



What a fabulous day to be out on Sydney harbour last Saturday, with action aplenty, including a scratch start for the Historic 18s' Club Championship race competing for the Bish Bolton trophy. On the way out to the start line off Clark Island (there could be no other course with the Extreme Catamarans having their "stadium" course set off Kirribilli), there were ample opportunities to contrast the evolution of "at the edge" sailing. Here Australia IV scrubs up nicely, with Alinghi and Red Bull from the Extreme Sailing Series in the background.



SFS Race Report Sat 10th Decemeber

Winter On The Western Front
Images from Race 10



SPECTATOR FERRY - FOLLOW THE FLEET!



The Rosman Ferry Regal departs the SFS wharf at 2pm

Saturdays during the sailing season.

Tickets from the Sydney Flying Squadron
76 McDougall Street, Kirribilli.

\$20 members

\$25 non members

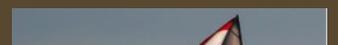
Commentary and a race program provided.
Bookings recommended.



SAIL WELL, STAY WELL

If you are over 18, come and join us to sail on one of our wonderful 18 foot skiffs or become part of our race management team on the safety and start boats.

Bob Chapman's report describes the brilliant summer conditions out on the Harbour and the events of the race. From the scratch start and a linear progression to Chowder Bay, the race then



events of the race. From the scratch start and a linear progression to Crowder Bay, the race then appeared to be a series of keenly sailed boat-on-boat contests along the way. Spectators on the ferry had another great day.

By contrast we remember those former sailors from the Club who fought in the miserable hard winter on the Western Front 100 years ago. Steve Scully provided a poignant article for this newsletter.

And coincidentally, Nick Daly discovered at a family gathering at the Club this week that he is related to the famous Ravell brothers, three of whom are on our Honor Roll (and a fourth, Jack, should have been listed). The Ravell's 18-footer, Kismet, is the image on the current membership card. Here is another picture - what a sight!



Kismet won the Mark Foy Cup in 1912 and the Interstate Challenge Cup in 1913, and was still sailing with the Sydney Flying Squadron as late as 1941, still owned by the Ravell family. So, 18-footer sailing is in the blood!

Images from last Saturday give you a taste of what happened if you weren't there. This Saturday will be the final race for 2016 and should be another great day out on the harbour for sailors and spectators like. Make sure you book for the ferry.

And see you at the Club!

Adrienne Jackson - Editor



We provide all needed training.
It's free, fun, active and exhilarating on the best harbour in the world!

Please contact us on
9955 8350, or
info@sydneyflyingsquadron.com.au

SETTING SAIL FOR THE GREAT WAR



STORIES OF THE SAILORS LISTED ON THE WWI HONOR ROLL OF THE SYDNEY FLYING SQUADRON AND SYDNEY SAILING CLUB

SFS Race Report Sat 10th December 2016.

Race 10 of the 2016-17 Season, Heat 2 of the Club C'ship and second Heat of the Summer Point Score. Brilliant summer conditions greeted sailors and supporters, with an east/nor'east breeze in early, making the rig decision straightforward, with intermediate sails for most skiffs while a few opted to carry a single reef in their mainsail in expectation the breeze may build as the afternoon progressed. 7 skiffs headed out from Careening Cove a bit earlier than usual in order to navigate their way out through the restricted access zone in place to accommodate the "stadium" venue that had been created for the Extreme Sailing Series event Kirribilli. Anyone venturing out on the SFS Rosman supporters ferry would have had an excellent view of these proceedings both on the way out and later on the way back in, in addition to the usual excellent day out on the harbour following the SFS race.



The race got underway from a scratch start off Clark Island on the no.1 NE course, tide running in, and the breeze tending ENE on the eastern shore while over on the western shore it was NE. It was a well contested start with Aberdare getting off the line just ahead Alruth, Australia IV, The

Buy your copy for \$35.00 for members of the SFS or \$45 for non-members.

Launched at the Sydney Flying Squadron by the Governor-General, Sir Peter Cosgrove, on 27 March 2016, the book sold out on the day. Now reprinted, the book has great photos and stories of amazing lives and times. Of the men on the Honor Roll, 27 died on active service, 49 were wounded and nine died of wounds or war-related illness. The book ensures the debt to all of them is recorded, and their contribution to our great sailing legacy acknowledged. Something to treasure!

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE/SAIL

There are still some T-shirts available from the Australian

Championships. These highly desirable T-

Mistake, Tangalooma, Britannia and Scot. The skiffs were close to each other for much of the first beat down to the Beashel Buoy with Aberdare gaining some extra time on the final approach to the mark where the breeze was shifting around. Aberdare was first around the Beashel Buoy for the run to Shark Island followed by Australia IV, Alruth, The Mistake, Tangalooma, Britannia and Scot. Alruth under bigger sails made good time down the run but it all came undone when a spinnaker halyard block disintegrated, stopping their progress instantly, forcing them to re-group and re-start their chase.

