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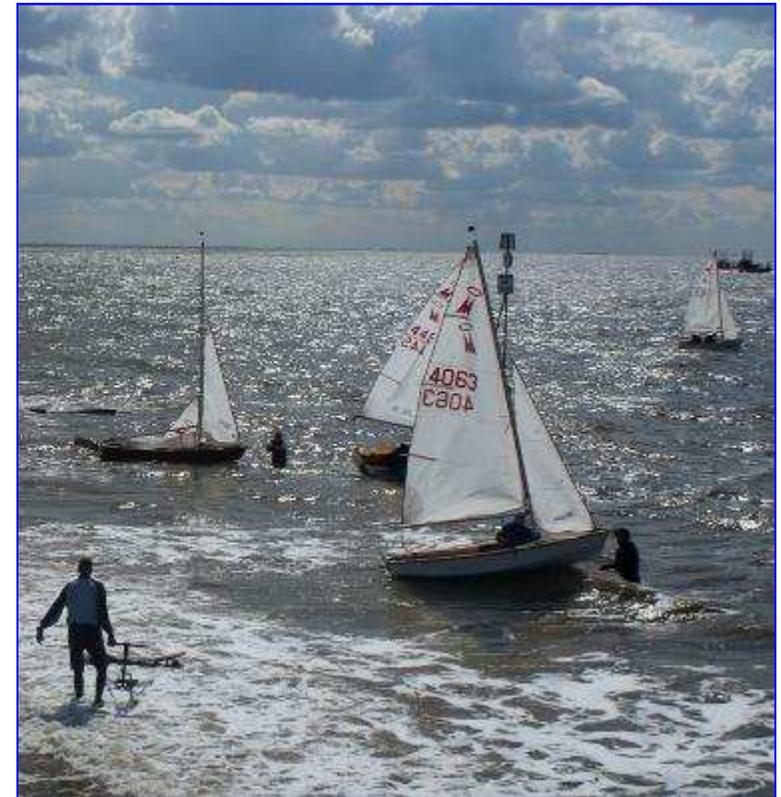
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The Halo

Miracle Association Magazine Autumn 2014



Launching at Hunstanton

The Friendly, Family, Dinghy Class”

Contents

Editor's Corner	2
Chairman's Desk	3
RYA Suzuki Dinghy Show	3
Dougal Henshall on Miracles	5
Race Organiser	7
Building 4064	8
2014 Nationals, Hunstanton, Norfolk	11
2015 Nationals, Rutland	17
2014 Nationals, Results	18
Committee and meetings	21
Reports and results	23

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Disclaimer: Much of the information within this publication is gathered from individuals, clubs, etc. The Miracle Class 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.

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Items for the next issue should be with the Editor by 1st December 2014

Editor's Corner

The key element in this issue is the Hunstanton Nationals. We had glorious sunshine and wind and waves, with perhaps a bit too much of the last two? However, it did make for spectacular watching, especially since the fleet was just offshore. The town made us very welcome with the Mayor joining us for the prizegiving and presenting the trophies.

Hunstanton was also notable for a change as Kenneth decided to stand down as Chair reckoning he had done his share. He is still helping me with the Halo and will be continuing to organize the stand at the Dinghy Show. Louis Moulden has stepped forward to take up the role and with a fuller committee than we have had for a while it bodes well for the future. In addition Richard Brameld has already organized much of next year's programme which is shaping up well.

However, all does not depend on your Committee—we need your input as well. Can you suggest possible venues for the Nationals in 2016 and beyond? In particular there is a shortage of inland venues. There are many brilliant on the sailing side, it is achieving the family holiday element which is a particular challenge. Also, we currently have two sea venues to one inland. Do you think this the right ratio? It's your Association, let your Committee have your thoughts.



Gillan Gibson
Miracle 3670

Chairman's Desk



Hi Folks,
Just thought I'd introduce myself having been elected Miracle Association Chairman. My first task must be to say a massive thank

you to Ken Gibson for his splendid offices as Chairman, and I am pleased to say he will still be around so we can draw on his extensive experience.

Hunstanton Nationals went well, there is a report in this Halo, and many

thanks go to our sponsors Dave and Colleen Butler (Butler Boats), Neal and Gemma Gibson (Gibson Sails and Chandlery) and to Woodwind. Colleen's lucky dip and Gemma's raffle meant that the prizes were spread around the competitors. Gemma's raffle monies went to help support two of our Paralympic sailors. Well done!

