

What a Difference a Week Makes

Wednesday Wonders Winter Series 2016 Race 20

17 August 2016

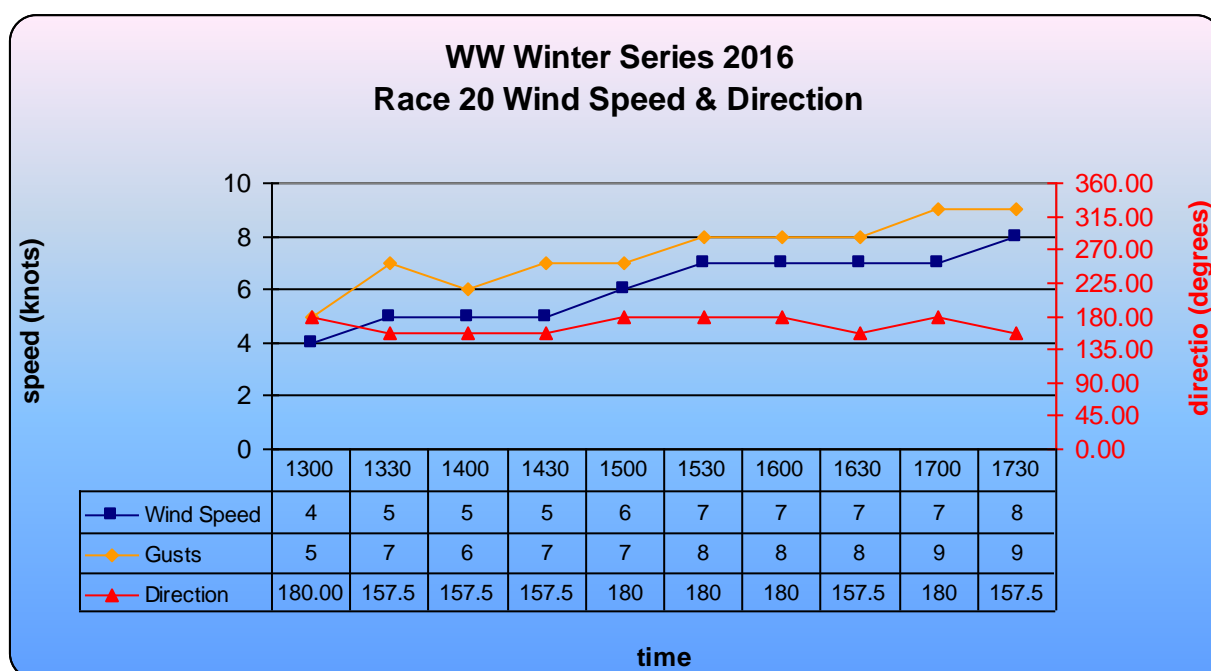


Some innocuous sailing conditions provided the backdrop to an enjoyable and eventful sail that produced some surprising results. What became the 13th race of the series started 10 minutes later than usual. The delay was long enough to exorcise some of the gremlins plaguing the lights on the start tower. It was necessary to pay careful attention to the lights, flags and radio announcements to achieve a good start. BABYDOLL (Brendan Kruger) became the 8th yacht this series to have a perfect start and win Start of the Day.

The race was around the 7-leg 8.4 nautical mile course 13, selected for the second time this series. The course was shortened and it is estimated had this decision not been taken only 9 of the 28-yacht fleet would have completed the course within the extended time limit. The choice suited the Farr 40 NUTCRACKER II (Rob Davis/Andy Baker) who in her debut race not only won but also sailed the course in the fastest time. BON VIVANT (Russell Keays) and BARNSTORMER (Brian Barnes) filled the remaining places on the podium. There was a tie for 9th place between MYUNA III (Geoffrey Nixon) and LEBROK (Theo Korbel) who both finished at 15:42:51.

The result of this race brought about a change to aggregate leader. After 13 weeks (half the series) at the top PIPPA (Jeffrey Woolhouse) relinquished the lead which was accepted by GUN BOAT (Bruce Alexander). GUN BOAT finished 6th in this race, which was enough to lift her to the top of the aggregate, from 2nd place which she has occupied for the past 6 weeks.

For only the 4th time this series the average wind speed recorded at Fawkner Beacon for the afternoon was less than 10 knots. This was probably less than expected. It averaged about 6 knots, increasing from about 4 knots to about 8 knots well after the race was completed. There was some variation in direction but it was predominantly a south southeasterly breeze.





