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“ All the people involved in my claim were extremely helpful and speedy in their responses. This is our second claim in our sailing history and it is so good to see standards as high now as they were years ago. Many, many thanks”.

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Join us at Rutland for the Nationals

## The Halo

Miracle Association Magazine Summer 2015



Simon Reddecliffe and Mark Atherton at Delph

The Friendly, Family, Dinghy Class”

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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 September 2015

## Editor's Corner

Nationals are at the heart of this issue, starting with information on this year at Rutland, a venue many of the fleet asked to go to. Preparations are well in hand and there are still places left if you would like to come along. Also of note is we have dates of 7th to 12th August 2016 for Pwllheli and 13th to 18th August 2017 for Weymouth for future nationals. Your Committee is particularly please to get Pwllheli as £8.3 m has just been spent on a new academy building and facilities at the Plas Heli National Sailing Centre and the venue will be even better than it already is.

Talking of Nationals, don't forget your Committee is still wanting to hear from many of you what ration of inland to sea venues we should use, currently it is 1 inland to 2 sea. The survey is on the Miracle website. They would also like views on sharing venues with other classes. Like ourselves many classes are experiencing reduced entries and this could be a solution. We do it for open meetings, so what about nationals?

One matter dear to many members' hearts is the building and restoring of Miracles. Brian Jones is nearly finished his build from the pre-cut parts and Richard Battey has been renovating 2796, see how he got on on page 13. Looking after boats is also important and we are looking for a home for Miracle



No 3. Can someone out there help?  
*Gillan Gibson*  
*Miracle 3670*

## Chairman's Desk



Hi Folks, what a sailing year! Wind, rain, sun and storms ... British weather! Just perfect for a Miracle. Our revised RYA handicap has improved our

chances in handicap events, particularly when the wind is Force 2-4.

I'm looking forward to the Nationals at Rutland Sailing Club. We still have a few places available at the discount entry rate, please apply this week. For those of you who haven't sailed at Rutland, the club is large and well

organised. The lake is vast, which gives the security of sailing inland with the large superb sailing area. The surrounding towns and beautiful countryside are well worth visiting with cycle paths around the lake itself (bikes are for hire). There is a tripping boat on the lake if you want to see more of it. The birdwatchers among you can get a sight of the Ospreys with their chicks, which will be trying out their flying skills before setting off for Senegal in Africa, but...keep your eyes on the spinnaker Eilidh.

I'm really pleased to read all the activity on Facebook. Open comments can only be good for the Class. I wish you all good sailing.

*Louis Moulden*

## Nationals Racing Schedule and the future

After a distinct lack of entries for the non-points races over the years, and assorted comments from sailors, your committee decided to innovate and this year is trialling a revised schedule of races - and it needs to know what you think.

We have gone back to having 8 points races. This leaves space on Monday and Wednesday, to make more of the non-points races.

Another aspect is we intend to be more proactive about pre-entry for the non-points races to assist the race organisers.

Whether you are going to the Nationals or not your Committee needs to know your views to decide what to do next year.

And looking forward, we are finalising venues for the next two years:

**7th to 12th August 2016**  
**Plas Heli, Pwllheli**

For an article on the venue see *Yachts and Yachting*, August 2015 (current issue),

**13th to 18th August 2017**  
**Weymouth and Portland**  
**National Sailing Academy**



**Miracle Association - Happy anniversary**





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Calendar 2015

<b>Tynemouth</b> Summer Regatta	18th & 19th July	<a href="http://tynemouthsc.co.uk/">http://tynemouthsc.co.uk/</a>
<b>Shotwick</b> (CH5 2LL)	25th & 26th July	<a href="http://www.shotwicksailing.org/">http://www.shotwicksailing.org/</a>
<b>Rutland</b> (LE15 8HJ) National Championships	9th to 14th Aug	<a href="http://www.rutlandsc.co.uk/">www.rutlandsc.co.uk/</a>
<b>Thornton Steward</b> (HG4 4BQ) End of Season Championships	12th & 13th Sept	<a href="http://www.thornton-steward-sailingclub.co.uk">www.thornton-steward-sailingclub.co.uk</a>
<b>Draycote</b> (CV23 8AB)	10th October	<a href="http://www.draycotewater.co.uk">www.draycotewater.co.uk</a>