We gave out 75 cups and prizes, sadly 3 were wrongly awarded, this is being rectified.

Good sailing, in a fabulous boat. See you all at Rutland next year.

Louis Moulden
Miracle 4036

RYA Suzuki Dinghy Show

In association with SUZUKI and YACHTS & YACHTING

Alexandra Place

28th February to 1st March 2015

The Association is taking a stand again and needs volunteers to help man it, especially since we are taking a larger stand and celebrating the Miracle Association's 40th Birthday. If you can give an hour or two to have more people available to speak with visitors, or cover whilst others go for breaks, or to have their turn to look

around, it would be great. If you feel you could offer a day that would be brilliant and it may be you can have one of the exhibitors passes we will be issued with so would get in for free! If you think you can help please let me know.

Kenneth Gibson
Dinghy Show Stand Co-ordinator

<http://www.rya.org.uk/programmes/dinghyshow/Pages/RYADinghyShow.aspx>



To the Miracle - Happy 40th Birthday





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David (Dougal) Henshall on Miracles...

Having seen his excellent talk on the Mirror at the Dinghy Show we invited David (Dougal) Henshaw to give a talk at the Nationals. It was brilliant concentrating on Jack Holt with special reference to the Miracle. Dougal was fascinated to see the modern Miracle and clearly goes round looking at many of the classes sailing today. He also keeps an eye on various dinghy sailing online forums and on one of them he found the Miracle coming in for some "stick" - his resulting comment makes an interesting read. So in his words:-

"I think I mentioned to you that the Miracle had come in for some 'stick' on one of the one line forums, with it being highlighted as a handicap 'bandit' - by all accounts, your third placed boat [at the Hunstanton Nationals] had been sailing down at Hythe and Saltwood (in Kent) and had upset some of the more modern boats by winning.

So, I thought I would add in my 5c worth, so below is what I wrote:

"Re the Miracle.....

It just so happens that I had to go to Hunstanton as I had been booked as guest speaker for one of their evening events. I hate doing these things at a rush, as I much prefer to set up early and relax, so I had ample opportunity to watch two of their races and then take an extended stroll around the dinghy park. I was well impressed, there were some very nicely finished and fitted out boats there and the popular sail makers within the class have clearly put a lot of thought into the rigs. I had a strong sense of being at a 'two person Solo' event which is little surprise given that both are Jack Holt boats. Okay, you don't scream along under an acre of sail, but the racing was close throughout the fleet and with little in the way of boatspeed advantage, 'good' racing skills are at a premium. If your boat from your recent H&S race came third in that fleet, then I would say that you are seeing evidence of a good boat, well sailed, rather than banditry.

This does highlight one of the other variables that some of the nay sayers about the PY system seem all too quick to overlook. Many of these so called 'bandit' fleets are good enough to retain their crews, year after year. I covered Merlin Week at Salcombe and saw crews there who were in the 20th or more visit to the venue. Good boats do not only retain their followers, but



Dougal on Miracles (cont)

this long term commitment certainly raises the performance level. It might be different for the sailmaker jockey who hops from class to class, but that is unlikely to impact on PYs.

I can but say again that the Miracles were enjoying a good week and appeared to be having no shortage of fun. The venue was not one of their more popular locations, so numbers had slipped to the mid 30s, their normal Nationals turnout is around the 40 boat mark. In comparison to some of the other more 'highly valued' classes, I would say that the Miracle fleet, far from being bandits, are actually a very good benchmark of the UK dinghy sailing scene."

Dougal also keeps in touch with Jack Holt's daughter and his comment to her also makes interesting reading:

"...The other really good news is that last week, I was invited to the Miracle Nationals to do the talk you saw at Chichester. Jack would have been so proud of how the Miracle class is today, for it represents everything that he stood for. It is accessible to all, anything but elitist, friendly and welcoming and whilst it is not a 'tearing about in a cloud of spray' machine, nor is it a slouch. The fleet were enjoying good and competitive racing from the front to the back, it was a real pleasure to watch, then again in the evening to be a part of their festivities. "



Race Organiser

I would like to start by introducing myself, I'm Richard Brameld and I sail Miracle 3131 with my son Todd and recently with my younger son Flynn and my wife Emma. I have sailed a Miracle for around ten years and thought it was time to put something back into the class.

After the AGM with some swapping about I found myself as the Race Organiser(eek). I have managed to put together the calendar for next year although some clubs have yet to confirm including Welton, my home club!

