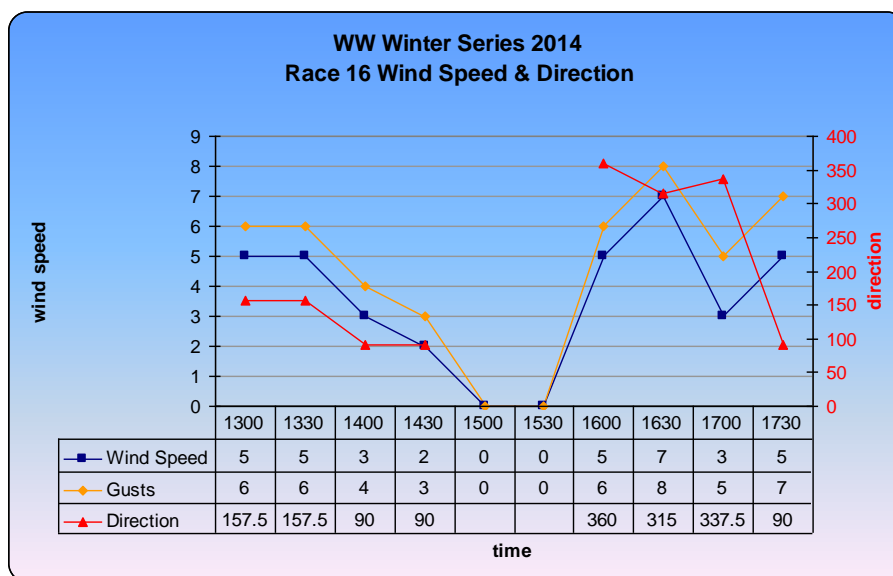


Wednesday Wonders Winter Series 2014 Race 16 Molto Adagio

AIRWAVES (Rob Fenton) crossed the finish line at 16:29:50 narrowly beating the clock by 10 seconds; extending the race by 30 minutes; and ensuring there was a result to race 16. The 38 yacht fleet had to battle light and variable breezes averaging less than 4 knots to make any progress around the course. It was advantageous to start the race sooner rather than later. Fawkner Beacon observations indicate the breeze easing and shifting from east to north from around 1300 to 1500 when it disappeared altogether. Half an hour later the breeze returned at a little over 5 knots from around the north. It reached a maximum speed for the afternoon of about 7 knots around the time the first yacht crossed the finish line.



Of the 37 starters only 12 yachts finished the race with ADRENALIN (I.Beer and A.Molnar) the last of the 12 crossing the finish line with 19 seconds to spare.

Race winner AIRWAVES was the 3rd yacht to start with a handicap of 13 minutes. She sailed the course in 2:46:50 to become the 14th different winner in 14 races. She has been rewarded with 5 top ten positions from 12 completed races but the win in race 16 is her first podium finish of the series. The win lifted AIRWAVES from 17th to 9th in the aggregate 20 points behind leader CAVALIER (David Lynch).

RACE RECORD AIRWAVES									
RACE	DATE	POSN	ELAPSED	FINISH	HCAP	SOD	COURSE	DISTANCE	WIND SPEED
1	9/04/2014	8	01:53:14	15:38:14	00:15:00	5	6	8.4	8
2	16/04/2014	6	02:10:37	15:57:37	00:17:00	4	65	8.6	8
3	23/04/2014	26	02:54:05	16:39:05	00:15:00	225	63	6	4
4	30/04/2014	11	02:07:39	15:52:39	00:15:00	23	14	9.8	15
5	7/05/2014	20	02:32:48	16:18:48	00:16:00	9	62	9.5	9
6	14/05/2014	32	02:16:35	16:01:35	00:15:00	194	61	9.8	16
8	28/05/2014	8	01:47:43	15:30:43	00:13:00	7	31	8.8	15
9	4/06/2014	14	02:09:06	15:53:06	00:14:00	42	6	8.4	9
12	25/06/2014	8	01:46:06	15:30:06	00:14:00	7	31	8.8	18
13	2/07/2014	27	02:27:58	16:11:58	00:14:00	8	16	6.1	8
15	16/07/2014	26	02:01:43	15:45:43	00:14:00	20	61	9.8	20
16	23/07/2014	1	02:46:50	16:29:50	00:13:00				4

Crossing the finish line 3 minutes 11 seconds astern of AIRWAVES was aggregate leader CAVALIER (David Lynch). CAVALIER had started from 4th position with a handicap of 15 minutes. She crossed the finish line at 16:33:01 after sailing for 2:48:01.

