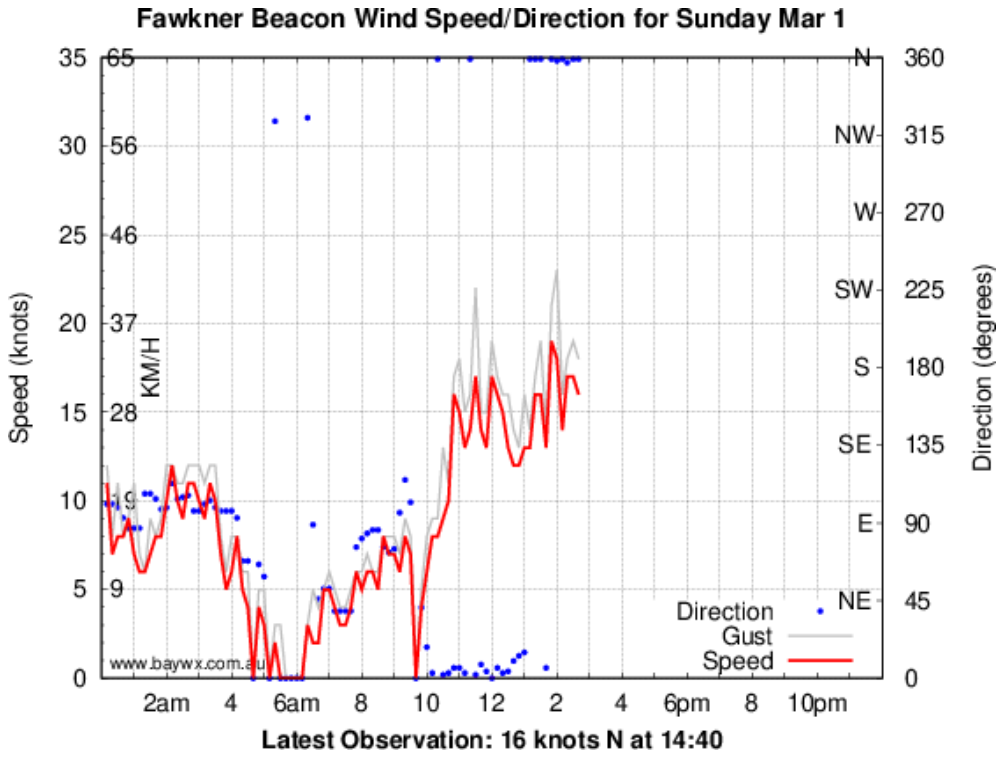
SUNDAY SAILORS ***March 1, 2026 RACE "11" SUMMER SERIES***

