



Midland Area Championship

Staunton Harold Sailing Club

8th & 9th April 2017

Report and results

Pos	Club	Sail No	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Total points	
1	Tracy Amos & Gemma Gibson	Redoubt	3692	2	1	1	2	3	4
2	Graham Watts & Helen Jacks	Staunton Harold	3813	3	2	2	1	5	5
3	David and Zara Turtle	Shustoke	4026	1	3	3	3	2	6
4	Simon Reddecliffe & Mark Atherton	Delph	4007	4	4	4	4	1	9
5	Alan & Aileen Bennett	Staunton Harold	4006	6	5	6	6	4	15
6	David & Jean Reed	Girton	4052	5	6	5	5	DNC	15
7	Ian & Lily Brown	Delph	4098	7	7	7	DNF	DNC	21
8	John George & Richard Barnett	Staunton Harold	3793	8	8	8	7	DNC	23
9	Keith Martin & John Whitehouse	Teesdale	3755	DNC	DNC	9	8	DNC	27

After a 10 year absence bright sunshine and light winds greeted the Miracles to Staunton Harold Sailing Club over the weekend of 8th and 9th April.

Five visitors joined the home boats for a joint event with the GP14 fleet.

Race 1 saw Dave and Zara Turtle (4026) get a port end flyer at the pin end and sail off with a good lead, However, Tracy Amos and Gemma Gibson (3692) closed the gap and while in a battle with the leaders allowed Graham Watts and Helen Jacks (3813) to join them, but it was Dave and Zara at the gun, closely followed by Tracy and Gemma, then Graham and Helen.

In Race 2, it was Tracy and Gemma who took the lead, but the lead swapped several times with Graham & Helen and Dave & Zara, but at the finish it was Tracy and Gemma, with Graham and Helen close behind just holding off Dave and Zara.

Saturday night the club laid on a very tasty curry meal and a local brewery supplied a barrel of beer.

Sunday was looking good with the breeze picking up and an even warmer day in store.

Race 3 saw Graham and Helen take the lead early on and they held on until the very last reach, when a gust hit them and nearly tipped them in, which allowed Tracy and Gemma to sail over the top of them and around the last mark towards the finishing line, with Graham and Helen just holding off Dave and Zara to the post.

In race 4, Tracy and Gemma and Dave and Zara were changing places consistently and after two laps, neither had noticed that the shorten course flag had gone up, or heard the hooter, with the two boats in a great battle. Graham and Helen, who had read the signs, decided to go high up the

course then tacked and crossed the line at the committee boat end, ahead of Tracy & Gemma and Dave & Zara. Simon Reddicliffe and Mark Atherton (4007) came 4th, so far they had come 4th in every race.

With everything to play for in Race 5 and the wind building up even more, it was Simon and Mark who shot into the lead. The conditions suited them and nobody could catch them and they took line honours, which meant Tracy and Gemma won the event, Graham and Helen were 2nd and Dave and Zara 3rd

Graeme Watts

Photos: Nigel Burrows & Tim Gray