



# Even Keel

The quarterly newsletter of the Geelong Trailable Yacht Club Inc.



Charisma and Restless battle it out off Eastern Beach in a rising wind during the first race of the new summer series

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## Summer 2013-14

*Even Keel* is the official quarterly newsletter of the Geelong Trailable Yacht Club Inc.

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The editor welcomes relevant articles and photos from members and sponsors. Content for the autumn 2014 edition of *Even Keel* should be with the editor by 20 February 2013. Please send copy in Word format and images as TIFF or JPEG files. **Disclaimer:** articles and advertisements in *Even Keel* do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor, Flag Officers, Committee Members, or general membership of the GTYC Inc.

## GTYC Flag Officers and Committee 2013-14

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## Commodore's Locker

Since the spring *Even Keel* it's been very busy about our club, with some great successes to celebrate. Firstly, our club has just turned 40! The GTYC was formed at a public meeting of 28 interested people on 5 September 1973 at the former Bell Park Technical School.

Today our membership continues to grow, and in the last month alone we have welcomed new members John and Jeanette Malpass from Ballarat, and Pam Baker from Lara. This has taken our total membership to just over 100: a wonderful milestone! (You can read more of the GTYC's history on our new website!)

Our GTYC website ([www.gtyc.com.au](http://www.gtyc.com.au)) has also been re-designed, thanks to Jason Martin, a professional in this field, and a Castle owner (*Already Gone*). It has all the content from our previous website (originally established by Jim Bland) but has a new look, cleaner navigation, and is more accessible to those of us with 'limited' web savvy!

The new site is also much easier to update with fresh content by those responsible for the various activities offered by our club (such as racing

news and results; cruising plans; and upcoming social events). This feature will help spread the workload across our committee – which will no doubt be a relief for Paul Webster, who till now had to update the lot.

We staged another successful Seniors' Sailing afternoon 6 October, just after the first Short Series Race 1 for the summer season.

Two weekends later, we officially opened the new season on 20 October. This year's opening day was enjoyed by all those who attended. Our newly acquired 6 by 3 metre gazebo extended the rotunda to accommodate the 50 or so who enjoyed a pleasant morning, followed by a BBQ. Unfortunately, the strengthening wind forced the cancellation of the planned sternchaser novelty event.

These events proved very enjoyable for those members and guests who attended with their boats, and I'd like to thank them all for their hospitality toward our new and prospective members present. We are quickly earning a reputation for running enjoyable events; we seem to be enjoying doing what we are doing; and we are making progress towards things important for the club's future.



Our clubhouse sub-committee is continuing its discussions with local politicians and councilors about funding for a new shared clubhouse (with Geelong Coast Guard), securing promises for support. Next year is a state election year, so it's very timely to get commitments from those in charge of the 'purse strings'.

Our keynote annual event, the Queenscliff to Geelong Yacht Race, was originally scheduled for 3 November, but a 'higher authority' had other ideas – sending a blast of 30 knots or more to coincide with our scheduled start. That howler continued until 6 PM that evening, and couldn't have been better timed to disrupt our race.

We therefore postponed the event until 17 November: the nearest Sunday when the incoming tide at Port Philip Heads was again acceptable. As if to make up for the first forecast, the weather two Sundays later was perfect! As a result, the race was very successful (with 19 entries, up from 11 last year) and enjoyed by all – except perhaps for a small number who were swept across the line early by the current, as our officers of the day (Mike Allden and Bob Balding) eagerly tried to get everybody started.

The race results are shown later in this edition, together with some wonderful photos by Heather Brown (thanks so much Heather!). There were not enough cruisers to register results in Division 1. At the end of the day, all of our competitors praised our volunteers for the conduct of the race, and we heard nothing but praise for the entire event. So well done everyone!

Our club also extends a great deal of gratitude to our very generous sponsors: *Harken*, *Club Marine* and the *Victorian Regional Channels Authority* – who have all backed this event for the third year in a row. As a result, our club at last did not lose money on the event (as we have done each in the last two years). That's wonderful news for our club, and competitive passage sailing! So all-in-all: an excellent result and one we hope to equal or better next year.