Intro

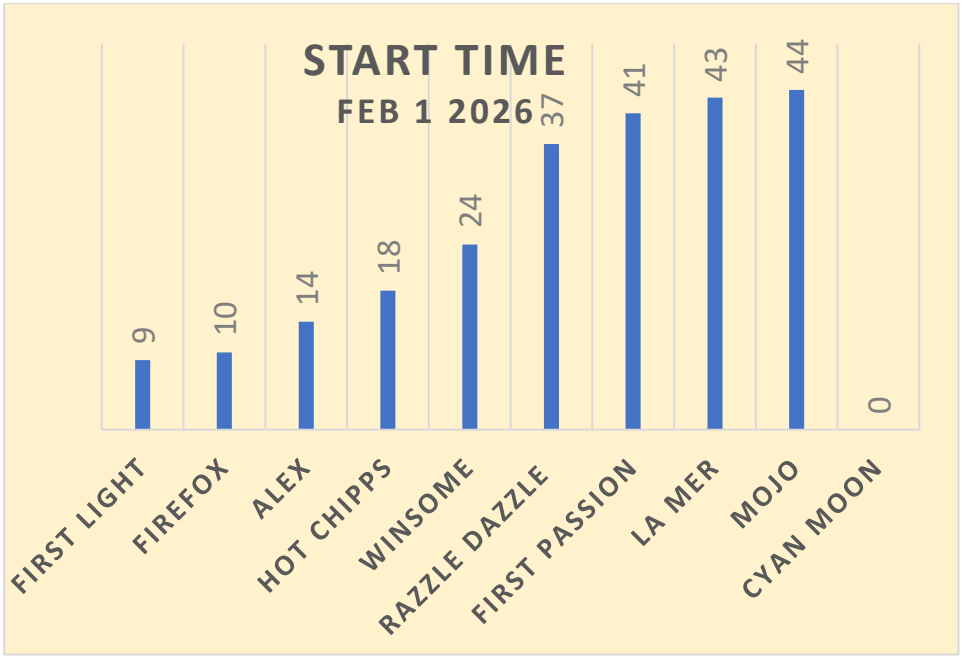
Forecast was for moderate Easterly winds turning NE and strengthening gradually, with lots of rain. What we got was light Easterlies that turned Northerly at about 10.30and strengthened to about 15 knots at 11AM- with a few gusts over 20 knots. Rain, what rain I hear you ask?? The rain all passed to the South and we stayed dry. I wore my older boat shoes as I didn't want to get my best shoes wet!!
The rainfall forecast and the preference of some boats to start in the various women's events held today combined for a small fleet of 10 boats, who all finished. The boats that stayed away missed an event on Course 47, so that the Women in Sailing could be held to the North, and the J24 event to the South. We are certainly a body of sailors who are considerate and cater for other fleets' interests.

Course 47 was slightly shorter at 9.3 nM. We sailed from Start to 3 (upwind), to 6 (broad reach), to 7 (upwind), to 4 (broad reach), to 6 (close reach to reach), to 3 (close reach) to finish (downwind). Seas were flat but we had no smaller boats to take advantage of the sea state. A bit of a soldiers course but very pleasant sailing.
Everyone got out of bed in time for their start, including **Simon Lipman from First Passion**.



Start of the Day

Winner of the start of the day was **First Light (Gemma Coulter) on 9 seconds, from Firefox (Kate Woodlock)** on 10 seconds, a tight result and well done those Female Helms. However some of the perennial good starters did start at the clubhouse end, not the pin end, as this was worth about 1 minute extra as it was well to windward. This of course makes it very difficult to judge an exact start.
Without **Cyan Moon (Valeria Lima**) the average start time was 27 seconds – not very good at all, with only 20% of boats starting within 10 seconds or less. Don't give up your daytime jobs, Sunday Sailors skippers!!



Your winner today **Firefox (Kate Woodluck/Anthony Clyne**), sitting 5th in the series. Second in Start of the Day and Second in Series Start of the Day. All to play for!!

SERIES Starts of the Day

After 11 races we have tabulated the best 8 starts. **Winsome** has eked out a slightly larger lead on **Firefox ,** but **Firefox** has a better drop. So it is all to play for and in the **greatest event at SYC that has NO TROPHY**. **First Light** is not out of it but **Hot Chipps**, in fourth is probably not in contention. Perennial go fast starters **La Mer** have hit the skids a bit this series, but are distracted by other things. Other super quick starters **Skullthuggery (Garry the knife juggling pirate MacCarten**), have been derailed by **Garry McLartin's** knife juggling trick.

