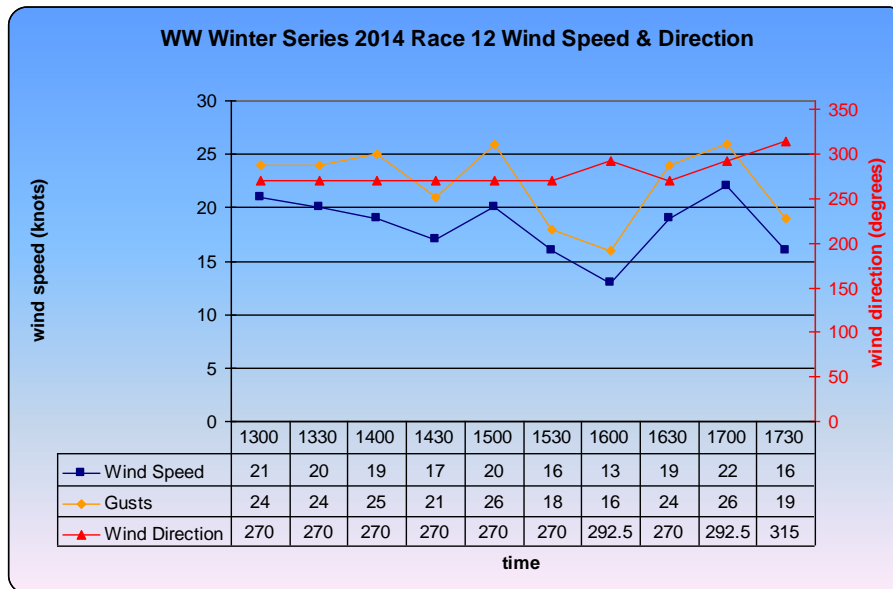


## WW Winter Series 2014 Race 12 – By Courtesy of the Weather

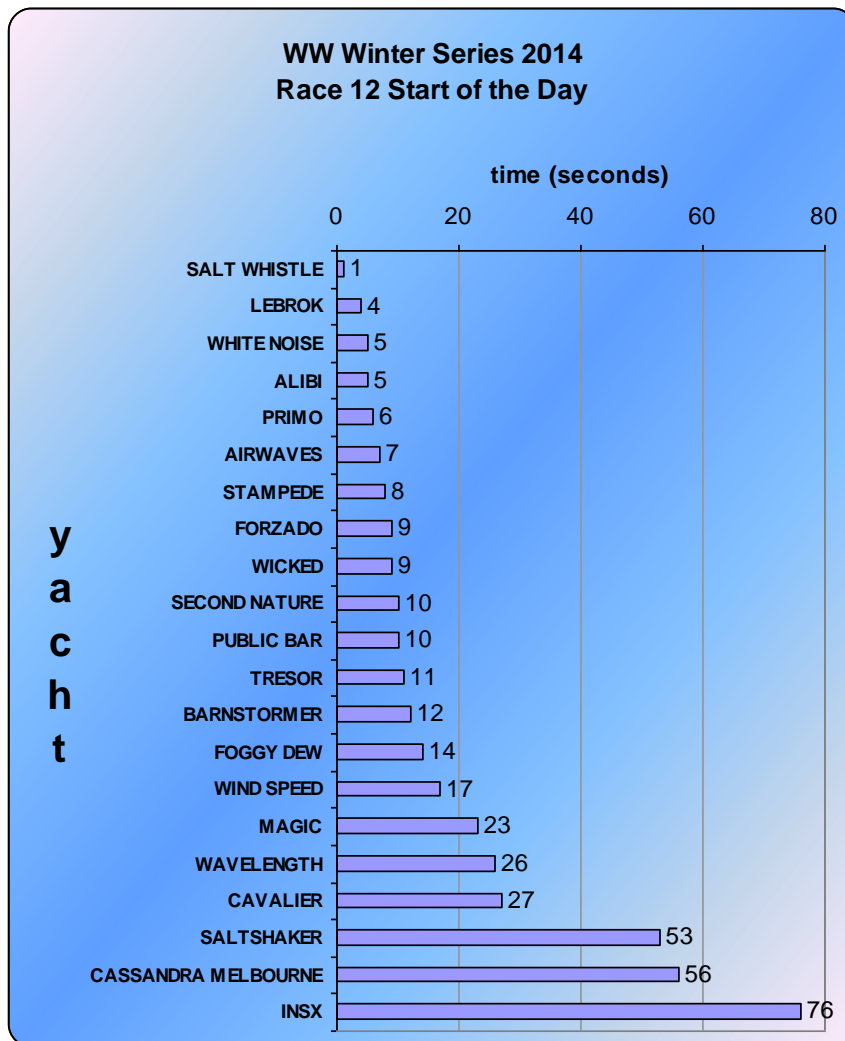
In a week that saw damaging gale force winds on Port Philip (storm force in Bass Strait) there was enough relief on Wednesday to hold a successful race. A strong wind warning, first for the winter series, had been posted by BOM for the Bay but the forecast was for the breeze to ease in the late morning before increasing in Wednesday evening. This left the way open for a good afternoon's race - very considerate.