Our General Committee is still looking for volunteers to help spread the work of running our club. I'm very pleased that Brian Mahoney has offered to keep track of what is needed in the rotunda and keep it stocked; also, Barry Thompson has taken on the YV Affairs task, ensuring that those who order Silver Cards and Cat 5 stickers actually receive them. However, we're still looking for someone to check the treasurer's work at the end of the year.



Five O'Clock Somewhere heads for home under grey skies

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The 'Incorporated Associations Act' we must comply with says we do NOT have to have our books audited, but your committee prefers that our accounts are professionally checked each year to ensure our finances do not drift from the 'straight and narrow'.

So anyone who is either good with numbers or has any bookkeeping knowledge could easily do this task for us (and you don't need formal qualifications). The job involves a few hours checking the books each July, and that is all. We have established a system of keeping the books that makes it easy, and Treasurer Ray Slee (or me, as former treasurer) can help get the process started. So please, if any member thinks they could assist, please put your hand up.

We also need to establish a social members group to nominate and organise the social activities (including social sailing) that our social members would like to enjoy. The committee could guess at what is wanted, but it would be better if our social members had the main input on this. So if you are interested in being part of this new group, please contact me direct.

In other news, Mike Allden and I concluded the changes to our official rules to comply with the new Incorporated Associations Reform Act.

Our racing sub-committee has prepared a new GTYC calendar (running from October 2013 to September 2014), and this is included in this edition of *Even Keel*. Please note and support the many sailing and social events on offer, and feel free to suggest anything else that might appeal to our membership.

I was away on holidays during the running of this year's Arthur the Great Race on Saturday 30 November, but I understand the small but enthusiastic fleet had perfect weather to sail in, with winds from the S-SE of 5-12 knots. This made the outgoing journey a bit of a challenge, but the homeward run would have been very pleasant indeed! Many thanks to Bob Balding for organising this event!

Bob and Linda Balding have also kindly offered to stage the GTYC annual Christmas function at their Lara home on the evening of Saturday 7 December, so I hope to see as many club members there as possible, and I thank them in advance for their generosity! I will take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas, and enjoyable cruising to take us into the New Year!

Good sailing, John Mole, GTYC Commodore

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# **The 2013 GTYC Christmas Dinner**

**When: Saturday 6 December 2013**

**Where: Linda and Bob Balding's  
at 60 Glenoe Drive, Lara**

**Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm**

**Kris Kringle:** could each person please bring a \$5-10 novelty gift (unisex) for some evening fun.

**Food:** meat provided by the club, but could those with a surname starting 'A-K' please bring a salad, and those 'L - Z' please bring a desert.

**Drinks:** BYO please.

**All members and guests most welcome!**

# Queenscliff to Geelong Yacht Race 2013

The 2013 Queenscliff to Geelong Yacht Race was sailed by a strong fleet of 20 keen boats on Sunday 17 November in almost perfect weather.

The wind varied between 5 to 15 knots from the S-SE, with generally cool but sunny conditions: ideal for sailing. In fact, the conditions fully justified the club's earlier decision to reschedule the race from 3 November, due to predicted rough weather of 30+ knots.

At the pre-race briefing at Queenscliff, GTYC Commodore John Mole warned all skippers about the effect of the incoming tide flow carrying yachts over the line before the start signal (given it was generally a downwind start).

Once out on the water, the Division 1 fleet start observed this warning very well, and there were no offenders crossing early.

*Director Special* was in this group as she was sailing without a spinnaker; however, the skipper had some temporary 'hearing loss' and was a full five minutes behind the rest of the fleet's start. But with a fair wind, she made very good time after that and finished only 31 minutes behind the fastest Noelex flying a spinnaker. A very commendable effort!

The Division 3 start had all the 'top guns' competing, and this race was vigorously contested with two boats crossing the line prematurely. Ironically, our esteemed commodore went very close, but did not cross before the siren.

The two offending boats were *Dream On* and *Five O'clock Somewhere*; both returned to the start, with *Dream On* dutifully going around the end buoy correctly. She then managed a fair effort to catch the leaders for the rest of the race, but the winds were a little too strong for a podium finish.

