

Nothing Happened Before Midnight

Wednesday Wonders Summer Series 2016-17 Race 5

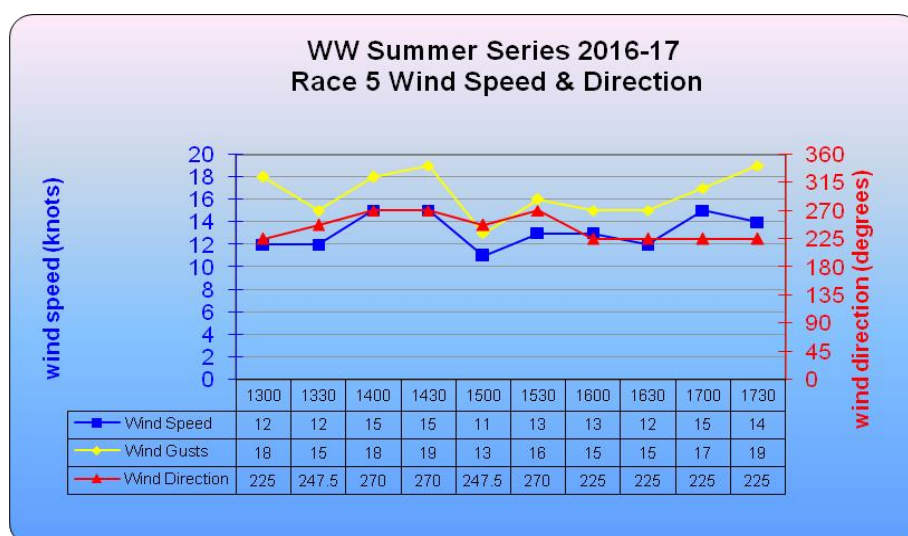
(2 Nov 2016)



Thirty-four yachts contested Race 5 around the 7 legs, of the 9.1 nautical mile course 22. This is first time this course has been sailed in its entirety following the shortened version sailed in Race 3. Despite being longer, this race was sailed faster and finished earlier than the shortened version. It was MIDNIGHT MAGIC (Bernadette Moore) who won the race. She led the fleet from beginning to end, not only recording the earliest finish time this series but also becoming the 4th different winner in 4 races. She started the race 4 minutes 31 seconds ahead of the rest of the fleet, increased her lead throughout the race, to finish 5 minutes 6 seconds ahead. In second place, becoming the first yacht to have 2 podium finishes this series was SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler). The recently painted shiny red-hulled PIPPA (Jeffrey Woolhouse) finished in 3rd place for her first podium finish of the series.

The competition for best starter appears to become more intense as the weeks go by. All the 34 yachts started within 31 seconds or less of their handicap. Unfortunately 3 yachts started too soon and were penalized 5 minutes lowering their finish positions by 7, 8 and 13 places. The winner of Start of the Day was SURI (Rick Blanck) with a 1 second start.

The fastest elapsed time of 1:21:51 was recorded by NUTCRACKER II (Rob Davis & Andy Baker) that was 6 minutes 42 seconds faster than her closest rival. The fastest elapsed time for the 4 races this series has been shared among 3 different yachts.



The breeze stayed within 11 to 15 knots at Fawkner Beacon and averaged about 13 knots from around the west-southwest for the afternoon. The direction of the breeze allowed 5 of the 7 legs (74%) to be sailed as a reach whilst the remaining 2 legs (26%) were to windward.



This race began when MIDNIGHT MAGIC crossed the start at 13:31:31, just 31 seconds late for her 1-minute handicap. She sailed the first 4 legs of the course in 1:08:02 and was first to round number 4. At this stage she had extended her lead of 4 minutes 31 seconds at the start and was now 5 minutes 3 seconds ahead of her closest rival. During the last 3 legs of the race MIDNIGHT MAGIC was able to extend her lead by a further 3 seconds and was first across the finish line at 15:34:01. She had sailed the course in 2:03:01 to record her first podium finish of the series. This was the 3rd race in the series for MIDNIGHT MAGIC and she moved up 7 places in the aggregate to 26th place.

