

# Miracle Insurance

Cover and Premium for:

Sum insured	£5m Third Party only	£5m Third Party + Fully Comprehensive	Including
n/a	£26.00	n/a	
£100	a/a	£28.00	Racing
£500	a/a	£36.00	12 months use
£800	a/a	£39.00	Fire
£1,000	a/a	£41.00	Theft
£1,500	a/a	£43.00	Collision
£2,000	a/a	£46.00	Transit Damage
£2,500	a/a	£49.00	Launching
£3,000	a/a	£52.00	U.K. + C.I.
£3,500	a/a	£59.00	Trips to E.U.
£4,000	a/a	£64.00	
£4,500	a/a	£69.00	
£5,000	a/a	£74.00	
£6,000	a/a	£82.00	
etc.			

FOR FULL DETAILS, PROPOSAL AND COVER

Telephone: 01702 710 041  
or visit [www.newtoncrum.com](http://www.newtoncrum.com)

Newton Crum Insurance, 839 London Road, Westcliff, Essex, SS0 9TE

"My only previous claim to Newton Crum was in the 1970's and I was impressed with the response and service then. I am pleased to find nothing has changed over the years. More than can be said for most insurance and financial companies. Your approach to my latest claim involving recovery from a third party, was positive, logical and successful. Thank you."

For over 62 years insuring Britain's sailors, better.

Join us in August for the Nationals

## The Halo

Miracle Association Magazine Spring 2020



"The Friendly, Family, Dinghy Class"

Contents

Editor's Corner	2
Chairman's Desk	3
RYA Dinghy Show	5
Membership Notes	6
<b>2020 Calendar, incl. note re Covid 19</b>	<b>7</b>
Miracle Nationals 2020 at Netley	8
Miracle Nationals 2020 : Buddy System	10
Rudder reshape by Simon Bean	11
David Mole builds Miracle 4117	12
Why not build your own boat?	15
Geoff Weir builds a Miracle	16
AGM Notice and proposal	18
Committee & summary minutes	21

Contacts

**Paul Robinson**

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 Gillan Gibson; p2 Sue Atherton; p3 Alex Parker; p6 Helen Jacks; p9 Netley Sailing Club; p11 Simon Bean; p13 David Mole; and p16 & 17 Geoff Weir.

Items for the next issue to the Editor by 1st June 2020.

## Editor's Corner

Sailors are an optimistic bunch, always hopeful. Hence the current uncertainty about the 2020 events calendar, not least the Nationals at Netley!

We do know the first two events of the season. Staunton Harold and Delph will not be held. Though there are hopes for rescheduling later in the season.

The Nationals are a major commitment for everyone in many ways and the question mark over these is of more consequence, but there is still a "wait and see" element with them.

Overall it is the clubs who have to say whether they can run an event and there is some pretty hard thinking going on at the moment.

The Association will do its best to keep everyone informed with the website, Facebook, *Halo*, email, etc, but it is more important than ever to check whether an event is running before you travel.

The other side to the coronavirus situation is with many sailors tied to the house there's all sorts of boat renovations and repair work occurring. Garages and sheds probably haven't been as tidy as they are now for a long time! A number of sailors have sent in their stories, there's



some in this issue with a concentration on the DIY ones, and there will be more in the next. Do you have a story to share? I'd love to hear from you.  
*Gillan Gibson,  
Miracle 3670*

## Chairman's Desk: Paul Robinson



Paul Robinson in Miracle 4110 at Netley in 2017

Best wishes to all our members at this difficult time. As a result of Coronavirus I am writing my contribution for this Spring edition of *Halo* while on holiday at home after the Easter Bank holiday weekend. My family and I were due to be in Devon on a cycling and walking holiday this week. We are now having to make the most of local short walks and cycle routes in Wiltshire. It does mean that you appreciate your local area.

We managed one Junior RYA training session at Whitefriars SC in the middle of March with additional hand washing measures for the children, before the sailing club was closed in accordance with the RYA embargo.

The Miracle Dinghy Owners Group Facebook page indicates that people are using the current lock-down to carry out some significant maintenance projects on their boats. Great to see these projects progressing.

This edition of *Halo* has been deliberately delayed so that we can provide the membership with as much

certainty of information as possible about planned Miracle Association events in these uncertain times. Your committee has been working hard to respond to the ever-changing situation. We held a successful Skype meeting on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> April with seven participants to review events for this year. Thanks to Ian Brown for his technical input. We hope that this *Halo* will

provide helpful information and something for us all to look forward to in the summer. What a difference a few days has made since the RYA Dinghy Show!

