

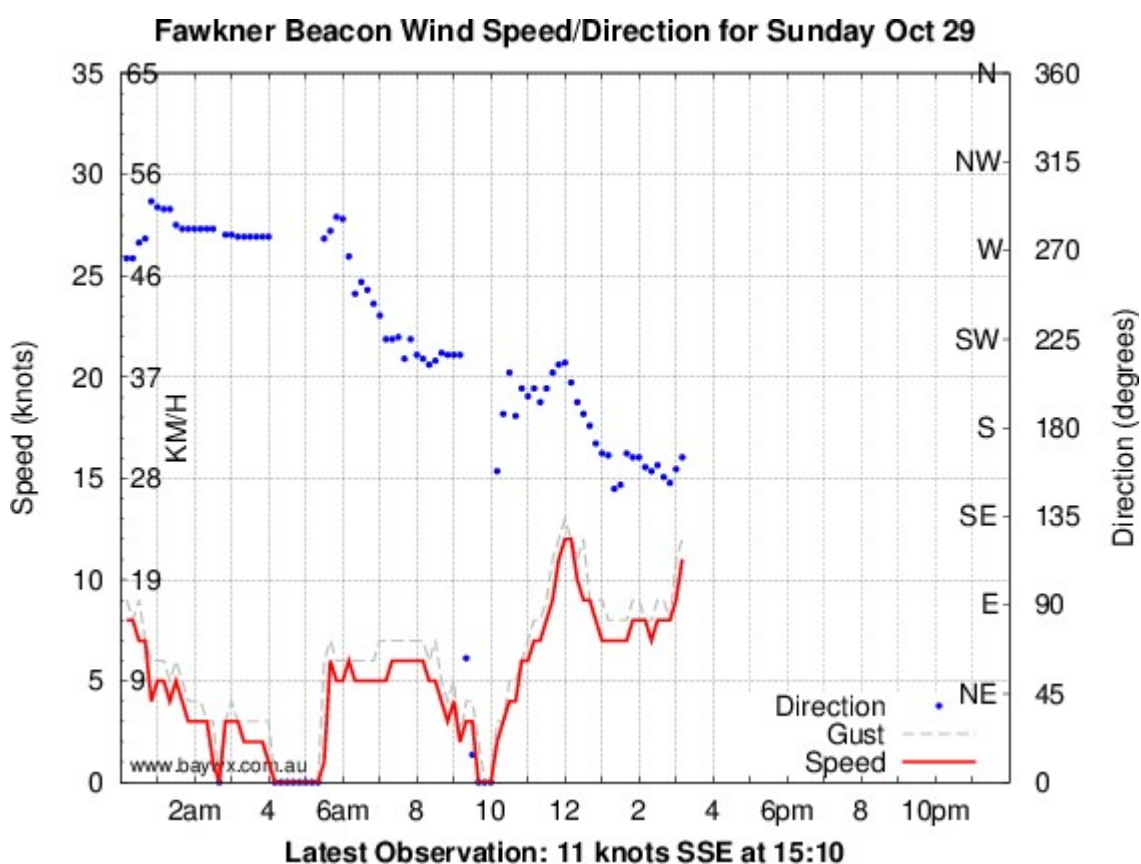
## SUNDAY SAILORS REPORT October 29 10 2023 – Summer Series Race Three

### Intro

This Sunday was fine and sunny. Although cool to start with it gradually warmed up. Very light winds from the start (0-3 knots) played in to the hands of the bigger boats who also started in 3 knots but as the wind strengthened, the lead of the smaller boats evaporated. The wind gradually climbed to about 10 knots, shifting from South West to South, although there were knocks and lifts aplenty. Going upwind inside the reef seemed to help, but **Bacardi** did very well going outside the reef on the second upwind leg. The Course was no 14, start,1,2,7,4,1,3,finish.

Frustratingly power boats would burn through the fleet when conditions were light, some being from SYC.

Tower staff were **Eryl Harris and Christine Walsh**, with background noise from **Stewart Simmons**. Many many thanks to them!!



