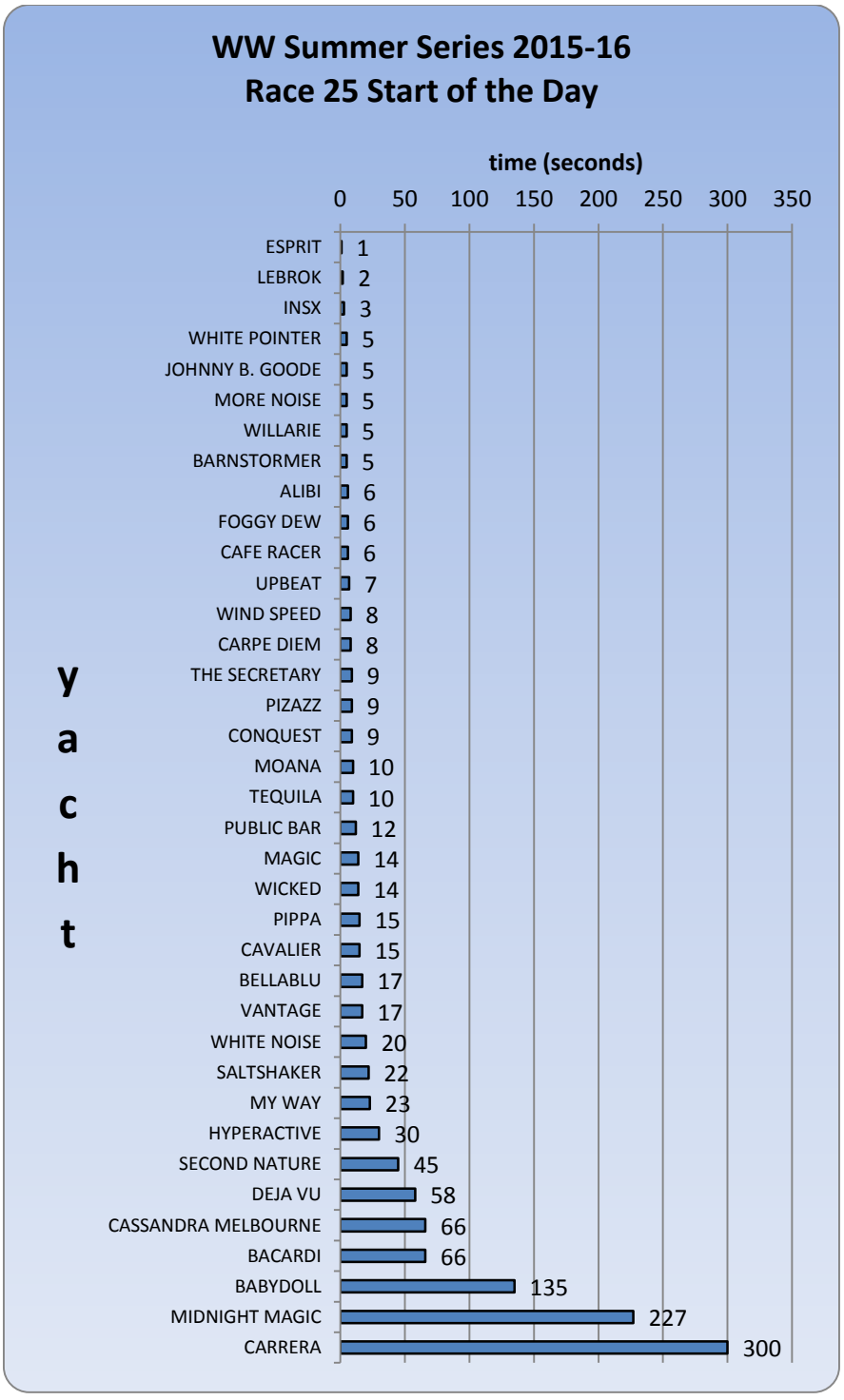
As has been frequently the case this summer, the breeze played its role in a successful sail. It averaged 15 knots for the afternoon and was predominantly from the south. It is interesting to note that the average breeze for the series at 16.2 has been about 4 knots faster than that recorded in both the previous winter and summer series.