April 25/26 Broadwater
May 16/17 Delph
June 6/7 Girton
July 11/12 Leigh & Lowton
August 9/14 Rutland
Sept 5/6 Draycote
Sept 12/13 Thornton Steward

These are the confirmed clubs to date, clubs that have been contacted and not confirmed include, Welton, Maidenhead, Redoubt, Shotwick, and Whirefriars. So if you're a member of any of these please give your committee a poke.

A really good suggestion was put to me that an overall series should be run across the open meeting events, with some possible sponsorship prizes awarded at the Nationals. The details of this shall be finalized in due course.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, see you on the water soon.

Richard Brameld

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Nautical Sayings *"On the fiddle"*

In bygone days shirts were a pretty expensive item of clothing. When a sailor decided to fight someone he would always take his shirt off prior to the commencement of fisticuffs. Hence a phrase used by those attempting to calm the situation was 'keep your shirt on.' The phrase has long since become common-place for meaning to keep calm and under control.

Courtesy of www.harbourguides.com

40th Anniversary Sale

30 sail numbers remaining at £50 each.
(Usual price £150)

Order your new boat by the end of the year to take advantage of this never to be repeated offer

4064's build continued

Brian Jone's continues building a Miracle using pre-cut ply parts



Even less progress over the summer - too much sailing!!! but the hull is now taped and secure



The components of the central chute can now be added, but oops Part 44Z is not exactly correct and I think I will have to add a bit of hardwood behind the mouth to provide a solid surface to screw the jib plate onto.



I had to make a new part 44Z out of scrap ply - the drawings will be modified - but hey this is why I'm building this boat. Those who have purchased plans are being notified of errors as I find them (so far very few)



Now we can cut away the stem prior to constructing the central spinnaker chute



The lower fore deck is installed in two halves resting on a central bearer (not in the plans) it comes slightly oversize and needs to be planed down



Finally a more satisfying stage as lots of stringers and bearers are glued in. The decks may soon be on!!!

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**Miracle National
Championships 2014
17th to 22nd August**

**Hunstanton Sailing Club
Norfolk**

What a fantastic week; the sun shone, the wind blew, the rain fell, and the waves were awesome!

After being held ashore the first day, due to gale force winds causing surf on the beach, we finally got started on Monday. The tide and waves were a new challenge for many crews that normally sail inland on flat lakes. Some were feeling seasick and others were actually sick, but managed to battle on. A full range of conditions were experienced throughout the week, with one team mastering them all.

Jeremy Davey and his crew Ethan Plank in their Goacher powered Butler boat won with eight out of ten bullets. Martin and Abbey Huett won one and had six 2nd places to take 2nd overall - confirming the Draycote boats are still the ones to beat. Neal Gibson and Keith Macey in the 'rocket ship' Gibson boat took 3rd. Jon Willars and Max Wharram, the youngest sailor at the event, came in fourth, and they also won race six -

proving that the Welton boats are coming up to speed.

The Silver Fleet was won by Welton sailors: the father and daughter team, Richard and Hanna Wharram, in their Sail Register powered Butler boat.

Another father and daughter team won the Bronze Fleet: Simon and Eleanor Fay, in their Gibson boat - showing that persistence pays off.

This Nationals will probably be remembered by most for the conditions on Thursday. The full on, screaming, three sail surfing reaches will certainly continue to put a smile on my face for a



Champions, Jeremy Davey and Ethan Plank, with the Mayor of Hunstanton

long time yet. A special thank you goes out to Hunstanton Sailing Club members for putting up with us all for the week. I can really recommend Hunstanton as a great venue with plenty for the non sailors to enjoy as well. Big congratulations to Jeremy and Ethan, and good luck to them at the Endeavour Trophy. *Richard Brameld, Miracle 3131*

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A Bronze Fleet View

Excitement was building for everyone for the eagerly anticipated 40th Anniversary Miracle Nationals in Hunstanton, Norfolk. It was my first Miracle event helming and mixed emotions of thrills and nerves were increasing as the days to the start were decreasing! It was also the first time our family had taken 2 boats to the Nationals. The bronze fleet received its fair share of highly competitive and exciting racing throughout what was an amazing week of sailing off Hunstanton. It was fiercely contested between 12, out of 35 boats in the whole fleet, all the way and was an open contest with just 24 points separating the top 6 boats come the end of the championship.

