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The Halo

Miracle Association Magazine Summer 2013



Welton Open

The Friendly, Family, Dinghy Class"

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

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.

Photo credits: Cover Claire Fleming; p2 & 3 Sue Atherton; p8 Wave Clothing; p 16 & 17 John Topliss; and p22, 23 & 25 Gibson Sails

Items for the next issue should be with the Editor by 1st September 2013

Editor's Corner

You are going to have to wait until next issue for some of the open meeting results and reports as this turned out to be a rather a full issue. If you can't wait that long have a look on the website in the meantime.

There's information for those going to Weymouth, which is now not that far away, with a list of what not to forget and what measurement checks are to be done. As the first Nationals since the revised measurement for the jib sheet cleating it's going to be interesting to see what solutions members have come up with. Note that this year boats are to be *unrigged* when taken for measurement. In addition do not expect to come to the Nationals and have your sails measured, they and your boat should be done *before* arriving. The hull in particular takes quite a while to measure and there is no time to do it at the Nationals. Sails also take time and the measurement team already have a lot of work without having to do sails.

If the health of an Association is judged by proposals at the AGM the Miracle Association is distinctly healthy. There are 3 this year. Proposal 1 is to add wording to the *Rules of the Association* to maintain the status quo of no advertising. Proposal 2 is to make provision for amendments to proposals for the AGM and Proposal 3 is to allow singlehanded and multiple sailors at Association events. Check out the Forum on



the website to see what discussions are on the go.

It's oft said, but so true, it's you're Association, so please take part and help shape the future.

Gillan Gibson
Miracle 3670

Chairman's Desk

When I gave my comment in the Spring Issue I said I was thinking of 'Summer' and looking forward to some better weather. Well I am pleased to say that 'up north' we have at last seen the sun and on some occasions for quite long periods and enjoyed some good sailing.

The season of events is now well underway and it is pleasing to find that in general they have been well supported although this on many occasions very much depends on weather forecasts which often leaves much to be desired. Unfortunately this must have had a bearing at the latest event at Bala (The Welsh Championships) as I have received an indication that no Miracles attend on the Saturday.

We still have three more meetings before the 'big one' so please try to give them your support, the fact is that if we do not support the host clubs then we will lose them. Whilst writing about events can I remind you that Redoubt's Open will now take place on 12th October.

So to the 'Big One', Weymouth of course. There are full details in this issue but should there be any matters which you feel require clarification please contact either the Nationals Co-ordinator Sam Mettam or any of the committee members. Can I highlight one of the different offerings this Nationals, Gemma Gibson has kindly offered her services as coach which will consist of on the water video capture followed by a de-briefing on both Monday and Tuesday

evenings. Gemma with Neal are Gibson Sails and we are grateful to them for sponsoring this initiative. For those who have not yet registered for the Nationals, there is still time to take part in this unique opportunity to sail the Olympic venue.

Those who are attending please play your part in the Association by attending the AGM on Thursday 25th August, we need your views and comments on the Associations affairs and the proposals to be discussed. There is still time to offer your services to the Association by joining the committee. I would in particular like to thank John Tippett who kindly stepped in to fill the Secretary's post in 2010 for one year and who has managed to do three years. He has been a great help to the management team. We need to appoint a new Secretary at the AGM so please consider whether you can offer your services.

For those who will be at the Nationals I look forward to meeting up with you again and those who cannot make it have a good sailing summer.

Ken Gibson
Miracle 3670



Race Organiser's report

With the racing season now firmly underway we have seen some fantastic competition between sailors and good numbers at the events so far.

A cold start could perhaps have kept some at home early on, but as the weather has improved so have the numbers.

Most of the events have had a kind breeze which allowed the majority of entrants a share of the action. Exceptions so far include the second day at Welton when 2 races were abandoned due to lack of wind, and then there was Delph living up to its true form with what were described as 'the angry gusts from hell' which kept sailors either on their toes or practising bailing skills.

At Girton we saw Ally and Harry Jones arrived with their brand new boat. Rigging it for the first time ever they missed the first race, but once sorted they set off to win the remaining 4 races and

the event. A remarkable result and a great start to their season so congratulations Ally and Harry and also to Butler Boats for turning out a fine vessel.