### Results

There were 20 starters and all finished bar **Panache 2 (Egils Stokan)** who was heard retiring. About 1/3 of the fleet flew spinnakers and most did quite well out of it, with two broad reaches and one run.

The race was won by **Ragnar (Richard Ekberg)**, starting off 39 minutes. **Ragnar** was previously a Sunfast 33 and is now a First 36 (brand new). An impressive looking boat. Congratulations to **Richard** and crew. Second, 3 minutes behind was **Bacardi (Martin Power and BA)** sans spinnaker, with a big pole and a big headsail to pole out. Third was **Firefox (Anthony Clyne)** who after getting the lead off **Lawless (Boyd Coulson)**, was in the lead for a fair distance before being overhauled at the end. The fast finishing **Winsome (Simon Hemingway)** couldn't quite catch **Firefox**, after a tussle up the last leg with **Razzle Dazzle (Grahame Jones)** who finished 5<sup>th</sup>. The **Razzles** tried to ambush **Winsome** at no 3 but needed another 5 metres according to **Bob Reeves** the "Wind Whisperer".

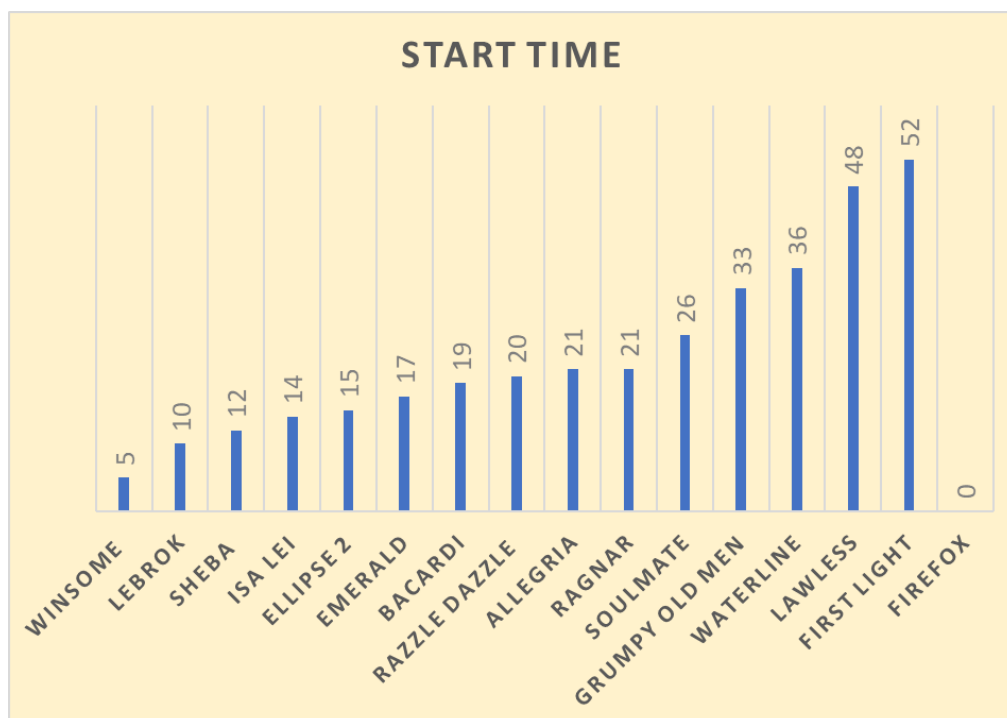
Also it was great to see so much activity on the water with Sunday Sailors, J24's and a couple of fleets of OTB. Brilliant to watch in the nice weather!!



**Ragnar** – a worth winner of our race. Well it's a First 36, not Ragnar. Also equal series leader.

### Start of the Day

Start of the day was won by **Winsome** at 5 seconds. **Lebrok (Theo Korbel)** was next at 10 seconds. Although the conditions were light, the starts were surprisingly average. **La Mer** had a 00 start. Trouble was they were a minute early!! **Firefox** had no recorded time and was missed by the sleuths in the tower. **Firefox** did finish on the podium, entered properly, so all is well.