For more information check the website closer to an event

[www.miracledinghy.org](http://www.miracledinghy.org)



**2 new venues**  
**Both 2 day events**

<b>Tynemouth</b> 18th & 19th July 15 A sea venue launching from the north bank of the River Tyne into the harbour. Part of Tynemouth Regatta	<b>Shotwick</b> 25th & 26th July 15 Deeside, North Wales. We race with the Scorpions on Sunday
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Try somewhere different





## 2015 Nationals Rutland SC 9th to 14th August



### Practical points

Website:  
[www.miracledinghy.org/](http://www.miracledinghy.org/)

Entry fee  
£150

(minus £5 discounts for attendance at each open meetings in 2014)

#### Entry fee includes:

- Racing
- Boat space parking
- Car parking
- Commodore's Reception for all
- 2 tickets for Prizegiving, for helm and crew (Additional tickets Adults £15, children £7.50)

#### Midweek meal

Everyone: £7.50 from Reception,  
Rutland Sailing Club

#### The Notice of Racing

is on the website:

<http://www.miracledinghy.org/Rutland%20Notice%20of%20Race%202015%20Rev%204.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

Please present your boat RIGGED to the designated area between  
**9.00 am and 6.00 pm on the Saturday**

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. **Foils.**
5. **Sheeting arrangements.**
6. **Sails** - stamp one set for .

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

### Registration

**Saturday 2.00 pm - 6.00 pm**  
**Sunday 9.00 am - 12.00 noon**

#### Logoed clothing

[www.waveclothing.co.uk](http://www.waveclothing.co.uk)  
Tel: 07855 423 741

## Race Timings

For the Nationals at Rutland, to make more time for the non points races, it has been decided to reduce the number of Points Races back to 8 races.

The times will be:

	Warning signal
Sun 9th Aug	
Practice Race	10:25 hrs
1st Points Race (PR)	13:25 hrs
Mon 10th Aug	
2nd Points Race	10:25 hrs
1st Youth Race (YR)	ASAP after 2nd PR
Crews Race	ASAP after 1st YR
Tues 11th Aug	
3rd Points Race	10:25 hrs
4th Points Race	ASAP after 3rd PR
2nd Youth Race	ASAP after 4th PR
Wed 12th Aug	
5th Points Race	10:25 hrs
3rd Youth Race	ASAP after 5th PR
Singlehanded/non spinnaker	ASAP after 3rd YR
Thurs 13th Aug	
6th Points Race	10:25 hrs
7th Points Race	ASAP after 7th PR
Fri 14th Aug	
8th Points Race	10:25 hrs

#### Websites

Rutland Sailing Club  
<http://www.rutlandsc.co.uk/>

Rutland Tourist Information  
[www.discover-rutland.co.uk/](http://www.discover-rutland.co.uk/)

## Social Events Diary

**Sat 8<sup>th</sup> August**  
Informal evening

**Sun 9<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Commodore's Reception**  
**7.00 pm**

**Mon 10<sup>th</sup> August**  
Free evening

**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> August**  
Free evening

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Meal and Quiz**  
**7.00 pm**

**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Association AGM**  
**7.30 pm**

**Fri 14<sup>th</sup> August**  
**Prizegiving and Meal**  
**7.00 pm**

Bar open in evenings

**Miracle  
Nationals**

**2016**

**Plas Heli  
Pwllheli**

7th-12th August

**2017**

**WPNSA  
Weymouth**

13th-18th August

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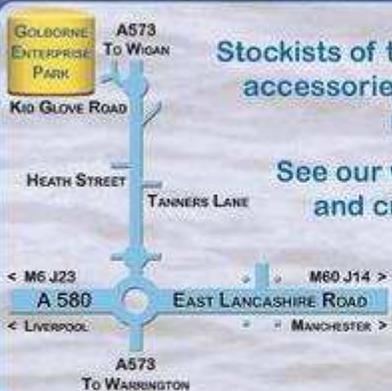
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## Nationals clothing

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](http://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](http://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



All available with 2015 Nationals logo embroidered on the left breast

## Order yours on Wave Clothing's website

### Polo shirts—ladies' and men's



### Hoddies—children's and adults



[www.waveclothing.co.uk](http://www.waveclothing.co.uk)