I have been in regular touch with Rosie Parker at Netley Sailing Club regarding our planned national championships at the beginning of August. Thank you to Wayne who has contacted various clubs and re-arrange some of our early open meetings. Further news and event updates are provided in this *Halo*. If you are aware of any other changes to your club programmes, please let Wayne know at the earliest opportunity.

Assuming the planned nationals does take place, Andrew Robinson is organising a Buddy system to particularly encourage our bronze fleet competitors and incorporate a combined team race result, with some fun prizes. More details later in this edition of *Halo*. This is also a reminder to fill out your nationals entry forms and send them to Gillan Gibson. Please note that the discounted payment

## Chairman's Desk *(cont.)*

period has now been extended to the end of June. Though note we are asking entrants to send their form in, but wait until asked before sending any payment. Also, Dave Butler is looking for a crew for the week if anybody can help?

Looking ahead to next year, the good news is that Rutland Sailing Club is now secured and confirmed as the venue for the national championships in 2021.

A general plea to the membership for new Committee volunteers. We have a number of experienced people who have carried out valuable work over a number of years. It may now be your turn to give some input to the Association? Please give this your valued consideration and get in touch. It is also important to continue to

encourage Miracle owners at your clubs to join the Association as an investment in the future.

We started the year by planning a choice of nine open meeting venues and the national championship week in August. I am sure like me you are hoping that as many of these as possible will take place this year which is obviously subject to how the current situation unfolds.

I am planning to attend a number of events and look forward to meeting you all. Hopefully we can all enjoy some sailing in a few months' time.

Stay safe.

*Paul Robinson, Chairman  
Miracle 4110*

# Butler Boats



[www.butlerboats.biz](http://www.butlerboats.biz)

Email: [dave@butlerboats.biz](mailto:dave@butlerboats.biz)

Tel: 01482 669 848

**FRP, composite or wood - we can do it all!**

**New builds, refurbishments or touch ups we can cater for all your Miracle needs**

**Please get in touch and speak with our experienced and friendly team**

## RYA Dinghy Show 2020

Alexandra Palace, London

We have started the year with a very successful RYA Dinghy Show at Alexandra Palace over the weekend of 29<sup>th</sup> February and 1<sup>st</sup> March. Thank you to: Ken and Gillan Gibson for organising the event; Dave Butler & Michael; Louis & Dorri Moulden, Ian & Lily Brown, Andrew Robinson, Wayne Atherton & Martin Bathe for all your hard work and support for the Association on the Miracle stand over the weekend.

Wayne's new wooden boat, sail number 4121 was on the stand and greatly admired, described by one person as a 'thing of beauty'. Dave & Michael just managed to complete the build in time for the show! I personally have great admiration for craftsmen who have the skills to produce such stunning boats – well done! It must be a very satisfying job. It was on show with Gibson sails.

I was left in no doubt that going to the Dinghy Show was worthwhile on several fronts. We signed up four new members to the Association, including one family who purchased Louis's youngest boat. Apart from a large number of people visiting our stand and

chatting about Miracles, there were conversations with sailing clubs who could be future potential options for national championships. We also had other fleets expressing interest in sharing future events. One comment on Facebook read: "The Miracle stand was fantastic at this year's London Dinghy Show. Really buzzing. Well done guys."

Delph Sailing Club was nominated for RYA Club of the Year and some of our number attended a lunch reception plus a presentation where they received a well deserved certificate to recognise their efforts in the face of stern national competition.

The surprise news is that the RYA have decided to move the Dinghy Show to Farnham, Hampshire, for the next three years. It will be at the Farnborough International Exhibition Centre on 27th and 28th February 2021, a week earlier than usual. For more information see: <https://www.rya.org.uk/dinghy-show/Pages/visitor-information.aspx>

More to follow on that news when we receive further details.

*Paul Robinson*

### Thanks for the Memories of Miracles

*Thanks to everyone who was able to send in their Miracle memories and ideas. They won't all fit in this issue, but will feature in the future. Does anyone have any more?*

### Virtual sailing

*Next issue it would be great to feature virtual sailing and the various online ways you can "sail" at home. Which sites/apps do you like using? Please let your Editor know.*



## Membership

This year though it feels wrong to chase people for £26 when they could have lost their income or may know someone who has been affected by the virus.

If you are a lapsed member, this will be your final copy of the *Halo* so how can I convince you to remain a member of the Miracle Dinghy Association?

