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Nationals Pwllheli 11th to 16th August

The Halo

Miracle Association Magazine Summer 2019



© Simon Clark

Whitefriars in the rain

"The Friendly, Family, Dinghy Class"

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Contacts

Louis Moulden...Chairman
chairman@miracledinghy.org
Delph SC

Gillan Gibson Secretary
secretary@miracledinghy.org
Thornton Steward SC

Mike Smith Webmaster
webmaster@miracledinghy.org
Thornton Steward SC

Gillan Gibson Halo Editor
halo-editor@miracledinghy.org
Thornton Steward SC

Miracle Association website:
<http://www.miracledinghy.org>

Disclaimer: Much of the information within this publication is gathered from individuals, clubs, etc. The Miracle Association and its Officers and Committee accept no responsibility for the correctness of such information and opinion. Members are always advised to check with clubs before travelling to events.

Photo credits: Cover & p23 Simon Clark; p2 Sue Atherton; p3 Ian Brown; p12 Mark Stevens; p17 Kristen Crandell & Jason Cahill; p19 Val Reddecliffe; and p21 Nic Smith.

Items for the next issue to the Editor by 1st September 2019.

Editor's Corner

First a great big thank you to everyone who went to open meetings and sent their reports and photos to *Yachts and Yachting*. Along with the Facebook Group this is one of the "go to" places to find out what is happening. It makes life so much easier when I come to do the *Halo* as I can easily download them. I only wish I was getting them on the Miracle website as fast!

Looking forward Ken and I are preparing for the Nationals at Pwllheli with quite a bit of the printing already done. It really does help if anyone thinking of sailing can pre-enter. Also, if you are thinking of using different crews for the Championship series throughout the week you will need to consider who will be sailing when, as it is necessary to nominate them on a form for acceptance by the Race Committee before the first Championship race takes place.

Consideration of future Nationals brings varied conversations as the need to balance excellent racing with a weeks family holiday is quite a challenge. Add on aiming to move the week long event around the country so there is the opportunity for everyone to have one relatively close by every now and then and



it leaves your Committee asking for suggestions again for both inland and sea venues. I look forward to hearing from you.
Gillan Gibson, Miracle 3670

Chairman's Desk

Hi Folks, you're never too old! Lucas and I had a good time at Port Dinorwic open meeting where we came first overall. It's twenty years since I had such a good result, and it was at Port Dinorwic in an Enterprise. The club were very welcoming as always, the food was delicious and the Race Team excellent, plus conditions were ideal. It's the only open meeting, apart from Delph's, that I've managed to attend as I took Dorri on a cruise and this year the training regime at Delph seems to have been even busier than usual and is still ongoing.

I'm looking forward to the Nationals at Pwllheli where we will be joined by the SigneTs and a new partner, the Kestrel fleet. We are definitely going to Netley for 2020 but 2021 is still not decided, so if you have a preference for a venue please send an email to Ken or Gillan Gibson or myself, stating your choice. If you've not yet entered the Nationals please do so. First timers and second boats in a family get a fifty pound discount. If anyone is interested in a new boat, my Miracle from the Dinghy Show is still for sale.

Many thanks to the committee for organising these events, in particular Ken and Gillan Gibson. Many visits, phone calls and emails have been made on your



© Ian Brown

1st at Port Dinorwic: Louis, on right, and Lucas

behalf. Our international members are to be with us again, Andrew and Michela Mifsud from Malta, and Marcel and Giulia Neuteboom from Holland. We look forward to seeing them again.

This will be my last epistle from the Chairman's Desk, as I will sadly be retiring at the AGM and passing you into the capable hands of Paul Robinson. I wish you all Good Sailing
Louis Moulden, Miracle 4100

Miracle Nationals 2019
WNSA, Pwllheli, North Wales
Sunday 11th to Friday 16th
August

Miracle Nationals 2020
Netley SC, Southampton Water
Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August
(5 days)

Meeting Calendar 2019

Pwllheli, WNSA (LL53 5YT) National Championships	11th to 16th Aug	http://plasheli.org
Shotwick (CH5 2LL) Welsh Area Championship	21st & 22nd Sept	www.shotwicksailing.org/home/
Shustoke (B46 2BE) End of Season Championship	6th & 7th Oct	www.shustokesailingclub.co.uk/

The Miracle Association is online at:

Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Miracle-Dinghy-Class-Association/965046153558785>

Links from website

Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/56799327734/>

Joining easy

Website

<http://www.miracledinghy.org/>

Secretary's Corner

Future Nationals

Where can you suggest?

