

Building a wooden Miracle

Brian trials the new sheets

Having expended much time and energy organising sheets of ply pre-cut with the parts for a Miracle Brian Jones, our Measurement Secretary, thought he would build a boat with them. He aimed to check everything worked and debug the system.

So with a copy of the original building book, a set of the sheets and assorted other pieces of wood, he set to.

This is the first part of his odyssey.



The ply sheets arrive, pre-cut by router and are quickly and easily removed. I was amazed that within a couple of hours I had most of the parts ready to assemble. When I built 3838 it took me days to scale up the drawings onto ply sheets and cut out with a jig saw



The next stage is making up batters from the scrap ply followed by lots of glueing to form the major parts of the hull

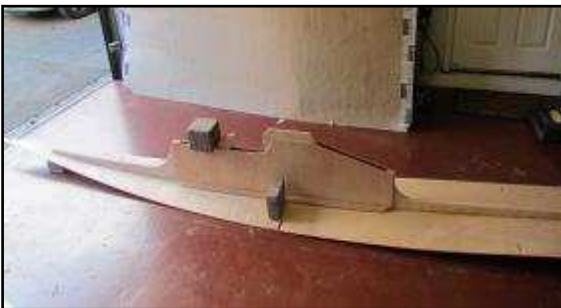


Then to save time and effort on fairing the hull at a later stage the edges are routed out to a shallow depth just sufficient to accept the tape



This is the most vital stage and entails carefully assembling the center case and the spines of the boat, getting the rocker correct ensures the boat will perform and measure. Its actually not too difficult if you follow the instructions in the building book.

NB the spines are shown on the plans as 15mm ply, they come on the sheets as three 5 mm patterns which need to be glued together.



Finally the whole assembly is glued to the floor panels. I mounted it on a bench and working from below screwed it together first, took it apart, applied the epoxy glue, re screwed it and place it on a level floor to set: ensuring that the measurements from the base line were correct.

It won't be long now before I can add all the hull panels and she will begin to look like a Miracle

Brian Jones, Measurement Secretary

Halo, April 2014

4064's build continued

Brian Jone's continues building a Miracle using pre-cut ply parts



Not much progress has been made since the last article, too many other things on! But I have started to add the transom, bulkheads and place the floor panels. It's beginning to look like a boat now!



Panels are clipped into place using the tab and slot method and held in position by sliding a nail through a predrilled hole in the tab.

Panels are wired together to ensure a close fit, but these wires are later removed after the boat is spot welded using epoxy (John's good idea so you don't see the wires in the finished product—the building instructions say to tape over them)



Note the cross strut to hold the central bullheads in the correct position and to maintain the correct width for the centreboard slot (this will be removed at a later stage). There are some measurement checks at this stage to ensure you have the boat square.



Some floor battens are inserted and glued as they are easier to reach now.

The bow is built up as if for the original design, but the top of the stem unit will need to be cut away to insert the central spinnaker shute (later when the hull is taped up and secure)



It took about half a day to carefully pin the side panels in place. Now she is starting to look like a boat.