The Jarken 925 SALTSHAKER has made an excellent start to the series – completing 3 races and finishing 1st, 6th and 2nd. It is not surprising that with these results she has taken an early lead in the series aggregate. SALTSHAKER started this race from 5th place, 11 seconds late for her 19-minute handicap. She rounded number 4 for the first time in 4th place still 10 minutes 53 seconds behind the leader. SALTSHAKER sailed the last 3 legs of the course in 48 minutes 41 seconds and crossed the finish line at 15:39:07 after sailing the course in 1:50:07. SALTSHAKER is on top of the aggregate with a total of 3 points. (It is interesting to note that the 2 podium finishes recorded by SALTSHAKER have been around course 22).



This was only the 2nd race this series for PIPPA, the runner up in the 2016 winter series. She started this race in 2nd place starting at 13:36:02 - exactly the same time as sister yacht WILLARIE (Graeme Kaufman). Both had very good starts only 2 seconds late for their 6-minute handicap. PIPPA sailed the first 4 legs of the course in 1:08:06 and was still in 2nd place at the first rounding of number 4. However, she was now 3 minutes 38 seconds ahead of WILLARIE. During the final 3 legs of the race PIPPA increased her lead over WILLARIE but was overtaken by SALTSHAKER. PIPPA sailed the course in 2:03:49 and crossed the finish line in 3rd place at 15:39:49. This 3rd place lifted PIPPA 11 places in the aggregate and she is currently in 25th place.

Ralph White created this shiny finish painting by hand with a brush. He actually sailed on Pippa with Peter Bolton. MW

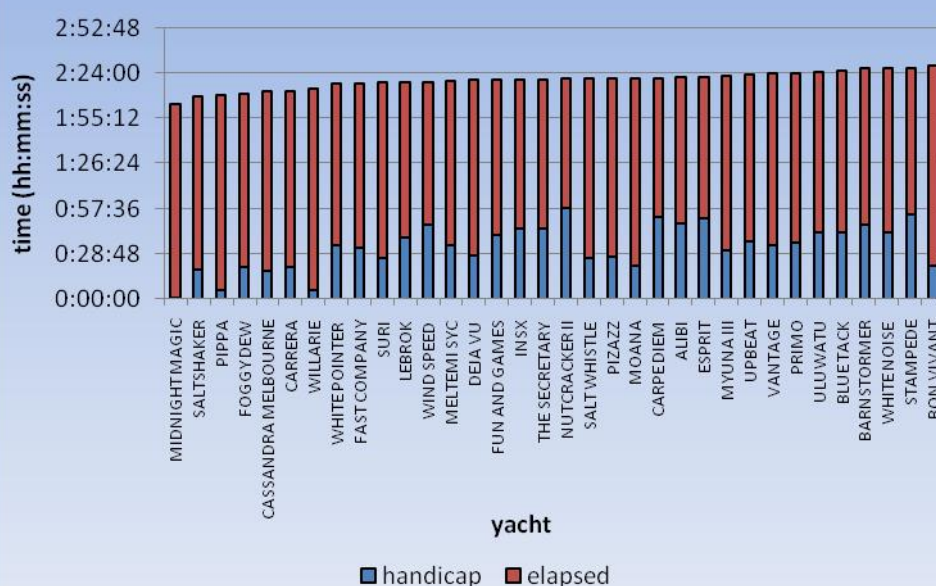
WW Summer Series 2016-17 Race 5 Start of the Day