*Five O'clock Somewhere* also returned and crossed the line, but did not go around the end marker buoy (as required by the starting boat flying the alphabet letter I flag). Consequently, she paid the ultimate price at the other end of the race.

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*Bea Jay* (Timpenny) held off the fleet to record fastest time and win Division 2. David Phillips in *Running Free* won Division 3, with only 9 minutes between the 1st and 8th place-getters.

Most competitors flew spinnakers on the trek from the Outer Harbour into Corio Bay, resulting in some colourful on-water duels as one boat crawled past another, forcing the slower boats to get the kite out again.

Even though *Restless* (skippered solo by our treasurer) was not an official entry, she put in a commendable performance, and would have scored a podium position if she had sailed with a crew. All up, a great passage racing event, capped off with some excellent trophies and prizes from our very generous sponsors: *Harken*, *Club Marine*, and the *Victorian Regional Channels Authority*.

Bob Balding and Mike Allden, Officers of the Day

*And this post-script from a 'spy' aboard Vintage Red (skippered by Commodore John Mole):*

At the pre-race briefing, our humble commodore John Mole warned other skippers of the danger of the incoming tide pushing boats over the starting line too early.

Ironically, he then found himself too close to the line aboard *Vintage Red*, and the flag not yet dropped. So we did a quick manoeuvre to avoid crossing early, then an about-turn when the hooter sounded and we were away.

Unfortunately, another hooter drew our attention to the recall flag: someone had crossed early. Was it us? Don't think so! But, after a few minutes, *Dream On* turned around and re-started. The flag stayed aloft. Someone else had also infringed. It could have been us, so we reluctantly tacked and made our way back against the strengthening current.

We rounded the start boat amid cries of: "What did you come back for? It was Bruce!" *Vintage Red* had given everyone a couple of miles start.

Shoosh now. Don't tell John Mole, or this is bound to attract **Mariner's Nightmare** points!



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Commodore John Mole briefs skippers on the tricky downwind start and tidal flows at the Heads



The Q2G Yacht Race is proudly sponsored by Harken, Club Marine, and Victorian Regional Channels Authority



The skipper and crew of Double Dutch prepare after a big haul round from their home berth at Western Port Bay





The Austral 26 crew aboard Happy Daze in final preparations ready to leave the beautiful Queenscliff marina complex



Nearly 20 boats milled about the start line in ideal conditions, ready to set sail in three divisions for the 2013 Q2G Yacht Race



The crew and skipper aboard Impulse head out under the iron sail from the Queenscliff marina

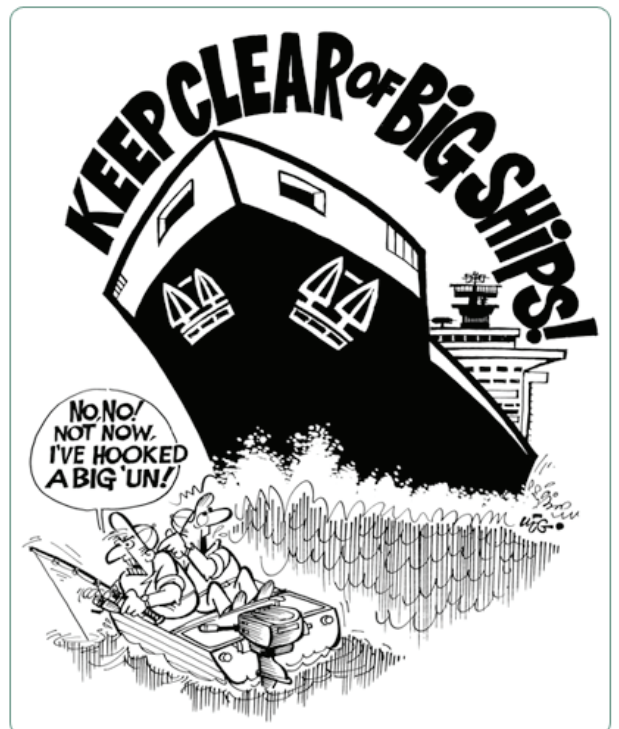




A spray of spinnakers make good use of ideal winds from the S-SE in the final legs of the Q2G Race



The crew aboard Double Dutch later reported: "There was some 'gusty stuff' around earlier in the race, and broad reaching had to be done as well as beating from Hopetoun to Cunningham, followed by a spinnny run home leg, which is always a good look for the cameras!"