Nevertheless, there was an average of about 18 knots with gusts over 25 knots from the west recorded at Fawkner Beacon resulting in the earliest finish of the series so far. The record was created as the last yacht crossed the finish line at 15:39:17 beating the second earliest finish time this series by almost 5 minutes. The record wasn't set sailing the shortest course with course 31 being around average length at 8.8 nautical miles. After a northerly start with marks left to port, the course changes direction with the last 2 marks being left to starboard. It was selected for race 8 which was contested in a westerly of 15+ knots.

For the third time this series it was SALT WHISTLE (Alex Hall) that won Start of the Day only 1 second late. SALT WHISTLE had her other wins in races 3 and 4 with times of 6 and 1 second respectively. A great effort by SALT WHISTLE who was sailed double handed and finished 5<sup>th</sup> after starting from 6<sup>th</sup> place. With only 1 yacht more than a minute late and a median start of 10 seconds all yachts had a good start to the race.





Having something of a cautious start to the race 53 seconds late for a 14 minute handicap was the Jarkan 30 SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler). She rounded number 4 leading the fleet at 14:49:56 after sailing for 01:05:03. SALTSHAKER hung on to the lead and after sailing for a further 35 minutes 12 seconds was first across the line to win race 12. This was some sort of compensation after the previous race where SALTSHAKER was closest to winning but was beaten by the clock as time expired. SALTSHAKER is one of three yachts that have completed 10 races this series. She already had a 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> but this was her first win of the series. It was enough to lift her to top spot in the aggregate 1 point ahead of PRIMO (Steve Copley) and 3 ahead of CAVALIER (David Lynch).



RACE RECORD - SALTSHAKER									
RACE	DATE	POSN	ELAPSED	FINISH	HCAP	SOD	COURSE	DISTANCE	WIND SPEED
1	9/04/2014	17	01:57:30	15:42:30	00:15:00	109	6	8.4	8
2	16/04/2014	9	02:14:41	15:59:41	00:15:00	3	65	8.6	8
3	23/04/2014	15	02:46:19	16:29:19	00:13:00	35	63	6	4
4	30/04/2014	3	02:07:27	15:50:27	00:13:00	9	14	9.8	15
5	7/05/2014	26	02:38:01	16:23:01	00:15:00	1	62	9.5	9
6	14/05/2014	22	02:11:31	15:54:31	00:13:00	66	61	9.8	16
8	28/05/2014	2	01:43:01	15:25:01	00:12:00	50	31	8.8	15
9	4/06/2014	13	02:08:59	15:52:59	00:14:00	43	6	8.4	9
10	11/06/2014	11	02:03:57	15:47:57	00:14:00	38	61	9.8	18
12	25/06/2014	1	01:41:09	15:25:09	00:14:00	53	31	8.8	18

Another yacht to have completed 10 races this series is the S&S 39 MAGIC (Phil Spry Bailey). MAGIC didn't approach the race with any signs of timidity but hoisted a full main and number 1. Arguably this provided a little too much power during the squalls early in the race but proved to be the correct choice as the race progressed. MAGIC started from 7<sup>th</sup> position 23 seconds late for a



24 minute start. By the first rounding of number 4 she had moved into 4<sup>th</sup> place and improved her position by 2 more places after sailing 1:32:25 to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> at 15:26:24. This is her first podium finish and best result this series which helps put her 4<sup>th</sup> in the aggregate.

