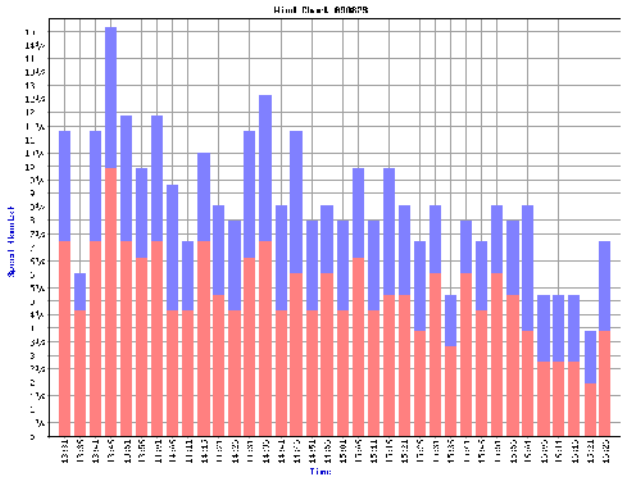
# Sailing August 23

## Winter Series round 6



The forecast was for showers in the afternoon, but these did not eventuate. The light north easterly was cold though, and during the racing it died away. The main problem was the weed and several times a race the boats had to be cleared.

With the dying wind the races took too long and overran the time so the final race was cut down to a single lap.

14 members started the racing, but with the cold and the annoyance of the weed only 9 boats lasted to finish the final race. Neil had his new boat which he built during the week, having sold his old boat to Geoff, but it leaked somewhat and this affected the servo so he used the club boat for the racing.

With the dying and variable breeze and the weed it was difficult to keep up a consistent performance. Bruce had the best of the day, with just one win and 2nds and 3rds he scored a day total of 11. This brings his serires score within one point of the top 3.

David Harley is back sailing with us after a trip around the world to, among other things, attend a wedding. He hasn't lost his touch and while complaining about the weed, managed one win and a day score of 12, just one point behind Bruce.

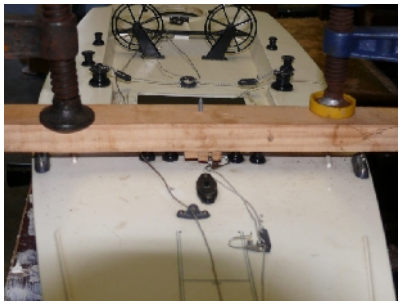
Other wins went to Geoff McGill, Paul Taylor, Bill Monaghan and Kevin Webb. The top three series score were not improved but Bruce has now joined in and the best four scores are separated by just 3 points when their top 3 scores are totalled.

With the last race day next week, and 4 scores counting, the final score will depend on whether they need to count an existing discard or can improve on it.

## Seawind Rebuild, Episode 3

The keel had not been glued in but was stuck fast. The stainless keel bolt runs through an aluminium tube and this inevitably corrodes due to dissimilar metals in water. To remove it I needed to press it out.

Penetrating oil was applied to the bulb bolt and soaked down the keel rod. The lead bulb was removed. My Workmate was set to the width of the keel root so that the keel would pass through while the jaws supported the hull and socket.



With the keel nut loosened a beam was placed across it and clamps were positioned each side.

As the clamps were tightened the timber bent, the spacer split, the nail taking the weight was pushed in, but finally the bolt shifted a fraction. More oil, reset the clamps and reapply. Millimetre by millimetre the bolt moved until it was free enough to be driven out with a punch and just the small hammer.

This is not a recommened procedure and should only be done if the results are disposable, and never done if the keel blade is glued or stuck in the socket.

With the blue tube sheared off at its thread I can remove the battery box and mast support bracket (C3) which, as expected, is broken.

## State of the Pond:

The weed was awful. The dead weed has been breaking up and with the weather starting to get a bit warmer, the heat is causing it to gassify and float up. There is also some more of the green leaf weed.

The only good news is that the SG has doubled over the last week. From 1.006 last sunday it is now 1.012. If the rain holds off the SG should continue to rise and should keep the algae growth down.

## Next Week:

**Winter Series round 7 - Final.**

## New Zealand Radio Yacht Squadron

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