Sunday was not a good start to the week as the fleet was left stranded ashore with an onshore storm force wind making launching near on impossible. The race officer eventually had to abandon racing

for the day.

The wind dropped on Monday, however, disaster was just over the wave for Andrew and James (3101) and Jack and Emma (3654) who both managed to get holes in the sides of their boats on the start line of the first Championship race. Andrew collided with the anchor buoy of the committee boat and Jack was sandwiched between 2 boats on the start line with nowhere to go. This meant that 3101 and 3654 were the first boats of the week to be christened with gaffer tape!

As sailing conditions varied through the week, Thursday proved to be the deciding day. With many boats retiring due to the heavy winds, the crews that braved the conditions and continued sailing had a great amount of fun planing but also managed to catch up and overtake boats ahead of them in the standings. This closed the gaps between boats in the bronze fleet and made for a tense day of racing on Friday. Everyone launched for



the final time, with helms knowing a good race result could make a big difference in the standings. A number of boats were potentially in contention for trophy positions in the bronze fleet, on Friday morning, including Martin Bathe (59), David Read (3), Brian Worrall (4063) and Paul Robinson (3655) due to the close previous results.

The bronze fleet had various family relations competing in it this year, with parent and daughter Simon and Eleanor Fay (4061), siblings Andrew and James Robinson (3101), cousins Samuel Donaldson and Susan McGunnigle (2166) and 2nd cousins Paul Robinson and Tanya Copsey (3655).

Huge congratulations goes to Susan McGunnigle who sailed for the first time ever with Samuel Donaldson this week and

finished 27th overall and also Tanya Copsey who sailed a Miracle for the first time with Paul Robinson (3655) as she normally sails National 12's. Furthermore, congratulations to Emma Bambridge who sailed for the first time on the sea at Hunstanton.

A massive well done to Simon and Eleanor Fay for winning the bronze fleet and Jack Turnbull and Emma Bambridge for finishing a close second. Andrew and James Robinson finished 3rd.

Finally, a huge thank you to all at Hunstanton Sailing club for providing such a great venue for us to hold our 40th Anniversary and to all the volunteers who helped make the nationals happen. Hope to see you on the water at Rutland in 2015!

Andrew Robinson, Miracle 3101



A Spectator's prespective

Hunstanton 2014 will be remembered for the launching and returning of boats to shore in a melee of wind and waves; spring tides; heroic sailing; thrills and spills; sea sickness; the Jaws landing craft; lost and found cameras; the half-finished club house; meetings and dining by torchlight and the camaraderie of our hosts as they pulled together to ensure a highly successful 40th Anniversary Championship!

As Miracle sailors ourselves, it was not easy for Nigel and me to sit it out and watch with the aid of binoculars from the promenade but now in our late seventies, we realise that we could not sustain a full week's competitive sailing, particularly on a somewhat challenging sea! However, we were well compensated by the sheer prowess of the front runners and the determination of the rest of the fleet. Sailing is indeed a spectator sport! We remember Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney intent on keeping their fourth

position on "Challenging Thursday" and daring to fly their black spinnaker, even though the leading three boats had not flown theirs and they survived! Well done! It was not quite "Who dares wins!" but I am sure it helped to bring them their final seventh place! Mark Atherton in 4007 produced the quote of the week, that when asked to fly the spinnaker as they rounded the buoy and faced that



particularly challenging reach, reacted with, "No, no, no! Are we not going fast enough?" And Mark is no chicken crew! Thanks Mark! Your common sense prevailed over dare devil tactics.

Similarly Deborah

Massey in Miracle 445, together with Wendy Geddes, on that same day admitted she had 'lost it' on a gibe, when Wendy in her own indomitable quiet way said, "I think that we should go in. Don't you?" They both proved over the week that they were game girls!

We watched with apprehension as the number one rule, "Sailors before boats!" came into play when David and Jacqui Hudson were both taken into the safety boat and Miracle 3795 was left adrift to float away before, what seemed quite a

