

Wishing you all a Happy New Year

The Halo

Miracle Association Magazine Winter 2009



**Ally and Harry Jones at Thornton Steward
Open Meeting August 2009**

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Halo deadline

Items for the Spring 2010 issue should be with the editors by 1st March 2010.

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.

By the time you receive this edition of the *Halo* the Christmas and New Year festivities will be over and you will have made and perhaps broken already your new year's resolutions! Now you can concentrate on more serious matters like getting your Miracle ready for the new challenges ahead.

Whether it is just a few simple mods. or new boat parts or sails don't forget to ask our advertisers for a quote. They will try to offer you competitive prices and remember they are supporting the Association by taking advertising space which goes a long way to covering the costs involved in producing your *Halo* magazine.

We are looking forward this year to attending some of the open meetings and a return visit to Beaumaris, after our first Nationals there in 2007. Also to welcome all who can attend our own club open meeting in September. We hope like us that you have enjoyed your Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you at some of this year's events.

We've been hacked!

Can you make note we now have a new e-mail address after our old one was hi-jacked by a hacker. It's:

kengillian2@yahoo.co.uk

A tip for the future is to set up an additional e-mail account which you use and check enough to keep it live so if you ever have problems the account is there ready—when you first set up an account there are initially limits on the numbers of e-mails and people you can send to which is most frustrating.

Gillan and Kenneth Gibson 3670

Chairman's Chunter



mid December we took the opportunity to discuss feedback from a number of possible venues for our 2011 and 2012 Nationals. The next stage is to visit those venues of interest and confirm bookings, we will let you know as soon as possible.

The Dinghy Show is once again upon us in March (6th-7th March) and we have a stand confirmed in the Main Hall. We are hoping to have at the show a new FRP Miracle from Butler Boats plus, if space permits, a composite Miracle. So it will be nice to see lots of you visiting and stopping by for a chat.

Your Race Officer, Wayne Atherton, has completed the race calendar for the new season with just one or two clubs to be confirmed. However, we are always searching for new venues for Opens to give everyone a chance to experience the delights of sailing at different clubs. If your club is interested, even if you have never before run an event, or if you know of a club that may be interested, then contact Wayne and he will be happy to discuss any concerns you have. We try to keep our Opens as simple as possible.

That's all from me,
David Reed.

This is one of my chunters when I have to think ahead of myself (I think).

I write these words approximately two weeks before the Christmas break knowing that you will read them in January whilst your committee is in the middle of organising a number of events. (Winter is supposed to be the quiet part of the year!)

First let me wish you and your families all the best for the New Year and I trust you all had an excellent Christmas and are now working hard on your diets and alcohol reduction programs.

Next a few words about the Nationals (Beumaris 8th-13th August). At the moment we are still in negotiations with the Yacht Club and other venues for our social events. You would normally receive your entry form in this publication of *Halo*, but because of the negotiations it may be we are unable to include it. If it isn't in, don't worry, as soon as we finalise details we will send the form out and/or put it on the website.

I would also reiterate my comments from the last Halo about sorting out your accommodation/camping etc.

At our last committee meeting in

Measurement Matters

The following Rules of Measurement and Construction were added or amended at the December meeting:

- Added under SPARS
"Spars may not be constructed of Carbon Fibre"
(rules already specify the materials hull can be built of)
- amended under Permitted Exceptions [x] c (iii)
Cosmetic Additions i:
"the thwart may be laminated along its major dimensions **and may have holes cut in it for fittings or to assist in crew purchase during capsized recovery**"

- **slots cut in the mast**
not considered a good idea unless done professionally even then it was of questionable value as the idea was apparently tried on another class years ago with no positive effect. Sam Mettam is gathering further technical information possibly to present to the Association at the next AGM. Present ruling puts it out of class.
- there are also ongoing issues to resolve re the **bridle height**

Brian Jones

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Race Officer's Report

Well another season is over and winter sailing is in progress for those keen enough to sail with icy fingers!

As you all know we are looking into new venues for our future National Championship events but this may mean that there could be a small increase in the entry fees dependent on the chosen clubs costs.

The open meetings calendar is now complete and is on the website. There are a couple of new venues, namely Winsford, Cheshire for a 2 day event in May and Clywedog, Wales for the Welsh Area Championships. Clywedog is a beautiful venue and is well worth going to even if you don't sail. These venues, along with our regular open meetings, need your support in 2010 so that they don't slide off the calendar in future years as some of the old favourites have done in the past.

The Nationals at Beaumaris starts on the 7th August and is a good holiday resort for all the family. Hopefully we will top the number of entries that we had at Ullswater in 2009 which despite the weather at the beginning of the week

turned out to be a fantastic venue.

Don't forget to come and see us on the stand at the Dinghy show in March.

Happy New Year and see you on the water in April!

Wayne Atherton
Race Officer

Miracle 3383

2010 Open Meetings

3rd & 4th April	North Lincs
North East Areas	
17th April	Hornsea
1st & 2nd May	Winsford
15th & 16th May	Delph
Northern Areas	
22nd & 23rd May	Girton
Puddleduck	
29th & 31st May	Clywedog
Welsh Areas	
12th & 13th June	Burton
Midland Area	
19th June	Killington
20th June	Wigan
10th & 11th July	Margate
Southern Areas	
7th to 13th August	Beaumaris
Nationals	
4th & 5th Sept	Thornton Steward
11th & 12th Sept	Draycote
Inlands	

Confirmation awaited
Deben—end June



Wayne and Mark Atherton at Thornton Steward SC

Photo—Phil Garner