MOANA began the series with a 16-minute handicap. By race 14 with 3 wins to her credit it had become 34 minutes. Since that race her handicap has reduced so that by this race it was 21 minutes. MOANA started from 6th place only 10 seconds late for her handicap. After sailing for 1:13:07 MOANA moved into 2nd place at the first rounding of number 4. She sailed the remainder of the course in 44 minutes 6 seconds and was first to cross the finish line at 15:53:23. MOANA is one of 8 yachts to have completed all the 22 races this series and she finished 7th in the aggregate after this win lifted her from 14th place.

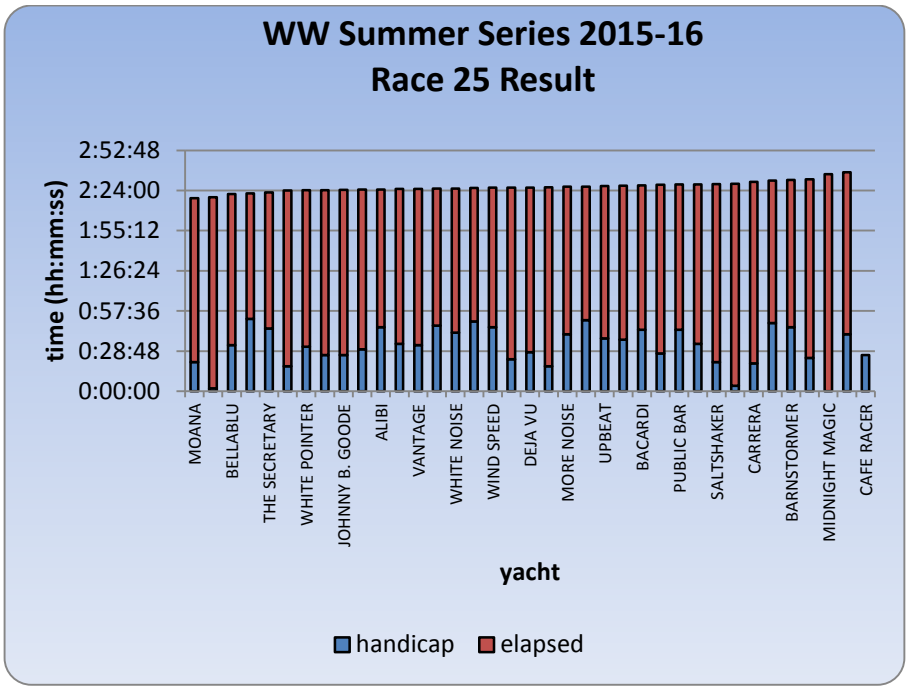
The Triton 24 PIPPA (Jeffrey Woolhouse) waited until her last chance to record her best position for the series. She was 2nd to cross the finish line 48 seconds behind the winner for a 2nd podium finish of the series. She was the first yacht to start the race 15 seconds late for her 2 minute handicap. PIPPA was leading the fleet by 4 minutes 14 seconds at the first rounding of number 4. She was overtaken on the last leg of the race and crossed the finish line at 15:54:11 after sailing the course in 2:17:11. PIPPA has completed 18 of the 22 races in the series and finished 14th in the aggregate following rise of 8 places due to her performance in this race.

BELLABLU (John Lake) also waited until the last race to put in her best performance. She has a total of 6 top ten finishes but this was her only podium finish. BELLABLU started from 19th place 17 seconds late for her 33 minute handicap. She rounded number 4 for the first time in 15th place after sailing for 1:09:32 and sailed the last three legs of the course in 38 minutes 42 seconds. BELLABLU recorded the 14th fastest elapsed time and was 3rd across the finish line at 15:56:31. This result was enough to improve her aggregate position by 9 places and she finished 23rd.

The 5-minute delay to the start time seemed to make the fleet eager to get the race underway. Of the 37 starters only 7 were more than 30 seconds late for their handicap. This includes one yacht that was too eager and started too soon. As mentioned earlier it was ESPRIT that won Start of the Day, with LEBROK (Theo Korbel) then INSX (Rob Sill) starting 2 and 3 seconds late respectively. The median start time was 10 seconds, much better than the average of 16 seconds.



For the last race of the series the fleet started 49 minutes 46 seconds apart and by the first rounding of number 4 this gap was 26 minutes 51 seconds. By the end of the race only 18 minutes 45 seconds separated the fleet. There was a close finish for 12th and 13th place between two Bavaria's, SECOND NATURE (Paul Mentiplay) and VANTAGE (Darren Hunter) who finished 1 second apart. In 17th, 18th and 19th places were WIND SPEED (Les Browne), FOGGY DEW (Joe O'Grady) and DEJA VU (Peter Dransfield) who finished within 2 seconds of each other.