lengthy time later, it was righted and retrieved! Sea sickness was experienced by quite a number of crews and indeed they are to be applauded for their fortitude! Life was not made easy for the fleet as “Jaws” the landing craft trawled up and down with its holidaymakers through the racing dinghies, seemingly regardless that motorised craft should give way to sail! But I think that the overriding factor of the week was watching boats returning to shore and being faced with a bucking bronco ride as they fought to land their craft safely between the groynes. This could not have been done without the expertise of the Beachmaster and her team. They did a valiant job in directing and catching boats. The “esprit de corps” was palpable, as Miracle sailors, who had already safely shipped their craft on to trolleys, leapt back into the waves to catch and secure other boats. Wayne was “Man of the Match” as he lifted a wild-eyed Rene Savelli in a fireman’s lift out of 3538! Just to prove that “Miracles” do happen, not content with trying to land 3383, Angel Sweeney decided that a “selfy” would add extra kudos to the proceedings, when they were struck by a wave and oops the camera flew out of her hands and disappeared into the deep! Several people searched at low tide but to no avail. What a reward on Friday, when on returning to shore, she was told that her camera had



been found by a holidaymaker, who had switched it on and discovered sailing photos and assumed correctly that it was from the Sailing Club and dutifully handed it in. So folks, those waterproof cameras really do work, despite being beneath the waves for several tidal flows! It could only happen to a Miracle sailor!

There was much consternation when competing crews and their entourages first arrived at Hunstanton SC, and the much advertised “new club house” was not finished! There was no electricity in the lounge area upstairs but Brian Jones’s Quiz was made even more exciting by completing it in torchlight! Hunstanton SC really did pull out all the stops to make the week a success! The Catering Team did an amazing job in producing first class buffets! They literally worked from dawn to dusk to make sure that teas, coffees, cakes and bacon butties were on tap. The beach team was superb in guiding and catching boats returning to shore. The OD ensured that conditions were fair and safe for the whole fleet and rescue teams were in place. They did a superb job particularly on “Windy Thursday!” The Prize-Giving dinner was one of the best which we have attended!.....

..... So follow that one Rutland SC!
See you all there!

Valerie and Nigel Reddecliffe Delph SC



Rutland Sailing Club website accommodation list:

- <http://www.rutlandsc.co.uk/>
- Click on: “Sailing Club”, then “Clubhouse”, then “Accommodation”
- Word is that whilst accommodation near the Water can be expensive, move a short distance away and the prices drop noticeably.

Tourist Information

www.discover-rutland.co.uk/



Accommodation

Nationals 9th-14th August 2015

Sailors are already starting to think about accommodation for next year’s Nationals.

To get things underway:

Rutland Sailing Club onsite accommodation

- 10 rooms which have 2 to 7 bunk beds, and a few are en suite.
- Special Nationals rates for those staying the week:
 - ◇ Week rate is £10.00 & £12.00 per night per head, room only.
 - ◇ If booking for the week rooms will be let for a smaller number of persons, eg a 4 bunk room let to 2 people, and the per head cost will remain the same, so quite a saving.

Book direct with the Club.



Miracle National Championships 2014 - Hunstanton Sailing Club, Norfolk **Results Part 1**

Pos	Club	Sail	Fleet	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Pts
1st	Jeremy Davy & Ethan Plank	Draycote Water	4023	G	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	3	8
2nd	Martin & Abby Huett	Draycote Water	4056	G	2	6	2	2	3	2	3	2	1	16
3rd	Neal Gibson & Keith Macey	Redoubt	4040	G	3	2	4	4	4	3	2	3	4	25
4th	Jon Willars & Max Wharram	Welton	3793	G	11	19	5	3	1	7	8	10	8	46
5th	Hannah & Nic Smith	Thornbury	3805	G	6	5	3	7	11	13	6	(DNC)	9	50
6th	Yvonne & Brian Mumford	Redoubt	4047	G	4	4	11	5	6	9	4	16	13	54
7th	Wayne Atherton & Angela Sweeney	Delph	3383	G	16	13	9	8	10	4	5	4	14	58
8th	David & Ross Southwell	Leigh & Lowton	4010	G	7	8	12	6	5	8	7	(DNC)	12	61
9th	John & Phillip Aldhous	Beaver	3794	G	9	10	7	12	(DNC)	(DNC)	9	8	6	67
10th	Richard & Hannah Wharram	Welton	4045	S	12	11	6	15	14	12	15	6	5	78
11th	David & Michelle Raines	Leigh & Lowton	3740	G	10	14	10	9	12	10	12	5	11	79
12th	Matt Ambrose & Dan Ryder-Davies	Lea Deben	3636	S	5	7	(DNC)	(DNC)	(DNC)	9	5	10	7	86
13th	David Butler & Ross Fleming	Welton	39	S	14	12	8	11	8	11	17	(DNC)	15	89
14th	Richard & Todd Brameld	Welton	3131	S	13	15	13	10	13	14	13	11	10	92
15th	Brian Jones & John Green	Maidenhead/ Broadwater	4021	S	15	9	(DNC)	13	14	16	18	16	2	97
16th	Simon Reddecliffe & Mark Atherton	Delph	4007	S	18	22	15	16	19	16	11	14	16	125
17th	John Tippett & Kathy Boulton	Draycote Water	4020	S	17	18	14	14	(DNC)	15	(DNC)	14	15	125
18th	Matt & Tom Donaldson	Delph	4022	S	23	26	17	20	17	22	23	18	17	143