Your £26 gives you the right to sail in the National Championships and receive several copies of the *Halo* a year but I prefer to look at it in a very different way. You are not so much becoming a member as becoming a supporter and an advocate of the Miracle class and your membership fees allow the class to continue, get promoted, and through a group of like minded individuals, we are able to organise opens meetings and the National Championships. As someone who has got so much out of sailing a Miracle with my family, I consider that to be a bargain!

We all know we have some of the friendliest sailors in Europe and there are not too many other fleets that have so many families competing together.

Without you, the members, we simply wouldn't exist. If you have changed your mind about leaving, we would love to have you back. Please go to <https://membermojo.co.uk/miracledinghy> to renew.

To all our members who have renewed their membership, thank you for your continuing support in these troubling times and we hope to see you all again soon on the water.

Stay Safe,  
*Ian Brown, Membership Secretary*

Hello Association Members, what strange times we live in.

After spending the last 6 months helping the committee to plan for this year's open meetings and national championships at Netley, as I write this article, none of us know when we will next sail or even see each other again.

As the Membership Secretary, every time someone joins or renews their membership of the Association, I get an email on my phone and it always brings a little warmth to my heart to see that you have taken the effort to show you care about the class and want it to survive and prosper.

I have been used to an upward membership curve since we moved the membership system online 2 years ago but with the coronavirus locking us down right in the middle of our renewal month, I can see that we are in risk of losing 20% of our membership this year, nearly double the normal churn rate.

Usually in April I would ring around the lapsed members for one last stab at convincing them to remain in the Association. If I am unable to convince them to stay, I mark down their reason for leaving which is usually they no longer own or sail a Miracle, which is fair enough.

## Meeting Calendar 2020

*Situation as of 11th April 2020*

*The Covid-19 situation is resulting in many clubs curtailing their events.*

*Some are hoping to reschedule if the situation improves. There is, however, likely to be a shortage of weekends.*

*It is more essential than ever for sailors to not travel without checking with the club*

*Government guidance must also be followed*

<b>Staunton Harold</b> (DE73 8DL) Midland Area Championship	<i>Postponed</i>	<a href="https://shsc.org.uk/">https://shsc.org.uk/</a>
<b>Delph</b> (BL7 9TS) Northern Area Championship	<i>Postponed</i>	<a href="http://www.delphsailingclub.co.uk">www.delphsailingclub.co.uk</a>
<b>Welton</b> (HU15 1PT) NE Area Championship	30th & 31st May <i>Not confirmed</i>	<a href="http://www.weltonsc.org">www.weltonsc.org</a>
<b>Whitefriars</b> (SN6 6QR) Southern Area Champions.	13th & 14th June <i>Not confirmed</i>	<a href="http://whitefriarssc.org/">http://whitefriarssc.org/</a>
<b>Girton</b> (NG23 7HX) Puddleduck	20th & 21st June <i>Not confirmed</i>	<a href="http://www.girtonsc.org.uk">www.girtonsc.org.uk</a>
<b>Thornbury</b> , Oldbury-on-Severn Open meeting	27th & 28th June <i>Not confirmed</i>	<a href="https://thornburysc.org.uk/">https://thornburysc.org.uk/</a>
<b>Netley SC,</b> (SO31 5GA) <b>Southampton Water</b> National Championships	3rd to 7th Aug <i>Not confirmed</i>	<a href="http://www.netleysc.co.uk/">http://www.netleysc.co.uk/</a>
<b>Port Dinorwic</b> (LL56 4RQ) Open meeting	15th & 16th August <i>Not confirmed</i>	<a href="http://www.pdsc.org.uk">www.pdsc.org.uk</a>
<b>Staunton Harold</b> (DE73 8DL) Midland Area Championship	5th & 6th Sept <i>Postponed event rescheduled, check before event</i>	<a href="https://shsc.org.uk/">https://shsc.org.uk/</a>
<b>Shotwick</b> (CH5 2LL) Welsh Area Championship	12th & 13th Sept <i>Not confirmed</i>	<a href="http://www.shotwicksailing.org/home/">www.shotwicksailing.org/home/</a>
<b>Shustoke</b> (B46 2BE) End of Season Championship	3rd & 4th Oct <i>Not confirmed</i>	<a href="http://www.shustokesailingclub.co.uk/">www.shustokesailingclub.co.uk/</a>
<b>Delph</b> (BL7 9TS) Northern Area Championship	10th & 11th Oct <i>Postponed event rescheduled, check before event</i>	<a href="http://www.delphsailingclub.co.uk">www.delphsailingclub.co.uk</a>

# Monday 3rd August to Friday 7th August 2020 5 days

Observant members will have realised that our Nationals this year is a five-day event, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August to Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August. Netley Sailing Club have had a very upsetting period during the rebuilding of their excellent new club house with a loss of many racing days for their members, as a result they are not able to offer us sailing on 2<sup>nd</sup> August as they do not wish to deprive their members of the opportunity to sail, especially at the beginning of their summer break. This means that this year we will not be having a practice race and will have 2 points races each day over the five-day event. They have, however, invited members who want to test the water to take part in their Sunday racing, details of which will follow.