SUNDAY SAILORS SUMMER 2025/26	
Best 8 starts (seconds total)	
Winsome	38
Firefox	50
First Light	63
Hot Chipps	86
La Mer	117
Razzle Dazzle	122

Third today **First Passion**, and fourth **La Mer** (series Leader)

RESULTS

Firefox (Kate Woodluck) led from start to finish in a polished display of effective sailing in winds of variable strength and direction (the truth is in the Gossip section). A two minute victory from **Alex- Team Macadie (Jock Macadie**) who came through the fleet to just pip **First Passion (Simon Lipman**) on the line, by 2 seconds, second and third. Two minutes further back in a good display of Assymetric sailing, was **La Mer (Michael Ebeling)** who just pipped **First Light (Gemma Coulter**) in fifth. From second to seventh there were some closes encounters with some passing moves and close encounters of the sailing kind. All boats took the spinnaker penalty except **Winsome** (surprise, surprise) and **Mojo.** The conditions were OK for assymetric kites but not so great for square kites. The crew on **Firefox** was **Kate Woodluck (helm)Emma Dorward, Anthony Clyne (reserve boatman), David King, Marius Seglias & Shauvaune Caffery**

Noorden Real Estate Sunday Sailors

Hosted By Sandringham Yacht Club

Race 11 (1/03/2026) PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Updated: 1/03/2026 11:44:07 AM

