Closest Finish of the Series

Wednesday Wonders Winter Series 2016 Race 23
7th September 2016 Three Race to go

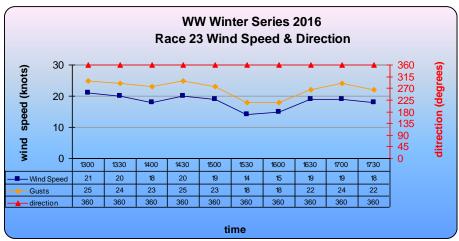


This was the closest finish of a race this series. The winner, CASSANDRA of MELBOURNE (Bob Reeves) crossed the finish line a mere 1 second ahead of PHOENIX (Alex Tseberg) with MOANA (Stan Rankin) finishing 15 seconds later in third place. All 30 finishers crossed the line within 11 minutes and 3 seconds of each other - an average of one yacht crossing the line every 21 seconds. There were two ties: One for 11th place when VANTAGE (Darren Hunter) and PIZAZZ (P. Martyn & R. Kemp) crossed the line at 15:43:47. Another tie between was for 22nd place PIPPA and BARNSTROMER at 15: 47:27. All but 2 of the 32 starters, which included 5 casual entries, completed the race around the 6 leg, 9.8 nautical mile course 61 which finished at 15:51:11. (*The actual distance travelled by PIPPA was 11.6nm.*) The fleet included the welcome return of ULUWATU (Mal Billings) who hadn't raced since 24 February and CARRERA (Geoffrey Simpson) who last raced in race 3. It was also the debut of BLUE TACK (Andy Lynch) who finished 27th after starting from 23rd place.

NUTCRACKER II continues to attract attention after winning start of the day for the second successive week as well recording the fastest elapsed time for the 3rd time in 3 races. Her handicap has increased over the 3 races and she becomes the first yacht for a number of WW series to start from 60-minute handicap.

The results of this race had very little impact on the aggregate top ten. The only change was CASSANDRA moving into 10th place as SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler) slipped into 11th position. GUN BOAT (Bruce Alexander) continues to lead the aggregate for the 4th successive week with a lead of 4 points with 3 races remaining.

Observations at Fawkner Beacon showed the breeze to average 18 knots from the north varying from a low of 14 to a high of 21 knots. This helped keep the average wind speed for Wednesday afternoons above 15 knots.





CASSANDRA started the series with a 19-minute handicap, which has decreased during her 14 races to now become 15 minutes. Before this race she had not recorded a podium finish with her best result a 7th place in both races 2 and 12. CASSANDRA started this race from 2nd place 47 seconds late for her 15-minute handicap and 8 minutes 16 seconds behind PIPPA (Jeffrey Woolhouse). After sailing for 1:14:50 she was still in 2nd place at the first rounding of number 4 but the gap had narrowed to 2 seconds. CASSANDRA sailed the last 3 legs in 39 minutes 31 seconds and hung onto the lead to be first across the finish line at 15:40:08. This win lifted CASSANDRA from 11th to 10th place in the aggregate.

PHOENIX began her 13th race of the series from 11th place 9 seconds late for her 30 minute handicap and 10 minutes 12 seconds behind CASSANDRA. After completing the first 3 legs of the course PHOENIX had moved into 6th place 3 minutes 55 seconds behind CASSANDRA. PHOENIX sailed the last 3 legs of the course in 35 minutes 38 seconds to cross the finish line at 15:40:09 in 2nd place. This is her 2nd podium finish of the series and puts her 25th in the aggregate – up from 27th.