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Division 3 entry Running Free gives Vintage Red a run for her money on a spinnaker haul down past Point Henry



Running Free takes on Division 1 entry Director's Special, with spinnaker ablaze coming down the channel



# Queenscliff to Geelong Yacht Race 2013: Results

Q2G


17th. November, 2013

Division 1

Start Time: 10:30 AM

OOD: Mike Allden

Bob Balding



Boat Name	Skipper	Class	Sail No.	Finish Time hh:mm:ss	Elapsed Time (Minutes)	Handicap	Corrected Time	Place
Directors Special	Barry Thompson	Noelex 25	NX 794		-630.00	0.725	-456.75	1

Q2G


17th. November, 2013

Division 2

Start Time: 10:30 AM

OOD: Mike Allden

Bob Balding



Boat Name	Skipper	Class	Sail No.	Finish Time hh:mm:ss	Elapsed Time (Minutes)	Handicap	Corrected Time	Place
Jaffa	Brendan Brown	Boomerang 20 D	187	15:13:41	283.68	0.640	181.56	1
Bea Jay	David Marshall	Timpenny 670	GY 916	15:10:45	280.75	0.685	192.31	2
Laros	Len Hatfield	Ultimate 18 D	18	15:51:17	321.28	0.600	192.77	3
Step Aboard	Paul Webster	Sabre 22	167	15:33:43	303.72	0.639	194.07	4
Charisma	Andrew Croxon	Boomerang 20 D	884	15:36:14	306.23	0.640	195.99	5
Double Dutch	Colin Forster	Adams 21	573	15:17:39	287.65	0.690	198.48	6
Impulse	Owen Brown	Austral 20	117	15:43:01	313.02	0.650	203.46	7
Happy Daze	John McKenna	Austral 20	46	15:43:03	313.05	0.650	203.48	8

Q2G


17th. November, 2013

Division 3

Start Time: 10:45 AM

OOD: Mike Allden

Bob Balding



Boat Name	Skipper	Class	Sail No.	Finish Time hh:mm:ss	Elapsed Time (Minutes)	Handicap	Corrected Time	Place
Running Free	David Phillips	Noelex 25	880	15:29:17	284.28	0.725	206.11	1
Down Under	Tony Doolan	Noelex 25	742	15:30:34	285.57	0.725	207.04	2
Vintage Red	John Mole	Noelex 25	SM 521	15:31:24	286.40	0.725	207.64	3
Route 66	Rob Ballard	Nis 23	66	15:44:00	299.00	0.705	210.80	4
Pipalini	Keith Bayliss	Castle 650	147	15:37:00	292.00	0.725	211.70	5
Bottom Line	Lynden Haskett	Noelex 25	932	15:37:43	292.72	0.725	212.22	6
Dream On	Glen Kewish	Castle 650	92	15:42:53	297.88	0.725	215.97	7
Stress Factor	Tony Cope	Sonata 26	S069	15:55:20	310.33	0.728	225.92	8
Five O'Clock Somewhere	Bruce Ewen	Sonata 6.7 Mod	40	OCS		0.755		
Already Gone	Jason Martin	Castle 650	11	DNF		0.725		



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## Short Series - Race 1

A healthy fleet of seven boats fronted for the start of the club's first race of the new calendar for 2013, held on Sunday 6 October 2013. We ran two divisions with three yachts in Division 1, and four yachts in Division 2. The selected course was one lap from the start line to CB2, then to CB6, and back to the finish. The wind was about 5 knots from the south.

Division 1 was led over the line by *Restless*, about 50 metres ahead of *Charisma*, with *OH LA LA* missing the start. Division 2 saw a much more competitive start with *Five O'clock Somewhere* leading *Vintage Red*, *Dream On* and *Beaugolais* over the line. By this time, the wind had increased to about 8 knots.