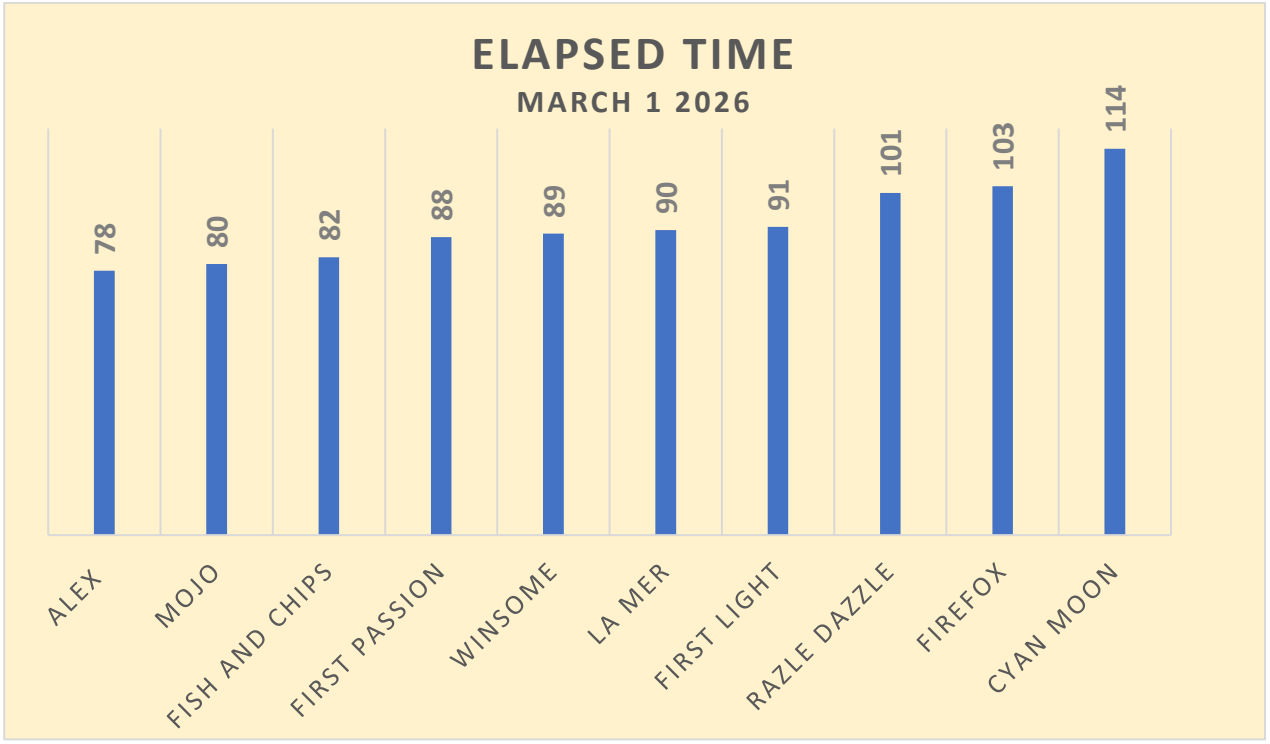
PurHC results Start : 09:30

Place	Sail Num	Boat Name	Skipper	Fin Tim	Elapsd	Score	Femal
1	SM385	FIREFOX	Kate Woodlock	11:21:41	01:42:41	1.0	Y
2	SM1400	ALEX - TEAM MACADIE	Jock Macadie	11:23:20	01:18:20	2.0	
3	SM351	FIRST PASSION	Simon Lipman	11:23:22	01:28:22	3.0	
4	SM6002	LA MER	Michael Ebeling	11:25:27	01:30:27	4.0	
5	YC447	FIRST LIGHT	Gemma Coulter	11:25:38	01:30:38	5.0	Y
6	SM190	WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	11:26:04	01:29:04	6.0	
7	SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Susan Cramp	11:26:36	01:40:36	7.0	Y
8	SM46	HOT CHIPPS	John Chipp	11:31:21	01:22:21	8.0	
9	SM499	MOJO	Leigh Maddison James Billson	11:36:58	01:19:58	9.0	
10	B47	CYAN MOON	Valeria Lema	11:40:58	01:53:58	10.0	Y

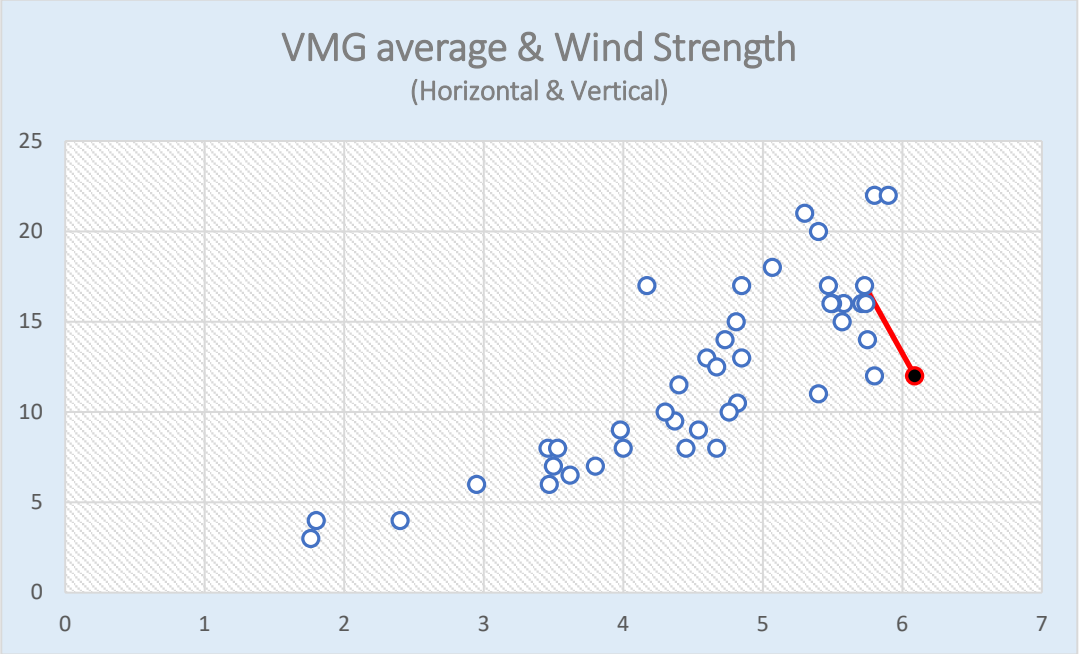
First Light 5th today and second in the series. **Winsome** 6th today and 3rd in the series.

