

**A Wednesday Wonders day for fun ~  
Christmas Eve with Santa, courtesy of the tower volunteers**

The FUN RACE and the good things about it.....

No big boats; no going out to number 5 or 6; plenty of wind.

No worries about damaging your handicap by winning.

In addition, Father Christmas greeted the sailors with a gift at the end of the race for everyone.

The 21knt wind did frighten a few skippers away, who the tower crew were expecting to join in, but there were still 8 yachts at the start line.

The back marker for the race was Sm 7314 Forzado, a rare occurrence.

Start of the day and a free hull scrub (thanks to BLAIR SHIPWRIGHTS) on 4 seconds, was **Salt Whistle**.

Course 32 was chosen to ensure an early finish, heading off to number one with a reasonable swell. ... It was swell race. Pippa recorded an average ascent of 233 and a decent of 232 (the difference is the tide range).

Pippa headed off first, and as the wind did not increase for later starters, she was able to keep a cracking pace.

All yachts had started by 13:59:15 and had all finished by 15:46. There was just one retirement, **Cassandra**, due to the consideration of the numerous grandchildren on board. Bob thought once around was enough. A few other grandchildren were in the race. **Salt Shaker** had a granddaughter on the tiller for the last leg, and we think this improved his position. 'The little Red yacht' **Pippa** was unable to be run down before the finish line and finished 3 mins in front of second, **Johnny B Goode** and 2 mins later to **Salt Whistle**.

Thanks to Salty for the photo of Pippa, she did try to get a closer shot!

WW Christmas Eve Fun Race Course 32 8.2nm South\_ west 21knts

Finish Position	Number	Yacht	Time Finished
1	Sm303	Pippa	15:24:32
2	Sm 341	Johnny B Goods	15:27:41
3	Sm340	Salt Whistle	15:29:48
4	Sm 32	Foggy Dew	15:31:27
5	Sm 370	DejaVu	15:33:04
6	Sm7314	Forzado	15:33:47
7	Sm1298	Saltshaker	15:46:15
8	Sm1147	Cassandra	DNF



**Pippa's GPS Record**

Pippa averaged 5knts for the 10.1 nm and recorded a max of 7knts going down the waves. Time taken for the course was 1:53:24.

**Women in sailing** sometimes don't get credit for their abilities.

Apart from our Commodore who we know is a great sailor, a few other women working at Sundance deserve a mention.

**Jade Cole** who is now working with the sales team of Sundance, is heading down in Terra Firma to Hobart for her 6th Sydney to Hobart race.

Another member of the Sundance staff, **Tash Van Rennes** who serves behind the counter, is taking on a big sailing challenge as she is competing in the National Mosquito Titles. Sailing a cat does require a lot of effort and quick thinking. This is particularly so with the Mosquito as it is a one-handed cat and has a spinnaker as well to look after.

Hope both these sailors enjoy their racing and do well.

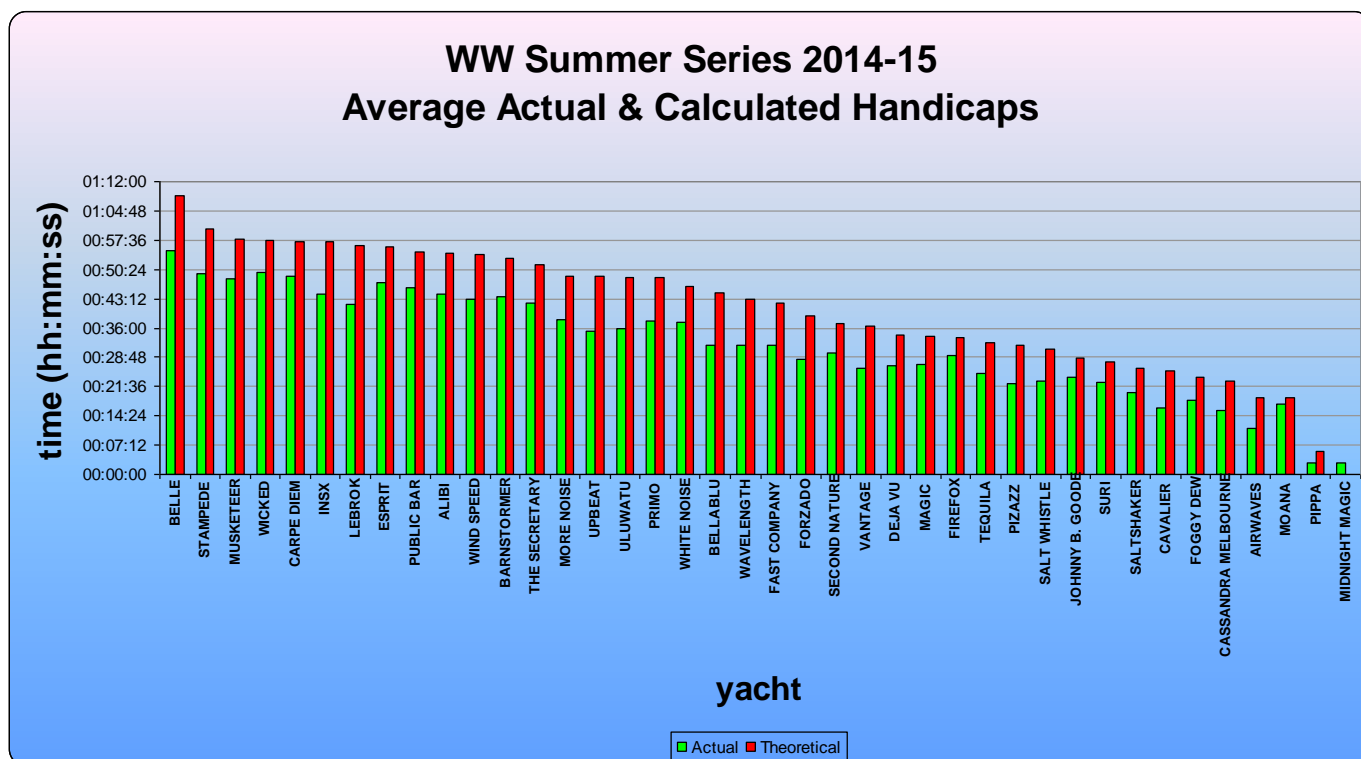
Looking at the **Cock of the Bay** race results makes you aware that we have in our Wednesday Wonders fleet some of the fastest yachts in the bay. No wonder the handicappers do not have an easy job... but it does make you realize they do it well.

