

# Babydoll Comes Of Age

## Wednesday Wonders Winter Series 2016 Race 18 (3 Aug 2016)

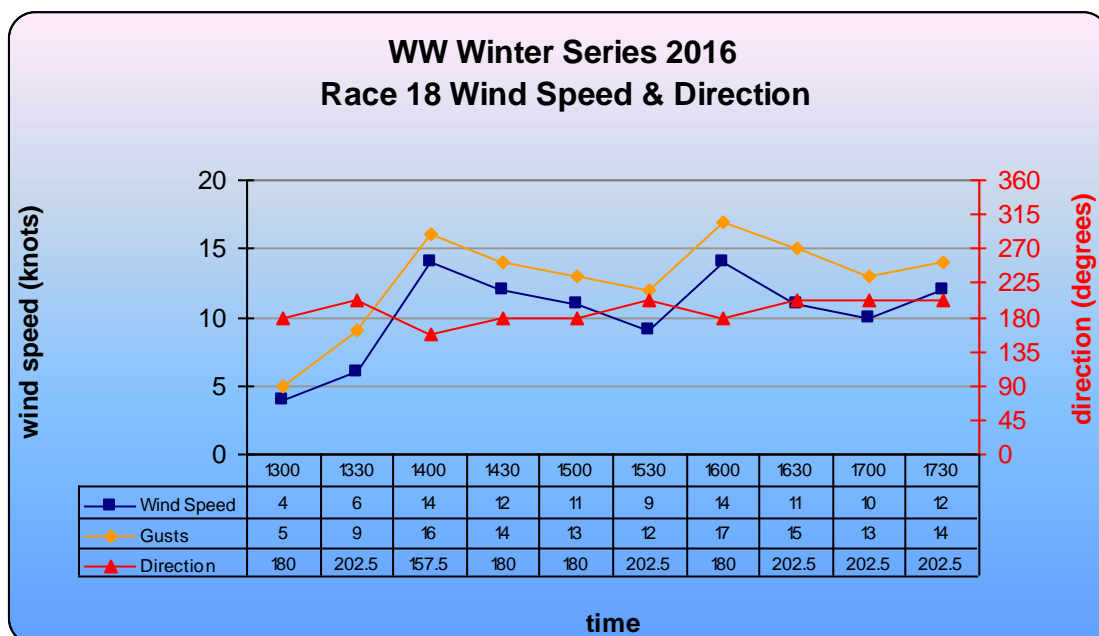


6-leg course. However, for the third time this series a course was shortened. This time it was at number one making the race 7.4 nautical miles and 4 leg affair.

The 40 foot Hanse, BABYDOLL (Brendan Kruger) was the winner, with the 50-foot Beneteau CARPE DIEM (Paul Commins) second and the 24 foot GUN BOAT (Bruce Alexander) third. It proved to be an exceptional day for CARPE DIEM who not only recorded her first podium finish for the series but also tied for Start of the Day with WHITE POINTER (Tom Raft) and recorded the fastest elapsed time for the day.

The result of the race did not alter the aggregate top three. PIPPA (Jeffrey Woolhouse) heads the list followed by GUN BOAT just 2 points away then SALTSHAKER (Ken Gayler) 15 points off first. There was a change to the aggregate top ten with WIND SPEED (Les Browne) re-entering at number 9 at the expense of BARNSTORMER (Brian Barnes).

Prior to the start of the race the breeze at Fawkner Beacon was around 5 knots. There was a squall around the start of the race, which successfully hid the city from view and increased the wind speed. The city did reappear and the breeze settled down to average around 10 knots at Fawkner Beacon.