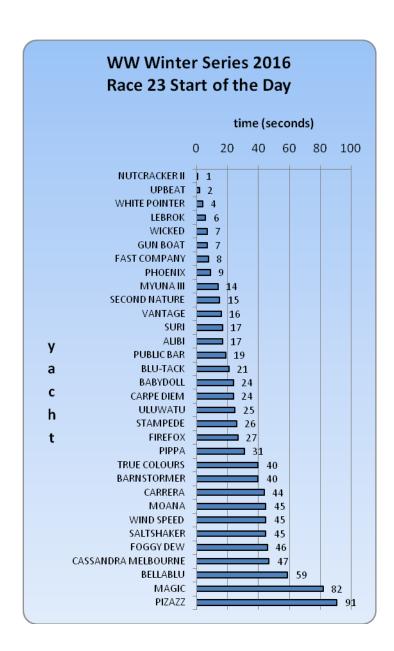




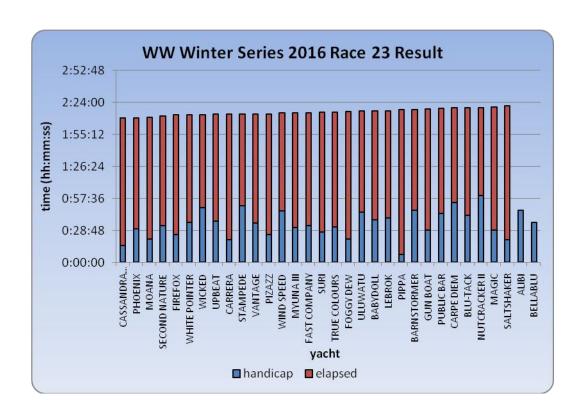
Until this race, course 61 had not provided MOANA with a good result. Her previous best was 21st in race 3. Since then her handicap increased to 25 minutes before falling to 21 minutes for this race. MOANA started from 5th place 45 seconds late for her handicap and 1 second ahead of FOGGY DEW (Grahame Jones). After the first 3 legs MOANA was in 3rd place behind CASSANDRA and 47 seconds ahead of FOGGY DEW. MOANA was unable to improve on her position during the last 3 legs of the race but finished in 3rd place at 15:40:25 - 5 minutes 39 seconds ahead of FOGGY DEW. MOANA has completed 14 races and moved into 16th place in the aggregate up from 23rd place.

NUTCRACKER II became the 5th yacht to win Start of the Day twice this series. She was only 1 second late for her 60-minute start. This was a very good start in a race that recorded the highest median start time of the series. Only 8 yachts started within 10 seconds of their handicap and 2 yachts were more than 60 seconds late.

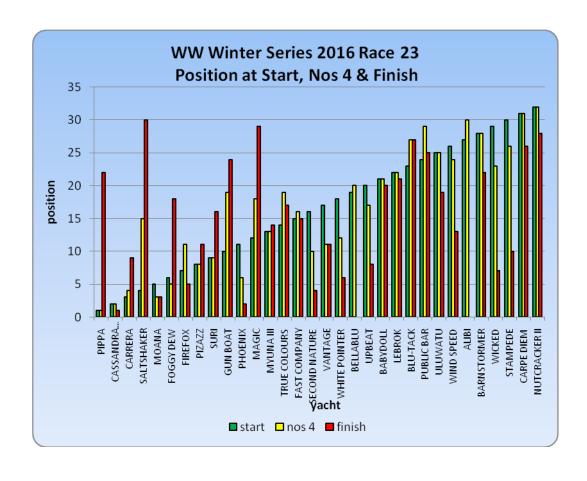
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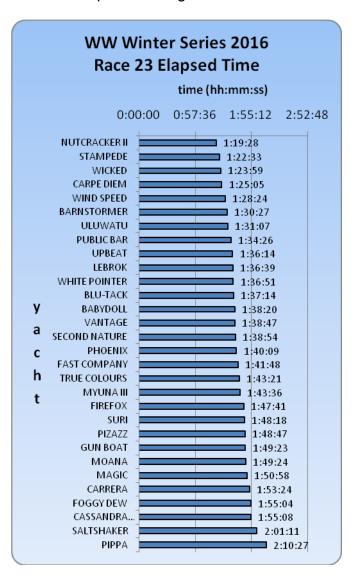
There was a gap of 52 minutes 30 seconds between the yachts at the start of the race. This gap became 20 minutes 55 seconds after the first 3 legs and reduced further to 11 minutes 3 seconds at the end of the race. Of the 30 yachts to complete the race, 29 finished within 10 minutes of the winner. There were 9 "close finishes" when yachts crossed the finish within 10 seconds or less of each other.