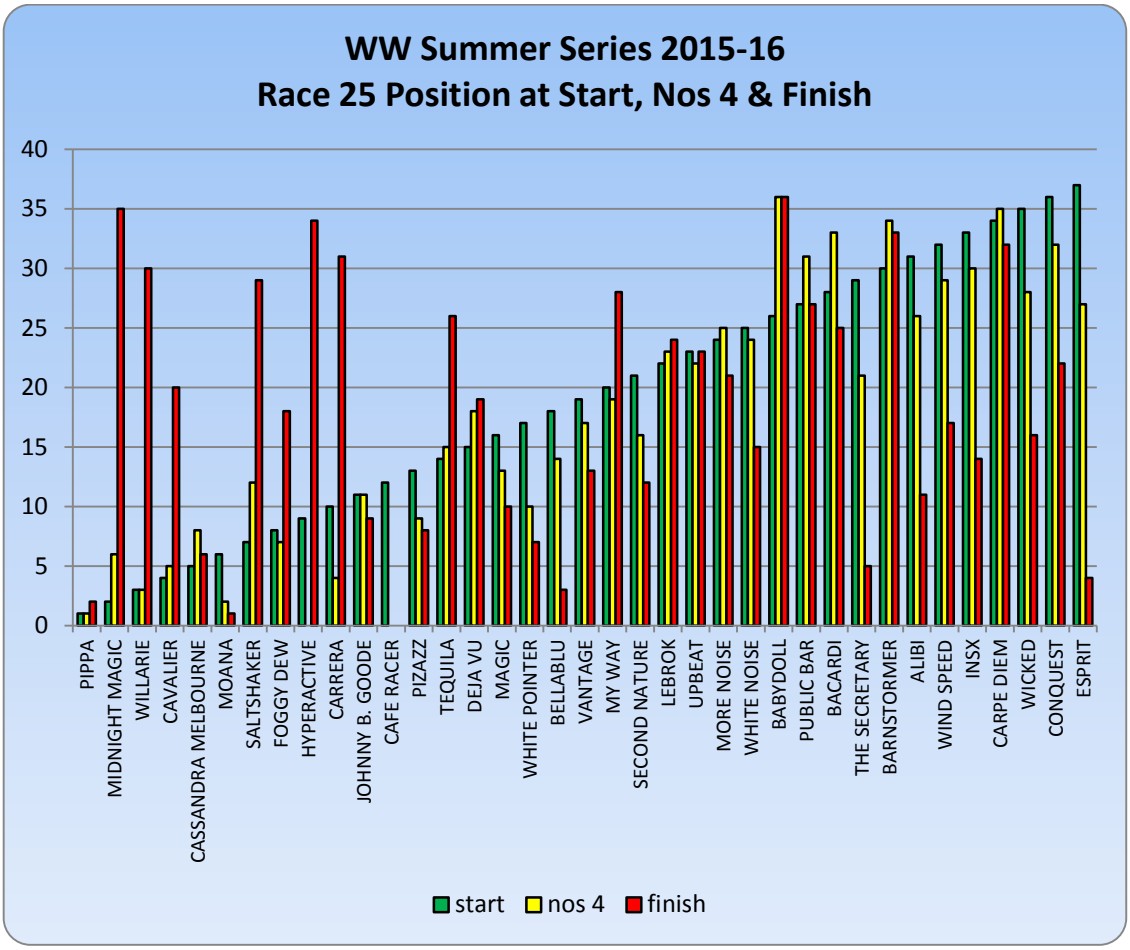


Race 25 of WW hosted the final race of the Century Class series, which was set to determine the series winner. MOANA won the last race with PIPPA second and CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) in 3rd place. Further details are shown in the table below:

CENTURY CLASS SERIES 2015-16 Race 6 RESULT					
PLACE	YACHT	SKIPPER	ELAPSED	FINISH	HCAP
1	MOANA	Stan Rankin	1:57:23	15:53:23	0:21:00
2	PIPPA	Jeffrey Woolhouse	2:17:11	15:54:11	0:02:00
3	CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	Bob Reeves	2:05:56	15:58:56	0:18:00
4	MAGIC	Phil Spry-Bailey	1:54:35	15:59:35	0:30:00
5	TEQUILA	Alan Collins	2:01:07	16:03:07	0:27:00
6	SALTSHAKER	Ken Gayler	2:07:35	16:03:35	0:21:00
7	WILLARIE	Graeme Kaufman	2:24:50	16:03:50	0:04:00