Tel: 07855 423 741



# Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Miracle Dinghy Class Association will be held at  
Rutland Sailing Club  
Edith Weston  
Oakham  
Rutland  
LE15 8HJ

On Thursday 13th August 2015 at 7.30 pm  
( room location to be advised )

## Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Approval of Minutes of AGM held on 21st August 2014 at Hunstanton
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman 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

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 21st May 2015

# AGM proposal - Agenda item 6 Revised *Miracle Association Rules of the Association*

Proposed amendment to the proposed *Rules of the Association 2015*

Proposed: Louis Moulden  
Seconded: Gillan Gibson

To amend Rule 4i by:

1. Adding "Honorary Member" to the first sentence.
2. Deleting the word "honorary" from the final sentence.

Reason: Without these changes Honorary Members would not be entitled to vote so losing their valuable experience and depriving them of one way to be actively involved in the Miracle Association.

Revised Rule to read:

*"4 i) Each Full Member, Family Member and Honorary Member shall be entitled to one vote at a General Meeting of the Association, or a postal ballot. Youth and Junior Members shall be entitled to attend any General Meeting, but not to vote."*



## ***Nautical Sayings "Calm before the storm"***

Although not exclusively nautical, this has been attributed to seagoing folk as a result of their constant and intimate interaction with the weather. Although not known at the time, an approaching storm will drop the barometric pressure, creating a low directly ahead of the storm front. If a storm comes from a direction that is opposite to the prevailing winds, the prevailing breezes will eventually be

overcome by the storm front. Just before this happens, however, there will be an equalization of wind speed from two opposing directions resulting in an absence of any wind. The meaning is not lost on landlubbers, before someone explodes in anger they almost invariably become overly quiet and, in some instances, even tranquil.

Courtesy of [www.see-the-sea.org](http://www.see-the-sea.org)

## What to do with Miracle 3

In 2013 I think it was that the Miracle Association was gifted Miracle No 3 by the late Clifford Davis who had owned the boat since 1988. Prior to that it was owned initially by The Mirror Group Newspapers and then by an SP Gray; now Bernard Gray was the first chairman of the Association, elected at the inaugural Meeting in July 1975 so I assume these Grays were related.

The Measurements Certificate confirms that Miracle No 3 was built by Bell Woodworking in November 1974 and was named "Origin of the Species".

Dave and Jean Reed kindly agreed to look after it for a while and indeed they campaigned in No 3 during 2014 while we, the Committee decided what to do with her.

I had been to the National Maritime Museum at Falmouth in Cornwall and seen the several classic dinghies displayed in their main hall-Enterprises, Mirror, Firefly, National 12s etc, so I wrote on behalf of the Committee offering them Miracle No 3 explaining the background, and including early publicity brochures and a copy of a write up in Yachts and Yachting dated Nov 1974. Initially they were very interested and asked for recent photographs which we provided.

We were advised that their Acquisitions Committee would meet in May this year to review our offer; unfortunately subsequently we were advised

that due to an acquisitions policy change, they regretted, they were not able to accommodate Miracle No 3.

Dave and Jean obviously do not want to keep her indefinitely so we need to find a permanent solution. Dave tells me that "Origin of the Species" is in reasonably good condition for the age and comes with Aldrbaron (oval) mast, round Proctor boom, good foils, and a suite of Suggitt Sails and a launching trolley but no trailer.

So does anyone out there have any bright ideas, it seems a, crying shame to have to scrap and cannibalise such an iconic boat and I wonder if anyone knows of a Club that might be interested in her as a training boat, or maybe if the scouts, sea scouts or guides or similar organisations might be interested, or maybe you know of another museum type place that we could approach, please do let us know and we will contact them.

*John Tippett, Class Secretary*



Miracle 3, "Origin of the Species", at Burton SC

## Restoring Miracle 2796

I acquired Miracle 2796 from my local sailing club (Crawley Mariners) for a very nominal sum as it was advertised in the club mag as "having seen better days". Actually when the decrepit plastic cover was removed it wasn't at all in bad shape apart from the varnish lifting, glue failure along the gunwales and a rotten transom, the latter of which did give cause for concern.

Dealing with the transom first, and not knowing much about the class having sailed Merlin's pretty much on and off for the past 20+ years, the intention was to remove the transom, or what was left of it, as delicately as possible to provide me with a template to work with. Like all well laid plans it disintegrated which left me with a head scratching moment!