Miracle National Championships 2014 - Hunstanton Sailing Club, Norfolk **Results Part 2**

Pos	Club	Sail	G	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	R7	R8	R9	R10	Pts	
19th	Ashley Southwell & James Wilkinson	Leigh & Lowton	4011	S	24	23	21	(DNF)	16	18	20	(DNF)	13	156	
20th	Richard & Mike Smith	Delph	3493	S	22	16	20	22	17	22	20	(DNC)	28	164	
21st	Ally & Harry Jones	Draycote Water	4055	G	8	3	(DNC)	(DNC)	(DNC)	7	6	(DNC)	(DNC)	(DNC)	168
22nd	Simon & Eleanor Fay	Tynemouth	4061	B	19	27	24	19	24	19	21	18	25	169	
23rd	David Herbstritt & Josie Airns	Shotwick Lake	3770	S	20	20	26	25	21	15	26	21	29	170	
24th	Jack Turnbull & Emma Bambridge	Redoubt	3254	B	(DNF)	21	22	17	15	25	29	24	(DNF)	175	
25th	Louis Moulden & Renee Saville	Delph	3835	S	25	(DNF)	16	(DNC)	(DNC)	20	17	25	20	183	
26th	Andrew & James Robinson	Whitefriars	3101	B	(DNF)	17	19	27	18	26	25	(DNF)	(DNC)	188	
27th	Sam Donaldson & Susan McGunnigle	Delph	2166	B	28	30	31	(DNF)	21	28	24	19	19	188	
28th	Paul Robinson & Tanya Copsy	Whitefriars	3655	B	21	28	25	23	26	30	28	28	17	191	
29th	Martin & Mavis Bathe	Delph	59	B	(DNC)	25	18	24	27	23	23	(DNF)	27	193	
30th	Brian & Sharon Worrall	Welton	4063	B	27	24	27	18	23	31	27	27	(DNF)	199	
31st	David & Jean Reed	Girton	3	B	(DNC)	(DNC)	23	21	20	27	21	22	(DNC)	(DNC)	206
32nd	Andrew Clarke & Theo De Bie	Wilsonian	210	B	26	29	28	28	30	29	31	29	22	(DNC)	221
33rd	David & Jacqueline Hudson	Wilsonian	3795	B	(DNC)	(DNC)	29	29	24	32	30	(DNC)	(DNC)	(DNC)	252
34th	Deborah Massey & Wendy Gaddes	Delph	445	B	(DNC)	(DNC)	30	26	29	33	32	(DNC)	(DNC)	252	
35th	Gillan Gibson & Beth Harding	Thornton Steward/ Hunstanton	3670	B	(DNC)	(DNC)	36	30	31	(DNC)	(DNC)	(DNC)	(DNC)	(DNC)	277

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Miracle Association meetings

Summary of minutes

Annual General Meeting 21st August 2014 Hunstanton Sailing Club

- **Chairman**, Ken Gibson:
 - ◇ Miracle's 40th Anniversary 2014
 - * Larger stand at Dinghy Show 2014
 - * Second display in West Corridor at the Dinghy Show.
 - ◇ Class Association's 40th Anniversary is 2015.
 - ◇ Thanks extended to officers who have resigned:
 - * Trophy Officer, Tracy Amos
 - * Race Organiser, Jon Willars
 - * Margaret Mettam, Secretary
- **Membership**, Martin Bathe
 - ◇ Membership is down compared to last year and is 124.
 - ◇ 18 new members since last AGM, 2 fewer than previous year.
 - ◇ 3 of the new members joined via the Newton Crum 40th anniversary promotion.
 - ◇ 40 non renewals compared to 31 in previous year.
 - ◇ There are 6 honorary members and 8 sponsors.
- **Treasurer**, Jon Aldhous
 - ◇ The Association is in a sound financial position.
- **Halo**, Gillan Gibson
 - Four issues a year. Contributors and advertisers thanked.
- **Website**, Gillan Gibson
 - ◇ A useful means of promotion and has generated a number of queries.
 - ◇ Members asked to send reports for the online *Yachts and Yachting*.

