



The Sydney Flying Squadron held the last races for 2016 - the H18s on 17 December and the 12 footers on 18 December - and this is the last newsletter for 2016.

It was a warm dry day on Saturday and the westerly conditions meant no cooling breeze out on the harbour either. They were testing conditions for our sailors, but Alruth managed them and took line honours. Well done, Team Alruth!



Bob Chapman's race report gives full coverage of the day's racing; the wind and tide providing challenges for the seven skiffs that started and the five that completed the westerly course.

Interested in learning more about the Historic 18-footers? We understand that the forthcoming book, "The Open Boat" written by Britannia's skipper and builder, Ian Smith, will even guide you in how to rig an H18! A trailer for this book is included in this newsletter - place your advance order now for the limited print run. It is so important to document the traditional skills needed to build and sail these wonderful boats before it is too late, and we commend Ian for his dedication. And to see how exciting a close (ringtail) finish can be, please go on You Tube and catch the footage shot on Tricia Smith's iPhone when Aberdare just pipped Britannia over the finish line on 30 November. Search for "Historical 18 Footers race to the finish". You'll



[SFS Race Report Sat 17th December](#)

[NEW BOOK ON 18-FOOTER](#)

[IMAGES FROM RACE 11](#)

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.

recognise some of the voices in the background too.

Images from the H18s race round out the race reporting for this week. We wish the best of luck to our 12 footer sailors competing in the Interdominions in Brisbane in early January.

Season's Greetings to everyone. Have a safe and happy holiday, and we look forward to seeing you when sailing resumes again on Saturday 14 January. Meanwhile, see you at the Club!

Adrienne Jackson - Editor.

SFS Race Report Sat 17th December 2016.

Race 11 of the 2016-17 Season and third Heat of the Summer Point Score. Warm and dry conditions prevailed in the boat park as 7 skiffs prepared for the final race of 2016, with the wind from the west and a high tide almost lapping over the edge of the sea wall, making for an impressive sight when looking out onto the bay but also an ominous sign for later in the day when the tide would be at full ebb. It has been quite a while since we last held a race in a westerly, and as the day progressed conditions became hotter and dryer, while out on the harbour the breeze appeared to be anything but stable, with some skiffs delaying their choice of rig, and as it turned out all skiffs deciding on no.2 rigs.

The race got underway from a handicap start in Athol Bay on the no.5 westerly course (and, if the no.5 board is missing, then the no.2 board set upside down will substitute; no worries). Conditions were quite challenging as the limit boats got away into light and fickle headwind, with the occasional sporadic gust emerging from the west or north-west, and a strong run-out tide impeding their progress to the first mark off Kurraba Point. Britannia and Scot were first away followed closely by Tangalooma, The Mistake and Australia IV, and then a 10 minute gap before Aberdare started, albeit in a bit more wind pressure than was available for the limit boats.

Alruth emerged as the leader at the first mark for the long square run down to Point Piper, followed by Tangalooma, The Mistake, Scot and Australia IV, and some way back to Aberdare. Unfortunately for Britannia they were caught-out by a sudden gust and change of wind direction half way up the first beat, and suffered a terminal fill-up. The run down to Point Piper was long and slow, but on approach to the bottom mark the breeze filled in a bit from the south-west and the pace picked-up.

The Mistake was first to round at Point Piper for the beat back up to Kurraba Point followed by Tangalooma, Alruth, Australia IV, Scot and then Aberdare who had a fast run for the final section into the mark. The Mistake led the way on a long port tack across to Athol Bay followed closely by Tangalooma, Alruth and Australia IV. Aberdare and Scot also followed this line from well back. As the lead skiffs sailed into Athol Bay conditions lightened off and once again became challenging with the lead group committed to work along the Mosman shore. Aberdare sailed out of wind off Bradleys, tacked-off to make a long starboard leg across the tide towards Garden Island. Alruth was first to round the Kurraba Point mark for the run to Clark Island followed closely by The Mistake, Tangalooma, Australia IV and Aberdare having made up time on the lead group, with Scot now well back, possibly under-rigged, and doing it tough in the light and fickle conditions.