I posted on the Miracle forum for information on transom repairs and out of the blue I received an email from an extremely helpful man by the name of Mr Brian Jones who not only gave me advice but also sent me a plan of the class transom measurements. I was back in business!

I purchased a sheet of 2.5m x 1.2m, 5mm gaboony marine ply from Wenban-Smith and set about marking up



the new transom (including slot tabs to be on the safe side). A little tip when cutting ply, run masking tape along the pencil line so that when you cut with your jigsaw it does not splinter the wood. It works!

With the new transom piece cut I carried out an initial fitting and marked areas that needed adjustment carefully using a block plane. Once done, and I was happy with the fit, I mixed up some SP106 epoxy with West microfibres and created a neat fillet around the inside edge and applied epoxy to all keyed/structural surfaces adjoining hull, side decks/tanks and clamped in place. Any gaps were taken up with epoxy/microfibre mix. Once the epoxy had cured, I set about sanding edges making sure I created a neat and tidy profile. Satisfied that the new transom and joints were fair I applied some plain weave 50mm glass cloth (175gm/sq.m) to the outside and inside edges of the transom to create structural re-enforcement. Once cured, some significant sanding took place before I applied a coat of SP106 resin to the transom inside and out to provide additional weathering properties. Job done!

One down two to go, see part 2 next issue.

*Richard Battey*



## 4064's build continued —the final stages



Brian Jones continues building a Miracle using pre-cut ply parts

Not too much to report, the keel is on and the filling and fairing are nearly complete (now I know why people send their boats to the paint shop!!). Early next week should see the top coat applied, then its a quick turn over to varnish the decks and interior. After that I better order all that expensive chandlery and start screwing the fittings on.

*Brian Jones*

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Delph SC

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/56799327734/permalink/10152851737107735/>

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## **Southern Area Championship Broadwater 25th & 26th April 2015**

Saturday 25th April dawned with a gentle breeze, sunshine and an Albacore open meeting greeted the travelling Miracles at Broadwater Sailing Club for the Southern Area Championships. An afternoon start for the first race gave plenty of time for the 8 boats to get rigged and enjoy lunch provided by the club.

**Race 1** - The first race got off to a close start with a few shouts of rules but nothing came of it. Yvonne and Brian Mumford (4047) took to the front and quickly built an unassailable lead leaving everyone else to fight it out. Steve & Richard Fischer (124) managed to pull away, and, with clean air, couldn't quite be caught by the chasing pack. With some great gains to be had on the beats depending on how lucky you were with the shifts there were lots of position changes. Jack Turnbull and Abbey Mumford (3254) managed to grab 3rd on their first time sailing together.

**Race 2** - After a quick snack and tea break the second race went off with a similar pattern as Yvonne and Brian showed everyone the back of a clean boat. This time it was Brian Jones and Paul Cook (4021) who managed to pull clear of the pack and took off in pursuit, unfortunately to no avail. With great wind shifts all over the place 3rd again went to Jack and Abbey. Overnight Yvonne and Brian led with a three way tie for 2nd between Brian Jones, Jack Turnbull and Steve Fischer.

**Race 3** - Sunday morning arrived along with a distinct chill and whiff of delicious breakfast pasties from the club

house. Another two club boats turned up bringing the total to 10 and racing got under way nice and early. A change to yesterday's proceeding's with this time Brian Jones and Paul Cook being the ones that shot off to be chased by Yvonne and Brian Mumford, but despite a good fight Brian and Paul were successful. With a good start from Claire Medcalf & John Finnemore (2132), along with the two new comers Pete Joseph & Grace Constant (3403), Andy Cooney & Joyce Moon (3633) left everyone working hard to fight for the same positions as yesterday. 3rd place eventually went to Claire and John.

**Race 4** - The race before lunch had all but planned out until the last beat. Yvonne and Brian were again too far ahead to be affected, but just as Jack & (Sunday crew) Hannah Mumford rounded the bottom mark there was a tremendous wind shift which left them pointing straight at the finish line. The boats ahead also had the benefit but they were too far ahead and over the lake. Brian & Paul managed to not lose too much ground and finished 2nd. Pete & Grace, Andy & Joyce and Jack & Hannah were left fighting all the way up to the committee boat where a last ditch tack from Jack stole 3rd from Andy Cooney & Joyce Moon, and unfortunately relegated Pete Joseph & Grace Constant from 3rd to 6th, with everyone coming in for food talking about the near 90 degree shift.