Your Committee is always looking for venues for the Nationals, especially new ones or where the fleet has not been for many years. 2020 is organised at Netley and whilst there are some feelers out with some clubs for 2021 (which would usually be an inland water), for that year and later years we are open to suggestions.

Crews at the Nationals

As a family class, where friends also sail together, it is usual for helms to have a number of different crews throughout the main competition. However, do remember that who is to sail on which day must be nominated in advance and forms to do so will be available at Registration.



<http://plasheli.org>

Entry fee £240. Includes:

- Racing
- Boat space parking
- Car parking
- 2 tickets for Welcome Reception (Additional tickets £6)
- 2 tickets for Prizegiving, for helm and crew (Additional tickets Adults £18, children £10)

First Nationals discount

For first time entrants to the Nationals a discount of £50.

Family Members Two Boat Discount

For Family Members bringing two or more boats to the 2019 National Championships a **£50.00** discount on their second boat (First, third and subsequent boats pay standard fees)

Note - Electronic Payment available
- See Entry Form

Entering

Forms are available from the Secretary and the Association's website.

Notice of Race

<http://www.miracledinghy.org/NOR%20Nationals%20Pwllheli%206th%20Aug%202019.pdf>

2019 Nationals

11th to 16th August

**Welsh National
Sailing Academy
Pwllheli
North Wales**

SigneTs and Kestrels
coming too

Social Events Diary

Sat 10th Aug	Informal evening
Sun 11th Aug	Reception, 7.00 pm
Mon 12th Aug	Free evening
Tues 13th Aug	Free evening
Wed 14th Aug	Quiz, 7.00 pm
Thurs 15th Aug	Association AGM, 7.30 pm
Friday 16th Aug	Prizegiving & Meal, 7.00 pm

Bar open in evenings

Websites:

Welsh National Sailing Academy
<http://plasheli.org>

Tourist Information

<http://www.pwllheli.org.uk/>
<http://www.visitwales.com/>

Don't forget to take:

- 1. Miracle Measurement Certificate** (it would also be advisable to have the buoyancy check done *before* arriving)
- 2. Towing Warp, minimum length 10 metres** (anchors are optional)

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Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Miracle Association
will be held at
Welsh National Sailing Academy
Pwllheli

on Thursday 15th August 2019 at 7.30 pm
(room location to be advised)

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of Minutes of AGM held on 9th August 2018 at Bala Sailing Club
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman and Officers' Reports
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Proposals for changes to the Miracle Association Rules of the Association
7. Proposals for changes to the Miracle Association Rules of Measurement and Construction
8. Election of the Committee
 - Chairman
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Membership Secretary
 - Measurement Secretary
 - Up to 6 other members
9. Any Other Business

According to our Rules of Association any proposal for consideration at the AGM shall have been proposed and seconded by full members and submitted to the Association Secretary no later than 23rd May 2019.

Miracle Association

Proposal for the AGM 2019

Rules of Measurement and Construction

Proposal to change the above Rules, for discussion at the Association's Annual General Meeting to be held at Welsh National Sailing Academy, Pwllheli, on Thursday 15th August 2019.

Published in accordance with Rule 9 of the Rules of the Association.

PROPOSAL No 1

Referring to the Rules of Measurement and Construction 2018

MAINSAIL

2.2 DIMENSIONS

	MAXIMUM	ACTUAL
<u>TOP WIDTH (OF MAINSAIL HEADBOARD)</u>		
<u>HEADBOARD)</u>	118mm	

To remove the wording in brackets: "(of Mainsail Headboard)"

Reason:

Our present Rules define a top width for the Jib but for the Main add the words in brackets "(of Mainsail Headboard)".

