

## Wednesday Wonders Winter Series 2014 Race 7 From Sail Shape to sail Drape.

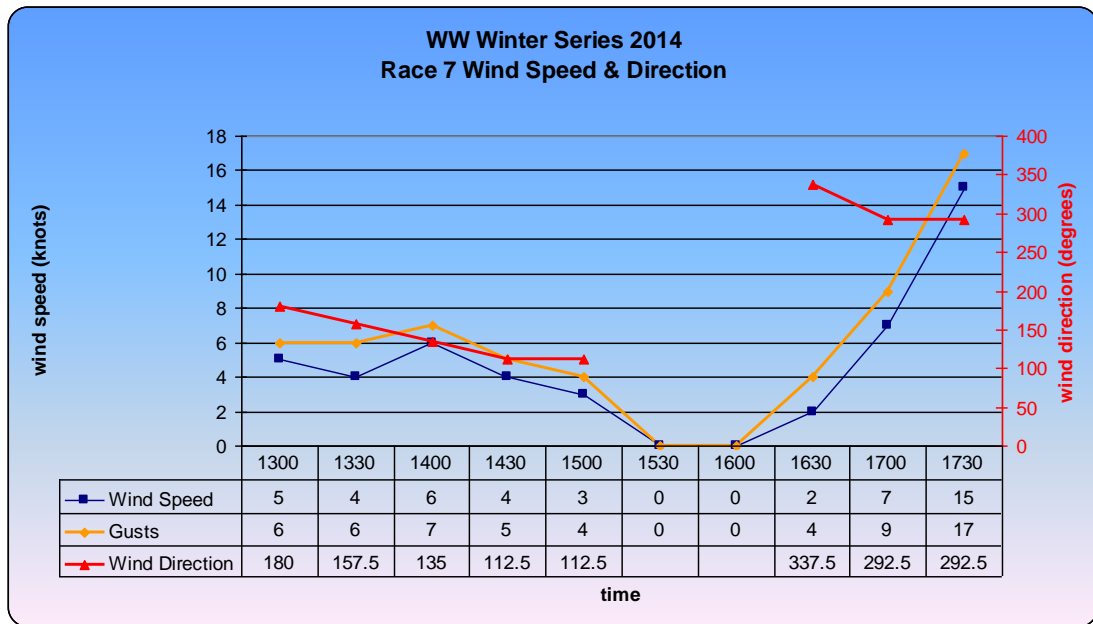
With blue skies and a temperature climbing towards 23 degrees everything was shaping up towards a superb Wednesday afternoon's yacht race. The weather forecast for Port Philip was a "Northerly about 10 knots increasing to 10 to 15 knots in the late afternoon and to 15 to 20 knots this evening. Seas below 1 metre." Some ominous signs started to appear in the morning with breeze on the bay of less than 5 knots coming from the south in the south of the bay whilst the breeze in the north was coming from the north. Not quite what the forecast was suggesting. The plenty of ripples on the water and the breeze was expected to increase as the afternoon progressed so this inconsistency failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the 37 strong fleet which included 6 visitors.



With a rhumb line distance of about 8.4 nautical miles and 7 legs, course 6 was selected for the race. This course offers the opportunity to be shortened if necessary after the first 4 legs and about 4.2 miles making it a very sensible choice.

Shortly after the siren sounded for the start of the race, a small yacht towing a much smaller dinghy and powered by what seemed to be a 2 HP outboard entered the bay from behind the breakwater. By this time about two thirds of the race fleet were preparing for the afternoons contest but seemingly unaware of these preparations the small yacht, under power (if 2HP constitutes power) called "STARBOARD" to yachts obviously on starboard as she continued her passage into the bay. This erroneous call did not go unnoticed by some of the WW fleet especially those in danger of being T boned. A short but lively discussion sprung between yachts that included some "technical sailing adjectives" and resulted in yachts with having right of way needing to act to avoid an accident. No contact was made and no physical damage occurred but the incident did highlight the need for everyone to know "the rules" if they are to be effective.

Observations at Fawkner Beacon indicated that the breeze at the start of the race was about 5 knots from the south but by 1500 showed a marked decrease so that at 1530 there was no breeze. The breeze did start to re-appear about 1600, this time from the north, and increased so that by 1730 its was about 17 knots. By this time it was all too late.