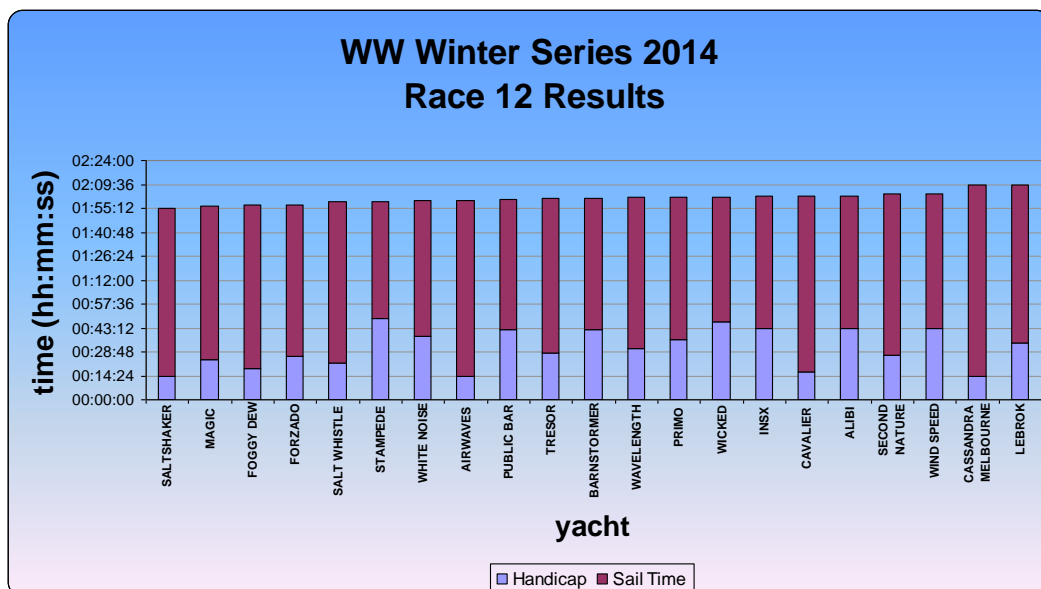
RACE RECORD - MAGIC									
RACE	DATE	POSN	ELAPSED	FINISH	HCAP	SOD	COURSE	DISTANCE	WIND SPEED
1	9/04/2014	11	01:43:29	15:39:29	00:26:00	35	6	8.4	8
2	16/04/2014	10	02:03:24	16:00:24	00:27:00	22	65	8.6	8
3	23/04/2014	6	02:29:42	16:24:42	00:25:00	172	63	6	4
4	30/04/2014	5	01:55:45	15:50:45	00:25:00	10	14	9.8	15
5	7/05/2014	24	02:25:28	16:22:28	00:27:00	24	62	9.5	9
6	14/05/2014	15	01:55:51	15:51:51	00:26:00	30	61	9.8	16
8	28/05/2014	27	01:43:38	15:39:38	00:26:00	7	31	8.8	15
9	4/06/2014	19	02:00:26	15:54:26	00:24:00	62	6	8.4	9
10	11/06/2014	13	01:54:03	15:48:03	00:24:00	39	61	9.8	18
12	25/06/2014	2	01:32:25	15:26:25	00:24:00	23	31	8.8	18



