

# HALO

## Autumn 2024

The magazine for the  
Miracle Dinghy Association



Picture Credit: Brian Jones



# Chairman's Report

Dear All,

So another successful Nationals has passed and after the AGM I find myself as the new Chairman (I still do not know how that happened) and would like to thank Paul Robinson for all his hard work for steering the ship for the last 6 years.

My sailing journey started at a scout group in Leicester when they were asking if anyone wanted to go sailing at the weekend as the leader was a member at Northampton S. C.

My first taste was in a GP14 and after the first session that was it 'I was hooked'

I saved up my pocket money and did extra paper rounds and it didn't take me long to save the £104 to purchase a Mirror kit from Bell Woodworking of which the scout master built for me in the scout hut.

Mirror 38049 was launched and sailed at Pittsford reservoir.

Move on a few years and cars took the place of boats until I was a scout leader myself and I thought I would give the scouts the same chance at sailing that I had and took them to the scout sailing base at Wanlip in Leicester, where I first came into contact with a Miracle dinghy as a leader there was the owner of M128 and after having a sail in it again I was 'hooked' with how light and easy it was to pull it around on the trolley and was not long before I purchased M2018 in part ownership with another leader and after getting more into sailing and racing I had M3733 built and painted in bright pink.

I have since owned 3794, 3840 and currently own M4114 which is bright purple.

I have been a member of Staunton Harold S. C. for 32 years and have sailed with my current crew Helen Jacks for 10 years

So enough of me and onto the task in hand. There is a full winter programme in regards the Sail Juice Series which starts at the end of November at Draycott S. C. and the Midland mini-series that starts at Notts County S. C. at the end of January if anyone wants some competitive sailing over the winter months.

As for the Miracle fleet, I am pleased to say that Welton S. C. is back on the calendar for 2025 and the Nationals are at an advanced stage and the committee are just awaiting the prices before we commit fully.

Happy Xmas & Happy New Year

**Graham Watts**

**Miracle Dinghy Class Association – Chairman**

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November 2024





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# Winter Handicap Events Calender

Date	Location	Event
23 – 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov 4 – 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<a href="#">Draycote Sailing Club</a>	<a href="#">Draycote Dash – Sail Juice Series</a> Moved due to poor weather forecast
7 - 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<a href="#">Datchet Sailing Club</a>	<a href="#">Datchet Flyer – Sail Juice Series</a>
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<a href="#">The Chase Sailing Club</a>	<a href="#">Polar Chase – Sail Juice Series</a>
27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<a href="#">Yorkshire Dales Sailing Club</a>	<a href="#">Brass Monkey – Sail Juice Series</a>
29 <sup>th</sup> Dec	<a href="#">Grafham Water Sailing Club</a>	<a href="#">Grafham GP – Sail Juice Series</a>
11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<a href="#">Queen Mary Sailing Club</a>	<a href="#">Bloody Mary – Sail Juice Series</a>
18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<a href="#">King George Sailing Club</a>	<a href="#">King George Gallop – Sail Juice Series</a>
25 – 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<a href="#">Notts County Sailing Club</a>	Midland Mini Series
1 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	<a href="#">Rutland Sailing Club</a>	<a href="#">Tiger Trophy – Sail Juice Series</a>
8 – 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<a href="#">Burton Sailing Club</a>	Midland Mini Series
15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	<a href="#">Oxford Sailing Club</a>	<a href="#">Oxford Blue – Sail Juice Series</a>
22 – 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	<a href="#">Staunton Harold Sailing Club</a>	Midland Mini Series
1 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	<a href="#">Ogston Sailing Club</a>	Midland Mini Series

# Miracle Events 2025 Calender

Date	Location	Event
24 -26 <sup>th</sup> May	<a href="#">Staunton Harold Sailing Club</a>	Midland Area Championships
TBC	<a href="#">Delph Sailing Club</a>	Northern Area Championships
TBC	<a href="#">Whitefriars Sailing Club</a>	Southern Area Championships
TBC	<a href="#">Girton Sailing Club</a>	Puddleduck Championships
TBC	<a href="#">Wilsonian Sailing Club</a>	Medway Dinghy Regatta
TBC	<a href="#">Thornbury Sailing Club</a>	Regatta
2 <sup>nd</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> August	<a href="#">Tenby Sailing Club</a>	National Championships
TBC	<a href="#">Shotwick Sailing Club</a>	Welsh Area Championships
TBC	<a href="#">Shustoke Sailing Club</a>	End of Season Championships
TBC	<a href="#">Welton Sailing Club</a>	Open Meeting

# The Miracle Nationals 2024: Day 1

Articles and photos by Brian Jones

Fourteen Miracles and eight SigneTs arrived over the weekend at Rutland SC, anticipating five days of championship racing along with Youth and Juniors, Crews race, single handed and non-spinnaker so plenty to suit all tastes.