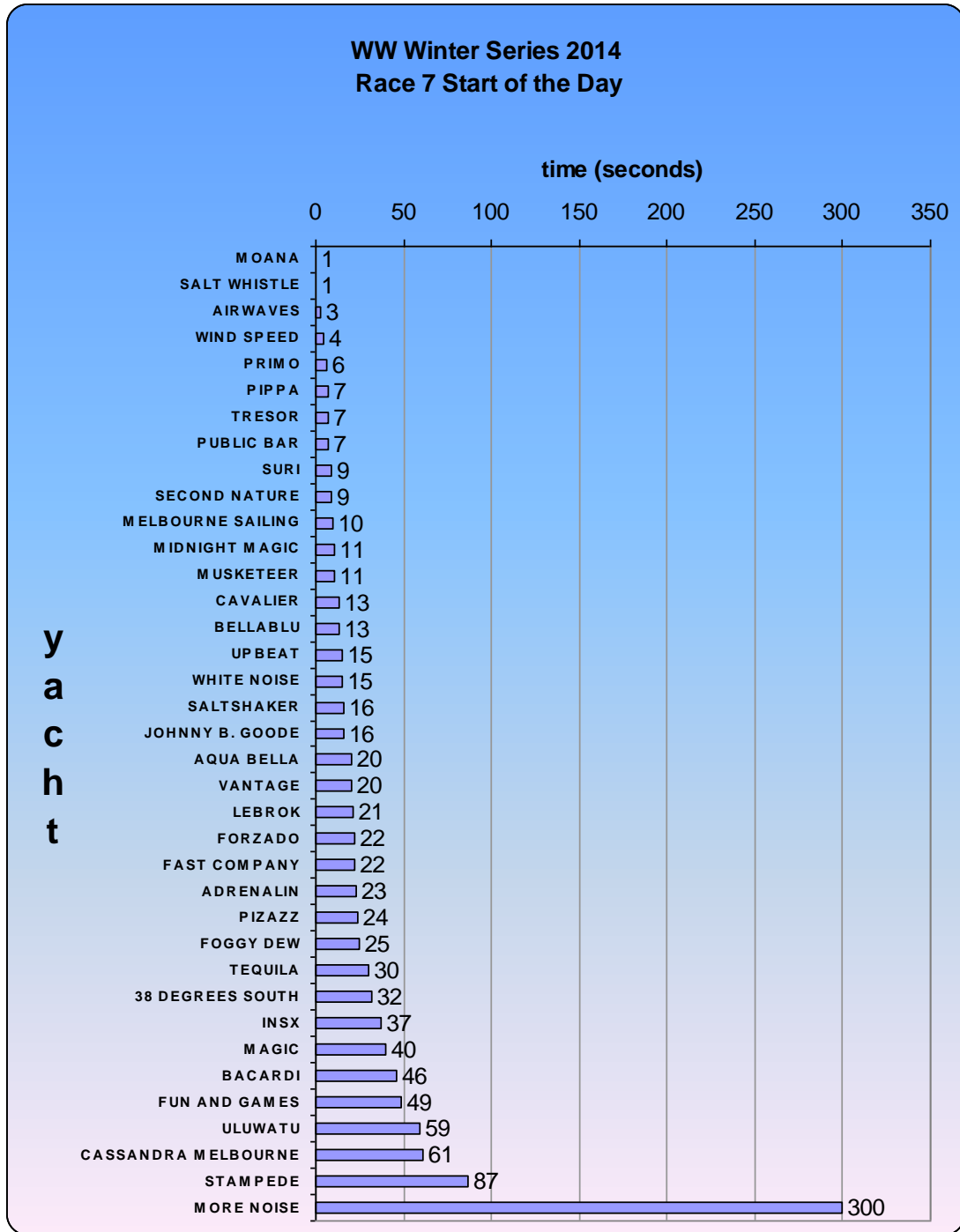


Start of the Day had joint winners with MOANA (Stan Rankin) and SALT WHISTLE (Alex Hall) both starting within 1 second of their respective starts running with the breeze towards number 7.



The median time for the start was 20 seconds with 11 yachts starting within 10 seconds or less of their handicap, The Achambault 31, in her second

appearance in WW and first as MORE NOISE (Jason Close) attempted to glide silently across the start and win the prize. Unfortunately she was 1 second too soon and penalized 5 minutes.



MORE NOISE is a yacht to keep an eye open for in forthcoming weeks. Not having a white hull she shouldn't be too difficult to spot.



It was the early starters that got the most benefit from the light and variable breeze as it receded from the shore out into Port Philip. Fawkner Beacon observations show the breeze easing from about 1400 and it was probably earlier when this happened closer inshore. Mid and late starters witnessed the phenomenon of their mast top wind indicators showing a northerly breeze whilst their sails had to be set for a southerly when approaching and rounding number 7.



The photo above shows why race 7 was abandoned – no wind. This is the first abandoned race in a series that is more than 25% complete. There are 10 yachts that have completed all 6 races this series with a further 11 yachts completing 5 races.