Alruth led the way to Clark Island with the following skiffs closing up together as they



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ON THE WW1 HONOR ROLL OF THE
SYDNEY FLYING SQUADRON AND
SYDNEY SAILING CLUB

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

approached and rounded the island. The final beat back to the finish was a very challenging task with little wind, the odd sporadic gust and against an adverse tide. Alruth continued on the same approach they had used all race, heading across to the Mosman shore followed by The Mistake, Australia IV and Tangalooma, while Aberdare went to the Garden Island shore. As the skiffs converged to the finish Alruth emerged as the clear winner by just over 1 min from Aberdare, followed by Australia IV and The Mistake locked together, then Tangalooma. Scot, having fallen well back, retired earlier rather than attempt the last 2 legs of the course.

With thanks to our on-water support team of Barley, Brian, Roy, Russell, Peter, Adrienne, Nancy, David, Louise, Felix, Chuck, Bill, Ian, David 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 17th December 2016.

Race 11	17-Dec-16		Hcp Start	#5 Course	West	5-12kts	
Skiff	Skipper	Race Hcap	Start Time	Finish Time	Race Time	H'cap Time	New Hcap
Alruth	R. Tickner	0:12	14:18:00	16:17:12	1:59:12	1:47:12	11
Aberdare	J. Winning	0:00	14:30:00	16:18:25	1:48:25	1:48:25	0
Australia IV	D. Swales	0:10	14:20:00	16:20:09	2:00:09	1:50:09	11
The Mistake	T. Stewart	0:11	14:19:00	16:20:22	2:01:22	1:50:22	12
Tangalooma	P. Legrove	0:13	14:17:00	16:22:18	2:05:18	1:52:18	14
Britannia	I. Smith	0:14	14:16:00	DNF			14
Scot	J. Watt	0:14	14:16:00	DNF			14
Myra Too	P. Barnett	0:08	DNF				8
Australia	I. Pretty	0:06	DNF				6
Yendys	R. Killick	0:02	DNF				2

Skiff	Season Point Score	Summer Point Score	Ringtail Point Score
Aberdare	27	10	5
Alruth	36	13	0
Australia	3	0	0
Australia IV	28	8	0
Britannia	24	10	6
Myra Too	0	0	0
Scot	18	4	0
Tangalooma	34	11	0
The Mistake	34	12	2
Yendys	7	0	1

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

NEW BOOK ON THE 18-FOOTERS!

Championships. These highly desirable T-

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

The OPEN BOAT

The Australian 18 Footer
Origin, Evolution and Construction



Ian Hugh Smith

Folklore tells us that the 18-footers evolved out of working boats, but no-one had ever worked out exactly how that happened.

Now Britannia skipper and boatbuilder, Ian Smith, has followed the trail and written it all down in *The Open Boat*, available soon. The 200-page book also contains details of how the boats were built, based on interviews ten years ago with seven boatbuilders who did it in the day and his own record of building the Britannia replica.

It will be a limited print run and you can put your name down for a copy at \$75 in February or pre-order now for \$60 by going to <http://sydneywoodenboatschool.com.au/product/the-open-boat/> More info and lots more stuff on the 18's and other classes on www.openboat.com.au

sailing enthusiasts together whilst promoting host sailing clubs and their endeavours.

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".

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

IMAGES FROM RACE 11, 17 DECEMBER
2016



Barley in the Gemini ready for Christmas!



Handicap start in Athol Bay.



Britannia was the first away....



....but not for long!



Britannia on the way to Whiting Beach where others were swimming too.



Australia IV catches some breeze.



Scot with little breeze.



The Mistake, followed by Australia IV and Aberdare



Tangalooma and Aberdare



Close sailing along the Mosman shore: The Mistake and Australia IV



Killara II shows the number 5 (west) course (2 inverted!)



Alruth crosses the finish line.

This newsletter was written by volunteers Adrienne Jackson, Ian Smith and Bob Chapman. 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.