Elapsed Times

Alex sailed very well for the quickest time of 78 minutes, with **Mojo** (Leigh Maddison/James Billson) posting an 80 minutes, despite starting last and finishing second last. Also lonely out the back was **Hot Chipps (John Chipp**) with an 82 minute sail. **First Passion, Winsome, La Mer and First Light** were close on the race track and registered similar elapsed times: 88 to 91 minutes. **Cyan Moon** was value for money…

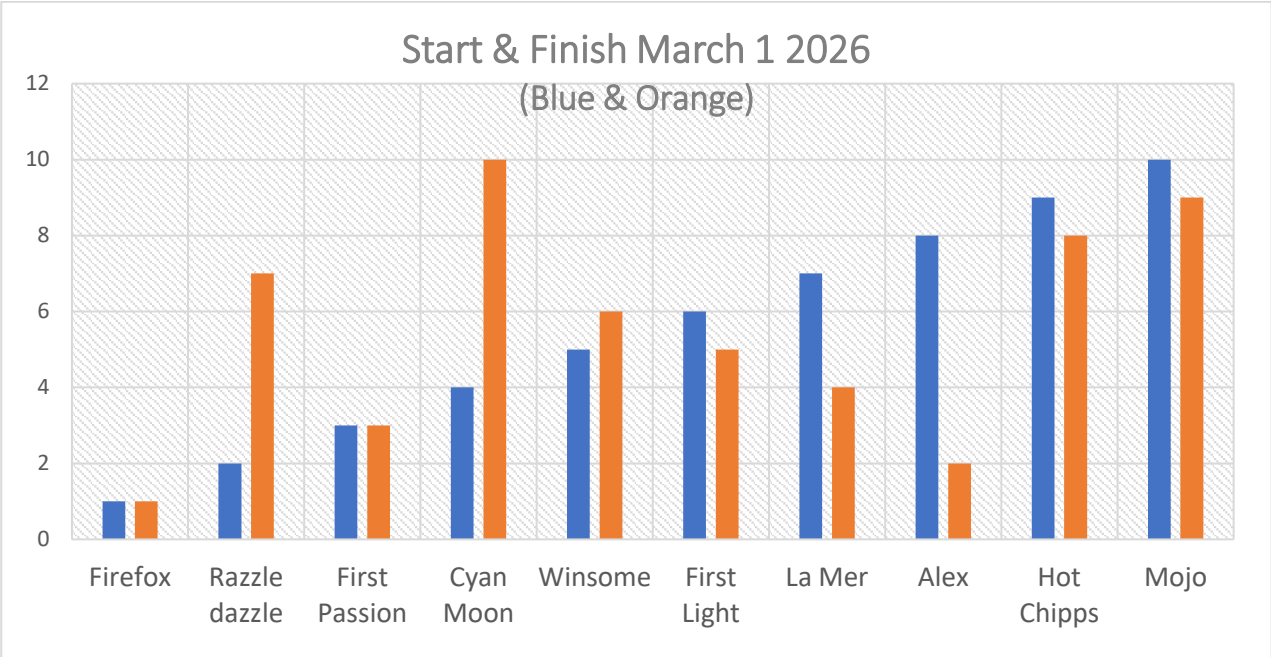


The average speed (VMG) was 6.09 knots in 12 knots of average breeze at Fawkner Beacon. This was a very quick time, see the outlined point in the plot below. The quick average time would be due to the flat seas, the reaching nature of the course (close reach to broad reach with some upwind work), and the average size of the fleet (large boat lengths with three very quick boats out of the 10. No **La Mer**, you are not one of those very quick boats.



START AND FINISH POSITIONS

A soldiers course with some passing. **Firefox, First Passion** stayed where they were. **Alex** picked up 6 places and **La Mer** three. In a first ever **Winsome** went backwards one place.



FEMALE HELM RACE

As part of the wider "Women in Sailing" day the cruising division was the Sunday Sailors (no cruising on our boat thank you very much **Robyn Ragauskas**). Speaking of **Robyn Ragauskas** what a great job she is doing as our Female Sailing Rep.