All in all there has been some great fun had and some valuable racing skills learned.

Well done to all those who have made the effort to travel, those who have enjoyed their improved sailing, those who are new to the Miracles and already entering the opens, those who enter for a friendly weekend and lastly those who have managed a prize from their efforts. All of the above are essential to make our events successful and most enjoyable so your continued support is welcomed.

There are some exciting events on the horizon so the more the merrier! Keep an eye on the website for updates and important changes.

Hope to see you all on the water soon.
Jon Willars

Event Crew Finder

If you want to attend an event but either have no crew or just want to offer yourself as a crew member, then add your details to the crew finder page on the website and you can then be contacted by anyone who is interested.

££ BAG YOURSELF SOME FIVERS ££

During the 2013 season any member who travels to and enters any of our scheduled meetings, other than the 2013 Nationals, will be rewarded with a £5 discount for each event against the entry fee for the 2014 Nationals. This incentive will allow members to maximise the benefit throughout the whole season and enjoy up to £70 discount. (Based on 14 events. One still to confirm for September).

Calendar 2013

Pennine	(S36 4TF)	7th July	www.pennine-sc.co.uk
Leigh & Lowton	(WA3 1BQ) Inland Championships	13th & 14th July	http://leighandlowton.wordpress.com/
Burton	(DE65 6EG)	27th & 28th July	www.burtonsailingclub.co.uk
Weymouth and Portland	National Championships (DT5 1SA)	11th to 16th August	www.wpnas.org.uk/
SailFest Weymouth	(DT5 1SA)	23rd to 26th August	www.wpnas.org.uk/ http://events.sailracer.org/eventsites/default_s.asp?eventid=157188
Thornton Steward	North Eastern Championships (HG4 4BQ)	31st Aug & 1st Sept	www.thornton-steward-sailingclub.co.uk
Draycote	(CV23 8AB) Midland Area Championships	7th & 8th Sept	www.draycotewater.co.uk
Redoubt	(CT21 4ND) Inland Championships	12th October	www.redoubtsc.org.uk

For more information check the website closer to an event

www.miracledinghy.org

Hints and tips

Do you have any ideas to help others? Let the editor know so they can be shared.

Watch the Committee Boat as it can often be the best indicator of something happening, especially on light wind days, eg whether the fleet is to go afloat, or a start line moved, or a shorten course, etc.

Gillan Gibson

Sail the boat as flat as you possibly can, unless in very light airs when a slight leeward heel helps the sails fall into shape.
Sam Mettam



Miracle National Championships 2013 11th to 16th August

**Weymouth and Portland
Sailing Academy
Dorset**

Practical points

Website:
www.miracledinghy.org/

Entry fee
£200

Entry is online at
http://events.sailracer.org/eventsites/default_s.asp?eventid=156337

Includes:
Racing Boat space
Trailer storage Car parking

The Notice of Racing

is on the website:

www.miracledinghy.org/Weymouth%20Nats%20-%20NOR%202013.pdf

Don't forget to take:

- 1. Miracle Measurement Certificate**
(it would also be advisable to have the buoyancy check done before arriving)
- 2. Miracle Association Membership Card**
- 3. Insurance Certificate**
(£2M minimum)

Scrutineering Notes

Each year we focus on different aspects of the rules. This year the checks will be:

- 1. Visual Check** for any obvious deviations from the Rules of Measurement and Construction.
- 2. Check Measurement Certificate.**
- 3. Check current buoyancy signed off.**
- 4. Spars.**
- 5. Foils.**
- 6. Reduced sheeting angle** where fitted - to ensure it adheres to the permitted exceptions
- 7. Sails** - stamp one set for championship use.

Please present your boat UNRIGGED.

Note: Boat and sails must be measured *before* coming to the event.