This apparent loophole has been exploited to increase the actual Top Width of a Mainsail while retaining the standard size headboard. The actual gain in sail area is extremely small as the leach shape is also controlled by the Three Quarter Half and Quarter Widths of the sail

Current wording

"SAIL MEASUREMENT FORM

STANDARD CLASS RULES FOR SAIL MEASUREMENT

Based on the IYRU Sail Measurement Rules

MAINSAIL

2.2 DIMENSIONS	MAXIMUM	ACTUAL
<u>TOP WIDTH (OF MAINSAIL HEADBOARD)</u>		
	118mm	

Proposed amended Rule to read:

SAIL MEASUREMENT FORM

STANDARD CLASS RULES FOR SAIL MEASUREMENT

Based on World Sailing's Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS)

MAINSAIL

2.2 DIMENSIONS	MAXIMUM	ACTUAL
<u>TOP WIDTH</u>	118mm	

Rational: It ties in with ERS definitions and is in line with the prescribed diagram on p3 of the Miracle Sail Measurement form

Proposer: Brian Jones
Secunder: Gillan Gibson

HOUSEKEEPING NOTE by Brian Jones, Measurement Secretary

The IYRU Sail Measurement Rules have been superseded by World Sailing's Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS). As an Association we need to change the wording on our Rules to reflect this. I don't consider this a proposal, more housekeeping.

Equipment Rules of Sailing PART 2 DEFINITIONS p 35 states

G.7.9 Top Width

(a) MAINSAIL and HEADSAIL: The distance between the head point and the aft head point. (I can find no definition in ERS for a Headboard.)

We also need to amend p7 presently reading SAILS

Existing:

- 1] All new Sails shall comply with the Measurement Form Points of Measurement Definitions as amended January 1994.

to read:

- 1] All new Sails shall comply with the Measurement Form Points of Measurement as defined in World Sailing's Equipment Rules of Sailing 2017-2020

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Miracle Association Committee

Committee Members

Louis Moulden, Chairman
 chairman@miracledinghy.org
 07977 514776
 Delph SC

Wayne Atherton, Race Organiser
 wayne-a@miracledinghy.org
 Delph SC

Gillan Gibson, Secretary and Halo Editor
 secretary@miracledinghy.org
 0191 537 1712
 Thornton Steward SC

Andrew Robinson, Committee member
 andrew-r@miracledinghy.org
 Whitefriars SC

Kenneth Gibson, Treasurer and Dinghy Show Co-ordinator
 treasurer@miracledinghy.org
 0191 537 1712
 Thornton Steward SC

Paul Robinson, Committee member
 paul-r@miracledinghy.org
 07791 719 683
 Whitefriars SC

Ian Brown, Membership
 membership@miracledinghy.org
 07887 953 519
 Delph SC

Ian Southwell, Trophy Officer
 trophy-officer@miracledinghy.org
 0791 003 8753
 Leigh and Lowton SC

Brian Jones, Measurement Sec.
 measurement-sec@miracledinghy.org
 01628 416511
 Maidenhead SC

Brian Worrall, Committee member
 brian-w@miracledinghy.org
 07984 951 583
 Welton SC

Josie Airns, Committee member
 josie-a@miracledinghy.org
 Shotwick SC

Non-committee official
Mike Smith, Webmaster
 webmaster@miracledinghy.org
 01609 748989
 Thornton Steward SC



Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/56799327734/>

Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Miracle-Dinghy-Class-Association/965046153558785>

Website

<http://www.miracledinghy.org/>

**Midland Area Championship
Staunton Harold
13th & 14th April 2019**



© Mark Stevens

Eight visitors joined the three home boats for the first event of the season on 13th & 14th April at Staunton Harold Sailing Club.

Saturday

Race 1 With the wind blowing up more than forecast Race 1 saw Tracy Amos and Keith Macey (3692) lead the pack round the windward mark followed by Dave Butler and Ross Flemming (4060), then local sailors Graham Watts and

Helen Jacks (3813).

After the short reach and down the run Graham and Helen let the others know they were heading for the wrong mark only realising his mistake after taking the lead, but it didn't matter as they both passed him on the reach and after 2 more laps Tracy and Keith held on to win with Dave & Ross and Graham & Helen behind.

Race 2 again saw Tracy and Keith set the pace with Graham and Helen in close pursuit and passing on the 3rd beat to hold the win with Dave and Zara Turtle (4025) battling through to take 3rd place.

On the Saturday night the visitors had a 4 course Indian meal cooked by two club members, then retreated to the bar ready for the cold night ahead.