## Camping

As last time, camping is available on site for tents and motorhomes (sorry no caravans). Cost is £10 per night each for adults, accompanied children are free. Book through the Miracle Association.

## Parking

The club need to know for all entries how many cars requiring parking, whether they are camping or not.

## Coronavirus

Whether the Nationals will be held is kept under review by Netley Sailing Club.

In the meantime:

- The reduced entry fee is extended until the end of June
- Please return an entry form, *but make no payment until it is requested.*

## ENTRY FEES

The entry fee includes tickets for the helm and crew only for both the Commodores Reception and the Prize Giving meal, tickets for other members of your party must be purchased separately.

## Prizegiving Meal

**Important – the club house can only accommodate 90 persons for the sit-down meal which means that tickets for the Prize Giving will be issued on a first come first served basis as entries are received, this rule applies to the SigneT fleet also so get your entry in ASAP.** Entrants who are not allocated tickets will be refunded £40 of their entry fee. Room will be available for non-ticket holders to still attend the Prize Giving at the end of the meal.

**Starts:** 10.30am to 11.30am depending on tide, see Sailing Instructions when published.

## SigneTs coming too



# 2020 Nationals Netley Sailing Club, Southampton Water in Royal Victoria Country Park <http://www.netleysc.co.uk/>



**Entries:** A form is available on the Miracle website to download and print.

## Entry fee:

**£205.00 if entered before the end of June**

**£250.00 if enter in July and August**

## Family Members Two Boat Discount

For Family Members bringing two or more boats to the 2020 National Championships a **£50.00** discount on their second boat (First, third and subsequent boats pay standard fees)

## First Nationals discount

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

Note - Electronic Payment available -  
See Entry Form

## Entry fee includes:

- Racing
- Boat space parking
- Car parking
- 2 tickets for Commodore's Reception, for helm and crew (Additional tickets Adults £7.50, children £14.00)
- 2 tickets for Prizegiving meal, for helm and crew (Additional tickets Adults £20, children £12.00)

## Social programme

In the evenings there will be a social programme which is being arranged, currently confirmed are:

Sunday	Commodore's Reception
Monday	Free evening
Tuesday	Free evening
Wednesday	BBQ and Quiz
Thursday	AGM
Friday	Prizegiving Dinner

## Midweek BBQ

Everyone:	Adults	£10.00
	Children	£6.00

Tickets at registration



# Nationals Buddy System

This year at the Nationals we will be trialling a buddy system throughout the fleet! Whilst we'll all agree Miracle sailors are always extremely friendly and helpful at events, the purpose of this system is for sailors at the summit to encourage sailors lower down fleet: improving racing ability if they're new to racing; or helping with boat setup; or answering general questions about the class.

The teams will be drawn at random once entries have been confirmed on the Sunday of the Nationals. Please make contact with your fellow teammates, especially if one of your team is new to the Nationals/fleet to help make them feel welcomed.

There will also be a buddy race series! The combined race results from

the 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> championship races will be extrapolated to rank each team and provide a buddy team champion, with prizes of course!

Standard fleet racing rules will apply, so no team racing mark traps are permitted to get a team mate through! This race will be unpredictable and encourage everyone to put in an Olympic style performance to assist their team in winning this series!

If, for any reason, you do not wish to participate in this series then please let me know before close of registration at the Nationals on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August.

I look forward to seeing you on the circuit this season if the opportunity arises..

*Andrew Robinson*

## Are you going???

**Crews wanted and available?**

**Keeping in touch?**

**Results and reports?**

### 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/>

**Miracle Nationals 2021**

**Sunday 8th to Friday 13th August 2021**

**Rutland Sailing Club**

**Miracle PY  
2020 season  
1194**

# Rudder Reshape by Simon Bean

Miracle 609. "Ringle"

Being prorogued has allowed me to finish off a project I started in summer 2018.

I had a broken ply centreboard which was too nice a piece of wood to waste so following the rule changes to rudder shapes I decided to have a go at shaping up a new blade.