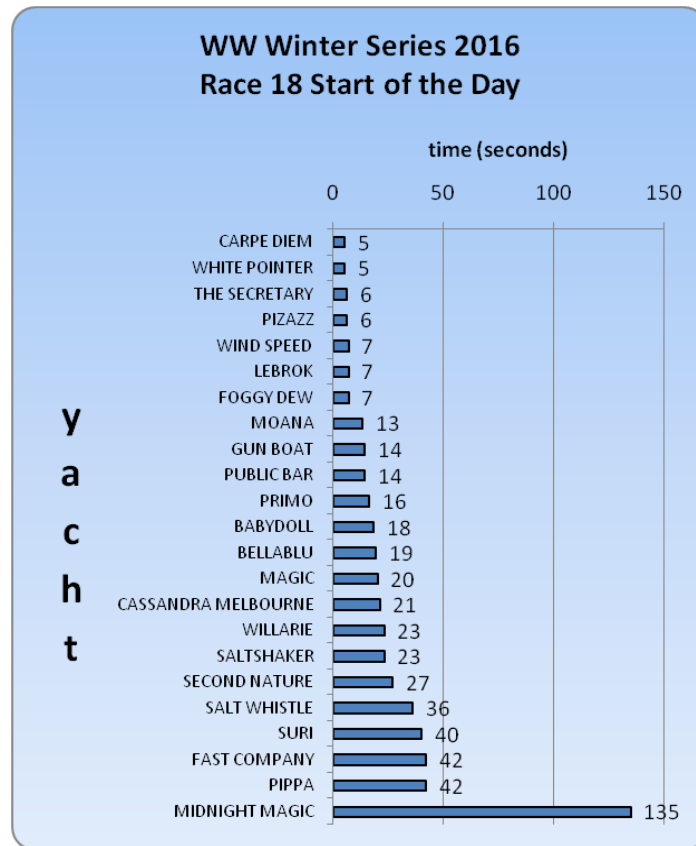
BABYDOLL started the series with a handicap of 39 minutes but after 8 races it has fallen to 36 minutes. She started from 15<sup>th</sup> place 18 seconds late for her handicap and 1 minute 45 seconds behind the Bavaria 38 SECOND NATURE (Paul Mentiplay). BABYDOLL sailed the course in the 5<sup>th</sup> fastest elapsed time of 1:35:52 and was first across the finish line at 15:41:52. Not only had BABYDOLL made up the time she was behind SECOND NATURE at the start of the race she was also able to extend her lead to finish 12 minutes 52 seconds ahead of SECOND NATURE. This was the first podium finish for BABYDOLL in this series and it helped her from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> in the aggregate.

The Beneteau 50 CARPE DIEM was the last yacht to start the race and narrowly missed becoming the winner when she finished a mere 9 seconds behind BABYDOLL. CARPE DIEM was only 5 seconds late for her 49-minute handicap. A handicap she has maintained for each of her 11 races. CARPE DIEM sailed the course in the fastest time of 1:23:01 beating her closest rival by 4 minutes 43 seconds and crossed the finish line at 15:42:01. She is among a group of 5 yachts to have completed 11 races this series and now has 5 top ten finishes. CARPE DIEM moved up one place in the aggregate from 7<sup>th</sup> into 6<sup>th</sup> place.