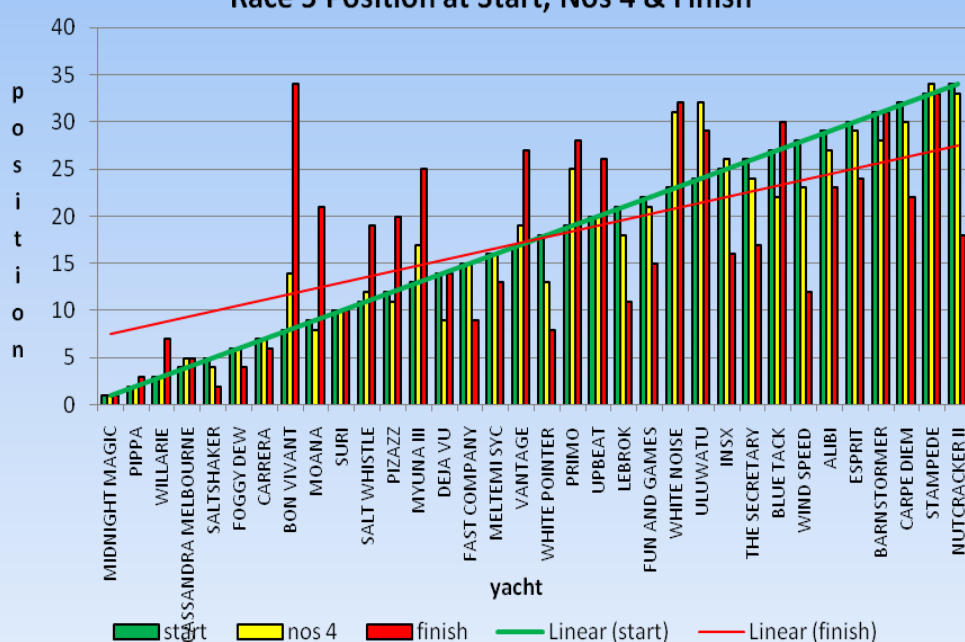
So far this series there have been 4 different winners of Start of the Day. Two of the starts have been on time whilst the other two have been 1 second late. SURI won Start of the Day 1 second late for her 26-minute handicap. PIPPA and WILLARIE had the next best result both 2 seconds late for a 6 minute handicap. Eighteen yachts had a start of 10 seconds or better that was the median start time.

The fleet started the race 56 minutes 34 seconds apart, and by the first rounding of number 4 this gap had decreased to 39 minutes 58 seconds. It had decreased even further by the end of the race to 24 minutes 33 seconds. Only 6 yachts finished within 10 minutes of the winner. The closest finish was the 1-second that separated FUN and GAMES (Alan Edwards) from INSX (Rob Sill).

WW Summer Series 2016-17 Race 5 Result

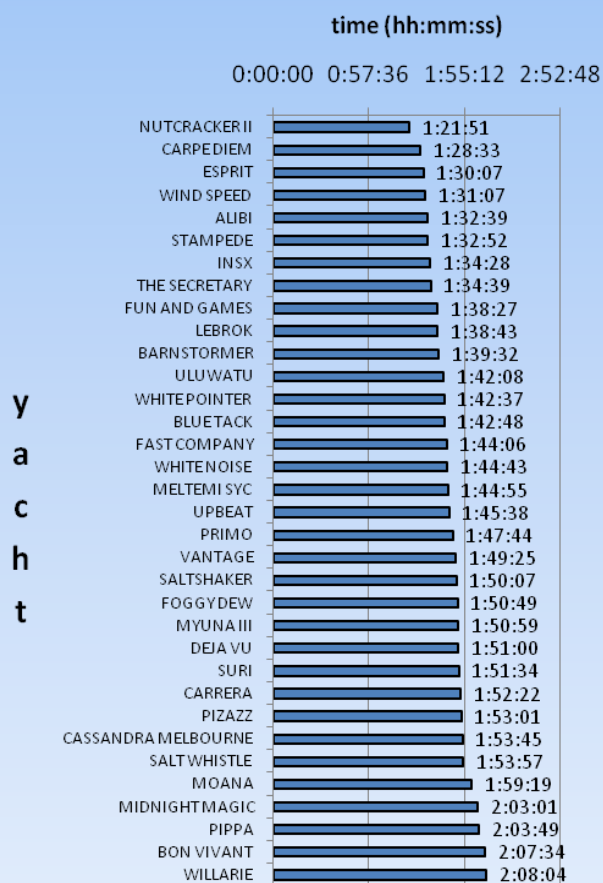


WW Summer Series 2016-17 Race 5 Position at Start, Nos 4 & Finish



It proved difficult for the mid fleet and late starters to finish with the early finishers. Eight of the early starters were among the 11 early finishers with the remaining 3 starting mid fleet .

WW Summer Series 2016-17 Race 5 Elapsed Time



The average elapsed time was 1:45:47 - the 3rd slowest of the 4 races. NUTCRACKER II was the fastest and one of only 2 yachts to sail the course in less than 90 minutes. There was 46 minutes 13 seconds between the fastest and slowest elapsed time, with 4 yachts sailing for a little over 2 hours.