**Race 5** - With the first two places decided 3rd place was still up for grabs with Steve Fischer, Jack Turnbull and Andy

Cooney having an outside chance of grabbing 3rd. After working out what was needed to be done over a lovely warming lunch supplied by the club, the final race got underway. Something unusual greeted participants which was a semi steady breeze. Yvonne and Brian finished off as they had begun with a convincing win. Jack and Hannah managed to pull out of a

congested pack and grab 2nd on the last beat, Brian & Paul had a switch round and held on to 3rd, Steve & Pauline Fischer finishing 4th.

A great event was had by all and many thanks to Barry Mellor for organising it all along with able help from other club members and all the galley staff.

*Richard Brameld*

Pos	Club	Sail No
1	Yvonne & Brian Mumford	Redoubt 4047
2	Brian Jones & Paul Cook	Maidenhead 4021
3	Jack Turnbull & Abbey & Hannah Mumford	Redoubt 3254
4	Steve, Richard & Pauline Fischer	124
5	Clare Medcalf & John Finnemore	Broadwater 2132
6	Andy Cooney & Joyce Moon	3633
7	Peter Joseph & Grace Constant	Broadwater 3403
8	John Green & Paul Abbott	Broadwater 3290
9	David & Jean Reed	Girton 4052
10	Barry & Joe Mellor	Broadwater 3838

## **North East Championship Welton 9th & 10th May 2015**

The Miracle North East Championship took place at Welton Sailing Club on the weekend of 9/10th of May. The fleet was greeted by a good force six gusting seven. The boats chose to hide in the lee of the clubhouse whilst the humans hid inside. Thankfully the decision to postpone until after lunch was a wise one. Whilst the crews were fed and watered the wind was abating to a more manageable four gusting five.

Race one got underway without

hitch. As the lighter crews battled with the conditions, Dave Butler and Ross Flemming showed their intention by disappearing into the lead. They continued faultlessly to the finish, leaving the rest of the fleet to battle it out with Richard and Todd Brameld (3131) gaining second. Richard Wharram and daughter Hannah (4045) placed third.

A gaffer tape plaster on Jon Willars boat (4024) ensured race two got away cleanly. The gaffer tape must have given a

## North East Championship—Welton (cont.)

slight edge as Jon and Rachel led round the first lap. They battled with Dave Butler and Ross whilst Richard and Todd were in hot pursuit. Butler finally fired the afterburners up and disappeared into the lead. This left Richard and Todd chasing Jon and Rachel with Richard and Hannah breathing down their necks. Spinnakers up, flying down the reach, on the edge of control - Jon Willars' rudder snapped resulting in a capsize. Taking advantage, Richard and Todd passed. The positions remained unchanged to the finish.

Sunday dawned with a beautiful force three to four and the sun welcomed another couple of local boats onto the water.

The third race got under way with a faultless start line and fantastic course. The racing was neck and neck throughout the fleet. One mistake and you were spat out the back. In the end Dave Butler and Ross flew past Jon and Rachel and won the championship with two races to spare. It was a photo finish for third place between Dave Smith and Richard Brameld - with no more than an inch between them.

By the fourth race Dave Smith, Richard Brameld and Jon Willars all had their eye on second place. Once again the racing was intensely fun. Butler was still on fire, but with the rest of the fleet making him work for it. Richard and Todd finally got it together to get past Dave and Giles, and the other chasing pack, and totally nailed the long close reach down the lake. Not satisfied with that, they proceeded to wind the fast Butler boat in. The next

couple of laps continued with Dave and Giles in hot pursuit keeping things interesting. In the end the Butler boat outpaced the rest of the fleet with Richard and Todd in second; giving them second overall.