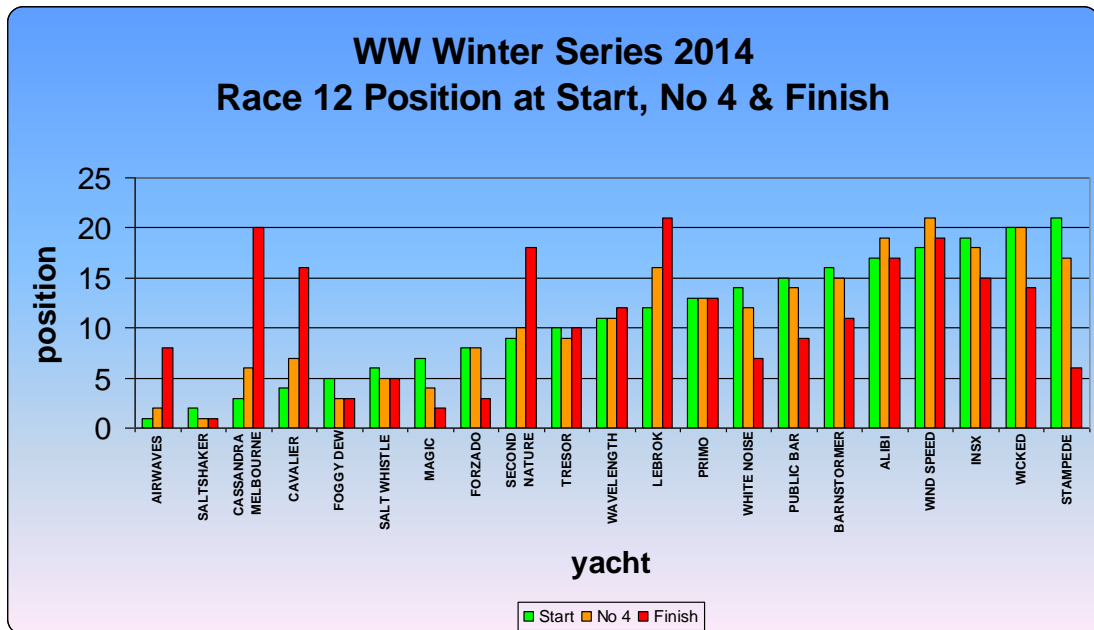
There was a dead heat for 3<sup>rd</sup> place with the Farr 1020 FORZADO (Bruce Dobbie) and the Bavaria 32 FOGGY DEW (Joe O'Grady) crossing the finish line at 15:27:18. Both yachts sailed the course short handed. FOGGY DEW started



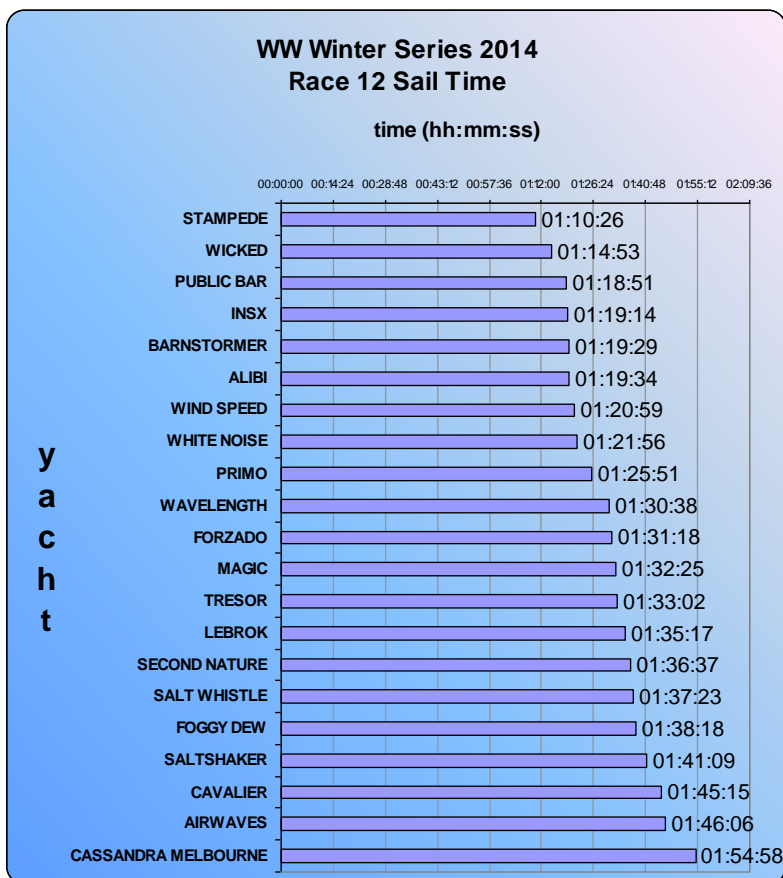
from 5<sup>th</sup> position 14 seconds late for a 14 minute handicap, rounded number 4 in 3<sup>rd</sup> place and crossed the line after sailing for 1:38:18. FORZADO started in 8<sup>th</sup> place only 9 seconds late for her 26 minute handicap. She rounded number 4 still in 8<sup>th</sup> place but made up ground in the last three legs of the race to cross the line in 3<sup>rd</sup> place after sailing for 1:31:18 – 7 minutes less than FOGGY DEW. This was the best result for both yachts so far, beating 4<sup>th</sup> place in race 8 (also around course 31) for FOGGY DEW and a 4<sup>th</sup> in race 1 for FORZADO. Both yachts lifted in the aggregate with FORZADO moving into 11<sup>th</sup> place and FOGGY DEW into 14<sup>th</sup> place.