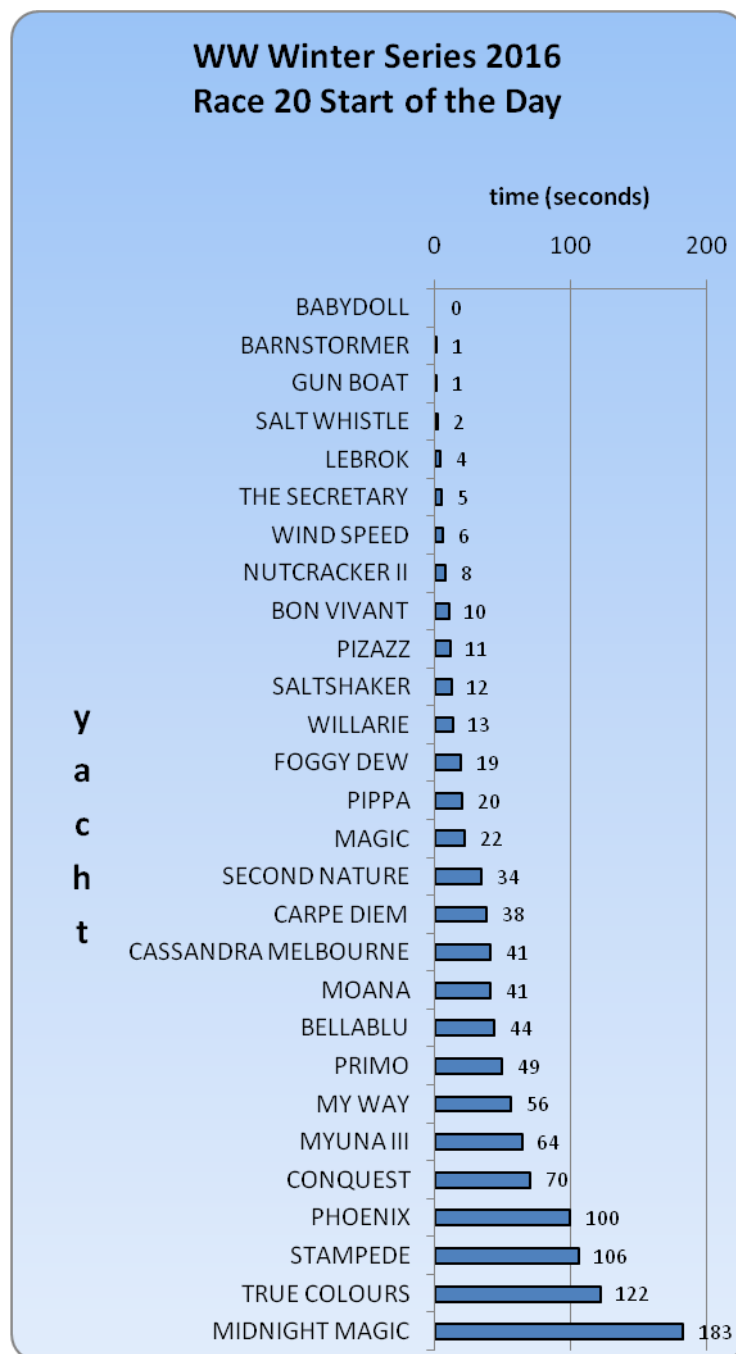
NUTCRACKER II could not have done much more on her WW Winter Series debut than what she accomplished. She won the race by a margin of 2 minutes 23 seconds and recorded the fastest elapsed time of 1:00:28. This was 11 minutes 39 seconds faster than her closest rival and 36 minutes 2 seconds faster than the fleet average. It was the fastest elapsed time of any yacht in any race this series. NUTCRACKER II started from 27th position 8 seconds late for her 53-minute handicap. She was first across the finish line at 15:33:28.

This was the 8th race and the best result this series for the S80 BON VIVANT. She was one of three yachts starting off a 23 minutes handicap and started from 7th place only 10 seconds late. BON VIVANT sailed the course 3 minutes 45 seconds faster than SALT WHISTLE (Alex Hall) and 26 minutes faster than FOGGY DEW (Grahame Jones) who were also off a 23-minute handicap. She crossed the finish line in 2nd place at 15:35:51 after sailing the course in 1:32:51. BON VIVANT has recorded two podium finishes in her 8 completed races and she moves up from 26th to be 21st in the aggregate with a total of 90 points.