WINTER FORM GUIDE - YACHTS FINISHING IN TOP TEN						
YACHT	SKIPPER	RACES	AVE HANDICAP	TOP 10 FIN	AVE FINISH POSN	Agg Posn
JOHNNY B. GOODE	John Chipp	6	00:23:00	2	20.17	19
AIRWAVES	Rob Fenton	6	00:15:30	2	17.17	9
ALIBI	Dennis Hambleton	6	00:44:50	1	19.00	24
ARABESQUE	Albert Doggett	6	00:31:10	2	13.50	10
FAST COMPANY	Daniel Edwards	6	00:36:30	1	21.33	17
MAGIC	Phil Spry-Bailey	6	00:26:00	3	11.83	5
PUBLIC BAR	Clive Sondheim	6	00:45:20	2	19.83	11
MOANA	Stan Rankin	6	00:16:40	2	16.83	4
SALTSHAKER	Ken Gayler	6	00:14:00	2	15.33	12
SALT WHISTLE	Alex Hall	6	00:23:40	2	17.67	14
WIND SPEED	Les Browne	5	00:44:36	2	15.60	16
LEBROK	Theo Korbel	5	00:32:12	2	13.80	7
FORZADO	Bruce Dobbie	5	00:30:12	1	17.20	20
FOGGY DEW	Joe Ogrady	5	00:17:36	1	16.60	26
CAVALIER	David Lynch	5	00:12:36	3	14.80	1
ADRENALIN	I.Beer A.Molnar	5	00:47:24	1	19.00	30
PRIMO	Steve Copley	5	00:35:36	3	10.20	2
STAMPEDE	Christopher Gendala	5	00:47:48	2	19.60	23
SURI	Rick Blanck	5	00:23:00	1	20.40	27
TEQUILA	Alan Collins	5	00:25:00	2	13.00	3
ULUWATU	P Geary M Billings	5	00:34:36	1	23.80	32
ESPRIT	Garry Anderson	4	00:46:15	2	12.75	13
WILLARIE	Graeme Kaufman	4	00:03:45	1	22.75	36
WHITE NOISE	Jason Close	4	00:40:15	2	14.25	15
BARNSTORMER	Brian Barnes	4	00:45:00	2	15.75	21
BELLABLU	John Lake	4	00:30:00	2	9.25	6
MIDNIGHT MAGIC	Bernadette Moore	4	00:06:30	1	20.50	33
CHEQUEMATE	Ian Whitbread	4	00:13:15	1	20.50	31
THE SECRETARY	George Shaw	4	00:43:15	1	16.50	28
INSX	Robert Sill	4	00:42:00	1	11.50	18
PIPPA	Jeffrey Woolhouse	4	00:03:00	2	16.75	25
CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	Bob Reeves	3	00:10:20	1	18.67	34
MUSKETEER	Paul Jacka	3	00:45:40	2	9.00	8
AQUA BELLA	Geoffrey Simpson	3	00:19:20	1	15.00	
UPBEAT	Peter Dunne	3	00:35:40	1	11.67	22
WICKED	Mark Welsh	2	00:47:00	1	14.00	39

*Windward Buoy*

Mark ~ **Marking Time** - but not in time.

A few late captions for last week's photos - from PS Bailey!

"Just Magic" - Photo 2

"Spinnaker Pole Symphony – the three bowmen"

I suspect these were written in a hospital bed. Phil is now up and about. "It doesn't look as though he's been anti fouled".

The new name for *Pen Folds* in this race was *More Noise*. It could be changed again next race to just "*Rowdy*".

There was some discussion amongst the lawyers in the bar after this race as to: "if the SYC flag was still flying, the race was still continuing and therefore Pippa's finish should count."

Did someone tie a knot in flagpole halyard?

### **Have your say:**

Don't just moan and groan, or even complain. Come and make your thoughts known about sailing at SYC.

Say what you want, or you might not want what you get.

- **TOPIC:** Keelboat Racing Calendar 2014-2015

7:30pm Thursday 29 May 2014

Port Phillip Room, Sandringham Yacht Club

[CLICK for Details](#)

### **Questions and answers**

Peter Algie is hard to stump! The correct answers, as Peter states below, to last week's questions are:

1. Tallest iceberg was 55 feet off Greenland in 1957
2. SS Columbia was the first ship to be fitted with a dynamo to power electric lighting.

### **Race 7 Question**

On this date May 1877, Lord Thomas and Lady Annie Brassey's three masted top schooner *Sunbeam* arrived at Cowes, Isle of Wight, England. It had just circumnavigated the globe in the fastest time to date.

