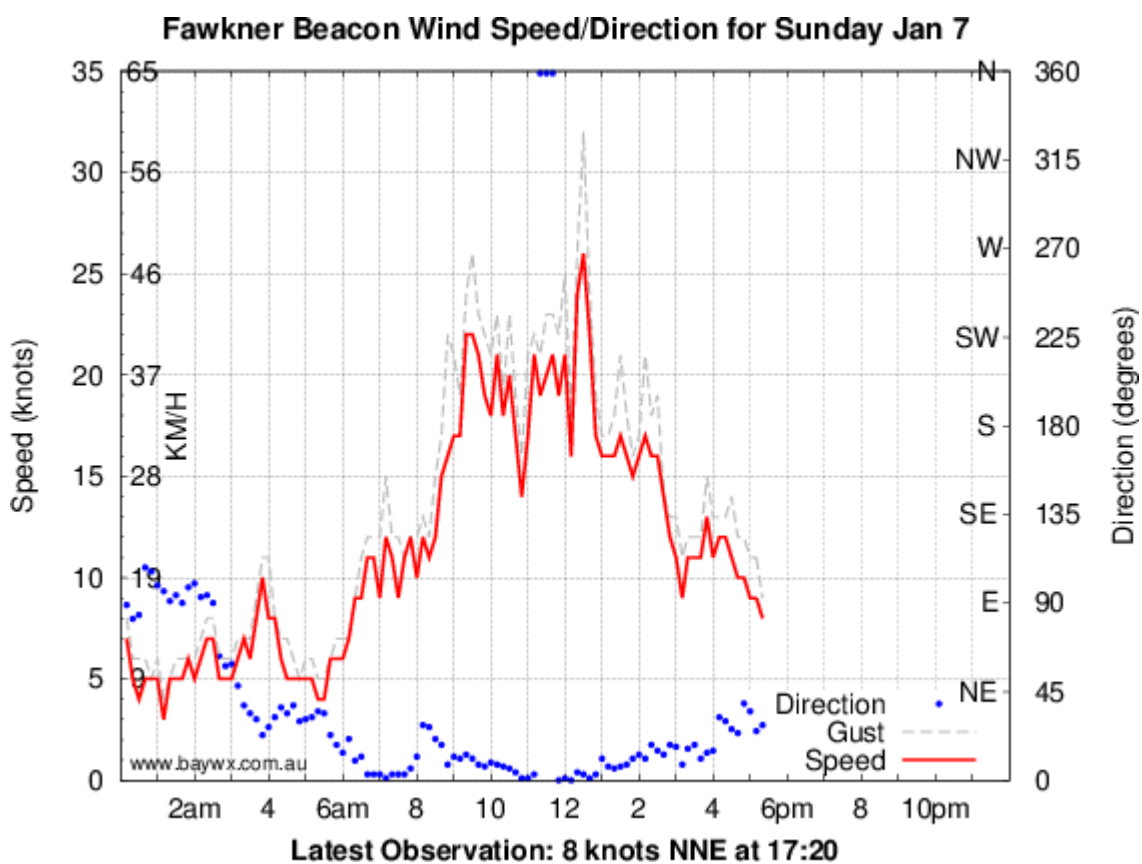


SUNDAY SAILORS REPORT JANUARY 7 2024 – RACE 8

Sunday's forecast was wet and somewhat windy (wind forecast varied from 10-12 knots to 20 plus knots). At race time it was a tropical 25 degrees but no rain came until after the race, then the temperature dropped. Wind increased to 18-20 knots from the North at the start, with a solid blast of 25 knots part way around, and then 18-22 from then on. It was more like 15 knots close into shore. Course 25 was sailed, in the conditions a fairly short 9.4 nm. From a safety point of view probably wise. It was 4-7-5-4-1-3-4. Marks to port. Or as we in racing game call it: outer, outer, inner, inner. It was very quiet on the water, a combination of poor forecast, Christmas holidays and a pause in the World Taser Championships. There were some tired Sandy volunteers after 8 days on the water (two more days to come). A great volunteer army. (Editors Note: Congrats to the SYC entrants in the Tasar Worlds- particularly the Sly family with two top 4 finishes – brilliant). 10 boats went out to race, but only 5 finished



RESULTS

Hitchhiker (David Goodman) won with the second fastest time on the day. A fast finishing **Winsome (Simon Hemingway)** chased after **Hitchhiker** but was held off by 30 seconds and so finished second. The warhorse **Razzle Dazzle (Grahame Jones)** finished third in the latest in a series of consistent displays. **Emerald (Tony Tanner)** was a minute away fifth and the smallest boat in the "fleet" **Isa Lei (Andrew Chapman)** finished 5th.