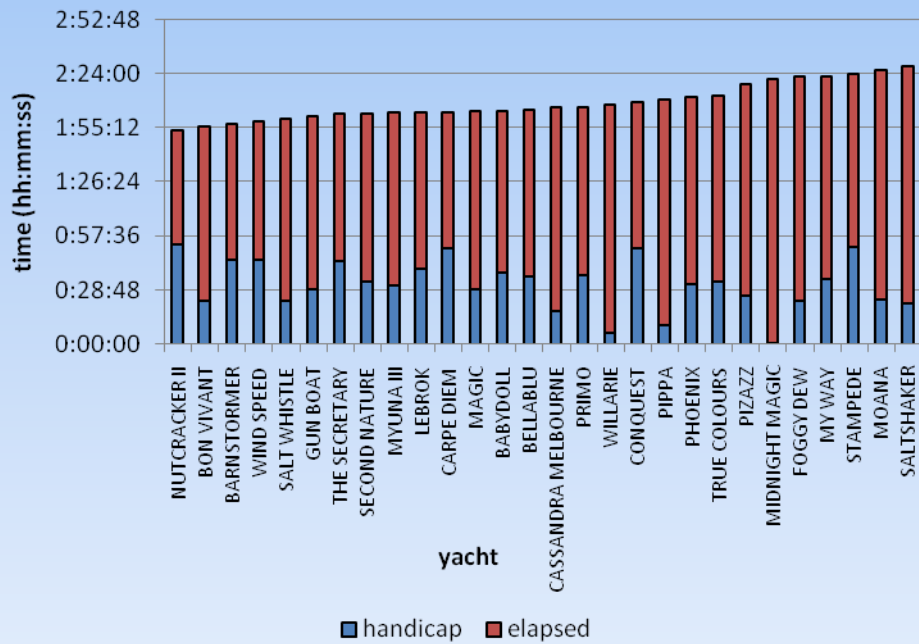
The Bavaria Match 42 BARNSTORMER has completed 9 races and also recorded 2 podiums finishes. She tied for second place in Start of the Day when she was only 1 second late for her 45-minute start from 23rd place. BARNSTORMER recorded the second fastest elapsed time of 1:12:27, which was 1 minute 17 seconds faster than WIND SPEED (Les Browne) who also started off a 45-minute handicap. She crossed the finish line in 3rd place at 15:37:07 – 1 minute 16 seconds behind BON VIVANT. BARNSTORMER moved from 12th to 9th place in the aggregate.

It took a perfect start from BABYDOLL to win Start of the Day from BARNSTORMER and GUN BOAT who were both only 1 second late for their respective starts. The median start time was 20 seconds, with 9 yachts starting within 10 seconds or less of their handicaps, but there were 6 yachts that were more than a minute late for theirs.



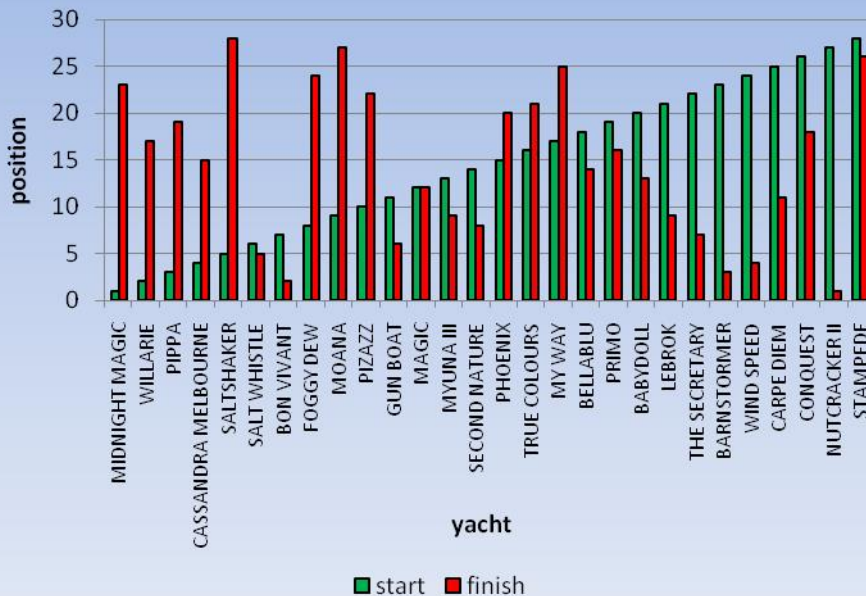
Only 9 yachts finished within 10 minutes of the winner in a race that had a gap of 36 minutes 30 seconds between the first and last yacht to finish. This is the second biggest gap so far this series. However, two yachts tied for 7th place and only 1 second separated FOGGY DEW from MY WAY (Magdy Iskander) in 24th and 25th positions respectively.