Registration

Saturday 2.00 pm-6.00 pm
Sunday 9.00 am—4.00 pm

Logoed clothing

www.waveclothing.co.uk
Tel: 07855 423 741

Race start times

Sunday

Practice race 10.55 am
1st Points race 1.55 pm

Monday to Friday

First race of the day 10.55 am

Gemma Gibson

On the water videoing
with video de-brief in
evening

Sponsored by Gibson Sails

Trophies

Will anyone who has Nationals trophies please arrange to return them to Tracy Amos as soon as possible please.

If you could let her know
how and when you intend to do this,

E-mail:
tracy.amos1@btopenworld.com
Tel: 01303 246921
Mobile: 0797 169 4540

Websites

Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy
www.wpnsa.org.uk/

Weymouth Tourist Information Centre
www.visitweymouth.co.uk/

Dorset Tourist Information
www.visit-dorset.com/

Chesil Beach Visitors Centre
www.chesilbeach.org/

Wave Clothing
www.waveclothing.co.uk/

Social Events Diary

Sat 10th August
Informal evening

Sun 11th August
Nationals Welcome event with
Quiz
7.00 pm

Mon 12th August
Video De-brief
7.00 pm

Tues 13th August
Video De-brief
7.00 pm

Wed 14th August
A free Evening

Thurs 15th August
Association AGM
7.30 pm

Fri 16th August
Prizegiving and Meal

**Miracle
40th Anniversary
Nationals 2014**

Hunstanton SC
17th-22nd August

Nationals 2015
Rutland SC
9th-14th August

Nationals clothing

The Miracle Association is collaborating with Wave Clothing to provide clothing with the Nationals logo. Members will order direct from Wave Clothing's website and can choose the type of garment, colour and size. Everyone does this and pays for themselves so it takes the pressure off the Association and allows members to make their own choices.

To find the page put www.waveclothing.co.uk/association-kit/miracle-class-association in the web search line. If that does not work use the following route

1. www.waveclothing.co.uk
2. Click on "Association Kit"
3. Click on "Miracle Class Association"

Polo shirts, hoodies and sweatshirts available in a range of colours and sizes.

Sweatshirts—2 designs



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Sweatshirts
& hoodies

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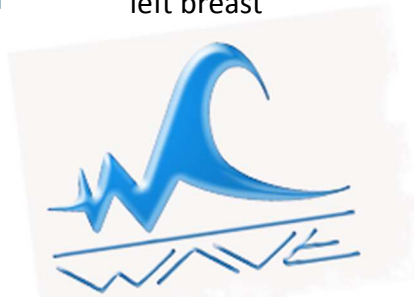
Polo shirts—ladies and mens



Hoddies—childrens and adults



All available with 2013 Nationals logo embroidered on the left breast



www.waveclothing.co.uk

Tel: 07855 423 741

Miracle Association Annual General Meeting

Thursday 15th August 2013, 7.30 pm

Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy

Osprey Quay
Portland
Dorset
(DT5 1SA)

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence.
2. Minutes of the AGM held 16th August 2012 at Ullswater Yacht Club, Cumbria.
3. Matters Arising.
4. Chairman's and Officers' Reports.
5. Treasurers 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.

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Miracle Dinghy Class Association AGM Proposals

Proposal No 1: Class Rules and changes to ISAF Advertising Codes

In 2012 we were advised by the RYA Racing Rules Committee that there was a major rewrite of the International Sailing Federation (ISFA) codes concerning advertising. The change is that any (within reason) advertising chosen by the owner or competitor is now allowed by default and that any class wishing to prohibit or limit such advertising must explicitly state the prohibition or limitation in their class rules. They went on to advise that we may be covered by transitional arrangements but these would expire at the end of 2012 and also suggested an example of the wording to include in our Rules if we wished to prohibit advertising.

Please note our Class Association Rules do not at present include any clauses controlling advertising, but in the past documents, such as the Nationals entry forms, bound competitors to these ISFA Codes.