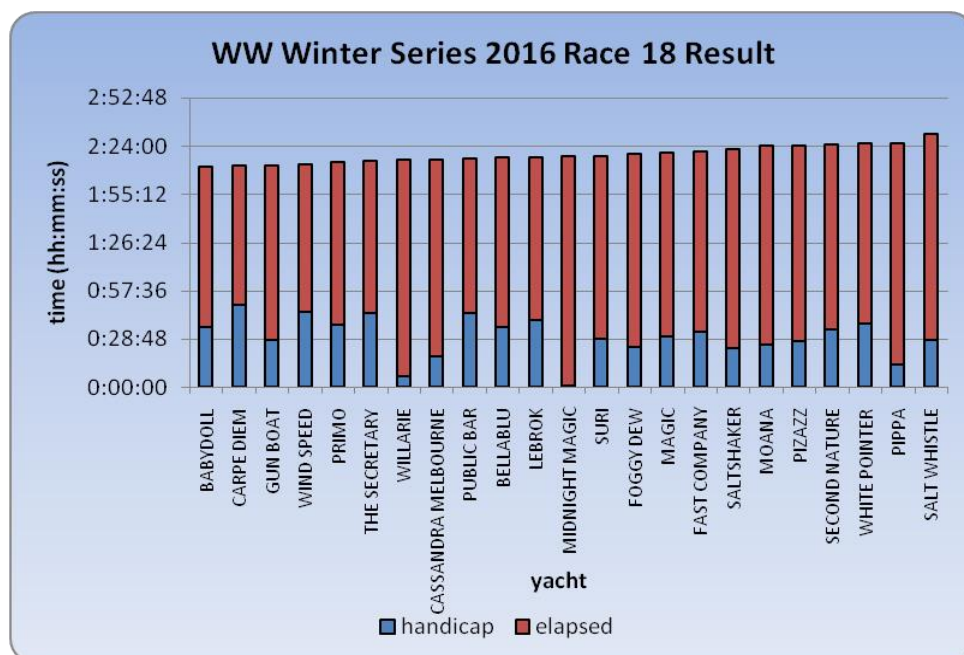


GUN BOAT is in a group of 4 yachts that have completed all 12 races. She is no stranger to the podium having already recorded two wins in the series before race 18. Perhaps not surprisingly her handicap has increased from 23 minutes at the series start to be 28 minutes for this race. Starting from 9<sup>th</sup> place she was 14 seconds late for her handicap and went on to become the 9<sup>th</sup> fastest yacht to sail the course. She was noticeably faster than WHITE POINTER and FAST COMPANY (Albert Doggett) and other yachts significantly longer. GUN BOAT crossed the finish line at 15:42:30 only 29 seconds behind CARPE DIEM. GUN BOAT has been 2<sup>nd</sup> in the aggregate for the past 5 weeks and retains that position for at least another week.