An added note:

The windward legs accounted for 26.5% of the course length and in a 10 to 15 knot southwesterly meant the course was nearly all completed on a broad or close reach.

One of the early yachts sailed the first triangle at an average of 6knts but this dropped to 5 knts for the second triangle. You would have noticed the wind speed dropped at 15.00 and went to WSW and then picked up at the finish of the race. MW

The table below is a summary of the handicap adjustments made this series. Of the 44 yachts listed 16 have had adjustments made to their handicaps. The adjustments have been only one minute.

You may notice that the handicaps have only been adjusted by 1-minute intervals. Apparently when one of the handicappers gave up his job as SYC treasurer, he had to hand back his calculator. So we can expect small adjustments. MW

WW Summer Series 2016-17 Handicap Adjustment Summary				
YACHT	HANDICAP (minutes)			Nos of Races
	MAX	MIN	RANGE	
ALIBI	48	48	0	4
BABYDOLL	38	38	0	1
BARNSTORMER	47	47	0	3
BLUE TACK	42	41	1	4
BON VIVANT	21	21	0	1
CARPE DIEM	52	52	0	4
CARRERA	20	20	0	1
CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	18	18	0	2
CONQUEST	50	50	0	2
DEJA VU	28	27	1	4
DOLPHIN PLAY	0	0	0	1
ESPRIT	51	51	0	4
FAST COMPANY	33	33	0	3
FOGGY DEW	21	20	1	4
FUN AND GAMES	41	40	1	2
HOT CHIPPS	37	37	0	2
INSX	45	44	1	3
LEBROK	39	38	1	3
MAGIC	28	28	0	3
MELTEMI SYC	34	34	0	3
MIDNIGHT MAGIC	2	1	1	3
MOANA	21	20	1	4
MYUNA III	31	31	0	2
NUTCRACKER II	58	58	0	3
PIPPA	6	6	0	2
PIAZZ	27	26	1	3
PRIMO	37	36	1	3
PUBLIC BAR	44	44	0	2
SALT WHISTLE	26	26	0	2
SALTSHAKER	19	19	0	3
SECOND NATURE	34	34	0	2
SHIMMER	44	44	0	1
STAMPEDE	54	53	1	4
SURI	26	26	0	2
THE SECRETARY	45	44	1	4
TRUE COLOURS	32	32	0	1
ULUWATU	43	42	1	3
UPBEAT	37	37	0	1
VANTAGE	35	34	1	3
WHITE NOISE	42	42	0	1
WHITE POINTER	35	34	1	4
WICKED	49	49	0	1
WILLARIE	6	6	0	2
WIND SPEED	47	46	1	3

MARK'S MUSINGS

Missing a few races is an unusual event for Phil and the Magic yacht. He has been convinced by St George to update his winches and install push button winches. So watch out for the finger tip control of the crew in the next race. I hope the handicapper has been notified.

The Wednesday Wonders Classic Car Yacht Race

Wednesday 30 November 2016 Race 9.

Reminder to get your entry in for the Classic Car Yacht Race a week before Race 9 i.e. by November 23rd Race 8

Remember it can be the skipper or a crewmember that has or has owned at one time a classic car.

The finish times will be adjusted as per the criteria, but normal WW race finish times and handicaps remain the same and the results of the Classic Car race will not affect your series scoring.



Entry No 3: Cooper 1956. Owner – Graeme Kaufman (Willarie).
I think this car just makes the cut off date.

Remember: What's his name?

Mark had a bit of a senior moment in trying to recall the name of a sailor who wrote a book about his adventures, which was a great read, and is in the SYC library.

With a little electronic assistance it was easy to find out who he was.

Here are a few clues to see if you can work out who it is. He has been mentioned before in these reports.

He was both a sailor and airman and broke records flying and sailing solo.

He wanted to fly from New Zealand to Australia. Finding that he was unable to carry enough fuel he “borrowed” some floats from the New Zealand Permanent Air Force and converted his plane into a sea plane.

With the help of locals on Norfolk Is, he rebuilt his plane. He was the first to land an aircraft there and at Lord Howe Island.

His only method of fixing his position was to take sun sights with a [sextant](#).