**Winsome**- Start of the Day Winner – Congrats. Also equal series leader.

**Series: Start of the Day**

After two starts (two races) **Winsome** leads on 8 seconds with **Lebrok** next on 19 seconds. Past masters **Skulldrudgery** (**Barry McLartin**) has been absent and **La mer** started early this race.



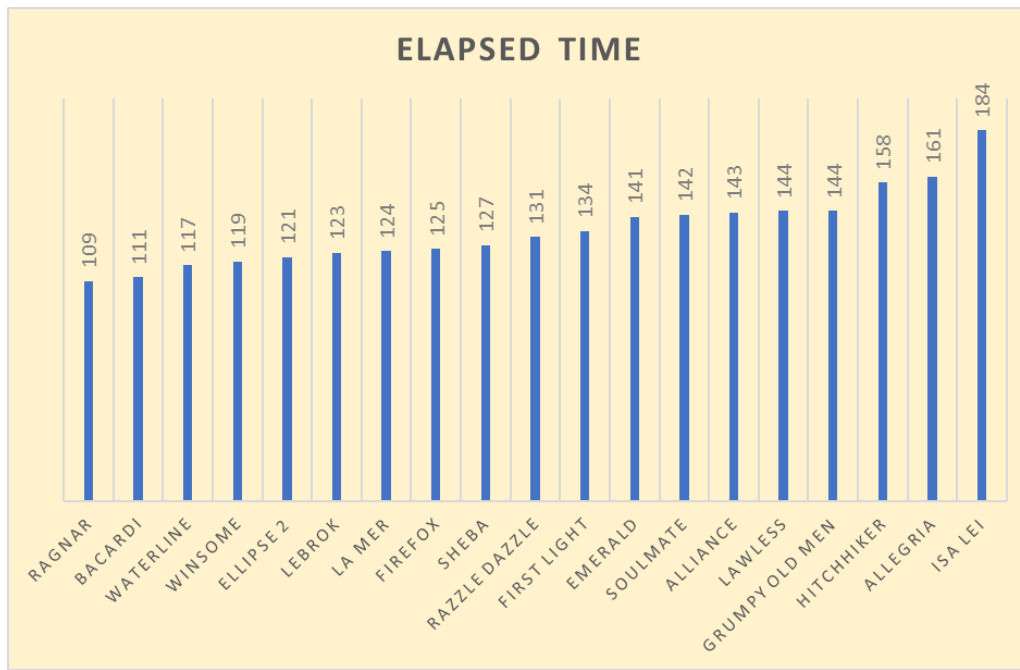
**Razzle Dazzle** Finishing fifth today and equal series leader.



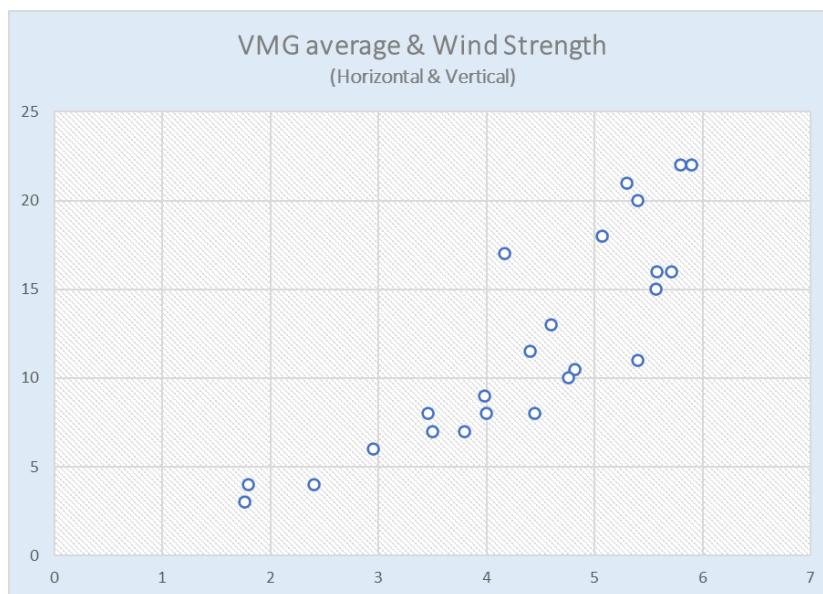
**Bacardi** with the city in the background. Second today, first non spinnaker boat.