I sail at Gurnard and to improve control in the Solent chop I wanted to try a deeper rudder. I went for the max 650 depth, put plenty of width at the bottom of the blade and reduced the width at the

top of the blade. The theory seemed sensible, but on the water the shape seemed unbalanced and it felt like a shovel rather than a foil. The old shape seemed better balanced.

For this year I have had another go at the shape. I've reduced the width to just comply with the Measurement Rule 67 200 x 200 requirement. I also increased the radius of the blade at the tip to reduce the area.



*The 2018 'shovel' shape*



*Marking out the shape on the old centreboard. Blade is angled to make stronger use of the ply directions*



*Sanding to shape*



*Reshaping to reduce depth and tip area*



*Cardboard template. No CAD here.*

# David Mole builds Miracle 4117

## A short account of building Miracle 4117.

I have always liked making things. In addition to the Airfix kits and the balsa and tissue aeroplanes that seemed incapable of anything more than a terminal dive, I built myself a wood and canvas canoe and a very small plywood pram dinghy for my younger brother. We overcame the difficulty of getting them out of the attic and downstairs (a challenge we had not given much thought in advance) and together we cruised around Christchurch Harbour enacting a number of exciting nautical fantasies.

That was over 60 years ago. Education, life, career, marriage, children – all the usual stuff – intervened. I finally retired in 2004 and started making things again. The aeroplane was finished last year. But in 2019 it was suggested that, since I appeared at a loose end, I might like to build my grandchildren a dinghy. The Miracle looked ideal and had the advantage that a number of Miracles are based at Margate Sailing Club, in easy reach of at least some of the family. The only disadvantage was that my woodworking skills are minimal and that I know almost nothing about building boats. Undeterred, I bought a set of plans and the original Bell instructions. Robbins Timber at Bristol sold me most of the necessary wood and arranged for many of the major ply parts to be CNC cut. Brian Jones's article "Building a Miracle" was a huge help. At first, progress seemed slow. I was

very anxious about setting out the basic spine of the boat correctly (I remembered that I had been less than careful with my canoe with the result that it always wanted to turn left when I would have preferred it to go straight on). But that seemed to go all right and then the transom and panels were fitted. I found it quite difficult to get the panels to fit each other accurately enough to be glued but managed it in the end. (Ratchet straps were a great help.) Still, I detected a twist in the structure, which had to be pulled straight before the bow was finally completed. Once the basic hull structure was complete and true, the decks and buoyancy tanks were quite easy and fun.

There were, of course, several mistakes. I well remembered the labour, 60 years before of doing everything, all the sawing, drilling, sanding and making the metal bits, by hand. Modern power tools seem miraculous, but I soon learnt that they have their own problems. The hull of 4117 bears the scars of overenthusiastic sanding inflicted before I learnt that the machines need to be handled with firmness and delicacy. It was soon clear that trying to saw right up to a pencil line was a dangerous and wasteful thing to do, far better to keep a bit back from the line and then sand down to it where necessary. The Bell instructions are quite out of date in places. For example they do not cover the newer, and much more elegant, foredeck shape or thwart. For this, by far

the most helpful guide was the photographs that Brian Jones sent me of his build, from which I was able to work out my own way of doing it.

Another indispensable source of help was talking to people at the Miracle stand at the Dinghy Exhibition. My five minutes talking with Dave Butler this year explained and solved more than one problem for me, as well as demonstrating what an impossibly high and beautiful standard the professional can achieve. (I went straight home and fitted Butler 'flying buttresses' to the centreboard case.)

Today the hull is painted in Oxford blue satin finish (to minimise the obviousness of those scars!) The boat is the right way up, waiting for coats of Gurit, epoxy and varnish, and the deck fittings. The mast, boom and fittings have already been delivered. With any luck, and release from my 'vulnerable' Covid isolation, 4117 should be on the water soon this summer.

If you spot us, and we haven't done anything too embarrassing, please sail over and say hello.

*David Mole  
Miracle 4117*



THE UK'S LEADING  
DINGHY REPAIR CENTRE  
@  
WOODWIND GRP

50 YEARS  
EXPERIENCE BUILDING  
RACING DINGHIES  
TO A NATIONAL  
&  
WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP  
WINNING STANDARD

FIND US ON  
FACEBOOK

THE OLD FIRE STATION  
ROCHDALE ROAD  
TODMORDEN  
OL14 7NA

Phone: 01706 819999  
Email: woodwindgrp@tiscali.co.uk



BUILDERS OF FRP/GRP MIRACLES

INSURANCE APPROVED

ALL CLASSES REPAIRED

EPOXY, VINYLESTER, POLYESTER, WOOD

PICK UP AND DELIVERY

GP-14 THROUGH DECK CONVERSIONS

## Spare time under lockdown?? Why not build your own boat?

With many sailors' tied to the house there's all sorts of boat renovations and repair work being done. But what about thinking big building a Miracle?