Marcel and Guilia had travelled from the Netherlands following Jon Willars and his family back from Denmark where Jessica had been racing Teras.

Monday promised to be hot but there was a good easterly blowing and racing started on time with a port bias and a favoured starboard side up the beat.

Carolynn and Nick somehow managed to roll their boat shortly after the start but were soon back in contention. At the front, it was hard fought between Jon and Jessica Willars, Graham Watts and Helen Jacks plus Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney finishing in that order at the final gun.

Race two was sailed in similar conditions with occasional lighter patches before an un-forecast thunderstorm appeared to track around the edge of the lake causing the race officer to wisely shorten the course sending the fleet back to the safety of the shore in a strengthening wind amid flashes of lightning and rumbles of thunder.

Jon and Jessica again took pole position with Graham and Helen fighting their way though the fleet from a poor first beat to take second and Carolynn and Nick Smith having a much better race coming in third.

Team Holland put in a good fifth and sixth with Simon Turnball and crew fourth in both races.



# The Miracle Nationals 2024: Day 2

Articles and photos by Brian Jones



A second day of champagne style sailing but this time without the thunderstorms. The wind had shifted to the SW so it was possible to set a spectators course with the windward mark up by the clubhouse.

Race three started with a favoured pin end which suddenly shifted with the fleet all having to tack onto port to start. Carolyn and Nick Smith however started next to the committee boat, tacked onto port and never looked back comfortably leading the race all the way. Behind them John Tippet and Cathy Boulton had a brilliant race sparring with Wayne Atherton /Angela Sweeney Simon Turnball and crew and Graham Watts//Helen Jacks to come home in a well-deserved 5th.

Race 4 had a hotly contested start on square line with one boat over. By the windward mark Wayne and Angela were in the lead powering off down the reach kite flying well. Behind them Marcel and Giulia Neuteboom were battling it out with Jon and Jessica Willars in the gusts and lulls to triumph in second place. Wayne and Angela took the gun but in mid fleet there was some excellent scrapping with Paul and Nathan Robinson coming 6th and Simon Dolman and crew 7th.

Up front after four races Wayne and Angela are separated by just one point from Jon and Jessica Willars with the next two boats only three or four points adrift so it looks promising for another three days of racing.



# The Miracle Nationals 2024: Day 3

Articles and photos by Brian Jones



**A northerly breeze on a grey morning promised fair for a day of light wind racing, much to the joy of the lightweight crews.**

The start of race 5 was delayed by 30 minutes waiting for the wind to settle as it veered over the dam wall. Two boats were over the line before the fleet tacked slowly up the beat. By the windward mark the wind began to die, and on the reach some boats struggled to fly the kites.

Carolynn and Nick Smith passed the wing mark first and led the slow reach down to the leeward buoy with just enough wind for all boats to set their spinnakers. Here they were hotly pursued by Team Holland, hoping for a shortened course, only to be disappointed by 'race abandoned' as there had been less than the 5 knot minimum across the course!

Simon and Vivian Turnball would have been in their consistent 4th place. If this race had counted it would have mixed up the leaderboard nicely. However, a chance to show two of the crews who did well mid-fleet on race 4: Paul and Nathan Robinson sailing 4110 and Richard and Ben Smith sailing 3813.

# The Miracle Nationals 2024: Day 4

Articles and photos by Brian Jones

The fleet obviously whistled too loud for the wind yesterday because today it blew 25 knots gusting 30 so exciting racing was in store.

13 Miracles were on the start line for a hard beat to windward towards the clubhouse, where a couple sought shelter, while the rest of the fleet planed down the reach with one or two casualties at the gybe mark. The pace was so fast that Jon and Jessica Willars nearly beat the mark layer trying to position the leeward mark. They continued to hold the lead to finish ahead of Simon and Vivian Turnball (both lightweight crews) in front of Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney sailing to a consistent third place. Paul and Nathan Robinson were hugely enjoying the conditions being rewarded with 4th.