By the time the fleet reached CB2 the wind had increased to approximately 12 knots, and changed from the south to the north-west. All boats were flying spinnakers down the first leg.

Division 1 was now led by *Charisma*, having overtaken *Restless* and established a lead of about 150 metres, with *OH LA LA* a distant third place. Division 2 was still led by *Five O'clock Somewhere*, followed by *Dream On*, *Vintage Red* and *Beaugolais*.

On the second leg to CB6 the wind had freshened to a blustery strong 18-20 knots, still in the WNW, providing all boats with a challenging and fast reach. The strong wind soon proved too much for *OH LA LA*, which withdrew and headed for quieter waters.

At CB6 *Charisma* was still leading *Restless* in Division 1. Meanwhile, *Five O'clock Somewhere* had gained a commanding lead in Division 2, followed by *Vintage Red*, which had passed *Dream On* in the heavy conditions, then *Beaugolais*.

Turning for home, it was now a tacking duel in the heavy conditions, and with the wind, shifting between NW and WNW it was proving difficult to lay the finishing buoy. As the fleet got closer to the line the wind started to moderate, so that by the finish it was about 12 knots.

*Charisma* led *Restless* over the line by 3 minutes in Division 1, while in Division 2 *Five O'clock Somewhere* had cleared out to lead *Vintage Red* over the line by 4 minutes, followed by *Dream On* just 20 seconds further back, and *Beaugolais* a further 2 minutes astern.

Doug Gadd, OOD



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Beaujolais leads Vintage Red fight it out under spinnakers during the first race of the new summer series



The fleet heads east under spinnakers with a freshening wind off Eastern Beach



Dark water, leaden skies and a freshening wind to 20 knots tested all boats in the first race for the summer season

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## A pilgrimage in Spain

In the last edition of *Even Keel*, I wrote that I was about to set off for a pilgrimage in Spain. I'm still not sure why I did it, but now it's over there are certainly many, many tales to tell. And over 4,500 photos to document every gruelling step of the way!

A friend and I landed in Barcelona (Spain) in early September, and soon caught a train, then a bus, to the beautiful southern French village of St Jean Pied-de-Port. The next day, 5 September, we set off on foot with hundreds of other pilgrims to climb the Pyrennes, along the same route that Napoleon took his invading armies south into Spain in the early 1800s.

It was the start of a 35 day pilgrimage that would take us through three Spanish regions stretching across the country's north, to reach the famed Christian pilgrim city of Santiago in the far west: a distance of 860kms.

As if that wasn't enough, after we received our 'pilgrims' blessing' at the glorious Santiago Cathedral, we decided to trek an extra three days to the Atlantic coast, finishing at a small village called Fisterre ('end of the earth'). That brought our total walking distance to 960kms.


And unlike others who took the 'easy option' (and had their packs sent ahead in buses and taxis), we carried our 9kg backpacks the entire way, stuffed with a few essentials (such as water, spare clothing and food).

Many of the pilgrims I met suffered some debilitating injuries to their feet, ankles, legs and hips, and everyone got blisters.

The journey was one long fellowship, with everyone searching for something different; each with their own reasons for walking, eating, socialising and sleeping among strangers.

I'm still thinking about my reasons, but I already know the rewards have been immense. *Viva Espana, y buen Camino!* Now: back to sailing!

Geoff Russell, *Even Keel* Editor


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Your humble *Even Keel* editor swaps sail-power for horse-power high in the Pyrennes on the French-Spanish border