Sunday

Lighter winds greeted the sailors on Sunday morning, but it was building ready for the two back-to-back races.

Race 3 saw Dave & Zara and Dave & Ross sail off leaving all the others in a good close battle some way behind, with Tracy and Keith finishing 3rd behind the other two, the winners being Dave and Zara.

Race 4: In races 4 and 5 it was Graham and Helen that got to the windward mark first, but in both races they dropped back with Tracy winning Race 4. Dave and Ross took 2nd and Richard and Todd Brameld (4115) 3rd after previous disappointing results.

Race 5: Again Graham and Helen got to the windward mark first and then dropped back. Tracy and Keith continued their good form and went on to win the race.

Overall: Tracy and Keith won the Championship after a close battle with Dave and Zara who came in 2nd overall.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for a superb Midland Championship, also to the Race Teams and Galley Teams who put on a fantastic weekend!
Graham Watts, Miracle 3813

Pos	Club	Sail No	Total points
1	Tracy Amos & Keith Macey	Redoubt/Downs 3692	3
2	Dave & Zara Turtle	Shotwick/Shustoke 4025	6
3	Dave Butler & Ross Fleming	Welton 4060	6
4	Graham Watts & Helen Jacks	Staunton Harold 3813	8
5	Richard & Todd Brameld	Welton 4115	13
6	Simon Reddecliffe & Mark Atherton	Delph 4007	15
7	Tim Grey & Ann/Amy Nugent	Staunton Harold 3824	16
8	John Tippett & Kathy Boulton	Draycote 4020	23
9	Keith Martin & John Whitehouse	Teesdale 3755	24
10	David & Jean Reed	Girton 4052	27
11	Kevin Mills & Roy Beadsman	Staunton Harold 4037	32



**North East Area Championship
Welton
27th & 28th April 2019**

Ten boats registered for this two day event, including four visitors, despite the forecasted Storm Hannah. In view of the building wind on the Saturday it was decided to sail only one of the two races scheduled for the that day, with Race 2 postponed to the Sunday.

Saturday

Race 1: The six intrepid boats who launched in the afternoon did so in a downpour and in distinctly cold weather. That said they were heading for a soaking in any case as they planned off to the start, spray flying everywhere. A straightforward figure of eight course was still a challenge as the wind speed continued to rise and staying upright was key. Visitors Keith Martin and John Whitehouse (3755) from Teesdale Sailing Club, out for the first time in the season, had mainsheet problems which necessitated a visit to the shore, but out they went to join the fleet again as soon as they were able. The fleet by this time was concentrating on that important job of staying upright and Richard and Max

Wharram (4045) had taken a clear lead and were working their way to the finish when very late on they capsized! There was a groan in the Clubhouse where spectators had been watching the proceedings and they then saw the remaining racers sail past with Jon Willars, crewed by Lianne Therkelson (3934) taking first place, Ed Wheeldon & son (4066) second and Ben and Zack Williamson (4009) third.

Sunday

This was a different day, with the wind having eased back to "only" Force 3-4, though it was still cold and rain did threaten. With Race 2 postponed from the day before the Race Officer scheduled two back to back races, lunch, then two more back to back races to make the 5 races originally planned for the weekend. One visiting boat chose to sit out the racing again, but another visitor arrived, and another club member too, so 9 boats hit the water for the first race of the day

Pos	Club	Sail No	Points
1	Jon Willars with Jess Willars & Lianne Therkelson	3934	5
2	Wayne Atherton & Angela Sweeney	3383	5
3	Graeme Watts & Helen Jacks	3813	6
4	Ben & Zack Williamson	4009	8
5	Dave Butler & Giles Therkelson-Smith	4060	9
6	Ed Wheeldon & Lianne Therkelson	4066	15
7	Richard & Max Wharram	4045	19
8	Keith Martin & John Whitehouse	3755	20
9	Brian & Sharon Worrall	4063	21
10	Gillan & Kenneth Gibson	3670	27

Race 2: There was a clean start and Jon & Jess Willars (3934) and Dave Butler with Giles Therkelson (4060), both Welton Sailing Club, were first and second at the windward mark, with Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney (3383) third. It was then a race of changing places, with the advantage Wayne and Angela were able to gain by being fast with the spinnaker being very clear. They were eventually able to take a clear lead which they maintained until the finish line. In the meantime places changed within the four boats behind them, with a gap to the rear group who also fought hard between themselves. In the end Dave and Giles who'd taken a slightly different line, pipped Jon and Jess to take second place by about one second.