◇ It was suggested the third position boat in a competition write and send a report to *Yachts and Yachting*, the *Halo* and the *Miracle* website.

◇ Other ways of promoting the *Miracle* were discussed.

- **Measurement**, Brian Jones
 - ◇ **Scrutineering**: No major issues. Thanks to Mike Smailes and John Green for their assistance.
 - ◇ The last sail number is 4070
 - ◇ 8 boats built in the last year.
 - ◇ A routed set of ply parts for the hull are now available, as are the hardwood parts. Brian is constructing a boat using the materials
 - ◇ The reduced registration fee applies until the end of the year.
 - ◇ An additional window is allowed in the mainsail to allow a view of the jib luff.
 - ◇ The Measurers' guide has been revised.
 - ◇ Measurement Rules: Page 1 is to be clarified as to what defines a *Miracle*.

Committee: The following were voted on: Jon Aldhous and Louis Moulden existing members willing to stand again; John Tippett, Dennis Southwell, Ashley Southwell, Richard Brameld, elected at AGM; Brian Jones, Martin Bathe, Ken Gibson, Gillan Gibson – co-opted back on to new Committee [Ken Gibson subsequently withdrew from the new Committee at its first meeting held on Friday 22nd August 2014]



- **Matters arising:**
 - ◇ Advertising permitted on the boat: A draft wording has been composed and is to be discussed at the next Committee meeting.

Committee Meeting 22nd August 2014 Hunstanton Sailing Club

- Committee Members roles were addressed.

- Association Technical Committee to meet.
- 2015 Nationals at Rutland Sailing Club.
- 2015 race programme to be compiled.
- Future Nationals venues to be investigated.
- Future meeting date and location discussed.

Copies of the full minutes are available from the Secretary on request.

Medway Regatta 12th & 13th July 2014



Jackie and David Hudson won the slow handicap

The Medway Regatta is the premier dinghy Regatta in the South East and is held at the Wilsonian Sailing Club at Hoo, Kent. With 60+ dinghies from all over UK the Miracles were in the slow handicap fleet, racing against Streakers and Graduates. There were very light wind in all the races so you had look for wind all the time. We

managed to keep in contact with the faster dinghies so beat them on handicap. In doing so we took the prize and wine.

We are hoping to see more Miracles next year with camping and good food and drink at www.wilsonian.sc.org.uk
Jackie and David Hudson, Miracle 3795

**Inland Championship
Leigh & Lowton
12th & 13th July 2014**



course and line were set. The fleets were started at 3 minute intervals and first away was the 33 boat handicap fleet which included 7 Asymmetric and 13 Lasers who had their results taken out as separate fleets.

As is their preferred format, on the first day the Miracle fleet only completed two races towards their championship. Dave and Ross Southwell (LLSC) showed their intentions early on with two

The weekend of the 12th and 13th July saw Leigh & Lowton Sailing Club (LLSC) play host to a total of 68 boats as the Miracle Inland Championships and the North West Junior Optimist Championships were run alongside the clubs annual regatta weekend.

The event is a weekend of two halves as prizes are presented for both Saturdays and Sundays results and then the presentation of the 'John Barnes trophy' to the boat that completes all six races and has the lowest points score at the end.

Saturday morning broke with no wind and light rain so after a briefing the proposed midday start was delayed as the race team led by Alex Morrison put in place a postponement to wait for the small amount of wind visible on the water to settle.

After a quick lunch the fleets launched and followed the committee boat around until the fickle breeze settled and a

wins while behind them Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney (LLSC/Delph SC) kept in touch with two seconds. Eamon Cuthbert and Adam Richardson (LLSC) were third in race 1 but could only manage a fourth in the second race. Hannah and Nick Smith (Thornbury SC) completed the top four of the day with a fourth and a third.

What a difference a day makes. Sunday saw bright sunshine and a solid Force 4/5 blowing the length of the water from the west making it a race teams and competitors dream.