Meanwhile Aberdare gybed clear at the island and continued to lead down the almost square run to Clark Island. Aberdare was first to round at Clark Island with the breeze having filled-in, Australia IV 2nd followed by Alruth, The Mistake, Britannia, Tangalooma and Scot. Australia IV had an issue with their jib fastening on the bowsprit so headed towards the shore at Bradleys Head in order to fix the problem, unfortunately they lost a crew hand over the side and were forced to retrace their steps to pick him up, losing more time, then go into the shore, make the fix and rejoin in the race, albeit in last place.

Aberdare was first around the Chowder Bay mark with a clear lead and set off under main and jib for Shark Island, where they gybed, set a spinnaker and a ringtail for the run to the finish. Alruth and The Mistake had a great tussle with Alruth getting the upper hand on the run to the finish to take 2nd place over the line and a win on handicap. The Mistake was a close 3rd, then a gap back to Britannia just ahead of Tangalooma, and a further gap back to Australia IV who finished just ahead of Scot.

It was another great day to be out on Sydney Harbour and a great afternoon for the SFS sailors and supporters.

With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Mark, Michael, Russell, Peter, Adrienne, Felix, Chuck, Bill, Ian and the rest of our tireless volunteers, along with the dedicated team at Rosman Ferries. We look forward to seeing you down at the Squaddie.

Results for Sat 10th December 2016.

Race 10	10-Dec-16	Scr Start	#1 Course	E/ENE	14-18kts					
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	New Hcap	AHSSA Rating	Rating C'Time	Rating Place
Aberdare	J. Winning	0:00	14:30:00	15:55:45	1:25:45	1:25:45	0	0:01:30	1:24:15	1
Britannia	P. Sinclair	0:15	14:30:00	16:07:55	1:37:55	1:22:55	14	0:08:30	1:29:25	3
Alruth	R. Tickner	0:14	14:30:00	16:03:31	1:33:31	1:19:31	12	0:03:00	1:30:31	2
The Mistake	T. Stewart	0:11	14:30:00	16:04:17	1:34:17	1:23:17	11	0:02:00	1:32:17	5
Tangalooma	P. Legrove	0:13	14:30:00	16:08:02	1:38:02	1:25:02	13	0:05:00	1:33:02	4
Scot	J. Watt	0:14	14:30:00	16:13:03	1:43:03	1:29:03	14	0:05:00	1:38:03	6
Australia IV	D. Swales	0:10	14:30:00	16:12:54	1:42:54	1:32:54	10	0:00:00	1:42:54	7
Myra Too	P. Barnett	0:08	DNC				8			
Australia	I. Pretty	0:06	DNC				6			
Yendys	R. Killick	0:02	DNC				2			

Skiff	Season Point Score	Summer Point Score	Ringtail Point Score
Aberdare	22	5	5
Alruth	30	7	0
Australia	3	0	0
Australia IV	24	4	0
Britannia	23	9	6
Myra Too	0	0	0
Scot	17	3	0
Tangalooma	32	9	0
The Mistake	31	9	2
Yendys	7	0	1

Note, possible adjustments to ringtail points pending, if/when respective rules are published / applied.

shirts are exclusive - only 100 produced. So pounce and get yours before it is too late.

There are also smart AHSSA polos available.

See Coral Taylor or Adrienne Jackson at the Club after sailing.

PRICE LIST

LADIES POLO \$35

MENS POLO \$40

T - SHIRT \$25



The Australian Historical Sailing Skiff Association (AHSSA)



is the class association representing the replica historic 18 and 10 footers and the Taipan class. As such they keep the issues of the maritime heritage of Sydney Harbour in the public eye at events such as the Wooden Boat Festivals, intrastate, interstate and overseas regattas. It is a medium to keep heritage and sailing enthusiasts together whilst promoting host sailing clubs and their endeavours.

Annual membership is \$20 which



Winter On The Western Front 100 Years Ago

As we enjoy the warm summer weather of Sydney, spare a thought for many of the men listed on the WW1 Honor Roll of the Sydney Flying Squadron and the Sydney Sailing Club who manned the trenches on the Western Front during the most severe winter in 40 years.

Early snows brought the Battle of the Somme to an end on 18 November 1916. With the arrival of winter, large scale offensive operations ceased and both the Allies and the Central Powers dug into await the arrival of spring.