Race 3: Jon and Jess sat this race out as crew Jess (4 years old!) was cold, so they joined the spectators snuggled in the lovely warm clubhouse.

There was a clean start and Richard & Max Wharram (4045) were away first. Ben & Zack Williamson (4009) reached the first mark in the lead, only to be replaced by Graham Watts & Helen Jacks (3813) at the end of the following run. The fleet was well spaced out compared to the previous race with similar quite large gaps between all boats in the middle part of the race. Though the wind slowly eased it became shifty and places changed, but in the end it was Ben and Zack who took line honours.

Lunch was next, and as is the way with small friendly clubs like Welton it was, like the day before, superb.

Race 4 : After lunch, and with a lighter wind, a new course was set, but due to a wind shift the start became unsatisfactory with several boats over and a General Recall called. The line was re-laid and the race re-started. Once again it was places changing all the time right through the fleet

with spectators noting spinnaker handling and dealing positively with the shifting winds seeming to be very important. Hitting a mark and having to do a turn was also a fast way to fall behind, in one instance to the back of the fleet. One mark was also key when two boats together managed to round a bottom mark the wrong way and both had to go back and rewind! Their competitors sailed through and at the line Jon & Jess were comfortably clear, with Wayne & Angela in second, Graeme & Helen third, and Dave & Giles almost catching fourth place from Ben & Zack.

Race 5: The wind had continued to drop and by the fifth race was a Force 0 to Force One, and shifty. Seven boats decided to sail this final race with much to play for in the overall series. Two home boats were OCS (On Course Side) at the start and had to return to restart, placing them in the last positions, so Wayne & Angela were in the lead at the first mark from Graeme & Helen. The place changing continued with a wind shadow at mark eight at the top of the beat contributing to that. On the last beat the top four boats bunched up, but at the finish it was Graeme & Helen first, Wayne & Angela second, Jon & Jess third and Dave & Giles fourth.

Overall

With five races run it was 3 to count. As the reports above show the various place changes resulted in three different winners of the 5 races and the Race Officer was left checking on the countback protocols as the top two boats both had 5 points! However, Jon & Jess Willars had more firsts so they took the overall prize, so Jess is heading to school able to tell everyone she was first, one very proud and happy young lady.
Gillan Gibson, Miracle Association and Steve Abbott, Welton Sailing Club

Port Dinorwic 4th & 5th May 2019

The Port Dinorwic Miracle Open, held this year over the weekend of the 4th & 5th of May, might not be the best attended Open on the Miracle circuit but this friendly club on the Menai Straits attracts a loyal travelling party from Delph SC every year. Perhaps not too surprisingly as Louis Moulden, the Miracle Association Chairman and Delph stalwart, is a former member of this seaside club.

Race 1 found us with gusty conditions and an epic course taking in the whole of the strait. Louis Moulden, with crew Lucas Skehan (4100), stormed into a convincing lead where they remained until the finish line. They were followed by local sailors Cathy Goodwin and Cynnan Griffiths (1667) in 2nd and Rhys and Alys Griffiths (3840) in 3rd. The only other boat to complete this gruelling race.

Race 2 saw the same course but with the conditions easing, Richard Murphy (Murph to his mates) and daughter Leah (3847) joined the proceedings. Louis and Lucas were again first to the windward mark but after grounding their centreboard in a sandbank, the fleet compacted considerably as the chasing boats caught them up. Much tight racing followed with the lead switching continuously until Louis and Lucas turtled their boat allowing Rhys and Alys to take the lead. Murph and Leah consolidated 2nd place whilst Ian and Lilly Brown (4098) attempted to hold off Cathy and Cynnan but it looked sure to be a battle they'd lost until as Cathy tacked to reach the the finish line, Ian drove his boat into the beach to claim 3rd place by a whisker.

16.

The end of day one saw the traditional hospitality we have come to expect from Port Dinorwic with a "More than you can eat" buffet. Louis was first to the windward sausages and then proving it was no fluke, he was first again to the cheesecake.