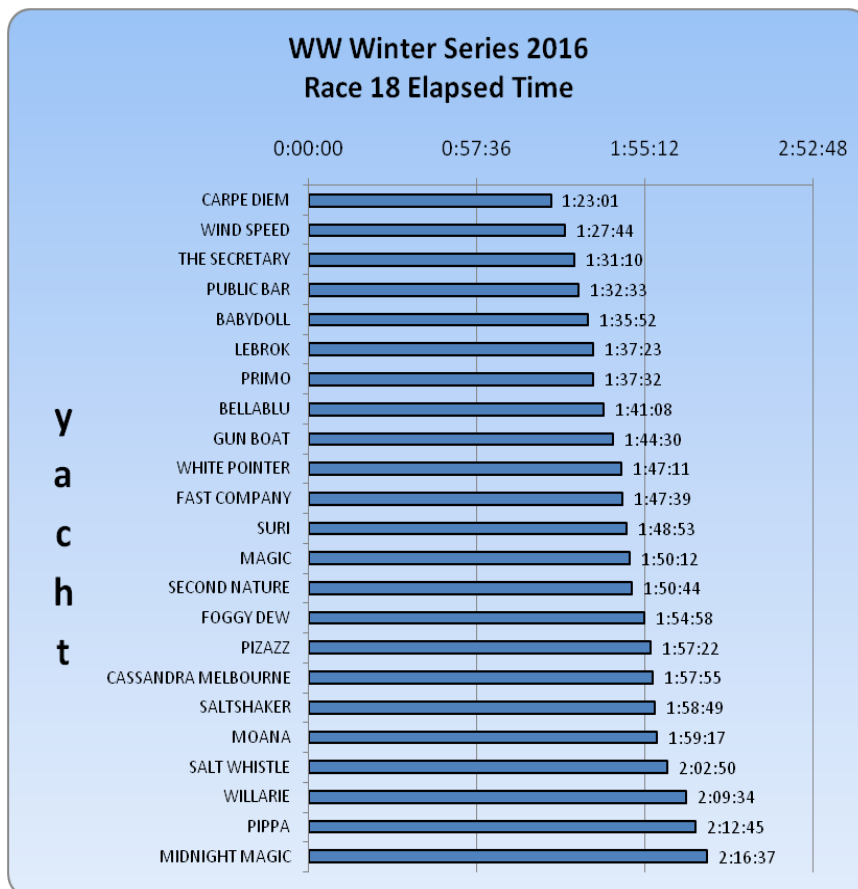
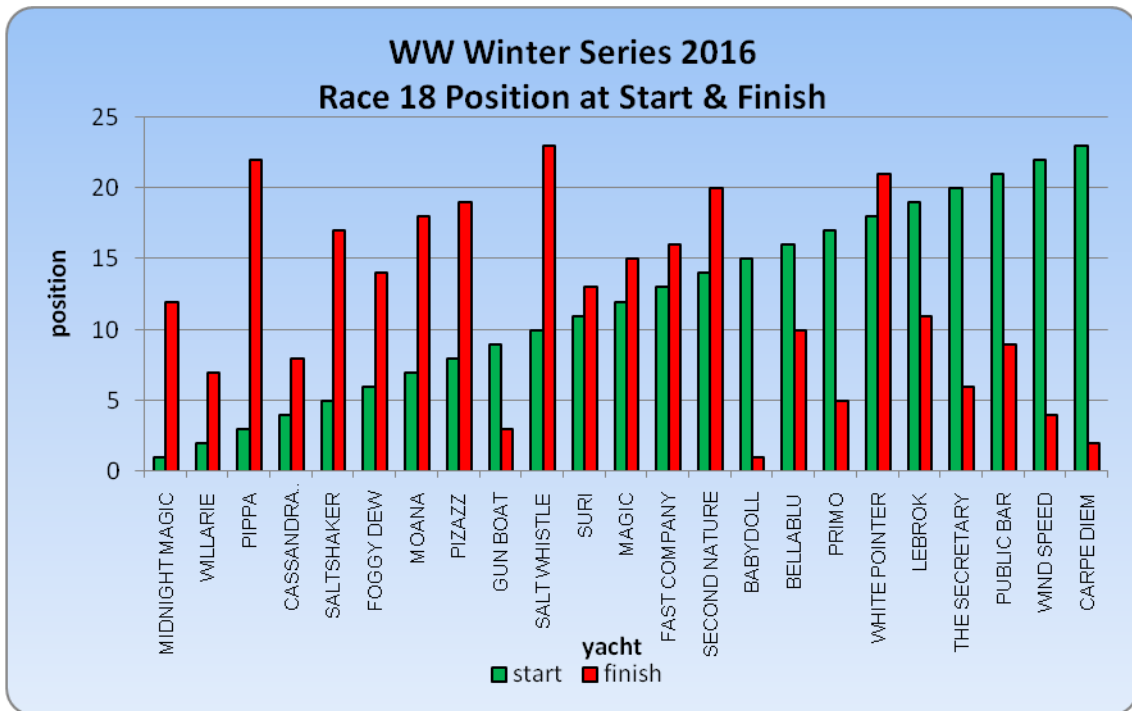
This was the third successive week with a tie for Start of the day. On this occasion it was between CARPE DIEM and WHITE POINTER both 5 seconds late for their handicap. Twenty-two yachts started within 42 seconds or better of their handicaps and the median start time was 18 seconds.



The closest finish was 5 seconds that separated MOANA (Stan Rankin) from PIAZZ (P Martyn & R Kemp) in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> place respectively. Seventeen yachts finished within 10 minutes of the winner with an average of a yacht crossing the finish line every 49 seconds.



The yachts that started towards the rear of the fleet had the most success in this race. Five of the first 6 yachts to finish had handicaps of 36 minutes or more. Fourteen of the twenty three yacht fleet finished further back in the fleet than when they started.



As mentioned earlier, CARPE DIEM sailed the course in the fastest elapsed time of 1:23:01 compared to an average of 1:48:56. LEBROK (Theo Korbel) sailed the course 9 seconds faster than sistership PRIMO (Steve Copley).

Below is the table showing handicap adjustments for this series  
 – red indicates an increase, green a decrease.

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

## MARK WINDWARD WISDOM AND WIMSICLE REMARKS

### ***From the handicapper's notes ~ A Summary of Race 18***

This report is based on exclusive insights into the thoughts of a handicapper during RACE 18. It was not a shortened race just to get WW sailors out of the cold weather as some skippers thought.

The Race Management was closely monitoring both the weather and the race's progress and was concerned that yachts may not finish before 5.00 pm.