The 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Australian Divisions were garrisoned on the line east of Flers in the Somme Valley. The conditions here were the worst encountered by the AIF throughout the war. Unusually heavy autumn rains had deluged the shell cratered battlefield and turned it into an almost impassable quagmire. Private Edward Lynch described the desolate landscape:

"We live in a world of Somme mud. We sleep in it, work in it, fight in it, wade in it and many of us die in it. We see it, feel it, eat it and curse it, but we can't escape it, not even by dying."

Meanwhile, the 3rd Australian Division, after training in England, arrived in France on 21 November 1916 and went into a comparatively quiet section of the front line in the north of the country near Armentières.

The Battle of the Somme was followed by eight weeks of continuous rain, sleet and snow. While most troops were withdrawn to the rear areas for rest and re-fitting, those soldiers serving on the front line (although frequently rotated) suffered greatly. The trenches provided no protection from the bitter winter. Abnormally low temperatures, especially at night, froze their clothes and blankets. Frequently men were buried in trench collapses caused by mud slides. In addition, they had to endure body lice and swarms of trench rats.

The situation improved marginally in mid-January 1917, when four weeks of sub-zero temperatures and clearer skies froze the ground solid bringing some respite from the muddy trenches.

During the winter of 1916-17, the extreme weather and the unsanitary condition of the trenches claimed substantially more casualties than the fighting. Trench foot, caused by prolonged standing in cold and dirty water, afflicted thousands of troops. Respiratory diseases, rheumatism and frost-bite were also common.

Of the 109 Honor Roll members who have been identified, 35 were stationed on the Western Front during this time. Fifteen of these men (42%) suffered health problems which were serious enough for them to be admitted to hospital:

Harold Joseph BOWTELL	Trenchfoot	1st Southern General Hospital, Birmingham then invalided home
Charles James BURTON MM	Trenchfoot	2nd Southern General hospital, Bristol
Francis COURTNEY	Scabies	1st Australian Dermatological Hospital, Bulford
Walter JACOBS	Bronchitis	Hospital unspecified

Owen Patrick MARTIN	Bronchitis	1st London General
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Annual membership is \$20 which includes a monthly newsletter delivered electronically or by post. To become a member download the application form from the Association's website <http://ahssa.weebly.com> or by email contact to ahssa@y7mail.com or write to P.O. Box 48 Drummoyne, NSW, 2047.

Also view website nswtens.weebly.com for the latest news on replica historic skiffs.

If you are visiting the Sydney Flying Squadron on a Saturday, please make yourself known to either of the following:

Ian Smith, President - owner/builder and skipper "Britannia"

Ian Graves, Honorary Secretary - crew member "Aberdare"

Coral Taylor, Honorary Treasurer - crew member "Tangalooma".

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Owen Patrick MARTIN	Bronchitis	1st London General Hospital, Camberwell
William Ernest MAY CdeG	Unspecified	Hospital unspecified
William Henry PEARCE	Boils	No 3 General Hospital, Étretat
Richard Henry REYNOLDS	Trenchfoot	No 1 NZ Stationary Hospital, Amiens
William RITCHIE	Myalgia	2nd Southern General Hospital, Bristol
Jesse Enoch RUSSELL	Trenchfoot	Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley
Harold Cornwell SIPPEL	Myalgia	No 5 General Hospital, Rouen
Edward Lawrence H.SPALDING	Influenza	No 1 General Hospital, Étretat
Thomas STENNING	Tear of the anterior cruciate ligament of the knee and a septic right toe	3rd London General Hospital
Charles Ernest THOMPSON	Myalgia and Influenza	1st London General Hospital, Camberwell
Leslie Arthur WOODWARD	Influenza	Hospital unspecified
Charles James BURTON MM	William Ernest MAY CdeG	Harold Cornwell SIPPEL



IMAGES FROM RACE 10, CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP AND BISH BOLTON TROPHY



Club Championship and a clean scratch start.



Great conditions for the sailors.



Alruth's bowsprit fixed and sailing to win on handicap.





There was no catching Aberdare - not even close....it was their day!



Tangalooma on a more stately passage across the harbour.





Out on the bumpkin - Britannia and some running repairs?



The Mistake rounds Shark Island, followed by Alruth, Britannia and Tangalooma.





The Mistake travelling well.



The legs shot of the Scot!





Britannia had a lovely sail...



Barley rescues an adrift kayak as Scot rounds Shark Island



Australia IV gave it everything to pip Scot over the line

This newsletter was written by written by Bob Chapman, Steve Scully and Adrienne Jackson | Formatted by Nick Mulcahy.

Contributions sought and welcomed. Email your news, photos, opinions to: sfsnewslettersite@gmail.com. Don't be reticent. Be part of the SFS community and share your stories. It is a Club rich in history and the richer for the participation of all its members.