10 boats started race 6 with yet more attrition due to capsizes but the race officer was impressed by the general standard of sailing. Simon Turnball carelessly lost his crew during a capsize and had to retire as Vivian was rescued by the rib. Graham Watts and Helen Jacks had a much better race and came fourth. Carolynn and Nick Smith were out wide on the final downwind threatening Jon and Jessica for the lead but wiped out on the final gybe with a couple of hundred metres to go. Marcel and Giulia sailed a storming race to take second and Andrew Clarke with a borrowed crew had his best result of the week with a seventh.

After the race was over Paul and Nathan proved they could outrun a rib!

With the wind strength still building the third race of the day was cancelled, lighter winds are forecast for the morrow. "phew" says a few!





# The Miracle Nationals 2024: Day 5

Articles and photos by Brian Jones



**The second light wind day of the week started with the wind blowing down the north arm of the water.**

Richard and Eric have done a grand job on the committee boat all week along with their team of mark layers and rescue boat drivers, so with the course set Wayne Atherton and Angela Sweeney set off up the beat to lead the fleet round the windward mark with John Tippett and Kathy Boulton in second. There were some place changes on the second reach with Carolynn and Nick Smith up to second.



Three races were planned for the day and Jon and Jessica Willars would need to do well to hang on to their championship lead. Then the wind began to fade and they were just beaten round the mark on the second beat by Simon and Vivian Turnball. It was then a slow run down to the finish with Wayne and Angela well ahead and Simon and Vivian pulling well ahead of Jon and Jessica.

Richard and Ben Smith should have taken fourth but allowed Paul and Nathan Robinson to squeeze past on the finish mark. Steven and Harry Langford sailing 4127 the newest Miracle in the class claimed their best result with a 7th place.



The wind then backed and blew down the south arm so a new course was laid, and the start sequence commenced only for the wind to fade and after a 20 minute wait racing was abandoned. Jon and Jessica Willars had done enough to secure the Championship win, so congratulations to them and to all the fleet for another very enjoyable and close fought Nationals.

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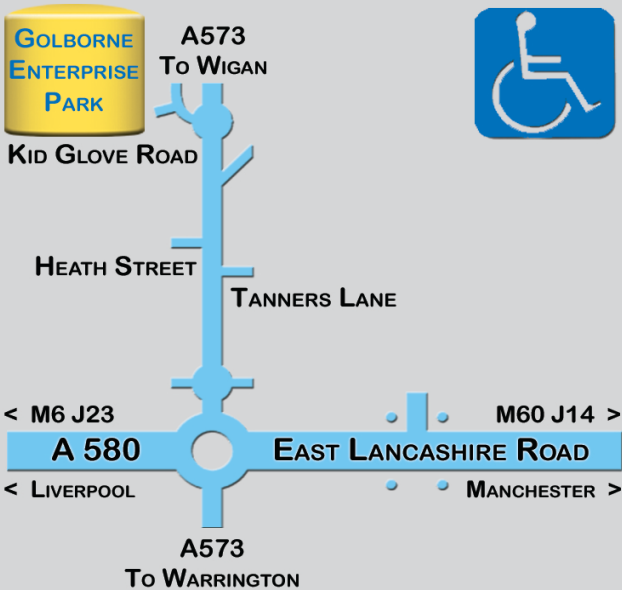
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# Queen Bee at the Miracle Nationals Rutland 2024

Article by Nick Smith and photos by Brian Jones



Rutland 2024 will be remembered for mega windy Thursday! Everybody loves a windy race, lookout for the pictures taken by Brian Jones of boats, smiling crews and flying spray!

Congratulations to Jon and Jess on winning the championship and winning across all the wind range, including the windy Thursday races.

Our championship started with a bump and a capsize – after some frantic bailing, we finished 11<sup>th</sup>.

Race 2 was typical of the sailing at Rutland with shifty and patchy wind. For most of the race, we were pretty average until the last beat when a nice lift took us up to 3<sup>rd</sup>.

By Tuesday, the boat was patched up with white gaffer tape care of Paul Robinson, the outgoing Miracle Committee Chairman. We started cautiously and went up the middle while the fleet split left and right. In the middle, we had clear air and never looked back, increasing our lead on each leg. One of the joys of the Miracle Nationals is that there is a prize for winning each of the races. This race was for the International Yacht Paints Trophy. Frustratingly, we couldn't repeat this performance in the second race of the day which was sailed in similar conditions.