Sunday

The field was widened by the arrival of Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney. Multiple Open champions who were attempting to take home the silverware by dominating day 2.

Sunday began with very little wind and a strong tide coming into play. Miracle 1667 saw a switch of helm and crew.

Race 3: As race 3 began, the wind dropped considerable and it became a game of chicken with the harbour wall to try and keep your tacks out of the tide. Wayne and Angela showed they meant business when they were first to the windward mark but eventually all the competitors had to cross the strait with its heavy tide and low wind. Murph, a superb light airs sailor used his local knowledge to storm home in 1st with 2nd place Louis and Lucas a long way behind. The other competitors battled with luck and judgement to find their way to the finish line, with Cynann managing a fantastic 3rd place.

Race 4 came after a rolling postponement as the race team took stock of the carnage from the previous race and a simple windward leeward course was settled on, keeping the competitors out of the worst of the tide. Wayne and Angela were again first to the windward mark but



©Kristen Crandell & Jason Cahill

this time made it count coming home in first followed by Louis & Lucas, Murph & Leah, then Ian & Lilly.

Race 5 began with Ian and Lilly judging the tide to perfection to storm into a commanding lead from which they never looked back. The battle was on for 2nd place with Wayne & Angela and Murph & Leah trading blows until Wayne and Angela made the spot their own. Louis and Lucas cruised home in 4th which was enough to win the overall honours on countback, but the loudest cheering came from the front as it was Ian and Lillys' first ever victory on the Miracle circuit. As back

to back winners of the annual travellers trophy, all their practice had finally paid off.

Overall

A great win for Louis and Lucas on Loui's old sailing ground, and it was especially good to see so many young crews and helms sailing at this open. Special mention must go to club cadets Gethin Jones and Morgan Rogers who despite being in the oldest boat in the fleet were often in the mix and didn't really deserve to finish bottom of the table.

Ian Brown, 4098

Pos	Club	Sail No	Points
1	Louis Moulden & Lucas Skehan	Delph 4100	9
2	Murph & Leah Murphy	Port Dinorwic 3847	9
3	Rhys & Alys Griffiths	Port Dinorwic 3840	13
4	Ian & Lilly Brown	Delph 4098	14
5	Cynnan Griffiths & Cathy Goodwin	Port Dinorwic 1667	15
6	Wayne Atherton & Angela Sweeney	Delph 3383	16
7	Gethin Jones & Morgan Rogers	Port Dinorwic 1271	25

17.

Northern Area Championship Delph 18th & 19th May 2019

Grey overcast conditions greeted competitors as they arrived for the first day of the two day 2019 Miracle Northern Championship, sponsored by the Bank Top Brewery, Bolton and First Mark, Golborne, and as Race Officer John Cronshaw briefed the assembled crews there wasn't the slightest puff of wind evident in the mirror glass surface of Delph's reservoir and a postponement looked highly likely.

Then, at 1.50pm, 3 knots of wind built in from the north west and racing commenced more or less on time shortly after 2.00pm. Apart from the occasional lulls that affected the most windward of the course's marks, two races were sailed by ten boats in fairly constant wind. In both races those boats choosing to start at the port end of the line and sailing on starboard out to the left hand side of the course tended to have the best first beats.

Race 1: In the first Race Dave and Zara Turtle (4026) got to the windward

mark 'Y' just before defending champion Jack Hopkins who was sailing with Luke Tonge (4100). However, at the second rounding of mark 'Y' as the two leading boats got stuck together in a boat on boat duel, Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney (3383) sailed past to take the lead, a position they managed to defend despite a strong challenge from Dave and Zara, the race ending in a close finish.

Race 2: In race two Wayne & Angela and the Turtles made the mistake of choosing to go up the right of the first beat, whilst Jack and Luke went up the left, rounded the windward mark first and then held the position all the way to finish, with Wayne and Angela just getting the better of Dave and Zara.

Sunday

The second day's racing started in similar conditions to those of the first.