There was 35 minutes separating the first from the last of 21 yachts in the race and after the first 4 legs this difference was down to 14 minutes 31 seconds. By the end of the race it had reduced by a further 23 seconds to be 14 minutes 8 seconds.



Only STAMPEDE (Christopher Gandala), the very last of the final seven yachts to start, was amongst the first seven to finish. The first seven finishers were dominated by 4 early starters. There were 2 early, 3 mid fleet and 2 late starters amongst the 7 mid fleet finishers with 1 early, 3 mid fleet and 3 later starters amongst the last seven yachts to finish the race.

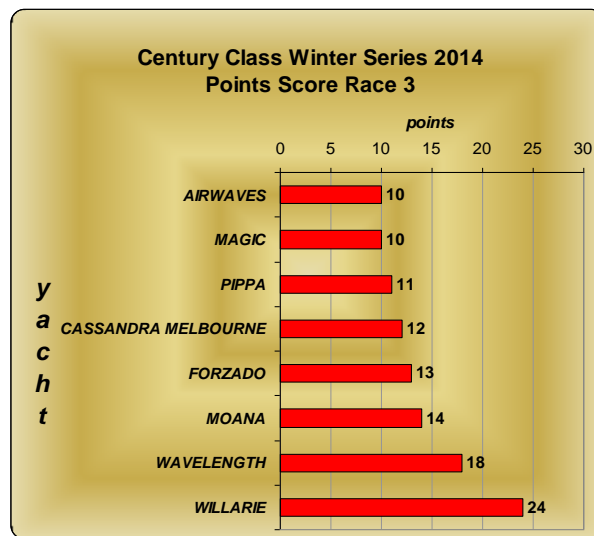


The average sail time around course 31 was a quick 1:30:10 with 44 minutes 32 seconds separating shortest from longest. The shortest time of 1:10:26 was recorded by STAMPEDE 4 minutes 27 seconds shorter than the Beneteau 40 first WICKED (Mike Welsh) and 8 minute 25 seconds faster than PUBLIC BAR (Clive Sondheim).

Race 12 incorporated the third race of the 6 race Centenary Class Series. Despite the conditions 5 centurions contested the race with the following result:

YACHT	SKIPPER	POSITION
MAGIC	Phil Spry Bailey	1
FORZADO	Bruce Dobbie	2
AIRWAVES	Rob Fenton	3
WAVELENGTH	Brendan Kruger	4
CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	Bob Reeves	5

The series is delicately poised at the halfway stage with 8 points separating 7 yachts and 2 yachts on 10 points at the top of the aggregate.



The fourth race in the Century Class series is on 30 July 2014.



The Mark Windward Bequest

A Windy Week

The chart below shows observations from Fawkner Beacon for the week ending 29 Jun 2014. Although Tuesday the 24 June received the



strongest winds there were gale force winds (with stronger gusts) recorded everyday between Monday and Saturday except Wednesday. The following comments and observations were kindly provided by "an anonymous scribe".

They say a week is a long time in politics. So it is with sailing. Only this time last week I was musing on the vagaries of sailing in very light weather but what a week it's been and what a reversal of fortunes for Sm1298 SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler)!

On Tuesday Victoria was hit by what was described in the media as a "weather bomb". And so it was, with winds at the club recorded as between 45 and 60 knots and a tidal surge. I was reminded of the Beaufort scale and the description of a Force 10 storm:

*"Very high waves with overhanging crests. Large patches of foam from wave crests give the sea a white appearance. Considerable tumbling of waves with heavy impact. Large amounts of airborne spray reduce visibility."*

Of course, Beaufort was referring to ocean conditions rather than what we get on Port Phillip but it's seldom we get to see it from a position of comfort.