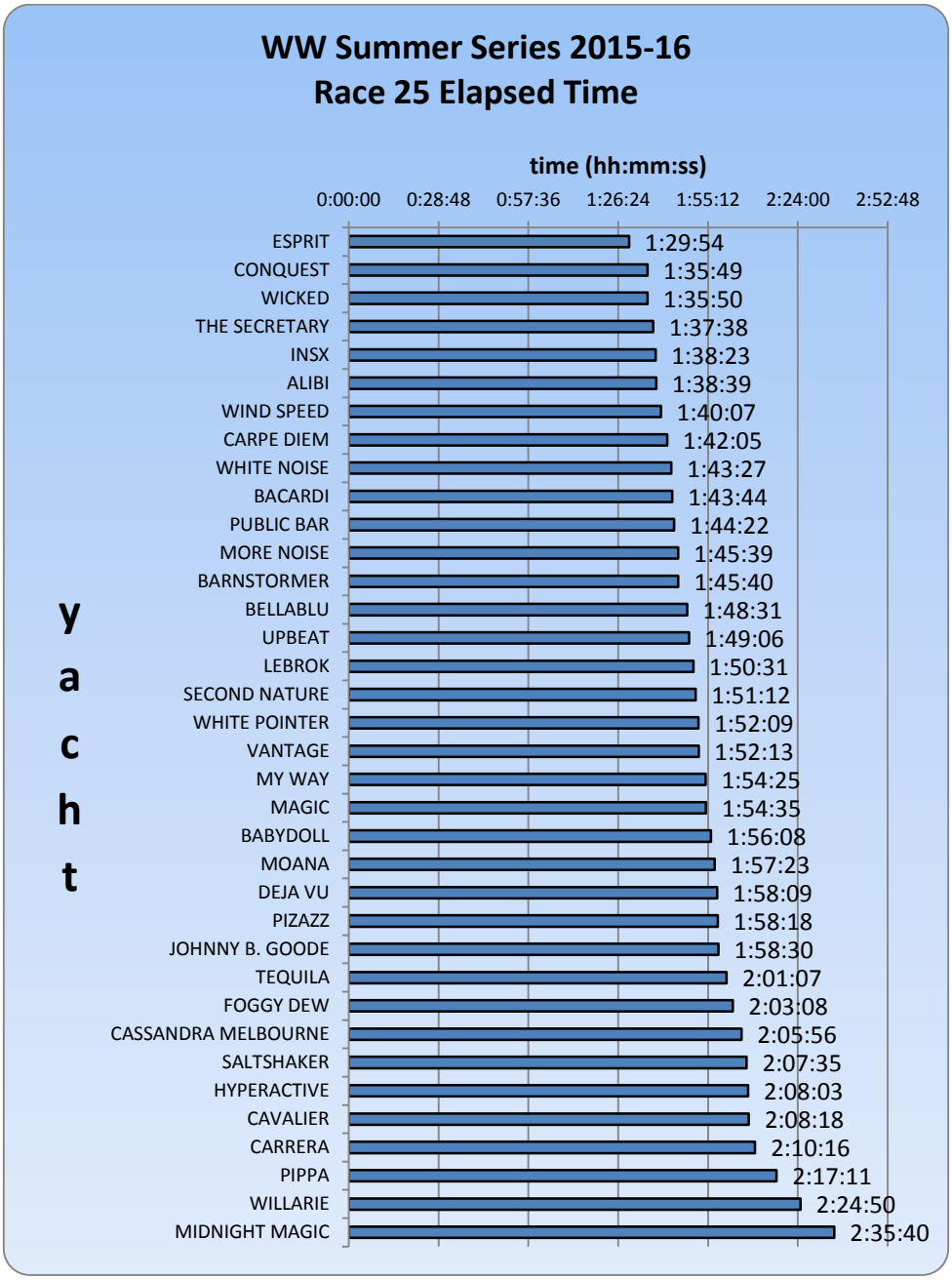
If you have had a birthday this year and your yacht is one year older there is a chance that you be eligible to join the CENTRURY CLASS. Simply add the age of your yacht and your age together and if the answer is 100 years or more you qualify. Send these details MARK WINDWARD to register mark-windward@live.com.au.