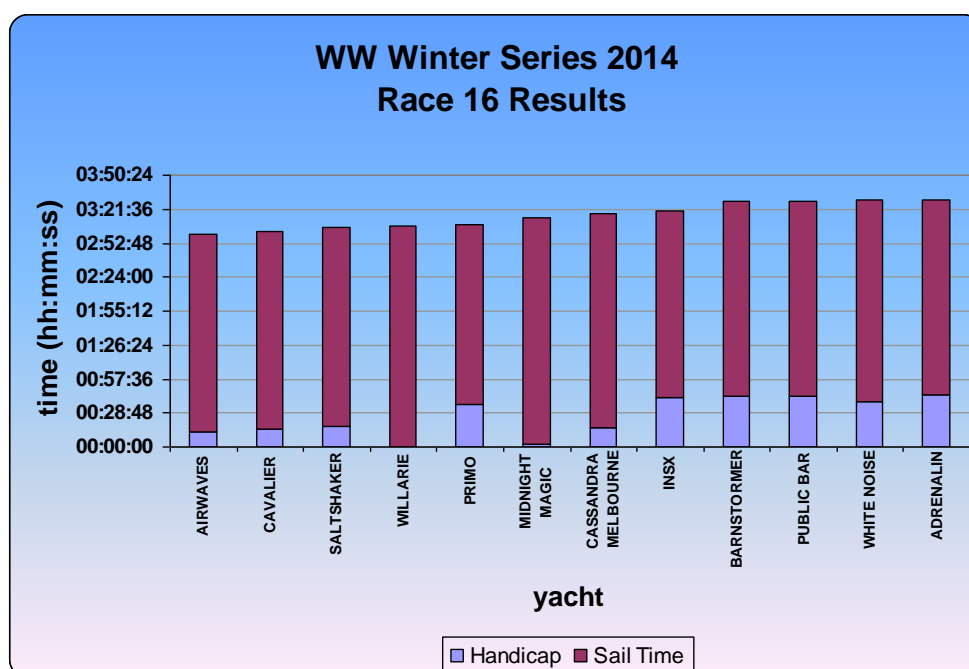
RACE RECORD CAVALIER										
YACHT	RACE	DATE	POSN	ELAPSED	FINISH	HCAP	SOD	COURSE	DISTANCE	WIND SPEED
CAVALIER	1	9/04/2014	25	02:01:41	15:46:41	00:15:00	54	6	8.4	8
CAVALIER	2	16/04/2014	2	02:12:34	15:55:34	00:13:00	24	65	8.6	8
CAVALIER	4	30/04/2014	37	02:17:23	16:00:23	00:13:00	10	14	9.8	15
CAVALIER	5	7/05/2014	9	02:34:44	16:14:44	00:10:00	16	62	9.5	9
CAVALIER	6	14/05/2014	1	02:03:17	15:45:17	00:12:00	53	61	9.8	16
CAVALIER	8	28/05/2014	12	01:47:20	15:32:20	00:15:00	11	31	8.8	15
CAVALIER	10	11/06/2014	5	01:57:42	15:43:42	00:16:00	23	61	9.8	18
CAVALIER	12	25/06/2014	16	01:45:15	15:32:15	00:17:00	27	31	8.8	18
CAVALIER	13	2/07/2014	33	02:38:34	16:25:34	00:17:00	5	16	6.1	8
CAVALIER	14	9/07/2014	4	01:43:57	15:30:57	00:17:00	6	13	8.5	14
CAVALIER	15	16/07/2014	28	02:04:42	15:51:42	00:17:00	300	61	9.8	20
CAVALIER	16	23/07/2014	2	02:48:01	16:33:01	00:15:00				4

This was CAVALIER'S 3rd podium finish and 6th top ten finish in 12 races this series. After a week's break CAVALIER is back on top of the aggregate with 35 points, 2 points ahead of SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler).