### Windward Buoy "Holiday reporting"

There is a document on the Internet titled "Pursuit Races / Handicap Start racing from Top Yacht". His document explains how the Top Yacht software can be used to calculate handicaps for pursuit races.

The concept is simple and based upon the time taken for the slowest boat to sail the course. Using the "elapsed time" for each race shown in the current summer series results the **slowest yacht** in the fleet has taken an **average of almost 2 hours 45 minutes** to sail what is, **on average**, a race with a **9.3 nautical mile rhumb line**.

The graph below charts the actual handicaps and theoretical handicaps using the approach outlined above for yachts that have sailed 6 or more races in this series of WW up to and including race 12. All but one of the theoretical handicaps calculated by this method is, by varying degrees, more than the average actual handicap.



## Questions for WW Fun RACE

Stay tuned after the next race, Number 13, which will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> January, for the answers to RACE 12 Questions, and for the question below.

The two Photos below are closely connected

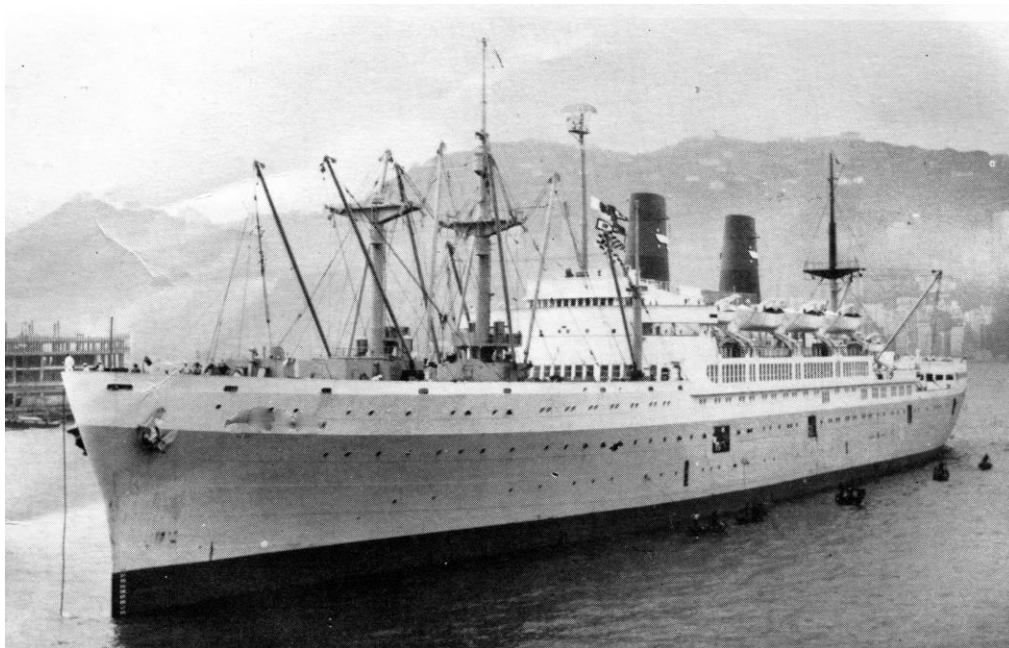
The construction of two ships started in 1944 but took until 1947 to be launched. The one in the photo was scrapped in 1984.



Part 1 Can you tell me the name of the vessel pictured below?

(Photo is from my book "Oceans Ships" B Moody 1967)

Part 2 What is the relationship between the poster and the ship below?



...and after the race... a guest in the bar, who did not take his hat off!

Everyone who came received a free raffle ticket and every ticket won a prize!

Thanks to Di and Margaret and the man in red.

I hope you enjoy your sailing in 2015. Best Wishes [MARK WINDWARD](#)