WW Winter Series 2016 Race 20 Result

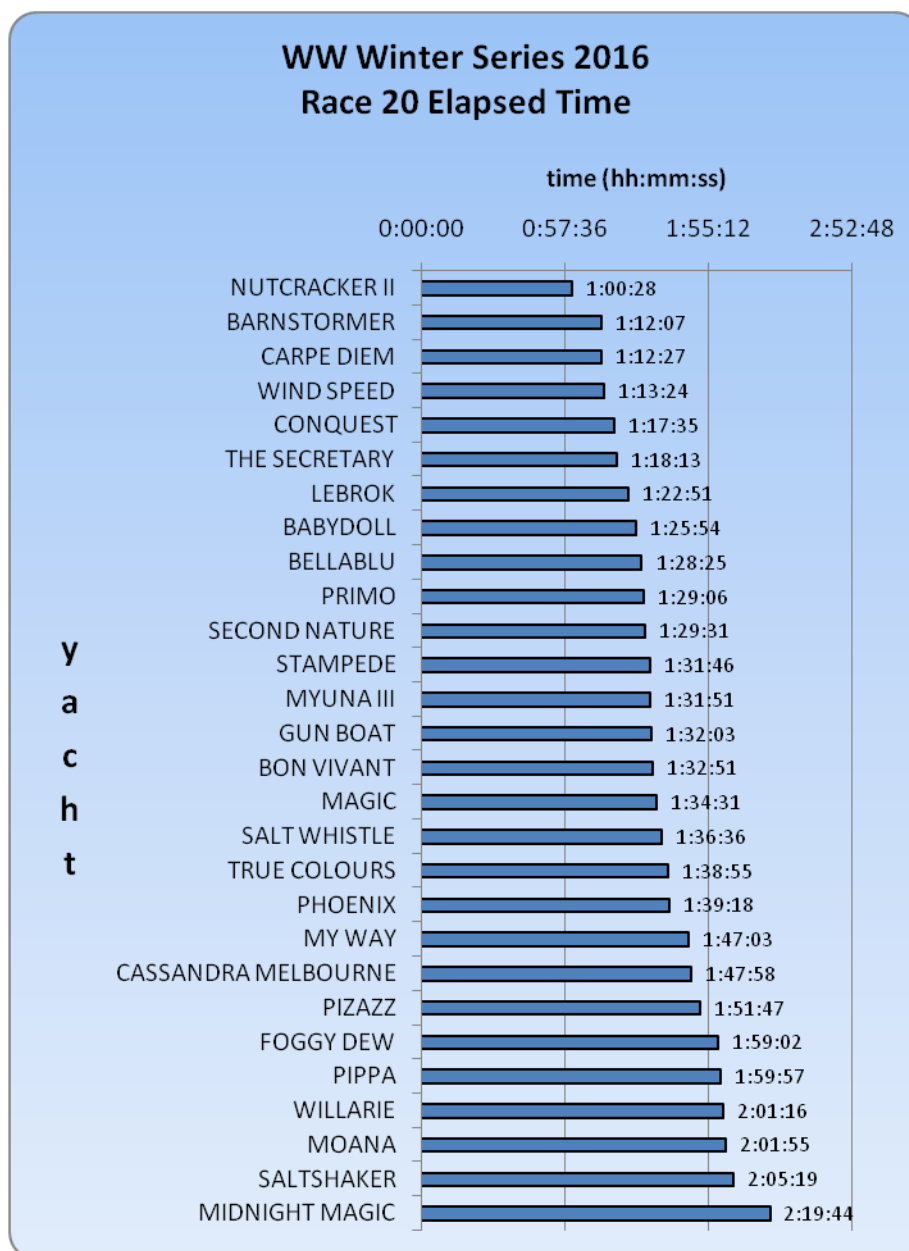


Despite a shortened course this was a good day for the yachts with larger handicaps. Five yachts among the 9 latest starters were among the first 9 finishers. Among the last 9 yachts to finish were 4 early starters, 4 mid fleet starters and 1 late starter.