- 1 ~ given the wind speed at that time.
- 2 ~ It was too early to finish at No 4

The handicapper aims to have either:

- races to go the full race distance.
- a minimum race time of 2 to 2 1/2 hours racing
- To finish around 4.00pm during winter.

These factors are considered so the back markers have a chance to catch up to the early starters.

The tower considered the following:

The time needed to get a committee boat in position.

That the wind was decreasing in strength. As it turned out this did not occur.

Shortening the course would not have significantly changed the results, as most of the passing had been completed by the finish. A couple of the bigger boats may have improved their positions.

The place getters in the race came from a range of differing handicapped yachts.

*Baby Doll 36 mins, Carpe Diem 49mins, Gun Boat 28mins.*

The time from first to last was not as good as last week's record of 9.36mins. For Race18 it was 19mins from first to last.

I think the weather was not as good either and I think the handicapper should do something about that next week. A steady wind, little variations and a smooth sea would be good and not interfere as much with yachts' handicaps. (We don't expect too much of a handicapper do we?) Instead the wind produced great variations in strength and it moved all over the place, particularly on the first leg. Some early yachts took up to 5 tacks to get round No 5 and their speed ranging from 5.5 knts to 1.7knt, 2.7 to 5.6kts all in the first hour of the race.

### **The Big Ships sail into Port Phillip. *Tenacious***

At midday on Sunday 14th August 2016, *Tenacious*, with a crew including many with disabilities, will arrive at Fawkner Beacon. A SYC welcome flotilla is planned to join with other yachts including the **Enterprise** and **Alexander Stewart**. Some festivities to welcome **Tenacious** will be held at Seaworks, Williamstown from 2pm~ 4pm.

*Tenacious* will be a regular visitor to Seaworks for the next 10 months as she embarks on voyages to Sydney, Adelaide, Hobart and Geelong.

**Tenacious** is owned and operated by The Jubilee Sailing Trust, a UN-accredited charity that has led the way on the issue of social inclusion for nearly 40 years. The ship is the largest operative wooden ship in the world (at 65 metres and with a mast height of 39 metres) and was built in 2000 by 1,500 volunteers, including many living with disability.

Further information will be released this week [CLICK http://jst.org.uk/australia](http://jst.org.uk/australia).

To enquire or book a voyage onboard [CLICK](#)

[NB Some Melbourne Day sails have already been booked out.](#)

### The fastest Wednesday Wonders yacht is?

There are just 8 races to go to the end of the season.

Who will be the fastest yacht that regularly sails in WW Winter 2016?

These placings are for yachts that have sailed at least 6 WW races.

Windward Buoy will keep track of these rankings until the second last race when a winner will be declared. The top seven yachts have just 5 mins average between them

WW WINTER SERIES 2016 FASTEST YACHTS*		
YACHT	AVERAGE	NOS OF RACES
CONQUEST	1:28:10	6
STAMPEDE	1:29:52	7
CARPE DIEM	1:30:48	11
WIND SPEED	1:32:28	10
BARNSTORMER	1:33:02	8
THE SECRETARY	1:33:25	12
ALIBI	1:33:47	10
PUBLIC BAR	1:36:38	12
LEBROK	1:39:41	11
PRIMO	1:40:44	8
WHITE NOISE	1:40:46	7
BABYDOLL	1:41:54	8
WHITE POINTER	1:46:17	11
FAST COMPANY	1:47:49	8
MAGIC	1:49:08	9
MY WAY	1:49:58	6
MYUNA III	1:50:05	8
PHOENIX	1:50:42	10
SURI	1:51:59	10
GUN BOAT	1:52:28	12
SECOND NATURE	1:52:49	7
PIZAZZ	1:55:42	9
SALTSHAKER	1:56:10	11
JOHNNY B. GOODE	1:56:18	7
FOGGY DEW	1:57:10	12
BON VIVANT	1:57:17	7
CASSANDRA MELBOURNE	2:00:56	10
CAVALIER	2:02:27	9
MOANA	2:02:28	11
PIPPA	2:07:15	10
WILLARIE	2:19:57	7

Mark & Windward Buoy will keep you informed and would welcome any predictions, wagers for the finalists, or challenges that might occur between the fastest yachts or even a donated prize?