NON FINISHERS

Alegria (Simon May) retired early, and **Scrumpy (Rodney Warner)** and **Lawless (Boyd Coulsen)** also retired during the race but I believe there was no gear failure or damage. I think all three boats were light on for crew which made it hard in the conditions.

I believe **Wavelength (Alex Elliot)** may have had some gear or sail issues, although my sources didn't talk to him.

Skullduggery hoisted their spinnaker at 7 for the run down to 5 in 18 knots of wind. The wind strengthened to over 25 knots and they were seen powering along at about 12 plus knots, sailing away quickly from boats doing about 9 knots. There appeared to have been a little confusion and somehow the spinnaker was wrapped around the forestay and couldn't be untangled despite feverish efforts. In the end they retired with the spinnaker in shreds. A sad end to a day that started well. Apart from the spinnaker there was no damage to crew or boat.



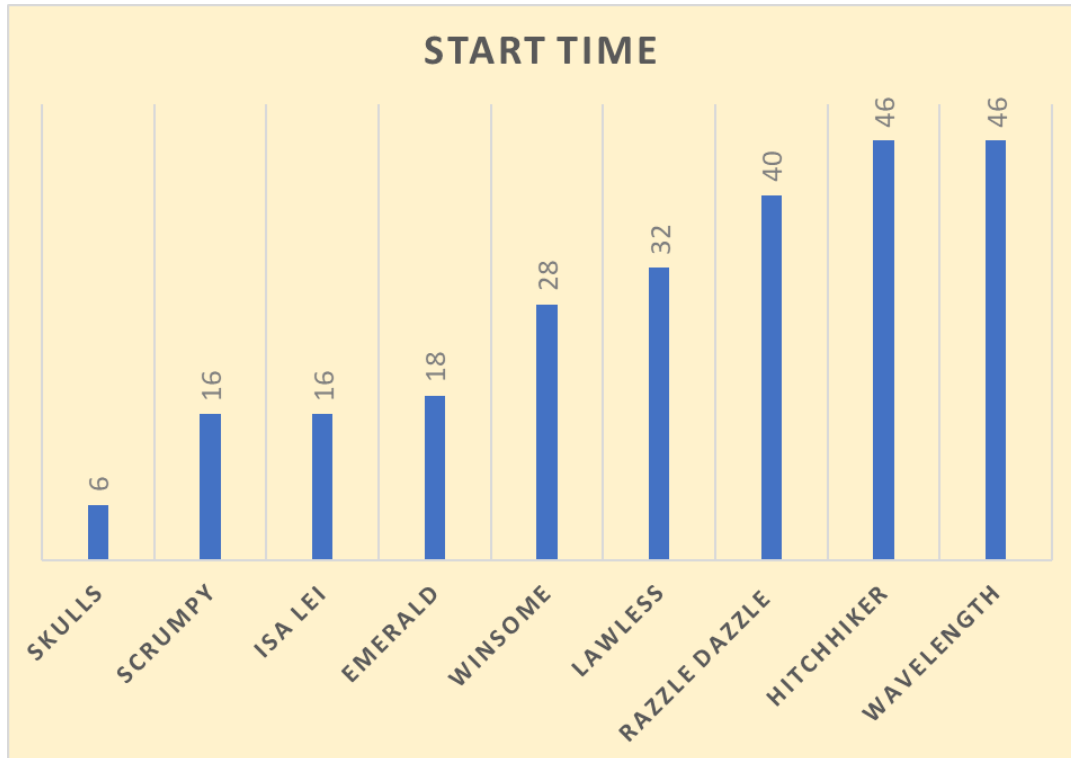
Hitchhiker today's fairly (sort of) worthy winner.



Winsome (second and series leader) and **Skullduggery** (Start of the Day) show their skills.