WW Winter Series 2016 Race 20 Position at Start & Finish



The average time to sail the course was 1:36:30 – the 3rd fastest of the series. It was unusual for 2 yachts to take twice as long as the fastest yacht to sail the course. STAMPEDE (Christopher Gendala) is usually among the faster yachts in the race but was only 12th fastest in this one. On the other hand, both BON VIVANT and SECOND NATURE (Paul Mentiplay) sailed the course faster than their records may suggest.



Waiting for the start

Handicap adjustments for the series are shown in the following table. Three yachts had their handicaps increased (shaded red) whilst 8 had theirs reduced (shaded green).

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

*Mark Windward Waiting Windy Words,
"Six of the best" left*

FARCENET SERIES WINTER 2016 RESULT			
FINISH POSITION RACE 1	YACHT	SKIPPER	DESIGN
1	BARNSTORMER	Brian Barnes	Bavaria Match 42
2	WIND SPEED	Les Browne	Sydney 36cr
3	THE SECRETARY	George Shaw	J44
4	CARPE DIEM	Paul Commins	Beneteau First 50
5	ALIBI	Denis Hambleton	Sydney 36cr
5	PUBLIC BAR	Clive Sondheim	Elliott

Eligible, but not entered the series *Conquest* and *Stampede*. They have missed the first race but can still enter. Confirm to [Mark Windward](#)

Question and Answer for Race 18



The flag is code flag Y. If flown from the tower at the start of a race it means PFD's must be worn by skipper and all crew.

To quote Rowan "Ignorance of not knowing what the flag Y means will be no excuse and you will risk disqualification for non-observance".

Victorian Boating regulations also require that: **Wearing lifejackets on recreational vessels is required during times of *heightened risk*.**

Type 1 Jacket, OR for "Off the beach yachts" type 2 if within 2nm from the beach.

Heightened risk includes a vessel:

- being operated by a person who is the only person on board the vessel
- being operated during the period commencing one hour after sunset and ending one hour before sunrise
- disabled
- where no safety barriers, lifelines, rails, safety harnesses or jacklines are in use on a yacht
- being operated during a period of restricted visibility
- operating in an area where a warning, that is current, of the following kind has been issued by the Bureau of Meteorology:
 - gale warning, storm force wind warning, hurricane force wind warning, severe thunderstorm warning and severe weather warning.

Notes on WW Sailors

Shanti Donde Esta Ella Shanti departed from Port Townsville at 2016-08-18 09:28 She is now at Horseshoe Bay, Magnetic Island

Paul Jacka will be sailing a smaller boat next week, as there is a limit on large yachts in Venice.

Graham is looking for some L-plates for Willarie. He has been training John Brennan to race in WW's. John is the new owner of Dolphin Play (another Triton 24) and is soon going to join the Wednesday Wonders fleet in his own yacht. This will give WW skippers 3 yachts to follow! Welcome John if see him around.

A new tactic to slow down another yacht. Gun Boat and Pippa have only been a few points apart in the series for some time. Gun Boat has sailed consistently well and is looking to be in a very good finishing position for the season. As she passed PIPPA she hailed her and shouted there was no need for Pippa to worry as she was over early. This was a great exaggeration as she had 1 second to spare on her start time. Even with a 5 min penalty she would have finished some 3 mins in front of Pippa. It is a good tactic I must remember.

Pippa sent Mark a note to say that he appreciated all the large yachts that passed her to leeward. (Except one big new comer who was a visitor). On calculations from his GPS it cost Pippa about the same amount of time to regain speed as it would to tack. It is not necessary, as some yachts seem to think, to hail out “Make sure you write something nice about me” as they pass Pippa.

Answer to Race 19 Question:

Hélène de Pourtalès is famous for what sailing achievement?