Anyway this week's results were:

Female helm Result	Helms Person	Boat	Overall result
1st	**Kate Woodluck**	Firefox	1st
2nd	**Gemma Coulter**	First Light	5th
3rd	**Susan Cramp**	Razzle Dazzle	7th
4th	**Valeria Lema**	Cyan Moon	10th

A great effort from **Kate Woodluck and Gemma Coulter**, and also **Sue Cramp and Valeria Lema**. Glassware was presented by our Vice Commodore **Cath Furey.**

And to correct a large oversight by Leeward Larry in the last race report (tsk tsk) I include the Female Helm results from February 15

Female helm Result	Helms Person	Boat	Overall result
1st	**Alice Ekberg**	Ragnar	5th
=2nd	**Dorina Armie**	Sheba	=7th
=2nd	**Gemma Coulter**	First Light	=7th
4th	**Penny Goodman**	Hitchhiker	11th
5th	**Michelle Rushin**	Cyan Moon	12th (ENP)

Well done **Gemma Coulter** in your results in both races.

Cyan Moon

SERIES LEAD

Noorden Real Estate Sunday

Hosted By Sandringham Yacht Cl

PROVISIONAL RESULTS

Updated: 1/03/2026 11:45:01 AM

Series Results [PurHC] up to Race 11 (

Place	Ties	Sail Num	Boat Name	Skipper	Sers Score	Race 11	Race 10
1		SM6002	LA MER	Michael Ebeling	29.0	4.0	4.0
2		YC447	FIRST LIGHT	Mike Coulter	32.0	5.0	[8.0]
3		SM190	WINSOME	Simon Hemingway	34.0	6.0	6.0
4	2.0S	SM351	FIRST PASSION	Simon Lipman	39.0	3.0	3.0
5		SM385	FIREFOX	Kim Beveridge/ Anthony Clyne	39.0	1.0	8.0
6		SM2627	RAZZLE DAZZLE	Grahame Jones	43.0	7.0	[13.0]
7		SM46	HOT CHIPPS	John Chipp	52.5	8.0	1.0
8		SM42	HITCHHIKER	David & Penny Goodman	123.0	[39.0C]	11.0
9		SM440	SKULLDUGGERY	Garry McCarten	139.0	[39.0C]	[39.0C]
10		SM86	SHEBA	Michael Pisani	162.0	[39.0C]	8.0

With 10 races complete (plus one abandonment for light winds), five points separate the top 3. **La Mer** has built a 3 point gap and has a 10th as a drop. Three points behind is **First Light**, with an 8th as a drop whilst 5 points back from **La Mer, Winsome** has a 7th as a drop. **Winsome** is living on fumes, again. **First Light** broke through **Winsome's** cover on the second last leg today to finish 4th or their respective positions would have been reversed in the overall . It is tight at the top. **First Passion and Firefox** are tied for 4th, a little further back.

With two races to go, **La Mer** has a few fingers on the jug, but **Winsome and First Light** are still in there wrestling.

Again **Skulldrudgery** would have been close as well, but **Pirate Captain McClarrity** started playing with his knives – oh we have already covered that.

Handicaps

Included for interest only. **Amicus**, who haven't raced for a while, are the big losers at +8, with **First Light, La Mer, Winsome and First Passion** being largely unchanged. Not surprising given they are the first 4 in the series standings. However in the case of **Winsome** they haven't won a race since June 2024 and so perhaps this is a little harsh-they seem to be very good at hanging in there against the odds- three thirds and a second a testament to their grit and determination- see the series results for the last 5 series below.

The big beneficiaries are **Antares (16 minutes), Firefox (17 minutes), Soulmate (13 minutes) and Razzle Dazzle** at 12 minutes. We are not aware of anything underhand going on. Certainly bribes of **Skullduggery-sque** proportions (wine to the tower folk to help in start of the day, gifts to the handicapper and boating office) have not been noted recently, although **Garry MacCarten** would point out correctly that these volunteers need every bit of appreciation we can find for their jobs done well.