At our Committee Meeting on 20th October 2012 it was agreed that since our Association Rules can only be amended by vote at an AGM, or postal ballot, the wording prohibiting advertising would be adopted by the Association with immediate effect and confirmed to the members in the next *Halo*. The Committee would then put a proposal to be ratified at the next AGM. The Winter 2012 *Halo* carried such a statement

Proposal No 1 for 2013 AGM at Weymouth

Add in The Rules of Association a new **Clause 12 - Advertising**
The new clause to read:-

“The display on the boat of advertising chosen by the owner or person in charge is prohibited”

The definition of boat is as detailed in the ISAF Equipment Rules of Sailing (ERS) clause C.6 and includes hulls, structures, hull appendages, rig, sails, fittings, all other items of equipment but excludes consumables, personal equipment and portable equipment ”

Proposed- John Tippett (Class Secretary),
Seconded- Gillan Gibson (Halo Editor)

Note – Since this is not a Rule of Measurement issue a majority vote will count.

Proposal No 2: Amendments to AGM proposals

Proposal No 2 for 2013 AGM at Weymouth

I, David Butler, request the committee be given full power to change the proposal system.


Rational:

At present proposals have to be submitted by a specific date, the membership are unaware of the existence of any proposals until they receive the *Halo*. The *Halo* is issued after the deadline for proposals.

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Miracle Dinghy Class Association AGM Proposals (cont)

Proposal No 2 (cont.)

Reason:

If a proposal is written and is worded incorrectly at the point of deadline, that proposal is either passed or rejected outright. However, if an amendment is allowed post deadline, in order to tweak or refine the proposal, this would create a fair system and allows an amendment and subsequent proposal to be submitted at a later date (to be agreed) prior to the AGM.

Proposer: David Butler

Seconded: Jon Willars

Amendment 1 to Proposal 2

The Association Committee have considered the above proposal, No 2, and recommend that the following amendment is required to incorporate the proposal in The Rules of the Association.

Rule 7.g) under Conduct of Meetings currently states:

“Any motion put to a General Meeting of the Association shall be proposed and seconded by full members and shall be submitted to the class secretary at least twelve weeks before the date of such a meeting.”

The Committee propose the following additional clauses be added:

“Before eight weeks of the date of a General Meeting the Committee shall publish the details of any such motion.

Before three weeks of the date of the General Meeting any Full Member of the

Association can propose and second an amendment to the initial proposal by submission to the Class Secretary.

Five days before the date of the General Meeting the Committee shall cause to be published the original proposal together with any amendments received to the original Proposal.”

Proposed by the Miracle Association Committee

Proposal No 3: Number of sailors whilst racing

Rule 11.d) under **Association Racing** reads :

“For all Association events there shall be two persons in each boat , with the exception of those events which are designated singlehanded races “

Proposal No 3 for 2013 AGM at Weymouth

Suspend Rule 11.d) from 17th August 2013 until 23 August 2014. To be automatically referred to the 2014 Annual General Meeting for permanent incorporation into the Class Rules.

Proposed - Sam Mettam

Seconded - Stan Lubner

Justification

The Class has many people who sail the boat singlehanded at club level but feel disenfranchised by not being able to



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Miracle Dinghy Class Association AGM Proposals (cont)

Proposal No 3 (cont.)

attend Association events .
Likewise, there are some people who might wish to sail with an adult and 2 children or even 2 adults and a child or 2. One of the greatest strengths of the Miracle is its versatility – this simply makes it more versatile. There may be some concerns that the performance of the boat will change with just one person. In my opinion I do not think this is likely – in light airs someone sailing single handed may sail better because they are lighter, but this is the same advantage a light double handed team face and they will also face the same disadvantage when the breeze gets up, but without the second pair of hands, although probably with more strength. If it paid to be light we would all see sub 15 stone teams winning the nationals , but this does not happen – the Miracle seems to be able to carry a wide range of competitive weights ranging from

16 to 25 stone. This already happens in the Mirror class and Single handed boats generally finish in the bottom half of the fleet. However as this is a fairly major change and we will not know the impact until we have seen it in operation , a 1 year trial period is proposed to allow Members of the Association to see if its effects across a range of venues and wind strengths.