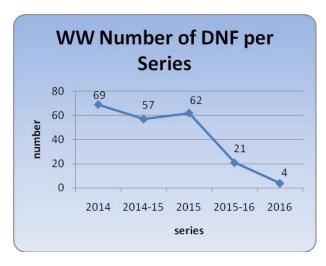


It was a race that favoured the early starters with 6 among the first 11 yachts to finish. WICKED (Mike Welsh) who finished in 7th place was the best of the late starters, whilst SECOND NATURE (Paul Mentiplay) finished the best (4th) of the mid fleet starters.



Course 61 has been contested 5 times this series and this race resulted in the fastest average elapsed time for all 5 races - 1:41:14. For the 3rd time in 3 races NUTCRACKER II recorded the fastest elapsed time, 3 minutes 5 seconds faster than her closest rival STAMPEDE (Christopher Gendala). It is interesting to note that the margin between NUTCRACKER II and her closest rival has increased as the wind speed has decreased. The margin was 5 minutes 18 seconds in race 22 which had an average wind speed of 15 knots whilst in race 22 the margin was 11 minutes 39 seconds when the wind speed averaged 6 knots.





There are a variety of reasons why a yacht may not finish a race including gear failure, personal circumstances or lack of breeze. The chart to the left shows the number of DNF's that has occurred since 2014. The number has fallen dramatically from 69 in the 2014 Winter Series to 4 in the current series.

Five yachts had their handicaps increased for race 23 whilst 11 had them decreased.

	WW WINTER SERIES 2016 HANDICAP ADJUSTMENT RACE NUMBER															
YACHT NAME	1	2	3	5	7	9	12	13	IUMBI 14	=R 16	17	18	20	21	22	23
ALIBI	45	45	45	45	45	45	44	44	44	45	45	45	45	45	45	47
BABYDOLL	70	70	39	39	39	38	38	37	37	37	36	36	38	38	38	38
BARNSTORMER	45	45	45	45	45	45	44	43	44	44	43	45	45	47	47	47
BELLABLU	35	35	35	35	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
BLU-TACK	- 00	- 00	- 00	- 00		- 00	- 00	- 00	- 00	- 00	- 00	- 00	- 00	- 00	- 00	42
BON VIVANT		23	23	23	23	24	24	24	24	24	23	23	23	25	25	24
CARPE DIEM	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	51	51	51	54
CARRERA	1.0		20			20								<u> </u>	<u> </u>	20
CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	18	18	17	15	15
CAVALIER	18	20	20	20	21	21	21	21	21	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
CONQUEST			50	52	52	52	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	50
DAYDREAMER						31	33									
DOLPHIN PLAY															7	1
ESPRIT	52	52	52	52	52	52	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
FAST COMPANY	36	36	36	36	36	36	36	34	34	34	33	33	33	33	33	33
FIREFOX			24	24	24	24	24	24						24	25	25
FOGGY DEW	23	23	23	21	22	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	23	22	22	21
FUN AND GAMES		42	42	42	42	42	42	42	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
GUN BOAT	23	23	23	23	23	23	24	25	25	27	28	28	29	30	30	29
INSX	46	46	46	46	46	46	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
JOHNNY B. GOODE	27	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
LEBROK	37	37	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39	40	40	40	40	40	40
MAGIC	30	30	30	30	30	29	28	29	30	30	30	30	29	29	29	29
MARIBEL						24										
MIDNIGHT MAGIC	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
MOANA	23	23	23	23	24	24	24	25	25	25	25	25	24	22	22	21
MORE NOISE	41	41	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
MY WAY	34	34	37	37	36	36	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	34	31	31
MYUNA III	33	33	33	33	33	32	32	32	32	32	31	31	31	31	31	31
NUTCRACKER II													53		56	60
PHOENIX	37	37	37	34	34	31	29	32	32	32	32	32	32	31	31	30
PIPPA	4	4	4	4	7	10	10	10	10	10	11	13	10	8	8	7
PIZAZZ	26	27	27	27	27	28	28	28	28	28	28	27	26	26	26	25
PP1										43						
PRIMO	39	39	39	39	38	38	38	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37
PUBLIC BAR	44	44	44	44	44	44	43	42	42	42	45	44	44	44	44	44
SALT WHISTLE								26						23	26	
SALTSHAKER	20	20	20	20	22	22	22	22	22	22	24	23	22	20	20	20
SECOND NATURE	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	33	33	33	33
SHIMMER		42	42													
STAMPEDE	50	50	50	53	53	53	53	53	53	53	52	52	52	50	50	51
SURI	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	29	29	29	27	27
THE SECRETARY	46	46	46	46	47	47	47	44	44	44	44	44	44	45	45	45
TRUE COLOURS		30	30	30	30	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33	32	32
ULUWATU																45
UPBEAT		38	38	37	37	39	36	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37
VANTAGE	33	33	33	33	34	34	34	34	36	36	36	36	36	36	35	35
VINDALOO										42						
WHITE NOISE		41	41	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
WHITE POINTER	33	35	35	35	35	35	35	35	38	38	38	38	37	37	37	36
WICKED	50	50	50	50	50	50	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
WILLARIE	4	4	4	4	4	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	7	6
WIND SPEED	45	45	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	46	45	45	45	46	46	46