How long did the *Sunbeam* take?

Send your answer to **Mark Windward**

There was not a lot for Mark to report about this race. There was little action in the peloton, and the break away group, who were let go started to feel a bit lonely.

So instead of Mark making comments, the nearly winning yacht, Pippa's Skipper, has recorded the following:

"We got by ...with a little help from a friend. Fortunately he did not suffer from claustrophobia as he used to sail a half tonner, smaller than Pippa.

Sometimes you can still move a small yacht along even if there is not enough breeze to push the larger yachts, or to turn the wind register around on Fawkner Beacon.

Never think you have won a race until you cross the line, even if you are about 40 mins in front of the next yacht.

Never be deceived by the wind indicator at the top of the mast – it might be pointing in a different direction to the wind.

Let everything off to keep a shape in the sails.

Keep the sail full at all costs and keep the yacht moving even if in not the quite right direction.

A .01% improvement and we would have won the race.

Just before the finish line, when a breeze did come, it came straight at us and made sure we did not drift over the line that was so close!

Despite what the handicapper said, a perfect start would not have helped Pippa win - (our actual start was 7 secs).

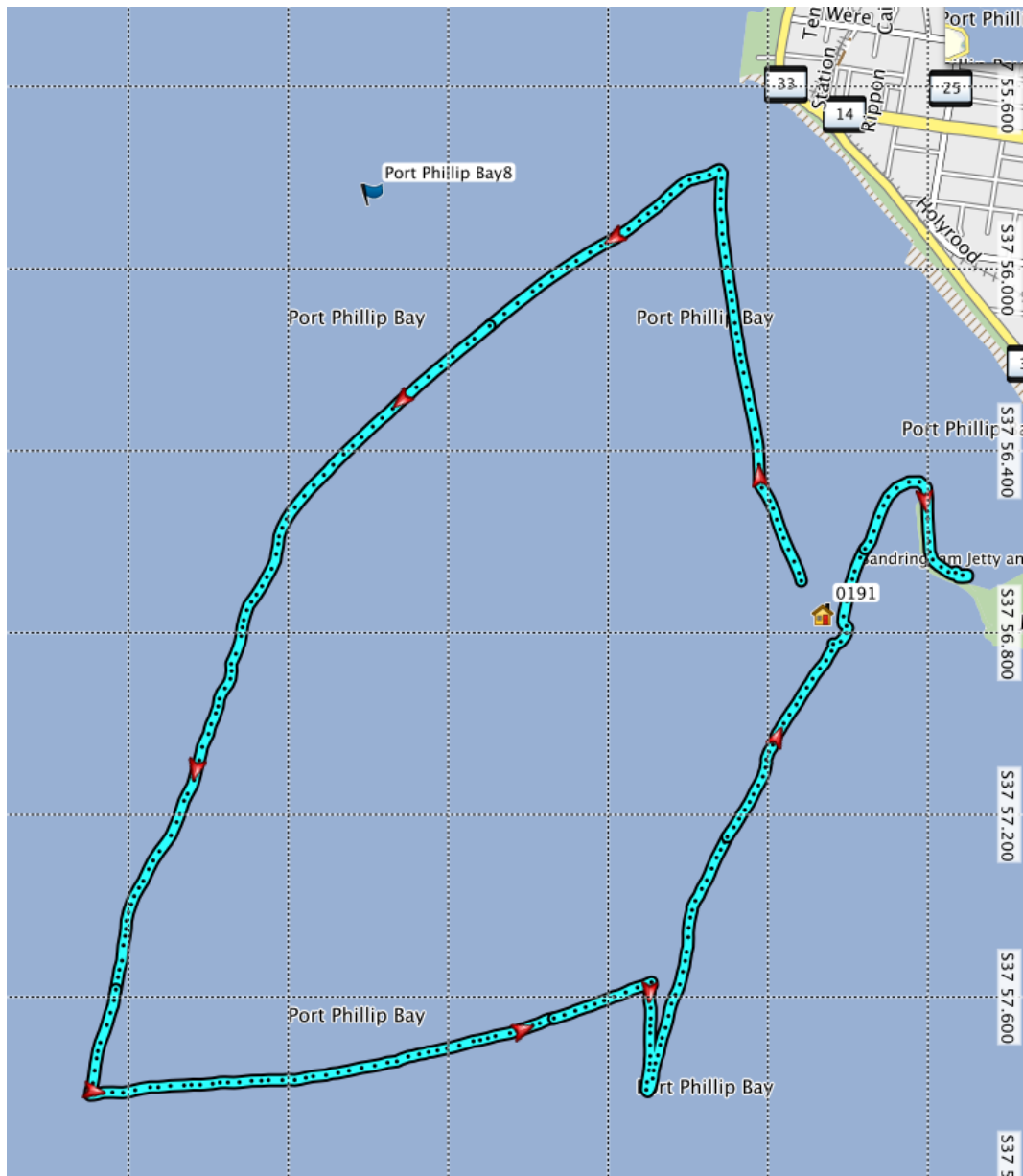
After the rather frustrating finish and feeling a little dejected, the very enthusiastic reception at the bar was uplifting. It was nearly as good as winning!