Start of the Day

Skullduggery (Garry McCarten) won the start of the day with 6 second in a very good middle of the line start. Next best was 16 seconds (Isa Lei and Scrumpy). The rest were a bit average, having said that the worst was 26 seconds, so all under a minute!!



Razzle Dazzle (left), third today and third in the series with **Emerald** – fourth today and sixth in the series.

Series: Start of the Day

Winsome leads this on both best 5 starts and best 6 starts (7 races completed). Best 5 starts are:

Winsome : 20 seconds

La Mer 50 seconds

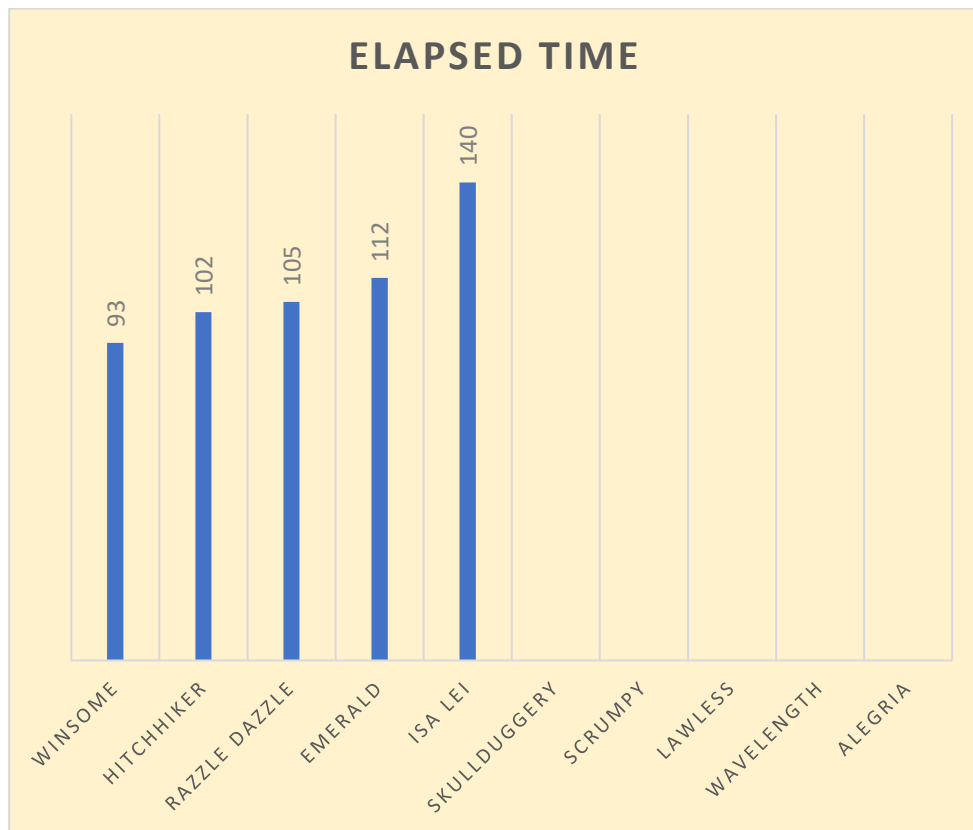
Emerald: 65 seconds

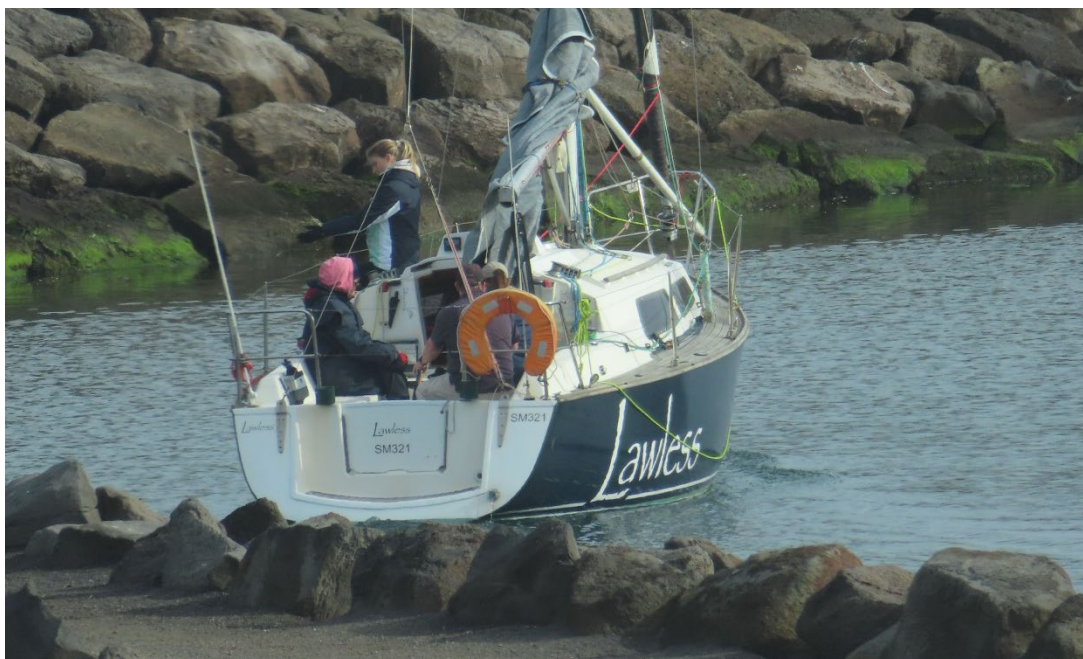
Soulmate 100 seconds.

Elapsed Times

In a small field of completed yachts, **Winsome** had the fastest elapsed time. Next were **Hitchhiker** and then **Razzle Dazzle**, who started within a minute of each other and finished 2 minutes apart. Evenly matched in the conditions. **Emerald**, despite the heavy reefing had a very respectable one hour 51 minutes on the course

The average VMG was 5.11 knots in 19 knots of average breeze. This was a little slow given the sea state and the breeze strength.