The final race of the series commenced with a couple of boats calling it a day and a quick crew change for Richard Wharram now with son 'Fast' Max. Brilliant racing ensued tit for tat all the way round with fast planing reaches, and hard core beats it just couldn't have got any better. It was a clean sweep of first places for Dave Butler. The battle continued right up to the last mark with Jon pushing Richard and Max up. Dave Smith stayed low and sailed off to the finish leaving Jon & Rachel, Richard & Max and Richard & Todd fight it out to the end. Richard & Max had to take turns en route, leaving him gutted in fifth. Richard & Todd placed fourth and Jon & Rachel placed third.

Thanks go out to all at Welton Sailing club for a fantastic weekend: the food was excellent; the racing was awesome; and the beautifully hand-crafted glassware made gratefully-received prizes.

The Miracle is going from strength to strength at this club as more and more people are realizing its versatility to get the kids, grandkids, wives and girlfriends out enjoying this real grass roots class. Boats are available for a few hundred pounds and an immense amount of pleasure can be had.

*Richard Brameld*

1	Dave Butler & Ross Flemming	Welton	
2	Richard & Todd Brameld	Welton	3131
3	David Smith & Giles Therkelson-Smith	Welton	4031
4	Jon Willars & Rachel Day	Welton	4024
5	Richard, Hannah & Max Wharram	Welton	4045
6	John Tippett & Kathy Boulton	Draycote	4020
7	David & Jean Reed	Girton	4052
8	Angela & Paul Featherstone	Welton	3720

## Northern Championship Delph 16th & 17th May 2015



Full results and report next issue.



1st Wayne Atherton  
& Angela Sweeney  
2nd David  
& Michelle Raines  
3rd Simon Reddecliffe  
& Mark Atherton



**Puddleduck  
Girton  
7th & 8th June 2014**

9 Miracles took part in Girton's open which saw plenty of sun all weekend. Saturday came in windy, very windy, Force 4-5 and often a steady Force 6 – and gusty with it. The first start was delayed in the hope of



less wind, but the time came and 6 of the 8 boats there launched. It was challenging sailing with most boats capsizing at some point. One boat managed a dry capsize when Graham Watts made it to the centreboard and had their Miracle up amazingly fast. But it was a race and Phil and Helen Bailey took command of the situation and crossed the finish first. It was decided to postpone the second race until the Sunday morning when less wind was forecast. The fleet packed up and retired to the clubhouse for an excellent meal and good conversation. Sunday dawned early with a 10.30 start for

race 2, with an additional crew in Wayne Atherton & Angela Sweeney. In moderate winds the fleet set off and soon divided into 2 with Phil & Helen Bailey, Tracy Amos & Gemma Gibson, David & Michelle Raines and Wayne Atherton & Angela Sweeney swapping places in the front, followed a short distance behind by David & Jean Reed, Brian Jones & John Green, John Tippett & Kathy Boulton and Graham Watts & Helen Jacks all swapping place as well. Again it was the Baileys who came out on top, a situation they repeated in races 3 and 4. As the day went on the wind slowly dropped and with only occasional windy patches the fleet started to fly their spinnakers and it was



interesting to see the losses and gains which could be made. In the end it was Phil and Helen Bailey who took the series and thanked Girton, on behalf of all the competitors, for an excellent weekend. *Gillian Gibson, Miracle 3670*

Pos	Club	Sail No	Points	
1	Phil & Helen Bailey	Hunts	3825	3
2	David & Michelle Raines	Leigh & Lowton	3740	6
3	Wayne Atherton & Angela Sweeny	Delph	3383	7
4	Tracy Amos & Gemma Gibson	Redoubt	4040	8
5	Graham Watts & Helen Jacks	Staunton Harold	3840	15
6	Brian Jones & John Green	Maidenhead	4021	15
7	John Tippett & Kathy Boulton	Draycote	4020	20
8	Dave & Jean Reed	Girton	4052	21
9	Gillian & Ken Gibson	Thornton Steward	3670	50

**Redoubt  
20th June 2015**

On the Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> June the annual Miracle open took place at Redoubt Sailing Club. With only 5 boats taking part this year and a forecast for light breeze the first race got underway after a slight delay. The Miracle Sailed by Tracy Amos & Gemma Gibson (4040) showed all a clean pair heels in the first race and took an easy win with

boats behind slowing each other down. With good starts in the remaining two races Tracy & Gemma continued to excel, the boats behind came close but could not match the consistency of their sailing, the pair won all races on the day to win the Redoubt Miracle open 2015. *Brian Mumford*