It was SALTSHAKER that crossed the finish line in 3rd place 6 minutes 52 seconds behind the winner AIRWAVES. SALTSHAKER had sailed the course in 2:49:42 crossing the finish line at 16:36:42 to record her 4th podium finish of the series. Despite being placed 2nd in the race SALTSHAKER lost top spot on the aggregate to close rival CAVALIER.

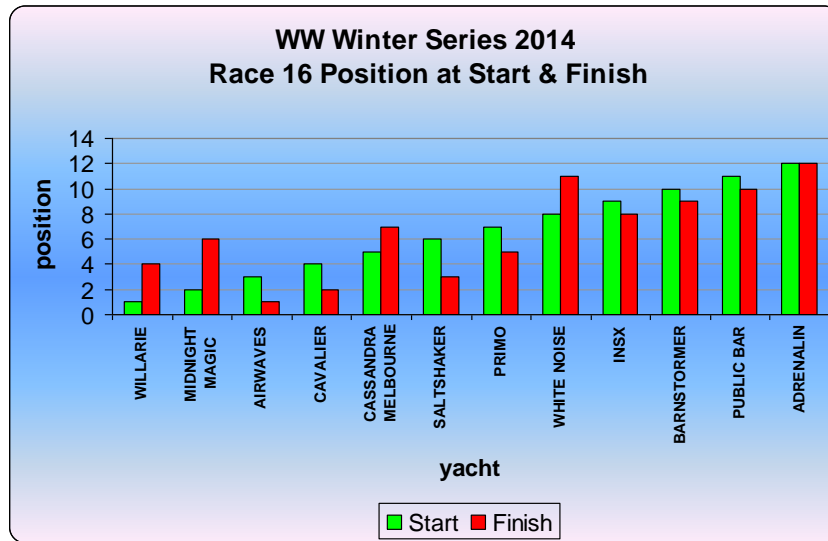
RACE RECORD SALTSHAKER									
RACE	DATE	POSN	ELAPSED	FINISH	HCAP	SOD	COURSE	DISTANCE	WIND SPEED
1	9/04/2014	17	01:57:30	15:42:30	00:15:00	109	6	8.4	8
2	16/04/2014	9	02:14:41	15:59:41	00:15:00	3	65	8.6	8
3	23/04/2014	15	02:46:19	16:29:19	00:13:00	35	63	6	4
4	30/04/2014	3	02:07:27	15:50:27	00:13:00	9	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
13	2/07/2014	30	02:28:27	16:15:27	00:17:00	9	16	6.1	8
14	9/07/2014	8	01:45:56	15:32:56	00:17:00	26	13	8.5	14
16	23/07/2014	3	02:49:42	16:36:42	00:17:00				4

With an average wind speed of 4 knots it should come as no surprise that this was the slowest race of the series.

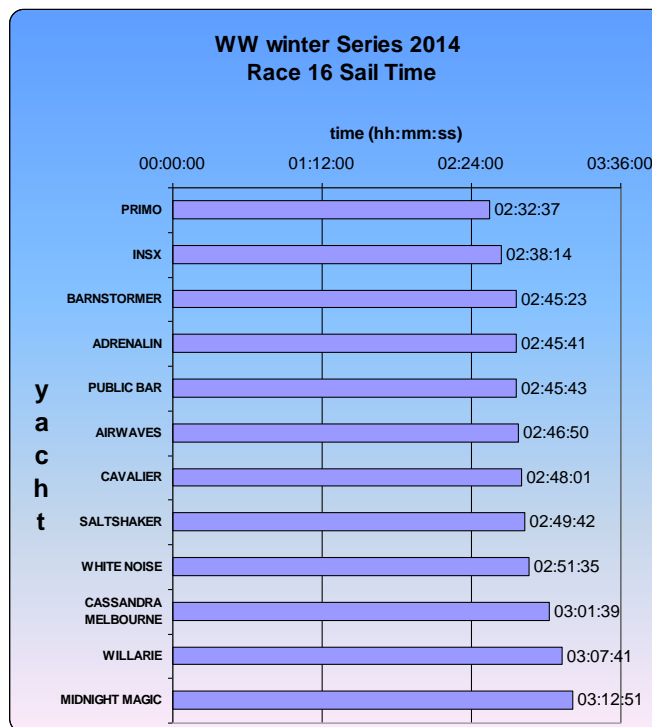


The difference in start times of the 37 yachts was 50 minutes with the difference in finish times reduced to 29 minutes 51 seconds equivalent to one yacht crossing the finish line every 2 minutes 29 seconds, by far the slowest finish rate of the series.