Geelong Trailable Yacht Club Inc. 2013 - 2014 Calendar			Revision - 4		Date 23/9/2013
Month	Date	Event	Time	Location	OOD
<b>OCT</b> 2013	Sun 6th	Short Series - Race 1	10.00	St.Helens	D Gadd / D. Pudney
		Seniors Sailing Afternoon	13.30	St Helens	J Mole
	Sun 20th	Opening Day - Sail Past	11.00	St Helens	TBA
		- Barbeque	12.00	St Helens	
		Opening Day - Sternchaser	14.00	St Helens	J.Mole
<b>NOV</b> 2013	Sun 3rd	Q to G - Div 1&2	10.30	Queenscliff	C Hancock / M.Alden
		Q to G - Div 3&4	10.45	Queenscliff	C.Hancock / M.Alden
	Sun 17th	Short Series - Race 2	10.00	St Helens	D.Gadd / K.O'Neill
		Summer Series - Race 2	13.30	St Helens	D.Gadd / K.O'Neill
	Sat 30th	Arthur the Great Race - Div 1	10.00	St Helens	C.Hancock
		Arthur the Great Race - Div 2	10.30	St Helens	C.Hancock
2013	Sat 7th	Christmas Party	19.00	Bob & Linda's Lara	
	Sun 15th	Short Series - Race 3	10.00	St Helens	B.Balding/D.McDowell
		Summer Series - Race 3	13.30	St Helens	B.Balding/D.McDowell
	Sun 29th	Christmas Cruise			
<b>JAN</b> 2014		Geelong Week - Regatta			
	Sun 26th	Try Sailing Day	13.30	St Helens	P.Graham/P.Webster
	Sun 26th	Fireworks Cruise	19.30	St Helens	P.Graham/P.Webster
<b>FEB</b> 2014	Sun 2nd	Short Series - Race 4	10.00	St Helens	G.Russell/ J.Russell
		Summer Series - Race 4	13.30	St Helens	G.Russell/ J.Russell
	Sat 8th	Ultimate Association		St Helens	John Mole
	Sun 9th	Regatta			
	Sun 16th	Short Series - Race 5	10.00	St Helens	G.Kewish/C.Onley
		Summer Series - Race 5	13.30	St Helens	G.Kewish/C.Onley
	Sun 23rd	Cruise Training Day		St Helens	P.Graham/P.Webster
<b>MAR</b> 2014	Sat 1st	Sonata Association		St Helens	John Mole
	Sun 2nd	Regatta			
	Sun 2nd	Cruise Sternchaser	10.00	St Helens	TBA on day
	Sat 8-10th	Marley Point Race		Lake Wellington	
	Sat 8-10th	Autumn Cruise		TBA	P.Graham/P.Webster
	Sat 15th	Steamboat Cup - Div 1	10.00	St Helens	C.Hancock
		Steamboat Cup - Div 2	10.30	St Helens	C.Hancock
<b>APRIL</b> 2014	Sat 5th	Try Sailing Day	13.30	St Helens	T.Doolan/J.Martin
	Sun 6th	Summer Series - Race 6	11.00	St Helens	T.Fraser
	Fri 18-21	Easter Cruise		TBA	P.Graham/P.Webster
	Fri 25th	Anzac Day - BBQ	11.00	St Helens	
<b>MAY</b> 2014	Sun 4th	Summer Series - Race 7	11.00	St Helens	J.Mole
	Sun 18th	Winter Series - Race 1	11.00	St Helens	B.Palich/A.Croxon
<b>JUNE</b> 2014	Sun 1st	Winter Series - Race 2	11.00	St Helens	B.Ewan
	Sat 7-9th	Winter Cruise		TBA	
	Sun 15th	Winter Series - Race 3	11.00	St Helens	D.Appleton
	Sat 21st	Club Dinner		TBA	
<b>JULY</b> 2014	Sun 6th	Winter Series - Race 4	11.00	St Helens	R.Hulme
	Sun 20th	Winter Series - Race 5	11.00	St Helens	K.Kugler
<b>AUG</b> 2014	Sun 3rd	Winter Series - Race 6	11.00	St Helens	J.Martin
	Sun 17th	Winter Series - Race 7	11.00	St Helens	T.Doolan/R.V-Niven
	Fri 22nd	AGM / Presentation Night	19.30	TBA	
<b>SEPT</b> 2014	Sat 6th	Cluster Cup - Division 1	10.00	St Helens	C.Hancock
		Cluster Cup - Division 2	10.30	St Helens	C.Hancock
	Sun 21st	Summer Series - Race 1	11.00	St Helens	P.Webb