### Elapsed Times

**Ragnar** in their second race at the fastest time at 109 minutes with **Bacardi** close behind on 111 minutes. **Waterline (Ainslie Allen)** was third fastest with 117 followed by **Winsome**. **Ellipse 2, Lebrok, La Mer, and Firefox** who all returned similar times. **Ragnar** has had the fastest elapsed time in both races. Wait till they get familiar with the boat!! **Stuart Morrison Jack**, your action please. The fleet average speed (VMG) was 3.47 knots in average winds of 6 knots



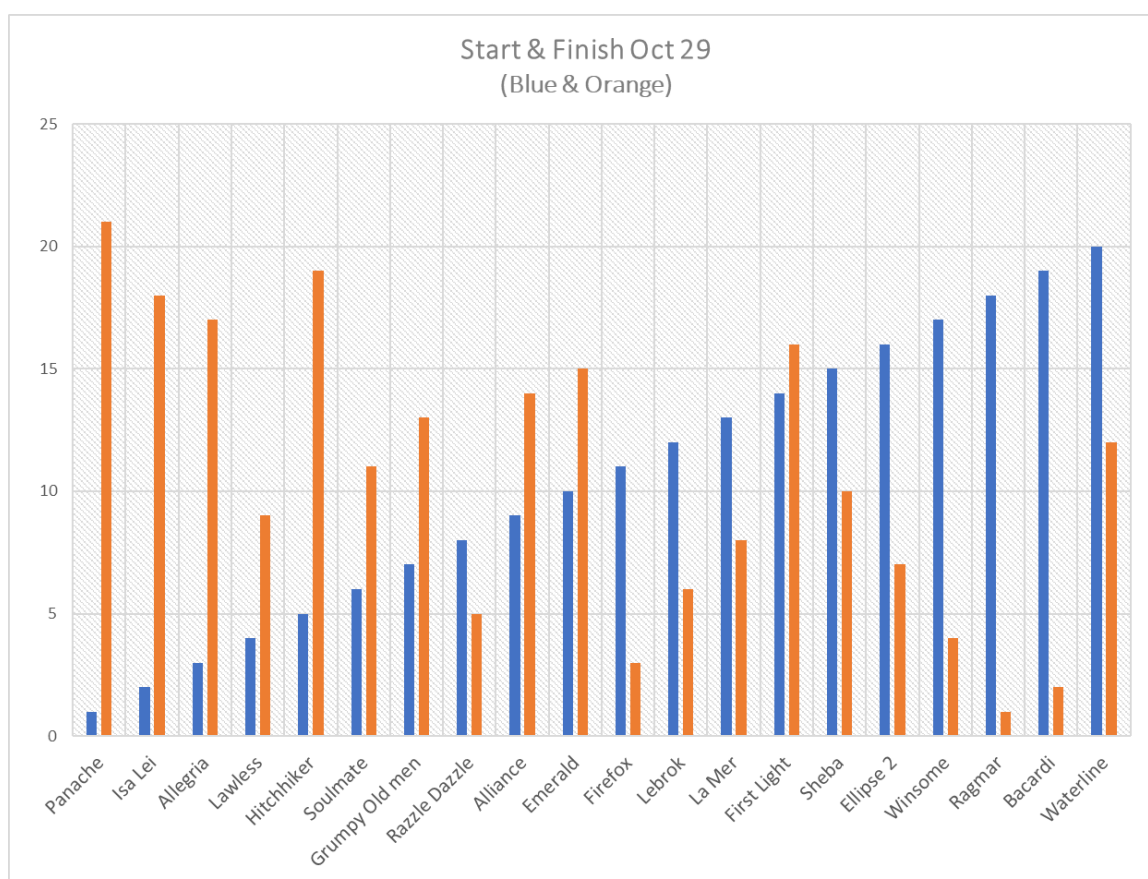
Firefox from a trailing boat. Finished third and equal First in the series.