MARK WINDWARD'S Words

FARCENET SERIES 2016 Result Race 4								
POSITION	YACHT	SKIPPER	DESIGN	FINISH				
1	STAMPEDE	Christopher Gendala	Elliott 15.50	15:43:33				
2	WIND SPEED	Les Browne	Sydney 36cr	15:44:24				
3	BARNSTORMER	Brian Barnes	Bavaria Match 42	15:47:27				
4	PUBLIC BAR	Clive Sondheim	Elliot	15:48:26				
5	CARPE DIEM	Paul Commins	Beneteau First 50	15:49:05				

FARCENET SERIES 2016 AGGREGATE											
DOCTTION	VACUT	CKIDDED		R	TOTAL						
POSITION	YACHT	SKIPPER		2	3	4	5	6	7	TOTAL	
1	WIND SPEED	Les Browne	2	3	5	2				12	
		Christopher									
1	STAMPEDE	Gendala	6	2	3	1				12	
3	CARPE DIEM	Paul Commins	4	5	1	5				15	
4	BARNSTORMER	Brian Barnes	1	9	6	3				19	
5	THE SECRETARY	George Shaw	3	1	9	9				22	
6	ALIBI	Denis Hambleton	9	4	2	9				24	
7	PUBLIC BAR	Clive Sondheim	9	9	4	4				26	
8	CONQUEST	Paul Jacka	5	9	7	9				30	

Close Encounters of the fast Kind with 3 races to go in the Farcenet series.

No drops and presentation will be after the last race.

Where did all that time go?

Ever wonder where you could have lost or gained time? After being in front of the winning yacht on the first leg, Cassandra had gained 8 mins, and by the finish had gained another 7:19 min. As the early yachts rounded No 3 the rest of the fleet were also approaching No 3 on the wind, many on Stb tack, so some of the early starters had to keep out of the way of approaching yachts.

A noticeable drop in speed was rounding No 1 with Pippa following Fire Fox et al round the mark, getting their dirty wind while they sorted out their sails. Pippa's speed dropped to 4.1 knts with no way to get into clean air.