Advise [MARK WINDWARD](#)

## **LOCAL WIND INFLUENCES AT SYC ~ PART ONE by The Wind Sniffer**

Each week I look forward to reading “Mark Windward’s” commentary on the past week’s Wednesday Wonders’ race. The analysis of wind direction and strength taken from Fawkner Beacon makes for interesting reading but is it accurate for racing off Sandringham? “Mark Windward” requested I contribute this article on the weather we have experienced during the Winter Series and the local influences that affect our racing.

Two weeks ago, the wind backed to the west, strengthened at the start and faded towards the middle of the race. With less windward work and more off the wind sailing, it was a quick race resulting in ‘Pippa’ holding off the peloton to take out her third win of the series. Last week, when I arrived at the club, the water was quite choppy, the result of a short 20 knot spike in the wind just before midday. The wind was light for the first starters but a short gust of 18 knots was recorded on the arrival of the first rain cloud. The clouds pulled the wind to the left but after the front had passed the wind went back to the right and died dramatically. Unlike the week before ‘Pippa’ suffered in these conditions as the wind later strengthened as per the forecast wind to 10 to 15 knots from the south. The purpose of these observations is to illustrate the vagaries the wind has on racing.

The conditions we experience during our Wednesday races are influenced by many factors including the time of the year, the time of the day, local topography, the proximity of shoreline and the passing clouds such as we experienced last week.

This Winter Series we have experienced mostly strong winds from the west or southwest. The pressure systems that move from west to east that pass well to the south of us in Summer have been fast moving and have been the dominating influence on the wind strength and direction. The isobars have been close together and the chill factor extreme as the winds originate from the Southern Ocean and cold inland Australia. Occasionally, slower moving systems may generate lighter or no wind as they stagnate over the Bay. Strong northerlies can prevail typically when a low system closes in on a slow moving high-pressure cell. They usually are lighter in the morning and build during the day. The winds during winter are mainly system driven. Either there is too much wind or not enough!

The Wind Sniffer

Part two of this article will be included next week.

**North Sails** Sam Haines has recently been appointed to North Sails Cheltenham loft. Sam is the One Design coordinator for Australia. If you own a one design, North are running a 10% discount promotion until the 15th August on Standard One Design sails, for delivery October.

### **Answer to Race 17 Questions**

The title of the book was *The Water Babies* by **Charles Kingsley**

(Mark was nearly named Charles Arthur Kingsley.)

For more information [CLICK](#)

It did contain characters such as Mrs. Bedonebyasyoudid and the nasty Mr. Grimm who ran a chimney sweep business.

*The Water Babies*, subtitled by its author as *A Fairy Tale for a Land Baby*, on closer examination has been seen as more than just a [fairy tale](#) by many. It can also be seen as a story rich in moral lessons and religious parallels.



## Question fro Race 18 ~ What book is this?

It is a memoir by the American author in 1840, having been written after a sea voyage from Boston to California on a merchant ship starting in 1834. There was a film of the story released in 1946.

The writer while an undergraduate at [Harvard College](#) had an attack of the [measles](#), which affected his vision. Thinking it might help his sight, he left Harvard to enlist as a common sailor on a voyage around [Cape Horn](#) on a [brig](#). He returned to [Massachusetts](#) later aboard the *Alert*. The book sold 200,000 copies in its first decade.

Thanks to the Tower Management, Rowan and Windward Buoy and a few extra people I have contacted for assistance on writing this report. Andrew Lynch is overseas so we are missing his magnificent photos. David is joining up with him in Europe; I suppose it could be a Lynching Party.

Your comments, advice, and contributions are very welcome. Please  
Email to [MARK WINDWARD](#)

*Mayday, Mayday, Mayday - this is yacht Corporate Junket, Corporate Junket, Corporate Junket, over.*

*Mayday this is Coastguard, Coastguard, Coastguard*

*Can you give me your position over?*

*Coastguard this is Corporate Junket. I'm a director in a small engineering company, over"*