Thanks to Brendon for teaching the Pippa Skipper a bit more about sailing. I think every yacht should have a visiting skipper now and then to improve their skills.”

### The GPS record of the final count down

		distance	interval	speed	depth				wrist temp.
448	21/05/14 4:19:25 PM	10 m	0:00:24	0.8 kt	6 m	35° true	S37 56.921 E144 59.297		31.8 °C
449	21/05/14 4:19:49 PM	15 m	0:00:29	1.0 kt	6 m	31° true	S37 56.916 E144 59.301		31.6 °C
450	21/05/14 4:20:18 PM	17 m	0:00:37	0.9 kt	6 m	27° true	S37 56.909 E144 59.307		31.6 °C
451	21/05/14 4:20:55 PM	14 m	0:00:30	0.9 kt	6 m	28° true	S37 56.901 E144 59.312		31.8 °C
452	21/05/14 4:21:25 PM	16 m	0:00:35	0.9 kt	6 m	34° true	S37 56.894 E144 59.316		31.6 °C
453	21/05/14 4:22:00 PM	20 m	0:00:45	0.8 kt	6 m	35° true	S37 56.887 E144 59.322		31.1 °C
454	21/05/14 4:22:45 PM	16 m	0:00:36	0.8 kt	6 m	38° true	S37 56.879 E144 59.330		30.7 °C
455	21/05/14 4:23:21 PM	14 m	0:00:36	0.7 kt	6 m	36° true	S37 56.872 E144 59.337		30.6 °C
456	21/05/14 4:23:57 PM	12 m	0:00:31	0.7 kt	6 m	29° true	S37 56.866 E144 59.342		30.4 °C
457	21/05/14 4:24:28 PM	17 m	0:00:59	0.5 kt	7 m	24° true	S37 56.861 E144 59.346		30.2 °C
458	21/05/14 4:25:27 PM	12 m	0:00:50	0.5 kt	8 m	27° true	S37 56.853 E144 59.351		30.6 °C
459	21/05/14 4:26:17 PM	15 m	0:00:45	0.6 kt	8 m	30° true	S37 56.847 E144 59.354		30.9 °C
460	21/05/14 4:27:02 PM	8 m	0:00:30	0.5 kt	6 m	28° true	S37 56.840 E144 59.359		30.7 °C
461	21/05/14 4:27:32 PM	6 m	0:00:30	0.4 kt	6 m	29° true	S37 56.836 E144 59.362		30.4 °C
462	21/05/14 4:28:02 PM	5 m	0:00:32	0.3 kt	6 m	17° true	S37 56.833 E144 59.364		30.4 °C
463	21/05/14 4:28:34 PM	3 m	0:00:34	0.2 kt	6 m	1° true	S37 56.831 E144 59.365		30.3 °C
464	21/05/14 4:29:08 PM	3 m	0:00:24	0.3 kt	6 m	338° true	S37 56.829 E144 59.365		30.0 °C
465	21/05/14 4:29:32 PM	4 m	0:00:30	0.3 kt	6 m	345° true	S37 56.828 E144 59.364		29.8 °C
466	21/05/14 4:30:02 PM	1 m	0:00:16	0.2 kt	7 m	1° true	S37 56.825 E144 59.363		29.8 °C
467	21/05/14 4:30:18 PM	2 m	0:00:19	0.2 kt	7 m	152° true	S37 56.825 E144 59.363		29.7 °C

# A GPS Track of Pippa's Progress







*"It's lonesome away from ..... the other sailors*



**Ask George!**  
Why is this sailor called Centre?

Why have a cake for someone who couldn't get to their own party?

Only George and his secretaries know – because I don't!



The end of a 'not quite' perfect day

Thanks to Glenda on Uluwatu for pics, and Windward Buoy as usual for his graphic displays, Peter A for answers and Phil for the photo captions.

WW sailors are invited to write a bit about the races, tactics, or adventures etc. It would be excellent if you would like to contribute. Contact:

[Mark Windward](#)

*Sailing becomes more a game of chance if you are not prepared*