An interesting plot of fleet VMG (horizontal) versus average wind strength, for most of the races over the last 18 months. . As expected a non linear relationship - after 10 knots, the VMG does not increase as fast, as hull speed is approached or passed.

#### START AND FINISH POSITIONS

The biggest movers in the fleet were **Ragmar** and **Bacardi** (17 places each). Also well performed were **Winsome** (13 places), **Firefox** and **Waterline** (8 places, and **Ellipse 2** (9 places).



### SERIES LEAD

The second race sailed saw a reversal of fortune with the larger boats doing well, due to little wind at the start that then gradually strengthened. This is in contrast to Race 1 (sailed) where the reaching course meant the smaller (or earlier starting boats) fared better

A four way tie at the top sets the scene for potentially a ding dong battle this season. **Firefox**, **Ragnar**, **Razzle Dazzle** and **Winsome** (in alphabetical order – not order of merit) are tied with 10 points. Special mention to **Razzle dazzle** , with two 5ths, a model of consistency. Also shrewd management of handicaps!!

Place	Boat	Skipper	Points	Results
Equal 1	Firefox	Anthony Clyne	10	7, 3
Equal 1	Ragnar	Richard Ekberg	10	9, 1
Equal 1	Razzle Dazzle	Grahame Jones	10	5, 5
Equal 1	Winsome	Simon Hemingway	10	6, 4
5th	Soulmate	David Keyes-Tilley	14	3, 11
Equal 5th	Lebrok	Theo Korbel	14	8, 6
7th	Alliance	Alex Hall	16	2, 14
8th	Allegria	Olwyn May	18	1, 17
9th	La Mer	Michael Ebeling	19	11, 8
10th	First Light	Mike Coulter	20	4, 16

### Gossip and other matters.

**Handicap matters: Mr Stuart Morrison-Jack**, possibly under pressure from my dubious colleague **Leeward Larry**, has adopted a minimalist approach to handicapping – our congratulations.

**Skulldruggery** has been given some handicap relief and is now on 30 minutes, although they could be missing in action for another 3 weeks with “engine electrical issues” – so my sources tell me.

**Winsome** was spotted flying a kite in the race, apparently according to **Leeward Larry** this is rare. When I interviewed the **Winsome** crew they said it was the missing lightweight spinnaker (had been missing for 6 months). A forensic investigation by the crew has resulted in suspicion falling on one **G. Anderson**, a former flag officer of the club. Sandringham Police have yet to confirm if there is enough evidence to lay charges.

**Hitchhiker** has not been performing to previous lofty racing standards. In a delicate situation your correspondent has learnt that the reasons given range from personnel issues (“undefined”) to extra weight on the boat as they are sailing around Tasmania at Christmas. Apparently, if I heard it right, they have half a tone of anchor chain in the front locker, which helps them down wind but otherwise is slowing them up.

**Mike Coulter** was heard lamenting that **Winsome** had not been given due credit for her series win, and in the race report from last season, **Skullduggery** had been hogging the limelight. Your correspondent assured him that the **Skulls** crew had nothing to do with the Race Reporting and that your correspondent is at all times neutral and follows an honourable journalistic code.

**Firefox** had perfected the technique of throwing away race wins: by not entering Memberpoint, crossing the line early, or starting on their non spinnaker time when flying a spinnaker – they have been quite inventive. Sadly this cost them the series win in the Winter Series – which would have been well deserved instead of **Winsome**.

### LUFFING LANCE



**Ellipse 2 and Sheba**



**Lawless**