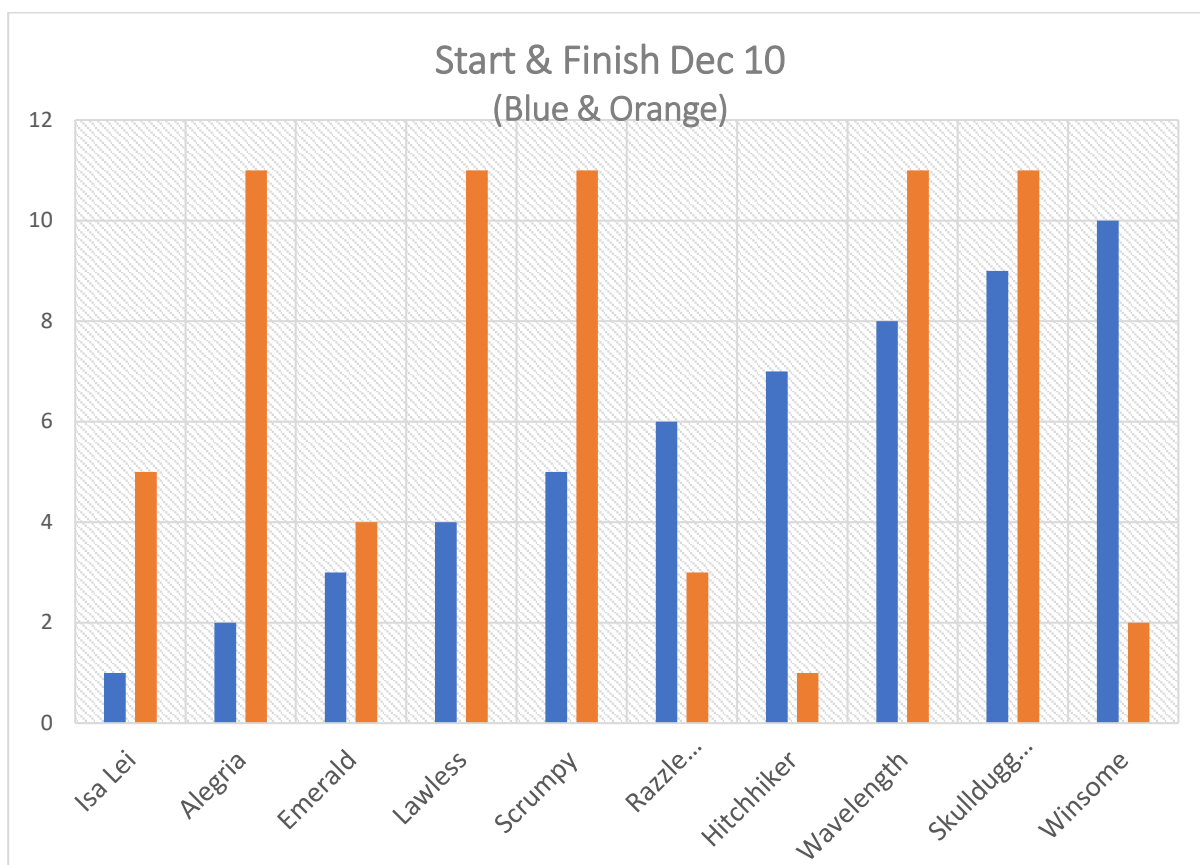




Lawless – going out to do battle.

START AND FINISH POSITIONS

The table below shows some of the difficulties the fleet faced, as only half finished: 5 out of 10. The biggest mover in the fleet was **Winsome (8 places)**. **Razzle dazzle** and **Hitchhiker** (6 places) also faired well.



SERIES LEAD

Winsome placed second today and retains the series lead. The top three are very close and finished in the top three positions in today's race. Well done to **Hitchhiker**, second, and **Razzle Dazzle** third. The previous series leader, **Soulmate (David Keyes Tilley)** sits in fourth, but one good result will catapult her up the standings. **La mer (Michael Eberling)** is fifth closely followed by **Emerald (Tony Tanner)** and **Alliance (Alex Hall et al)**.

Mercedes-Benz Brighton Sunday Sailors								
Hosted By Sandringham Yacht Club								
PROVISIONAL RESULTS								
Updated: 7/01/2024 12:29:41 PM								
Series Results [PurHC] up to Race 8 (Drops = 1)								
Place	Ties	Sail Num	Boat Name	Skipper	Sers Score	Female Helm	Race 8	Race 7
1		SM190	WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	25.0	0	2.0	2.0
2		SM42	HITCHHIKER	David Goodman	27.0	0	1.0	6.0
3		SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Grahame Jones	30.0	0	3.0	[12.0]
4		SM4379	SOUL MATE	David Keyes-Tilley	36.0	0	[40.0C]	11.0
5		SM6002	LA MER	Michael Ebeling	42.0	0	[40.0C]	5.0
6		SM6915	EMERALD	Tony Tanner	53.0	0	4.0	14.0
7		SM4646	ALLIANCE	Alex H Simon F Paul	59.0	0	[40.0C]	16.0
8		SM309	ALEGRIA	Simon May	70.0	0	11.0S	18.0
9		SM321	LAWLESS	Boyd Coulson	88.0	0	11.0R	17.0
10		SM82	ISA LEI	Andrew Chapman	91.0	0	5.0	[40.0C]