To round out the debate I have included the most recent series winners in the Sunday sailors

	First	Second	Third
Current Series	La Mer	First Light	Winsome
Winter 2025	First Passion	La Mer	Winsome
Summer 2025	Razzle Dazzle	Firefox	La Mer
Winter 2024	La mer	Emerald	Winsome
Summer 2024	Hitchhiker	Winsome	Razzle dazzle

Handicaps	Start	Race 11	Handicap Change
Antares	0	-16	**-16**
Alegria	0	-4	-4
Isa Lei	-4	-7	-3
Amicus	-10	-2	**plus 8**
Grumpy	8	4	-4
Firefox	24	7	**-17**
Lawless	18	8	**-10**
Soulmate	18	5	**-13**
Hitchhiker	18	9	-9
Emerald	20	14	-6
Alliance	21	16	-5
Razzle dazzle	27	15	-12
Skullduggery	23	20	-3
Raku	24	19	-5
Sheba	22	15	-7
First Light	26	26	0
First Passion	20	19	-1
La Mer	26	26	0
Winsome	29	28	-1
Debonnaire	35	33	-2
Alex		36	
Hot Chipps	44	40	-4
Mojo		47	

Today's Race: 37 minutes separated the boats at the start and 19 minutes at the finish, so a moderate plus mark for the handicapper **SMJ (Stuart Morrison-Jack),** but not a 5 star review….

<u>Very Important Information (Formerly known as "Gossip")</u>

Your correspondent sent several of his agents into the bar after the race….

- **The Skullduggery** saga continues. Last we heard "Mac the Knife" Maccarten is hoping to be back in mid March, if he has any crew left. I am sure he will because he is a calm and jovial skipper, much loved…
- **The Firefox** crew "got rid of **Anthony** off the helm " today (or so they told me) and **Kate Woodluck** helmed to victory with aplomb. She won the overall and the female helm. Amazing what information was forthcoming when the crew were interviewed without the owners present – but we will leave that for another day.

- **Razzle Dazzle** had a great lunch afterwards, fresh mussels that they scraped off the no 6 rounding mark. One boat who reported the contact wasn't sure about the penalty turn but other witnesses vouched for the **Razzle Dazzle** with comments that the turn was done. Again **Sue Cramp** replaced **Grahame Jones** on the helm. **Grahame** was still wearing his moonboot but I understand it will be off this week. That will certainly change the boat performance. **Bob The Wind Whisperer Reeves** has seen it all before and just quietly shakes his head. "Those youngsters… " he says.
- **First Passion** was on time for the start this week, apparently the crew had a couple of alarm clocks set to aid **Simon Lipman**. They had a very full crew, but still wanted to complain about their handicaps again. They are in a similar boat to four other boats and are the reigning Sunday Sailors champions. My spy on their crew, **Trevor Weathershore** – name changed to protect the source, had little to add today but did send some photos – thankyou.
- **La Mer** had a couple of issues of their own. They rounded all marks correctly today – unlike a few weeks ago when they rounded number 2 whilst in the lead, but then calmly turned around and headed out to 6 and reclaimed their lead – and went on to win the race. Today they dropped the spinnaker in the drink twice, once when it was a bit shy to fly and once when they were hit with a 20 knot gust. Their missing crewperson, **Rosa Coy** later claimed her absence on the foredeck was vital. With "mock modesty" the **La Mer** crew said they always had room to improve. Pleeease …..
- Talking of foredecks, **Kelly** on the foredeck of **First Light** wasn't drowned today and all was quite peaceful. As usual **First Light** offered very little information to your representative for the Fourth Estate, even when the owner was not there. A well trained crew. They had a mighty tussle with **Razzle Dazzle and Winsome** on the leg from 6 to 3. **Winsome** thought she had put the clamps on **First Light** but she broke through the cover somehow. Eight feet of extra hull length may have helped. **Grahame Jones and Sue Cramp on Razzle Dazzle**, didn't wee **First Light** coming until it was too late, otherwise they may helped **Winsome** to shut the gate. **First Light** picked up 2 places as a result and consolidated second. Sheep stations!!!!
- **Cyan Moon (Wayne Seaward**) has (I think) just come across from Brighton and has sailed in 3 of the last 4 Sunday Sailors. We are honoured to have her in our ranks, as she very recently entered and completed the 2025 Sydney Hobart