Many of the early starters seemed to have trouble crossing the start line on time and many ran along the line and tacked near the wall. Maybe not the best timing but they did cross the line at speed.

Moana's crew were expecting to be shouted drinks in response to their shouting and drawing attention to a WW yacht that looked like it might have been heading between the Anonyma Shoal piles. Was it due to outside assistance that they avoided the Shoal? One other yacht was honest enough to admit he started his motor and retired from the race even though he completed the course.

Salt Shaker was only 8 min behind the first yacht to round No 4, after starting off 20mins, a gain of 5 mins on the leading yacht, but lost 16 places by the time she had finished. Most of this time was taken up by repairing a jib halyard, which enabled her to complete the race.

Look up in the Sky! Is it a spinnaker? Is it a plane? Or is it a Black Moon?

Maybe it is a lunar eclipse (or a **penumbral eclipse**, in this case). This will happen on Sept 16th, 2016. For details **CLICK**

A **penumbral** lunar **eclipse** occurs when the Sun, Earth and Moon align in an almost straight line. When this happens, the Earth blocks some of the Sun's light from directly reaching the Moon's surface, and covers a part of the Moon with the outer part of its shadow, also known as the **penumbra**.

Another event happening is the Spring Equinox (Day/Night Nearly Equal) on 18 September.

Coming Up on October 31st is a **Black Moon**. Do you know what this is? Respond to Mark

Allocation of Berths when leases expire.

An idea has come up when the berths are reallocated to encourage the use of less fuel and encourage more competition in racing.

Larger yachts and all power boats will be given berths close to the outer wall to reduce the distance they need to travel going in and out of the marina.

The remainder of berths will be determined on how the yacht is doing in any of the series races. The yachts with more races and better finishes would get the closest berths to the Ken King Centre. Yachts that slide down the ranking will move further out towards the wall.

This will encourage skippers to improve their performance and also to try to not miss races.

Latest Coastal Weather Observations Fawkner Beacon

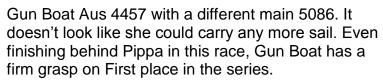
So could you blame the force or direction of the wind for not doing well?

Windward Buoy provides you with graphs for every race. You can also look at the records of Fawkner Bcn. which shows the wind pressure for the previous 72 hours at 30min intervals. It also highlights significant events such as the highest gust.

E.g. on Saturday at 3:22 the wind was 27knts and gusted to 37knts - to view CLICK



SM 403 White Pointer Finished 6th place 2:43 away from first place and passed 12 yachts. Tom was very quiet for a member who has just been awarded 2016 SYC Stirrer of the Year. Congratulations Tommy.







Sm 354 Vantage finished 11th just 3:39min from first place. With a perfect start she might have finished in front of Stampede by 2 seconds

Blue Tack AUS 214 (not Blue Chip - apologies for an accounting error last week) racing this week in WWs with Captain Andy. Dad has been quoted as saying it is his last chance to sail fast. It is excellent to see a bit of colour added to sailing. The tower team will appreciate a yacht that is easy to recognize.





Sm 6662 Uluwatu back on the water in time for the summer. It looks like Mal is trying out some different sail shapes or maybe it is an optical illusion. Welcome back Mal to WW. MARK asks the Question:

Where does the term whistling for the wind come from? When was it used?

A special mention to Di and Margaret both awarded Club Person of the Year. It is great to see them gain recognition for the enormous amount of work they do for Wednesday Wonders sailors, not only in the tower but also for our social occasions. They also do a lot for other SYC events such as the Ball. They now have discovered why their husbands were encouraging them to buy a new dress and go to the hairdresser for the night of the ball.

Thanks to Windward Buoy who had his report and his photos completed early, as he was sailing in Magic at Geelong all this weekend.

Stop Press: Magic came 2nd on performance in the race to Geelong

Send your comments and responses to (Click on the name)

MARK WINDWARD

When cannibals eat a missionary, is that called a taste of religion.

Practice safe eating: always use condiments.