The conditions did not encourage significant changes between start and finish positions with a change of 4 places being the maximum. Generally if a yacht started in the first third of the fleet it finished in the first third and so on.



The Beneteau 367 PRIMO (Steve Copley) recorded the fastest sail time of the race in 2:32:37. The average sail time was 2:50:30 with a range of 40 minutes 14 seconds.



Windward Buoy

Windward Buoy is keeping an eye on the fleet from distant shores. He has reported he is enjoying the sunshine and 25° temperature for the last 4 days. As Mark Windward was not racing this contribution comes courtesy of one of the crew of the place getters Andy Lynch

The conditions looked light but promising as a solid fleet of 38 filed out of the marina. Airwaves established a commanding pace picking the line beautifully for a tack-free rounding of the southern stick but were still a few lengths short of Willarie.

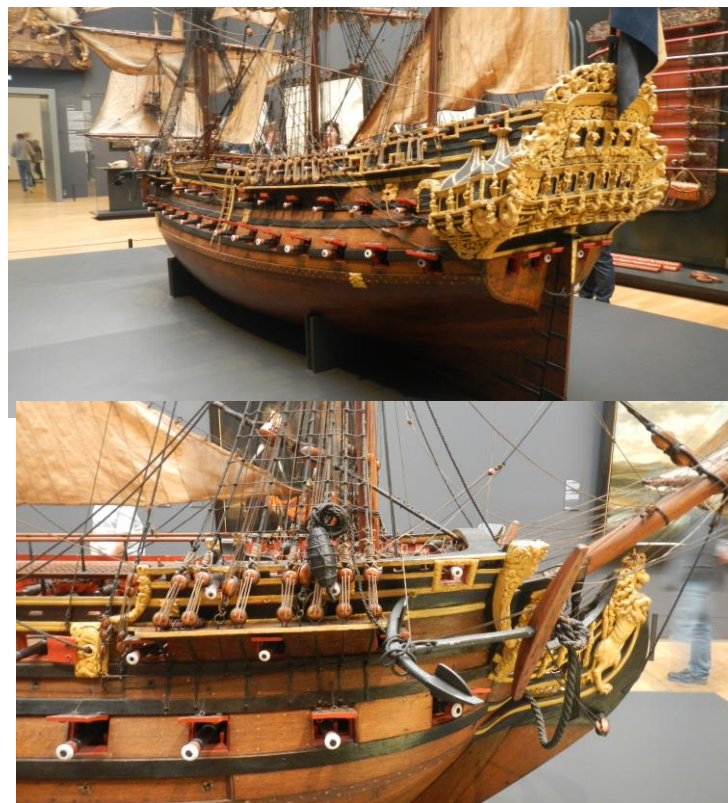
Then, unfortunately the little puffs that had enabled a little breakaway fleet to get halfway out to the western stick died in the proverbial.

The race stagnated, with the fleet frozen in position making painstaking forward progression only by virtue of the bow being pointier than the stern. One by one, as 4.30 rapidly approached, radio transmissions announcing withdrawal echoed across the glassy waters off Green Point.

The breakaway small boat pack fought it out toward the finish line of a shortened course partly utilizing tiny gusts, but mainly riding the bow waves of the dejected incoming fleet. Airwaves snuck over within seconds of the gong, with Cavalier second, then a strong-finishing Saltshaker taking third.

Thanks to Andy on board Cavalier

This race 16 Question comes with thanks to the **Rijksmuseum** that has a whole ground floor devoted to Naval history with lots of ship models including the one below one. The model is a 12th the full size. It had 76 guns. What can you tell Mark about it. What Country? What Year? Where would it have been built? What materials would have been used?



Send you response to [MARK Windward](#).

Hope to see you on the water once again this Wednesday. Please note that it is a century Class race!

Thanks to Windward Buoy and Andy Lynch for this report. Mark