Sam Mettam

Rules of the Association

These are available to download from the Association's website at:
www.miracledinghy.org/miracle_rules.html

The following route can be used:

1. Enter www.miracledinghy.org/
2. Click on "Home"
3. Click on "About the Miracle"
4. Click on "Miracle Rules"

Nautical Sayings "Starboard" and "Port"

The name for the right hand side of a ship or boat has its origins in Viking times. They referred to the side of a ship as a 'board' and the steering oar was called the 'star'. The star was placed on the right hand side of the ship, hence starboard. It was because of the practice of steering

from the right that the left hand side became port side. Originally it was called 'larboard' but was deemed to similar in sound to starboard. Because of the steering oar ships were tied to port by the left hand side hence 'port-side'.

Courtesy of www.harbourguides.com

Building ETTY KETTY II - part 2

When John Topliss ordered his boat from Dave Butler he became involved in the build, calling in to see how she was progressing and taking lots of photos. In

the second of 3 parts we continue the sequence showing the build with John's comments.

This photograph shows the seat frames epoxied into place, and the mast step fixed to the keelson.

As yet, no stringers have been fitted so it all looks a bit flimsy in the seat area, especially if you are as generously built as I

am. When completed and decked it is very strong indeed whilst remaining light and rigid.

I hope so, because it will have to take the jib sheeting loads as well!



This shows the bow tank before the king plank and fore deck were fitted. The plywood has been coated with six coats of epoxy, and was varnished before the deck was fitted. Notice the inlay work. Just because it's out of sight etc... The hull sides were painted grey.

This is the best time to attach the fitting for a bungee to keep the spinnaker

tidy. Did we remember? Well.....no, but there is always next time!

Apparently, in the old days when Andy was starting his apprenticeship, Dave would send him "up for'd" through the spinnaker chute to do all of these jobs after the deck was fitted, but sadly, those days have gone.



Here we see Dave and Andy fitting the stringers to the side tanks. The white blocks are closed cell foam to be fitted inside the tanks to conform to CE regs. "Hmm....." thinks Andy, "I wonder how we are going to fit them in?"

The inner skin of wood has been fitted to the transom, and to the hull in the seat area. This refinement gives the finished boat a traditional appearance whilst further increasing strength with surprisingly little penalty in weight.



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Nautical Sayings **"Jack Tar"**

Why on earth are sailors referred to as Jack Tar? The answer is there is no straight answer, although it does seem to have something to do with tar. During the years of the British Empire the name Jack Tar was widely used by landlubbers and seamen alike. It was certainly not derogatory.

The easy bits 'Jack' because like the name John, Jack has been used down the years as a name for someone of unknown identity. Basically something you can call anyone. Obviously it isn't done as much today as we call everyone mate (but that's another nautical story)

As for the tar part. Well it's true that tar was used extensively aboard wooden

ships as a sealant and general waterproofing material. So there we have a connection. Seamen often used tar to waterproof their clothes prior to setting sail. They also used to soak rigging rope in tar as it was made from hemp and tended to rot in damp conditions. They would end their days with their hands covered in the stuff. Both these explanations sound plausible. But by far the most common is that, in the absence of a ships barber, sailors would plait their hair and smear it with high grade tar to prevent it getting caught in a ships equipment. This practice was still carried on during the early 20th century. Nowadays they just make seamen get their hair cut.

Courtesy of www.harbourguides.com

The Travellers Trophy - June 2013 standings

Pos	Name	Boat	Total Miles	Events
1	Neal Gibson	4040	1746	4
2	Nick Smith	3805	630	2
3	David Reed	3725	620	3
4	Brian Mumford	4047	412	2
4	Tracy Amos	3692	412	2
6	Jack Turnbull	3254	3254	2
7	Colin Lown	206	392	3
8	Jon Willars	3793	346	2
9	Peter Cuthbert	3747	308	2
10	Gillian Gibson	3670	314	2
11	Richard Bramheld	3131	280	3
12	Matt Ambrose	3636	256	1
13	Brian Jones	4021	248	2
14	Wayne Atherton	3383	214	1
14	Martin Bathe	59	214	1
16	Brian Worrall	3679	198	1
17	Paul Robinson	3655	172	1
17	Dave Butler	Various	148	1
17	Richard Wharram	4045	148	1
20	Jon Aldhous	3794	144	2
21	Dave Herbstritt	3770	122	1
21	Iain Wilkinson	3480	122	2
21	Ashley Southwell	4011	122	2
24	Eamon Cuthbert	4016	92	1
24	Richard Hewitt	2323	92	1
26	Keith Jerimiah	3738	90	1
26	Martin Smith	3737	90	1
28	Roly Thorpe	1645	88	1
29	Simon Reddecliffe	4007	86	1
30	Barry Mellor	3333	40	1
30	John Green	3290	40	1