Brian Jones, our Measurement Secretary, has pulled together some basic information with some rough idea of costs.

And Geoff Weir has sent a note on his recent build. However, do make sure you can acquire all the necessary materials at the appropriate time as the situation with suppliers will be changeable with the coronavirus situation.

**Purchase plans and Building Book** (as supplied by Bells for the original kit): £150 Available from the Measurement Secretary [measurement-sec@miracledinghy.org](mailto:measurement-sec@miracledinghy.org)

Includes:

- Updated plans (either in paper or PDF format) to build a modern Miracle with:
  - ◇ cutdown centerboard case;
  - ◇ cut down front tank; and
  - ◇ central spinnaker chute.
- Registration and sail number

**Decide on your detailed requirements.** ie interior design, chute or bags, hiking wings? Any white wood?

**Order plywood sheets:** 8 Sheets of ply: 3 x 6mm; 3 x 5mm; and 2 x 5 mm sapelle faced for decking.

either:

*standard sheets* of marine ply

or

*pre cut ply sheets* of most of the major parts, supplied by 4th Dimension approx. £800

T: 0117 9860505. Email: [route4d@aol.com](mailto:route4d@aol.com)

If you have un-routed panels scale up plans onto marine ply sheets and cut pieces out

or

If you have purchased the pre-routed panels cut the pieces out.

**Order Hard and Soft wood** either e mail Brian for cutting lists or

Source hard and soft woods package from Robbins Timber . Approx £600  
T: 0117 9633136.

Email: [timber@robbins.co.uk](mailto:timber@robbins.co.uk)

**Shape & cut hardwood** to correct lengths

**Construct using the tab and slot method**

**Other costs:** epoxy glues, paints, fittings, sails and sheets, plus covers and trolley/trailer

**Paint and fit out**

**All spars shrouds and halyards** can be supplied by Butler Boats approx. £1,000

T: 01482 669 848

Email: [dave@butlerboats.biz](mailto:dave@butlerboats.biz)

For further information see also the *Building a Miracle* booklet available off the Miracle Association website at:

<http://www.miracledinghy.org/Miracle%20building%20guide%20updated%2027th%20Feb18.pdf>

This is a compilation of articles Brian wrote for the *Halo* as he built the first Miracle using the newly sourced pre-routed sheets.

# Geoff Weir builds a Miracle

1. Plans are available from the Miracle Association Measurement Secretary.
2. Wood Purchased from a timber company based in Bristol.
3. CAD drawings held at a company based in Bristol for precise section cutting.
4. Epoxy + 2 Pot Varnish and 2 Pot paint. 40mm fibreglass tape.
5. Construction time approximately one year, temperature dependant.
6. The decking and side tank contours can be achieved by creating cardboard templates.
7. Manual of construction available.

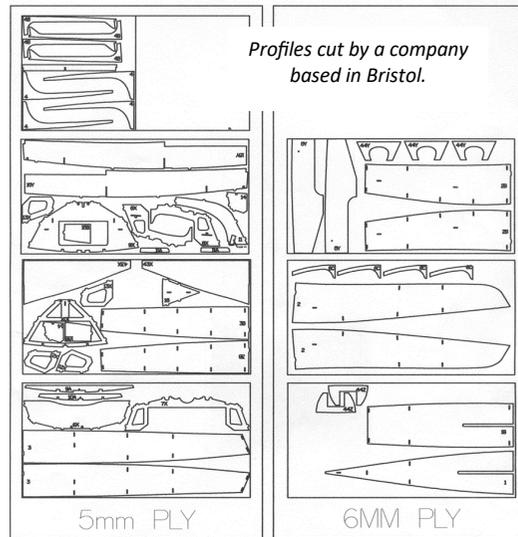
*The dinghy has arrived*



*Hardwood and softwood lengths*



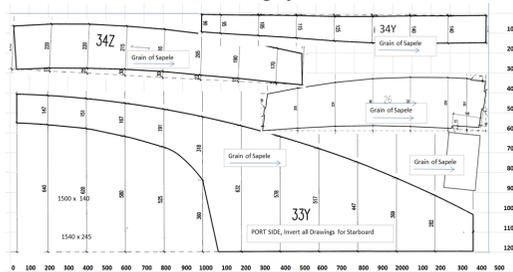
**Profiles Cut**  
 3½ Sheets of 5mm and  
 3 Sheets of 6mm Marine Ply



*Example of a Sheet CAD Profiled*



**Decking and Side Tanks,**  
 2 Sheets of 'Tiger Elite 5mm Special' Preferred.  
 All Sections are to be hand Cut.  
 Invert all Drawings for Starboard.