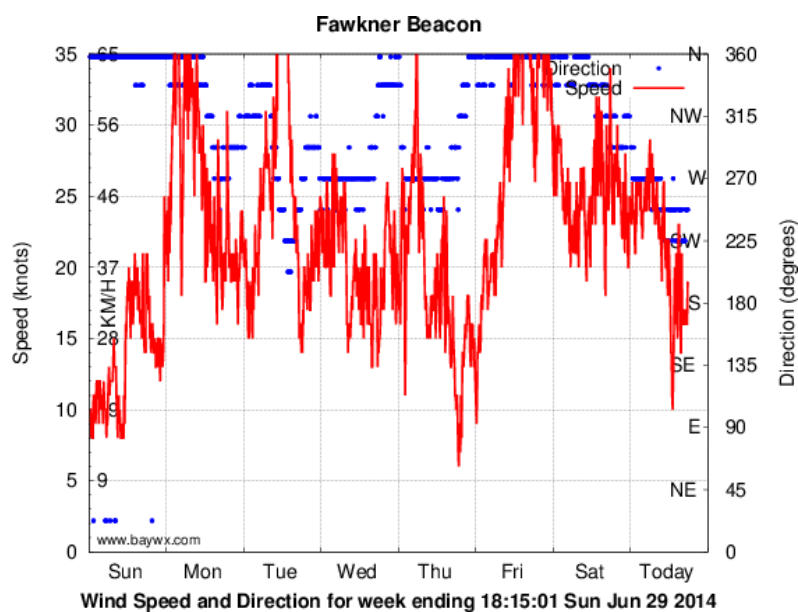
It's on these sorts of days you remember the old adage that "I'd rather be on land wishing I was out there than out there wishing I was on land". At that point you find yourself thinking of anyone who might be at sea at that moment.

At about 11:30 on Tuesday morning, when it was at its full fury, I decided to take a trip down to the club to see what was going on and was amazed by what I saw. Everywhere I looked, the view was indeed *white*, with this massive heaving sea and a lot of spray. And this was just the Bay!

The Jetty Rd car park was a pretty good vantage point. I understand the view from the bar was even better... As the waves hit the breakwater, the spray was clearing the clubhouse and showering the yard. I wasn't game to get out of the car, which was rocking and shaking in the wind. At that point I stopped to think how well designed our club is, with the clubhouse protecting most of the boats on the hard from the worst of the weather.

The marina suffered some minor damage but so far, I've heard nothing of any boats requiring attention. SYC was more fortunate than other clubs. Those who came down to check on their charges, by and large, stayed around to watch the spectacle. I was told the restaurant was full.

Of course, all this meant that some decisions had to be made. There were those who chose to sail the next day and those who elected not to. This resulted in a slightly depleted fleet of 21, all of whom completed the course safely in rather more benign conditions. Well done everyone!



The low pressure system and cold fronts that lay behind the windy weather should have disappeared for race 13.

### Holiday Photo's



The thought of looking at other people's holiday photos is enough to make some people disappear over the horizon. Some are unusual, amusing or even weird. A couple supplied by Denis Hambleton fall into that category. The watches are genuine fakes but can only be purchased with genuine real

money.



This boat really moves in 30 knots under spinnaker! The fore decky on the bowsprit does feel a bit threatened.



### Quiz Race 11



Identifying the ship (left) was the question in race 11. It's hard to imagine that this ship fired the first shot in WW1. Two Wednesday Wonders gave the correct answer so congratulations to both Peter Algie and Phil Spry Bailey who identified the ship as

the BODROG. As Phil points out care needs to be taken when using the gangplank. Find out more about the Bodrog on

[www.cityofart.net/bship/sms\\_donau.html/#bodrog-hulk](http://www.cityofart.net/bship/sms_donau.html/#bodrog-hulk)



**Bodrog in Earlier days**

## Quiz Race 12

As promised Mark Windward has been in contact and kindly provided the question for race 12. Mark asks:

Where is the lock? (picture below) It is one of about 17 locks in a series. Due to climatic conditions this system is only navigable for less than 6 months of the year. I did offer to assist the skipper having had some experience in locks but he declined my offer!

Where do you think this could be? Mark.



Answers or suggestions to [mark-windward@live.com.au](mailto:mark-windward@live.com.au)

## Rally & Race to Vanuatu

The rally and race started 25 hours later than planned after being delayed by the outlook. At the time of writing Wednesday Wonder THE SECRETARY was  $39^{\circ} 1' 8''$  south and  $147^{\circ} 22' 58''$  east travelling at 7.6 knots on a course of 071 degrees. More details and a live tracker can be found on the ORCV web site.

Many thanks to these contributors: Denis Hambleton; Peter Algie; Phil Spry Bailey; Mark Windward and an anonymous scribe.