The objective of this Trophy is to encourage members to attend Open Meetings and to reward the member who travels the furthest in support of Open Meetings. The formulae for this is based solely on the distance travelled between home sailing club and the venue. All Open Meetings qualify, except National Championships and Regattas. The qualification period runs from one National Championships to the next. Presentation of the Trophy and any prizes are awarded at the National Championships. These are standings part way through the season
David Reed, Miracle 3725

**Going to an
open meeting
- Give it a go**

If you've wondered about going to an open meeting but were not sure what was involved there was an article in last years Spring issue of *Halo*. Along with other articles from the magazine it can be found on the website. Click on "members", then "members articles" which will bring up a list of articles, one of which is on going to open meetings.

Miracle Association Committee

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<http://www.miracledinghy.org>

Miracle Association Committee

Summary of minutes

Girton— 8th June 2013

- **Nationals at Weymouth:** Final arrangements discussed.
- **AGM Thurs 15th August 13:** 3 proposals received relating to:
 - ◇ Proposal 1 - Advertising on boats
 - ◇ Proposal 2 - Amending AGM proposals
 - ◇ Proposal 3 - Number of sailors in boat when racing.
- **Association Secretary:** a new Secretary is being sought.
- **Nationals 2014:** Hunstanton SC Sunday 17th to Friday 22nd August 2014.
- **Nationals 2015:** Rutland Water SC,

Sunday 9th to Friday 14th August 2015

- **Nationals 2016:** Subject to further review
- **Boat numbers:** Boat recently finished, though built from old kits to be given a 3900 series number with reduced registration fee.
- **40th Anniversary:** the building of 40 boats in 2014 is to be promoted by e.g. promoting laser cut kits, reduced cost for plans, etc. These and other options to be discussed.

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



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Welton 6th & 7th April 2013

With the first signs of summer showing through the open meeting at Welton on 6th and 7th April saw ten boats in all, with six home and four visiting boats.

Racing on Saturday began with a clear sky and bright sunshine, but very little wind. After bacon sandwiches and hot drinks for breakfast the wind built just in time for scheduled racing to a cold light breeze force 1-2.

A favoured starboard end of the line saw some jostling for position leading to a small collision and turns being made shortly after the gun. Neal Gibson and Geoff Phillips (4040) got off to a good start and rounded the windward mark first, closely followed by Jon & Philip Aldhouse (3794) and Stan Lubner & Brian Henline (4043). This was to be the positions of the front three throughout the first race.



The second race of the day and a shifting wind saw Jon and Phillip take a gamble from the port end of the line on starboard, tacking across the rest of the fleet to round the first mark with a good lead. Neal and Geoff were second, followed by Jon Willars & Rachel Day (3793). Jon and Rachel gained the overlap at the mark to move up to second, but after rounding the next mark some good spinnaker work from Neal and Geoff saw them re take the second position and gain ground on Jon and Phillip.

After a slow start, some good sailing to move through the fleet and a good tactical move from Stan and Brian at the leeward mark just before the last beat pushed Jon and Rachel down to fourth place. Jon and Philip maintained their lead with some flawless sailing, with Neal and Geoff coming in behind them.

Sunday dawned with the sun shining once again and extremely light winds which faded to nothing by 9.00 am. The morning race was first postponed and later abandoned.

After some quality homemade food for lunch, at one o'clock a slight sea breeze began to ripple the water

allowing racing to commence. The start was slow but Dave Smith and Leanne Therkelson (4031) made the best of it and led to the first mark followed by Dave Butler and Ross Fleming (404).