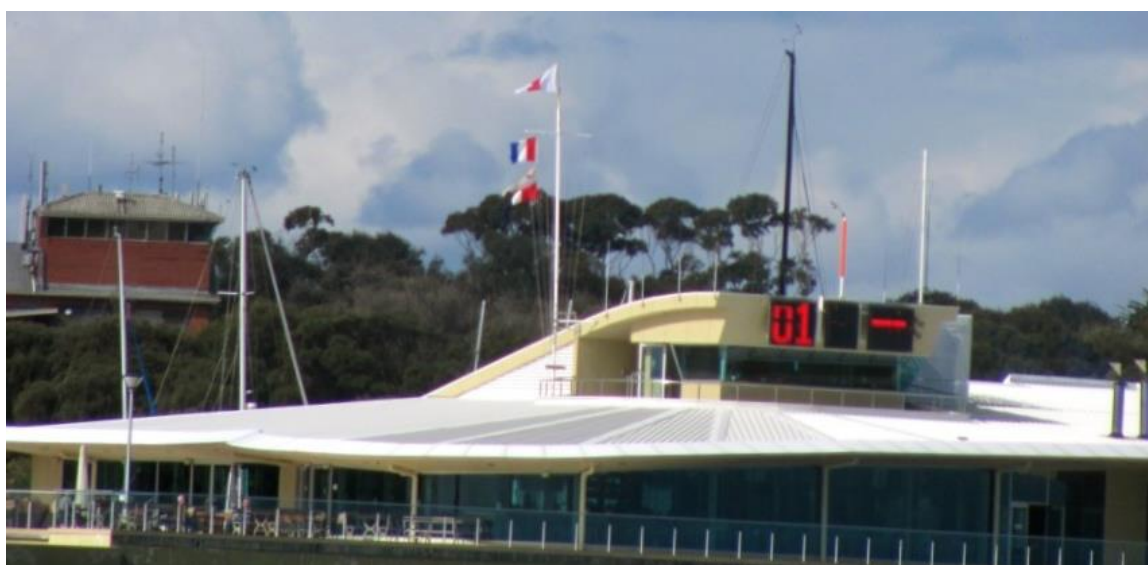
Hélène de Pourtalès, one of the crew of the winning 1-2 ton class, made history when she became the first ever female Gold medalist of the modern Olympic Games.

She was a crewmember of the Swiss boat *Lérina*, which won the gold medal in the first race of 2-3 ton class and silver medal in the second race of 2-3 ton class. She also participated in the open class but did not finish. Her husband [Hermann](#) was helmsman. She was very well known after her gold medal in the Olympics where women were allowed to take part for the very first time.



This Weeks Question RACE 20.

Can you tell Mark what the flags displayed here mean?



A reminder of the up and coming stars

STAR GAZING - Venus – Jupiter Conjunction by Russell Ward - August 27 ~ 28

During the evenings of 27th and 28th August, the two brightest planets, Venus and Jupiter, will be visually close together in the western sky. The two will be only ½ ° apart (the moon's diameter is ½ °). Venus is the brighter of the two. When Venus is at its brightest, it can be seen with the naked eye during daylight hours. Jupiter has many moons, four of which can be seen with 7 x 50 binoculars. If you watch these two planets before and after the Venus – Jupiter conjunction, you will be able to observe how the planets move relative to one another. Close to the conjunction of Venus and Jupiter, the planet Mercury will be 5 ° above and to the left. Two other planets visible in the west during August are Mars and Saturn.

Tenacious Book your adventure of a lifetime!

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We want to share the following links with you showing Tenacious arriving in Australia.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6fBBumgwIQ>

<http://bymnews.com/news/newsDetails.php?id=156211>

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-07-27/sailors-with-disabilities-help-sail-tall-ship-tenacious/7665864>

How do you Know it is a Wednesday Wonders Race Day?

Ailments that have persisted for months disappear on Wednesday at 1300.

Those old prescription glasses and binoculars are retrieved and have a new lease of life.

A miasma created by musty thermals is evident.

Wind dies, or there is a gale or strong wind warning declared.

No one rings, or calls in to your home.

The average age of patrons in the SYC bar increases.

You see a large group of sailors enjoying dinner by the fire après de Race.

There is a big range of types and sizes of yachts that make up the fleet.

Before the race throat clearing exercises are practiced for the forthcoming shouting contest.

You have a large amount of dollar coins in your pocket (Not yet spent on raffle tickets.)

This is an invitation for Wednesday Wonders to contribute to the:

How do you Know it is a Wednesday Wonders Race Day list.

I am sure there is room for improvement on the above.

There is a reward for the most accurate or original line.

As with most of Mark Windward's comments on WW's, the above statements are made up from the thoughts of a diverse and large number of Wednesday Wonders sailors.

For example one WW sailor emailed Mark that he thought the delay in Race 20 was due to the lights and asked "How many sailors does it take to change a light bulb?" Obviously he did not hear the radio announcement that the delay was due to lack of wind and a variable wind direction.

Send your copy, ideas, advice and answers to questions to [MARK WINDWARD](#)

Thanks to all those who have contributed to this report, particularly to Windward Buoy

I am not sure if it is true that a new boat joining the Century Series is called *Sen Nile*