He was the first to use ‘off-course navigation’ (steering to one side so you know which way the error occurs) to fly a plane. He was a winner in a major yacht race in 1960.

Email [Mark Windward](#)

Just to keep you informed about Voyages on the TENACIOUS :
8 days on Tenacious from \$2,000 * **Australia and New Zealand - TNS478**

Embark

Place: Melbourne (Australia)
Date: 13/01/17

Disembark

Place: Melbourne (Australia)
Date: 20/01/17

This eight-day voyage will see Tenacious explore the full delights of the waters around Melbourne before following the routes of the global seafarers through The Rip, passing Victoria's other large natural harbour Western Port and on to Bass Strait. Depending on which way the wind is blowing we hope to voyage on towards King Island or the Furneaux Group, perhaps further East rounding the beautiful Wilson Promontory National Park toward the Gippsland lakes or it may be that we head West to see the Twelve Apostles and the imposing Shipwreck Coast.



11 days on Tenacious From: \$3,025 *) **Australia and New Zealand - TNS477**

Embark

Place: Sydney (Australia)
Date: 02/01/2017

Disembark

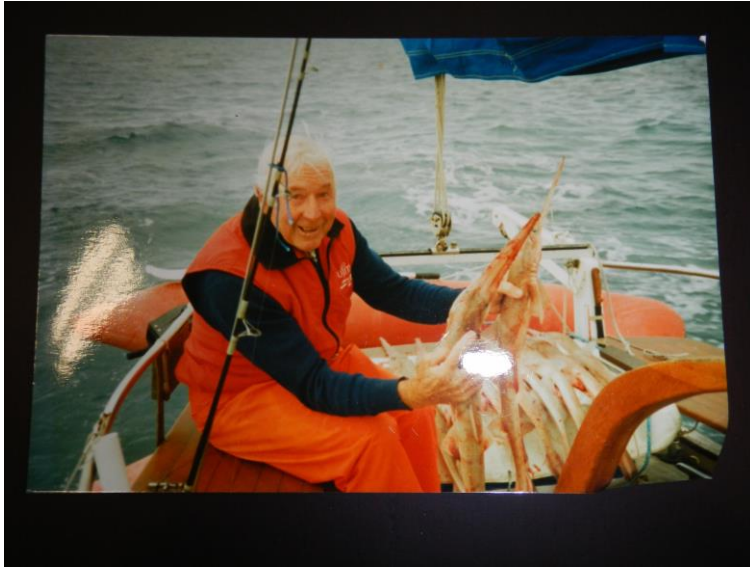
Place: Melbourne (Australia)
Date: 12/01/2017

From our berth at our base at the Australian National Maritime Museum in Darling Harbour, we will travel south down the Sapphire Coast to the secluded anchorage at Twofold Bay. Passing Australia's south eastern corner into Bass Strait we may look to rest up at Refuge Cove or shelter in the lee of Deal Island before heading for home in Williamstown's Seaworks. Book your voyage on Tenacious today and join the crew of this iconic, groundbreaking tall ship. Tenacious is the largest operative wooden hulled ship in the world and turns heads wherever she sails. She was built by 1,500 mixed physical ability volunteers and includes special features not found on other ships (including wheelchair lifts, a speaking compass, and a joystick to enable everyone to helm the ship), which make her fully accessible and fully inclusive for everyone onboard.

Your voyage will be a working adventure holiday and everyone onboard is encouraged and enabled to take a full and active role in crewing the ship (including everything from setting the sails, climbing the mast, helming the ship and lending a hand in the galley). You will be part of a crew that changes lives – integrating between different physical abilities, generations and backgrounds.

MORE INFORMATION <http://jst.org.uk/voyages/sydney-melbourne-2/>

*Is it true that Wednesday Wonders sailors never fade away,
they just turn into fishermen or fisherwomen?*



Who said this? Quote 3 from last week: The Sea is only the embodiment of a supernatural and wonderful existence. The answer: Jules Verne

Who said this? Quote 4 The fishermen know that the sea is dangerous and the storm terrible, but they have never found these dangers sufficient reason for remaining ashore.

Please send any comments, advice, and aims for this season etc. to share with other WW Sailors to [Mark Windward](#). Photos would be good to share!