## Construction



**Method of Fixing.**  
 Copper Wire. Pin and Tab.

**Note the rebate**  
 along the length of both edges.



**Job complete**

# Notice of Annual General Meeting

Due to the Covid-19 situation the Annual General Meeting of the Miracle Association will be either:

1. An in person meeting at Netley Sailing Club, 7.30 pm, Including online attendance and voting for those registering to do so in advance.

or

2. An online meeting attendees register for in advance

**Thursday 6th August 2020 at 7.30 pm**

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of Minutes of AGM held on 15th August 2019 at Welsh National Sailing Academy, Pwllheli
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
9. Any Other Business

According to our Rules of Association any proposal for consideration at the AGM shall be proposed and seconded by full members and submitted to the Association Secretary no later than 14th May 2020.

# Miracle Association Proposal for the AGM 2020

## Rules of Measurement and Construction

Proposal to change the above Rules, for discussion at the Association's Annual General Meeting to be held at Netley Sailing Club on Thursday 6th August 2020.

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

### PROPOSAL

*Referring to the Rules of Measurement and Construction 2020.*

### Buoyancy Checks

Aim. To move to a situation where the owner and not the Association is responsible for the efficiency of a boats buoyancy. The wording of Rule 10 to be altered to remove all reference to a measurer, with the addition of a comment to delete or ignore all reference to Annual Buoyancy Inspections on current Measurement Certificates.

*Current wording*

### Rule10 BUOYANCY

Buoyancy shall consist of three separate tanks, the efficiency of which shall be determined by inspection, or, if the measurer considers it necessary by air test. FRP boats may have a single tank plus sufficient positive buoyancy to remain afloat if holed.

***Proposed amended Rule to read:***

### Rule 10 BUOYANCY

Buoyancy shall consist of three separate tanks, the efficiency of which shall be determined by *the owner*. FRP boats may have a single tank plus sufficient positive buoyancy to remain afloat if holed.

***N.B delete or ignore all reference to Annual Buoyancy Inspections on current Measurement certificates***

Proposer: Brian Jones  
Seconded: Gillan Gibson

### AGM 2020 Key dates for Motions

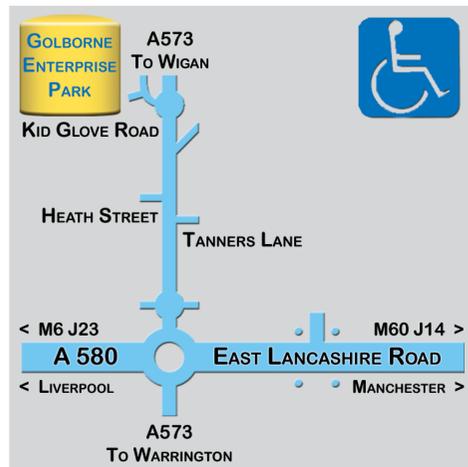
Motions to Secretary by  
14th May 2020

Committee to publish  
Motions by  
11th July 2020

Amendments to Motions  
to Secretary by  
16th July 2020

Committee to publish original  
Motion with any amendments by  
1st August 2020

Rigging	Clothing	The 1st Place to Head for Watersports Equipment	
Vinyl		Chandlery	Mail Order
Boat Names		Maintenance Equipment	
Sail Logos			



Repairs	Topper Spares
GRP	
Plastic Welding	
Insurance Approved	Laser Stockist

Open 6 days a week	Free Advice
--------------------	-------------

Unit 10 | Golborne Enterprise Park  
 Golborne | WA3 3DP  
 T 01942 273372  
 F 01942 273377  
 sales@1stMark.co.uk

## Miracle Association Committee Committee Members

**Paul Robinson, Chairman**  
 chairman@miracledinghy.org  
 07395 995 792  
 (new number December 2019)  
 Whitefriars SC

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

**Gillan Gibson, Secretary and Halo Editor**  
 secretary@miracledinghy.org  
 07703 597 211  
 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

**Louis Moulden, Committee member**  
 louis-m@miracledinghy.org  
 07977 514776  
 Delph SC

*Non-committee officer*

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

**Mike Smith, Webmaster**  
 webmaster@miracledinghy.org  
 01609 748989  
 Thornton Steward SC

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

**Helen Jacks, Trophy Officer**  
 trophyofficer@miracledinghy.org  
 Staunton Harold SC

## Miracle Association meetings Summary of minutes

**Alexandra Palace, London  
 29th February 2020**

admiration.