Gossip and other matters.

The **Skullduggery** crew seemed fairly cheerful as they docked about 1 hour after the race, having voyaged south of Beaumaris in their quest to rescue the spinnaker. The spinnaker is already at the sailmakers. A new spinnaker with an even bigger Skull and Crossbones logo has been announced.

Hitchhiker – well the form continues despite the gradually increasing handicap. She is like the Phar lap of Sunday Sailors. The more you handicap her the better she goes. There were no new excuses for their magic form. They did have **Anthony Clyne from Firefox** on board. This may have steadied them on the last leg as **Winsome** attempted to make a fight out of the race win. **Hitchhiker** won by thirty seconds.

Speaking of **Firefox**, **Mr Clyne** advised won of my correspondents that the mast will be repaired (a new section near the base) and will hopefully be back in the water soon. **Alliance** and **Hitchhiker** will lose their Firefox draftees.

Razzle Dazzle- another great result from the team of **Grahame Jones** and the **Wind Whisperer (Bob Reeves)**. **Bob** also had some success on **Foggy Dew**. Who can forget the old team of **Bob and Jan on Cassandra of Melbourne**. **Bob Reeves** has just hired an agent if any boats want to approach him for sailing help

Soulmate-didn't sail today but Ian Hetherington was a keen observer from the members bar.

Again many thanks to the tower people, **Barb Watson** and **Bruce Reidy**.

Also thanks to **Mercedes Benz Brighton** – they are good guys, and girls.

LUFFING LANCE



A long day out on the water!!



He'll be back- bigger and better