Dave and Ross soon took the lead and held it for the rest of the race, finishing in first position. They left a lot of the remaining fleet floating around looking for the odd occasional breath of wind resulting in several place changes. Dave Smith and Leanne Therkelson finished second and Richard and Hannah Wharram third (4045).

At the back of the fleet Ken and Gillan Gibson (3670) did especially well keeping the boat moving and gained a massive amount of ground and overtook Jon and Rachel before the last leg. It was down to a fortunate gust from behind, which found Jon and Rachel first, that allowed a last minute place swap just before the line.

Unfortunately any further racing was impossible as the wind failed to make



any further appearance. Results were therefore decided on three races, no discards.

The overall winners were Jon and Philip Aldhouse, second place went to Neal Gibson and Geoff Phillips and third place to Stan Lubner and Brian Henline.

Welton 6th & 7th April 2013

Pos		Club	Sail No	Pts
1st	Jon & Phillip Aldhous	Beaver	3794	7
2nd	Neal Gibson & Geoff Phillips	Redoubt	4040	9
3rd	Stan Lubner & Brian Henline	Welton	4043	11
4th	David Smith & Lianne Therkelson	Welton	4031	15
5th	Jon Willars & Rachel Day	Welton	3793	15
6th	Richard & Hannah Wharram	Welton	4045	16
7th	Dave Butler & Ross Fleming	Welton	404	18
8th	Richard & Todd Brameld	Beaver	3131	21
9th	Gillan & Kenneth Gibson	Thornton Steward	3670	25
11th	Mike Burton & Angela Featherstone	Welton	3844	31

**Southern Area Championship
Broadwater
20th & 21st April 2013**

Saturday dawned bright and clear at the start of the weekend marking Broadwater's first hosting of the Miracle Association's Southern Area Championship. The home crews of 8 Broadwater Miracles were delighted to be joined by 9 visiting boats, their sailors and families, and all were rewarded with a fascinating weekend of sailing! Our visitors included returning and extra friends from Thornbury, Maidenhead, Redoubt and Wilsonian, and the numbers were swelled by crews from Girton and Whitefriars C. W. P., new to Broadwater; all were very welcome.

During each of the 5 races the wind varied in strength from a whimper to a shout and shifted, at times wildly, in various directions! David Walford, Race Officer, set wide-ranging courses that entailed visits to all areas of the lake and involved some challenging navigation and close racing.

Saturday's two races started after a hearty lunch and took place in bright sunshine. Nick and Indigo Smith were last to arrive at Broadwater Sailing Club, but were soon rigged and swiftly sailed expertly into first place in race 1 – a position that they maintained through all 5 races, a remarkable achievement! Close fought battles emerged throughout the field in all of the races and, apart from the clear winner, every race resulted in position changes in the fleet. At the end of an exciting first day we all enjoyed a fish and chip dinner and were entertained to an after dinner sing song thanks to Greg

and Dave from Broadwater.

Sunday morning began with a superb full English breakfast! A 9.45 start to our third race placed the Miracle fleet ahead of the Broadwater club pursuit race and saw the close tussles continue. Following a break for tea, coffee and cake, race 4 got underway in an 'interesting' fashion with a very changeable wind. Race 5 followed another superb lunch with everything to sail for... apart from who was in first place!

Hearty congratulations go to the immaculate sailing of Nick and Indigo Smith – a perfect result winning all 5 races - worthy Southern Area Champions for 2013. The tussle for the further 'podium positions' was resolved with Neal and Keith emerging a clear second and Yvonne and Brian pipping Brian and Paul for third. Further congratulations go to Stewart and Janice French for top non-spinnaker boat.

As far as Broadwater crews are concerned, Clare and John recorded the home club's best position of the weekend with a creditable 5th place in race 5, along with a couple of 6th places. Other notable home successes were Joyce & Martin, Pete & Grace and Stewart & Janice who each recorded a 7th place, and the 8th and 9th places attained by John & Sara. The 'small teams' stayed mostly near the tail end but nevertheless had a great weekend battling closely – well done Dave and Jane!