Race 3: The early stages of race three were a bit of a lottery. The lead changed several times and large gaps

Pos	Club	Sail No	Points
1	Dave & Zara Turtle	Shotwick/Shustoke 4026	4
2	Jack Hopkins with Luke Tongue & Will Dyson	Hayling Island 4100	5
3	Wayne Atherton & Angela Sweeney	Delph 3383	5
4	Andy Taylor with Will Taylor & Will Dyson	Delph 3796	12
5	Graham Watts & Helen Jacks	Staunton Harold 3813	13
6	Simon Reddecliffe & Mark Atherton	Delph 4007	14
7	Alan Barton & David Mole	Delph 4065	20
8	Richard & Leah Murphy	Port Dinorwic 3847	21
9	Tom , Jaq and Sam Donaldson	Delph 4022	24
10	Ian & Lilly Brown	Delph 4098	25
11	Sam and Elliot Naylor	Delph 3493	26



© Val Reddecliffe

grew and then closed as the wind came and went. However, as the race progressed, Jack, sailing this time with Will Dyson, got his nose in front and avoided the wind holes to sail away from the fleet. Jack and Will were looking clear winners until Dave and Zara halved their lead up the penultimate beat and then closed to within five boat lengths on the downwind leg. It looked as though another close finish was on the cards at the start of the final beat but Dave and Zara's gamble of tacking off in search of stronger wind didn't work and Jack and Will won quite comfortably.

Race 4 was the only race when sailing up the left hand side of the first beat gave no advantage and saw Dave and Zara round the first windward mark just ahead of Graham Watts sailing with Helen Jacks (3813) and Simon Reddecliffe sailing with Mark Atherton (4007). As a battle for second place unfolded between a group of five boats, Dave and Zara sailed clean away to finish a comfortable first. Wayne and Angela eventually took second and Andy Taylor & Will Dyson (3796) sailed the

final beat well to take third.

Race 5: The start of the fifth and final race again saw the boats starting towards the pin end do best up the first beat, with Graham and Helen seemingly having the lead only for them to stall and for Dave and Zara to sail past them and then round the first mark clear ahead. Wayne and Angela managed to take second place on the downwind leg and hold off a challenge from Jack and Luke who, realising that they weren't going to improve on two firsts and a third, retired and came ashore to watch Dave and Zara sail clear away from the field to take the championship. As the last two races were sailed back to back, further down the fleet, in a rare occurrence, helm Alan Barton, sailing with David Mole (4065), was actually on the start line on time in the final race and sailed well to finish fourth without using a spinnaker.

Delph Sailing Club would like to thank the Bank Top Brewery, Bolton and First Mark, Golborne for sponsoring the event.

Martin Bathe

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GP-14 THROUGH DECK CONVERSIONS

Thornbury 8th & 9th June 2019

On the 8th and 9th June, the Miracles paid their first visit to Thornbury Sailing Club, just north of Bristol. This event was part of Thornbury Sailing Clubs 70th Anniversary Regatta and the Miracles were part of the Slow Handicap fleet.

Saturday

The forecast for plenty of wind was correct, with 20 knots and gusts of over 30 knots. After a short delay two Miracles ventured out with the Slow Fleet, but only Sarah Jarman and Andrew Robinson were doing the whole weekend. They were sailing 4123, a new Butler Composite Miracle called Crusoe. They kept the boat upright and scored their first win in conditions Sarah described as 'very sketchy'. Between races the wind picked up, so they decided to save their shiny new boat for another day.

© Nic Smith



out in the strongest of the tide. On the second visit to this mark a change of wind direction and a drop in strength caught out Graham Watts and Helen Jacks (3813) who were 2nd and dropped them to 4th. Sarah and Andrew pulled up to 2nd.

Race 4: For Race 4, the course was set close to the shore, out of the worst of the tide. Carolynn and Nic were over the line at the start and had to go back. Sarah and Andrew were chased hard by Paul and Nathan Robinson in the sister ship to Crusoe, but couldn't get through. Hannah Smith and Tom Metcalfe in 3805 were 3rd.

Overall

The Open was decided on the best 3 results from 4 races. Taking the win on 'Sketchy Saturday', Sarah and Andrew had put themselves in the driving position and they consolidated their position with a 2nd and 1st on 'Quiet Sunday'.

Nick Smith

Sunday

Sunday brought much gentler conditions and all the Miracles came out to play.