- **Trophy Officer:** Helen Jacks has taken on the role and was thanked.
- **RYA Dinghy Show 2020:** The well located stand had proven to be very popular. Wayne Atherton's beautiful new Butler built all wooden Miracle was a head turner, drawing much

- **RYA Dinghy Show 2021:** A new venue of the Farnborough International Exhibition and Conference Centre Saturday and Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February, a week earlier than previously .
- **2020 Open Meeting:** A calendar of events had been arranged.

# Miracle Association meeting

## Summary of minutes (cont.)

- **2020 Nationals:** Netley Sailing Club, Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August. Arrangements continue, including the proposal for a buddy system.
- **2021 Nationals:** These are scheduled for Sunday 8th to Friday 13th August at Rutland Sailing Club.
- **2022 and beyond:** Contact has been made with various clubs.
- **Portsmouth Yardstick: 1194.** The Miracle remains the same.
- **Endeavour Trophy 2020:** The Royal Corinthian Yacht Club have extended an invitation to the winner of the Miracle Nationals in 2020 to attend the 60th Anniversary competition.
- **RYA and Yachts and Yachting Club of the Year Awards:** Delph Sailing Club, a stronghold of Miracle sailing, were North West Regional winners. They did not win the overall prize, but were given a Special Recognition award for being "inclusive and open to all".

### Skype Meeting 11th April 2020

- The Covid-19 situation was having major ramifications for many events worldwide. The implications for the Miracle Open Meeting Calendar, including the Nationals, had been investigated and a Committee meeting considered prudent to review the situation and consider the way forward, particularly with regard to keeping the membership informed.
- **2020 Racing Calendar:** The situation as it was known at the time of the

meeting is given in the Meeting Calendar on page 7.

- The first two events, Staunton Harold and Delph have been cancelled, with aspirations to hold them later in the year if the Covid-19 situation improves
- With a number of clubs contemplating rescheduling their events if that was possible it was noted there could be a shortage of possible weekends. Events would also have to fit into the club's own calendar where spare weekends could also be at a premium.
- **2020 Nationals: Netley SC, Southampton Water: Mon 3rd Aug to Fri 7th Aug 2020:** Contact has been maintained and at the time of the meeting the hope was the Covid-19 situation will improve and the event can take place. The Club is to review the situation Mid May. In the meantime matters are to progress on the basis the event will run, but with an awareness it could still be cancelled.
  - ◇ The lower entry price is to be extended to the end of June 2020;
  - ◇ Sailors who anticipate entering are to be asked to submit their form, but not pay until notified.
- **2021 Nationals:** These have been arranged for Sunday 8th to Friday 13th August 2021 at Rutland Sailing Club and the Covid-19 situation will be monitored.
- **Future Nationals 2022 onwards:** Possibilities are being investigated.
- **Miracle Association Committee meetings:** It is anticipated more will be

called than usual and they will be Skype meetings. The maximum notice possible will be given.

- **Miracle Association Annual General Meeting 2020:** This is scheduled for Thursday 6th August 2020, 7.30 pm. It will be advertised as usual, however, it is possible it may have been run as an online meeting and this will be part of the Notice. Delph Sailing Club ran an online AGM and the RYA have had view of the proceedings and considered they were legally compliant. The system used can be configured to suit various situations and the membership is to be kept informed of both their type of meeting to be held and how to participate.
- **Miracle Association AGM proposal** to amend the *Rules of Measurement and Construction* relating to self certification for buoyancy checks has been advertised.

- **Miracle Association AGM:** Key dates for Motions to be taken to the AGM are:
  - ◇ Motions to the Secretary by 14th May 2020
  - ◇ Committee to publish Motions by 11th July 2020
  - ◇ Amendments to Motions to the Secretary by 16th July 2020
  - ◇ Committee to publish original Motion with any amendments by 1st August 2020
- **Halo:** Publication of the Spring issue in April is to be pursued.
- **Website:** This is to be updated as information is available.
- **Membership:** Numbers are currently down. It is thought the coronavirus situation is likely to have had some impact.

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



### 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/>

## Photos for website

Mike is upgrading the Miracle Association website. Do you have any photos he could use? either your own, or ones we can get permission to use? Email: [webmaster@miracledinghy.org](mailto:webmaster@miracledinghy.org)