Pos	Club	Sail No	
1st	Tracy Amos & Gemma Gibson	Redoubt	4040
2nd	Brian Jones & Hannah Mumford	Maidenhead	4021
3rd	Yvonne & Brian Mumford	Redoubt	4021
4th	Jack Turnbull & Emma Bambridge	Redoubt	3254
5th	Roger Filby & Abbey Mumford	Redoubt	3831

**Inland Championship  
Burton  
27th & 28th June 2015**

**“We nearly all went for a Burton”**

Seven boats from the South West, North Wales, Yorkshire and the Midlands came to Burton Sailing Club for the Miracle Inland Championships sailed round the club buoys in what proved to be some very testing conditions.

The forecast for Saturday was for a gentle force 2/3 westerly in sunshine. Well, we did get the sun which brought the sunbathers and parasols out on the Country Park beach opposite, but we also got gusts of Force 4 which came out of nowhere and made for some interesting sailing particularly on the long dead runs. Two races were scheduled on the Saturday with 3 more on Sunday and with 3 Races to count.

Hannah and Nick Smith (3805) led



Hannah and Nick Smith - Winners

from the off in the first race with Graham Watts and Helen Jacks (3840) next then John Tippett and Kathy Boulton in 4020 . On the last lap Graham and Helen got the dreaded “ spinnaker sheet under the boat syndrome “ allowing 4020 to move up into second place with 3840 third. Behind them Dave and Jean Reed (4052) overtook Dave Herbstritt and Josie Arrns (3770) to finish 4th and 5th respectively followed by newcomers Cathy Goodwin and Cerys Murphy (662) from Port Dinorwic Sailing Club.

Graham and Helen had a quick run to the shore of the Country Park to untangle their spinnaker sheets and then desperate beat back to the start line in time for the Race 2 start.

Again the Smiths lead followed by 3840 despite their trauma and then 4020, 3770, 662, and 4052 but on the last beat John and Kathy passed 3840 otherwise the order stayed the same at the gun.

Rain first thing on Sunday saw another layer of clothing being added, the wind had picked up too with stronger gusts which made the dead runs the Race Officer had set very interesting, or exciting, depending on your view point.

Dave Butler and Ross Flemming (4060) had joined

the fleet for Sunday’s racing and in Race 3 straightaway showed their aptitude for the heavy weather leading the Fleet by the first lap, however, by lap 2 Hannah and Nick were back in the lead followed by 4060, 3770, 4020 and 4052. Cathy and Cerys had retired, as had Graham and Helen with boat damage following a capsized.



David and Jean Reed

At the finish the order was Hannah & Nick, Dave & Ross, John & Kathy, Dave & Josie and Dave & Jean.

The wind had gradually increased by Race 4 which Dave and Ross led from the start to finish. Hannah and Nick had capsized in a huge gust with the kite up on a close reach which dropped them back to 5th at the first lap. Dave and Josie maintained second place until the last lap when they were overtaken by Hannah and Nick who had fought their way back to second place at the gun.

So the finish for Race 4 order was 4060, 3805, 3770, 3840, 4020, 4052, 662

We broke off for dinner, but by the time Race 5 got underway the wind was

getting still stronger, the Race Officer recorded 30 knot gusts at times, and the brave souls who sailed it said that conditions were very difficult with the gusts seeming to come from all directions and not allowing the crews to settle into any rhythm. After the first lap 3805 led from 4060, then 3840, 3770, and 662 and this order stayed unchanged until Dave and Ross capsized in a gust on the beat, allowing Graham and Helen to take 2nd, Cathy and Gerys passed Dave and Josie on the last lap to finish 4th and 5th positions.

So our new National Inland Champions for 2015 are Hannah Smith crewed by her dad Nick.

*John Tippett*

Pos	Club	Sail No	Pts
1	Hannah & Nick Smith	Thornbury 3805	3
2	Dave Butler & Ross Flemming	Welton 4060	6
3	John Tippett & Kathy Boulton	Draycote 4020	7
4	Graham Watts & Helen Jacks	Staunton Harold 3840	8
5	David Herbstritt & Josie Airns	Shotwick Lake 3770	11
6	Cathy Goodwin & Cerys Murphy	Port Dinorwic 662	15
7	David & Jean Reed	Girton 4052	15