Race 3: In Race 3, Carolynn Smith helming 2551, crewed by Nic Smith, used her local knowledge to lead off the line. The big challenge was the Middle Mark Pos

- 1 Sara Jarman & Andrew Robinson
- 2 Carolynn & Nick Smith
- 3 Hannah Smith & Tom Metcalfe
- 4 Paul & Nathan Robinson
- 5 Graham Watts & Helen Jacks

Southern Area Championship Whitefriars 15th & 16th June 2019

A strong fleet of 14 boats contested to be crowned the Miracle Southern Area Champions, with 10 visiting boats making the trip to Whitefriars Sailing Club for highly competitive sailing in variable conditions.

Saturday

Saturday's racing started in dry conditions with winds up to 12knots.

Race 1: In the first race David and Zara Turtle (4026) led at the first mark followed by Andrew & Nathan Robinson (4123) and Tracy Amos & Gemma Gibson (3692). During the race the wind built before heavy rain saw the wind die off completely and left the boats drifting around the course in a heavy rain storm. Andrew and Nathan struggled to hold their position and ended up finishing in fifth. David and Zara won the first race of

the event followed by Tracy and Gemma with Ian and Katie Fryett (4011) finishing third.

Race 2 started in the rain with gustier winds. David and Zara continued their winning ways to win again with Tracy and Gemma finishing second again and Graham Watts and Helen Jacks (3813) completing the top 3. Elsewhere down the fleet, Hannah Smith and Tom Metcalfe (3805) beat Carolyn and Nick Smith (2511) in the Smith family battle for the second race in a row.

Jago Wightman (8 years) was awarded the prize for youngest crew on Saturday.

Chef Adam cooked a fantastic curry which everyone thoroughly enjoyed on Saturday evening before an evening quiz.

Pos	Club	Sail No	Points
1	David and Zara Turtle	Shustoke 4026	3
2	Tracy Amos and Gemma Gibson	Redoubt 3692	5
3	Ian and Katie Fryett	Port Talbot 4011	8
4	Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney	Delph 3383	11
5	Simon Redcliffe and Mark Atherton	Delph 4007	13
6	Graham Watts and Helen Jacks	Staunton Harold 3813	14
7	Andrew and Nathan Robinson	Whitefriars 4123	18
8	Paul Robinson and Matthew Dyson	Whitefriars 4110	22
9	John Tippett and Kathy Boulton	Draycote 4020	24
10	Hannah Smith and Tom Metcalfe	Thornbury 3805	28
11	James Robinson and Dave Dyson	Whitefriars 3717	29
12	Carolynn and Nick Smith	Thornbury 2551	29
13	Brian Jones and Jago Wightman	Maidenhead 4021	39
14	John Reid and Lara Hocking	Whitefriars 4010	40

Sunday

Sunday's racing started in 10kts of wind but built throughout the day with some large gusts and wind shifts for the racers to contend with.

Race 3:

David and Zara won race 3 to wrap up the Miracle Southern Area Championships.

In Race 3 Ian and Katie finished second with Tracy and Gemma in third. Simon Redcliffe and Mark Atherton (4007) finished fourth, their second fourth of the weekend. There was tight racing down the fleet with positions changing up to and including on the last legs between Andrew & Nathan and John Tippett & Kathy Boulton.

Race 4:

After a general recall in race 4, it was again won by David and Zara with Gemma and Tracy in second and Ian and Katie in third. Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney (3383) finished in fourth, which meant whilst the winner was already decided, places second to fifth were very close heading in to the final race of the event.

Race 5:

After a ploughman's lunch, race 5 started with Tracy and Gemma knowing anything but a win for Ian and Katie would ensure they finished in second place overall. They ensured this happened by winning the final race,



© Simon Clark

preventing David and Zara completing a clean sweep. Wayne and Angela finished the race in third to secure fourth spot in the overall standings. Paul Robinson and Matthew Dyson provided some drama of another kind for the fleet when Paul fell out the back of the boat on the reach! Elsewhere James Robinson and Dave Dyson (3717), who had been improving all event, finished the race in seventh place.

Overall

Congratulations to David and Zara Turtle on winning the event and a thank you to all the competitors who travelled to compete. Matthew Dyson (10 years) was awarded a prize for youngest crew on Sunday.

A huge thank you to the Whitefriars Sailing Club duty teams who volunteered to run the event at Whitefriars and ensure its success, with a special thanks to the OOD Steve Ashford.
Andrew Robinson, Miracle 4123