In the first race of the day Hannah and Nick took an early lead and extended it to win by some distance from Dave and Ross with Eamon and Adam in third. Race 2 seemed to be going the same way as the Smiths took an early lead but appeared to suffer gear failure as they slipped down the fleet to finish sixth. This allowed Wayne and Angela to take the lead with Eamon & Adam and the Southwells directly behind them as they rounded the leeward mark

for the short beat to the finish. As the boats behind split Wayne and Angela decided to cover Eamon and Adam to the middle of the course. This allowed the Southwells to concentrate on sailing fast and they just managed to beat Wayne and Angela on the line by half a boat length with Eamon and Adam dropping to third.

In the final race of their championship the Smiths were back on form as they once again hit the front early on and took the win. Behind them Wayne & Angela and Eamon & Adam and Dave & Michelle Raines (LLSC) were engaged in a

close battle until the last beat when Eamon missed his toe straps coming out of a tack and cartwheeled into the water. This left Wayne and Angela to take second and the Raines third.

After a fun filled weekend prizes were awarded with the Miracle Inland championship trophy going to Dave and Ross Southwell

The infamous bottle boat prize was presented to Louise 'that won't float' McKeand.

Leigh and Lowton SC

Pos	Club	Sail No	Pts
1st	David & Ross Southwell	Leigh & Lowton 4010	3
2nd	Hannah & Nick Smith	Thornbury 3805	5
3rd	Wayne Atherton & Angela Sweeney	Delph 3383	6
4th	Eamon Cuthbert & Adam Richardson	Leigh & Lowton 4016	9
5th	David & Michelle Raines	Leigh & Lowton 3740	12
6th	Dave Butler & Ross Flemming	Welton 4060	15
7th	Iain & Chloe Wilkinson	Leigh & Lowton 3480	21
8th	Gillan & Kenneth Gibson	Thornton Steward 3670	24



**North East Championship
Welton
26th & 27th July 2014**



John and Max, with 3rd for Dave and Giles.
The second race saw John and Max find the right gear and take the bullet. John and Phill Aldhous took 2nd place, and top visitors from Kent, Neal Gibson and Geoff Phillips, came 3rd.

Sunday was just pure Champagne Sailing: John and Phill nailed the start and led from start to finish, locals Richard and Todd Brameld capitalized on a shift up the final beat to take 2nd from Dave & Giles and John & Max who crossed the line together.

In the second race Dave Butler and Ross Flemming, in a brand new boat, blasted off from the start and maintained their lead. Wayne and Angela took 2nd, followed by John and Max.

It was all to play for in the final race with 3 boats able to take the title. John and Max made a good start and got clear, a good battle ensued between Richard & Todd, Wayne & Angela, Neil & Geoff, Dave & Ross, and Richard & Hannah Wharram. John & Max won the race and the title. Neil & Geoff took 2nd from Wayne & Angela in 3rd. Richard & Hannah crossed the line neck and neck with Richard & Todd and Dave & Ross only inches behind them.

Tod Brameld, Miracle 3131

Ten visitors joined 8 home boats on the 26/27th of July.

Saturday was hot, hot, hot - with a light breeze. A good start, heading for more pressure and clear air was key. Local dad and lad team - Dave and Giles Theakson Smith - made the best of it, and led the race. The duo were hotly pursued by top team Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney, and locals John Willars and Max Wharram. Wayne and Angela pulled through and took the bullet, followed by

Pos		Club	Sail No	Pts
1st	Jon Willars & Max Wharram	Welton	3793	4
2nd	Wayne Atherton & Angela Sweeney	Delph	3383	6
3rd	Jon & Phillip Aldhous	Beaver	3794	9
4th	Neal Gibson & Geoff Phillips	Redoubt	4040	12
5th	Richard & Hannah Wharram	Welton	4045	12
6th	Richard & Todd Brameld	Beaver	3131	12
7th	David Smith & Giles Therkelson-Smith	Welton	4031	13
8th	Dave Butler & Ross Flemming	Welton	4055	15
9th	Simon Reddecliffe & Mark Atherton	Delph	4007	18
10th	Stan Lubner & Hazel Hatley and Vicki Casey	Welton	4066	26
11th	Brian & Sharon Worrall	Welton	4063	32
12th	Peter Cogill & Margaret Mettam	Rotherham	3807	32
13th	David & Jean Reed	Girton	3	32
14th	Gillan & Kenneth Gibson	Thornton Steward	3670	38
15th	Simon & Ellie Fay	Tynemouth	4061	39
16th	Angela & Paul Featherstone	Welton	3720	43
17th	Martin & Mavis Bathe	Delph	59	44
18th	Ian Kelly & Matt	Staunton Harold	3812	56