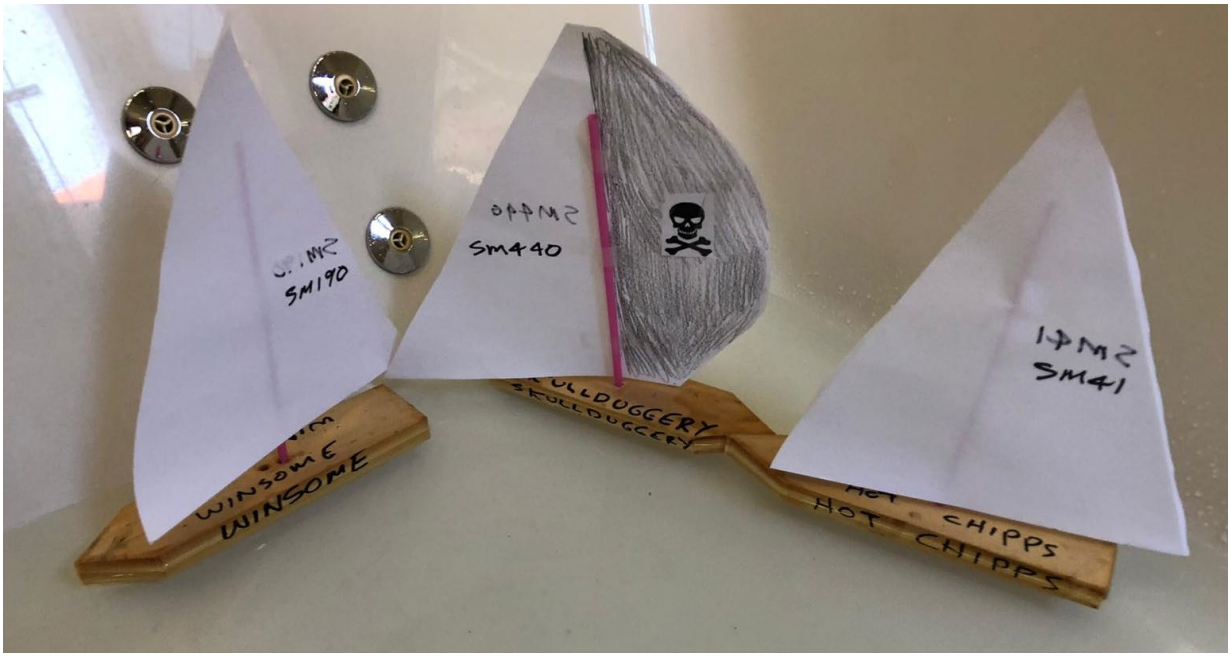
Many thanks to our tower people: Peter Graham, Cathy Higgins. **Also Stuart Morrison Jack** , our esteemed handicapper. There would be no race without the efforts of the volunteers, handicapper and boating office staff. Many thanks.

Also **Norden Real Estate** for sponsoring us. They offer great service for prospective clients, whether you are looking to buy, or want to market your property. Try them first.

Please support them!!

Luffing Lance

Hot Chipps promotion photo



Hot Chipps (Beneteau version), **Skullduggery and Winsome** fighting it out in the Thursday Twilights a couple of years ago. Or was it a bath tub derby??