Many thanks go to David Walford for organising the racing so well, managing the tricky wind conditions to provide 5

entertaining races. Catherine and Charlotte Walford maintained their excellent high standard of catering, providing tasty sustenance throughout the weekend – thank you. Thanks also go to many other Broadwater members who

contributed towards the event behind the scenes. Last, but by no means least, huge thanks go to the 9 visiting crews and their families from other clubs who travelled to



support our first Southern's - we look forward to seeing you all again alongside an even bigger fleet in 2014!

**Southern Area Championship
Broadwater - 20th & 21st April 2013**

Pos	Club	Sail No	Pts
1st	Nick & Indigo Smith	Thornbury 3805	3
2nd	Neal Gibson & Keith Macey	Redoubt 4040	6
3rd	Yvonne & Brian Mumford	Redoubt 4047	7
4th	Brian Jones & Paul Cook	Maidenhead 4021	9
5th	Tracy Amos & Karen Smailes	Redoubt 3692	12
6th	David & Jean Reed	Girton 3725	17
7th	Clare Medcalf & John Finnemore	Broadwater 2132	17
8th	Jack Turnbull & Emma Bambridge	Redoubt 3254	19
9th	Joyce Moon & Martin Hayes	Broadwater 3824	26
10th	Stewart & Janice French	Broadwater 279	26
11th	Pete Joseph & Grace Constant	Broadwater 3403	27
12th	John Green & Sarah Stone	Broadwater 3290	28
13th	Colin & Maureen Lown	Wilsonian 206	31
14th	Paul & Andrew Robinson	Whitefriars 3655	34
15th	David & Jane Cadd	Broadwater 3314	36
16th	Barry & Joe Mellor	Broadwater 3333	36
17th	Richard & Lauren Anstey	Broadwater 4024	40

Maidenhead
4th May 2013

Sharing with the Comets Maidenhead Sailing Club welcomed 8 Miracles and 14 Comets putting, 27 boats on the water for what proved to be a very exciting, enjoyable and entertaining day of racing. With a good breeze forecast and the weather improving during the day the race team set a fairly simple course taking in most of the lake.

Neal Gibson and Keith Macey (4040) led to the first mark but only just, horrendous gusts and wind shifts from the surrounding storm clouds made windward mark rounding a rather hazardous and tricky business. Battle royal behind the first boat saw Yvonne and Brian Mumford (4047), Matt Ambrose and Dan Ryder-Davies (3636), Brian Jones & Paul Cook (4021) and Tracy Amos & Karen Smailes (3692) all vying for the top three, with Yvonne eventually sailing clean away to take second place.

Following a good lunch we were promised an easing wind, it certainly

looked brighter, but it was a con trick and the afternoon's back to back races saw drama, capsizes, wipe outs and retirements. Neal and Keith excelled in the conditions and were untouchable. It was good to welcome Matt Ambrose back into the Miracle fleet and it was obvious that after a few laps he had mastered the art of inland lake sailing by taking second place in both races. Yvonne and Brian developed a penchant for swimming in our nice blue lake which cost them a potential place in the silverware. Brian and Paul had to work extremely hard to hang onto third place.

Barry and Joe Mellor from Broadwater had wisely signed up for the non spinnaker race and rightly won the prize with a very sound performance.

We will end with a "wish you here"; you missed a good event, brilliant sailing and loads of fun.

Brian Jones, 4021

Maidenhead
4th May 2013

Pos	Club	Sail No	Pts
1st	Neal Gibson & Keith Macey	Redoubt 4040	2
2nd	Matt Ambrose & Dan Ryder-Davies	Deben 3636	4
3rd	Brian Jones & Paul Cook	Maidenhead 4021	6
4th	Jack Turnbull & Gemma Gibson	Redoubt 3254	8
5th	Yvonne & Brian Mumford	Redoubt 4047	8
6th	Tracy Amos & Karen Smailes	Redoubt 3692	10
7th	James & Kathryn Gladwyn	Maidenhead 3705	13
8th	Colin & Maureen Lown	Wilsonian 206	14
9th	Barry & Joe Mellor	Broadwater 3333	18
10th	John Green & Sara Stone	Broadwater 3290	17

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