The last WW race of each month will be a Century Class race, The first race will be Race 4 April 27 so have your entry to Mark **BEFORE** Race 4.



Among the first third (12 yachts) of the fleet to finish the race, 4 yachts were among the first third of the fleet to start, 5 were among the second third and 3 started among the last third. This suggests it was one of the fairest races of the series.

The Beneteau 477 ESPRIT is one of 8 yachts to have completed all 22 races. She has recorded the fastest elapsed time on 9 occasions; the second fastest 6 times; the third fastest 5 times and the 4th and 5th fastest once. She can claim to be the fastest yacht in the Wednesday fleet for the series. She started race 25 with the highest handicap.



There were some remarkable performances a series that produced some remarkable results. All will be revealed at Presentation night.

The summer aggregate was won by JOHNNY B. GOODE with a total of 71.5 points – 5 points clear of CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE and 14 points clear of FOGGY DEW in 3rd place.

The start of the Winter Series is very close with the first race scheduled for 6 April 2016.

Be sure that you are entered before **next** Wednesday

Woodward Buoy

Century Class Dates for Winter 2016 Wednesday Wonders

The Century class will be held on the last Wednesday Wonders race of each month.

This will be Race 4 April 27, Race 8 May 25, Race 13 June 29,
Race 17 July 27, Race 22 August 24, Race 26 September 28

There are no dropped races. Races that are not able to be held will be postponed until the next race. If the last race of the series, Race 26, cannot be held the race held prior will be counted.

To qualify the age of the yacht and the age of the skipper must add up to be 100 years or over

Entry is by emailing your details to MARK WINDWARD or given to Jeffrey Woolhouse in writing.

To ensure the first race counts this should be done by RACE 3 April 20th

Yachts who were enrolled this summer season do not have to re-enter. These are
MOANA, PIPPA, CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE, MAGIC,
TEQUILA, SALTSHAKER, WILLARIE FAST COMPANY

Mark's 10-minute test - A 10 mins test checks out how many yachts cross the line – from the first finishing yachts time, add ten minutes. The result for this race was 27 yachts. Just in case you wondered why the handicapper was smiling.

It was not Pippa who caused the delay of 5 mins of the start. The wind conditions in this race gave no advantage. Lack of wind for a change didn't stop Pippa.

Yachts should be aware which tack they are on before they call starboard, particularly if they are on a port tack.

Take the warning from St George if you forsake your yacht for an oil run boat and don't go near your yacht for a couple of weeks, that you must expect some sort of revenge. i.e. the motor not starting at the end of the day.

Don't forget to enter for the Winter Season before the next race. The NOR and entries are now on the web site.

Check over the Sailing Instructions for WW Winter 2016. There are some changes. 26 races are scheduled, finishing on 28 September.

The NOELLE CORAM TROPHY will only be conducted over the Summer Sunday Races and the Summer Wednesday Wonders races. (I.e. Winter results will not be included.) It is hoped that this will increase the number of yachts eligible for the trophy. Bruce Coram has been consulted about these changes. He was out for a sail again last week.

Peter Dransfield is again migrating for winter. Bon Voyage Peter. He will be meeting up with a few Wednesday Wonders sailors so he doesn't get homesick - including Big Bob.

Jacquie Hope At last check Shanti was moored at Goat Island, Sydney after visiting Watsons Bay and Double Bay. Her speed average has been about 6knts.

The Pappa Art Sea was very busy and took over 100 photos during race 25. Samples of photos are shown here. Remember you can take a Usb memory stick to Sue in the Boating Department and she will download photos that you would like.

Feedback, and any contributions are very welcome. Please send to *Mark Windward*

Vale to Ronnie Corbett *We've just heard that in the English Channel, a ship carrying red paint has collided with a ship carrying purple paint. It is believed that both crews have been marooned… and it's good night from me.*

I think I ate too much lunch

Let's wear short all winter too

Maybe I need more weight on the rail or an extra crew

If Alibi can sail at this angle so can we. You won't be very long down there will you?

Are we too heavy for a J class?

Sometimes being small means you get tossed and lost.

If I go up the front I might get wet.

No canal boats are much drier

Windward yachts give way

Yes we know that. No problem