Wednesday, light winds and a completely different direction. We arrived at the windward mark in fourth place and then sailed into the lead on a tight spinnaker reach. We were then caught at the wing mark as the wind died. The wind was very patchy and we caught a nice puff to lead at the leeward mark where the race was abandoned because the wind speed had dropped below 5 knots – argh!

Sailing was abandoned for the day, roll on the quiz – always a highlight of the Nationals! It was great to see Brian back in charge.

Thursday and all hell breaks loose. The forecast was right, 15 – 20 knots, with 30+ knot gusts. The wind was coming from the club house down the lake. At Rutland, the club house, car park and dingy park are surrounded by trees which meant it was deceptively quiet launching. Once we were in the race area, we were fully exposed to all the gusts. In the first race, we rounded the windward mark third behind Gerald and Tanya and Marcel and Guilia. On the first reach, we were catching up rapidly but capsized at the gybe mark. On the next beat, one of the jib pulleys came off its mounting, which meant I had to hold the sheet on port tack and we couldn't jam it off. In this race, we recovered to 6<sup>th</sup> place.





Still holding onto the jib on port, we started the next race in even stronger winds. A slight change in direction meant we could use the spinnaker on the first reach, but it was 'touch and go' when we reached the wing mark. Having cleared the mark, we went flying off on a run, but needed to gybe to get to the leeward mark. At this point, we were in a good position to take the lead from Jon and Jess so the pressure was on to go for the gybe. We capsized in the gybe and eventually caught back up to 5<sup>th</sup>. For us, these two races were a result opportunity lost, everybody was struggling, capsizing and filling with water, so had we had sailed more conservatively, we could have come away with some good results.

Friday, the last day and a chance to complete the championship programme and do three races. As it turned out, only one light wind race was completed, but this allowed the discard to kick in and boosted us up to 4<sup>th</sup>.

I always enjoy the Miracle Nationals because we get good, boat for boat racing over an extended period of time (5 days at Rutland) where you can relax and enjoy the competition. Over 5 days you usually get a variety of winds so everybody gets a chance to enjoy their favourite conditions.

At Rutland, I do think we missed an opportunity to sail more races. Frustratingly, the wind would fill-in in the afternoon, when our races scheduled for the morning had been abandoned.

Our up and down results show that the fleet has closed up in performance and now everybody has a chance of a good race. This year saw some new faces at the Nationals, who we hope to see at Tenby next year, where Queen Bee will be trying hard to get closer to the front!

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# Miracle Welsh Championships September 2024

## Shotwick Lake Sailing Club

Article by Shan Stapley, photos by Geoff Weir

**Nine Miracles entered the Welsh Area Championships hosted at Shotwick Lake Sailing Club on the 21st and 22nd September. It was great to welcome back three visiting boats, who made a weekend of it. Shotwick is fast becoming the place to experience good fleet Miracle racing, with new members and experienced singlehanded helms looking to buy Miracles to join in the fun.**

Two races were held on Saturday afternoon in a pleasant NE breeze with predominately warm, sometimes sunny conditions. Conrad was officer in charge for the weekend and set an excellent course for Saturdays races. The first windward leg used the length of the lake, which tested all the competitors, with lots of close sailing. Dave and Zara Turtle looked happy to be back in Shotwick, sailing out of any danger to reach the windward mark first. The purple smiley faced spinnaker was raised and they held their lead comfortably for the whole race.

Wayne and Angela were in hot pursuit and although they easily kept ahead of the fleet they couldn't close the gap. The rest of the fleet enjoyed very close racing with positions between Mark and Paul, Simon and Julie, Dave and Shan and Jim and Jeanette changing frequently. Jim and Jeanette, new to Miracle sailing managed to keep up with the others despite not using a spinnaker. Mark and Paul, sailing Elmo the oldest boat in the race took third position.

The wind was dropping for the final race of the day, but once again it was a clean start for Dave and Zara who led the race from start to finish, an elegant masterclass in Miracle sailing from the father and daughter duo. However, this time the rest of the fleet were bunched at the windward mark, close on the heels of Wayne and Angela, but their expertise with the black spinnaker ensured they kept their second place.

The rest of the fleet were much closer with 9 seconds separating fourth to sixth places. It was good to see Liverpool Uni students, Bea and Joe improving on last years performance, swapping places with Geoff and Sara, and father and daughter combo, Neil and Ffion during the race.

Sunday morning saw darker skies, the wind had picked up and veered to an ENE direction. Conrad set a course with another long beat to start it was a perfect start for Mark and Paul, second around the windward mark behind Dave and Zara. The gap between the first three boats was much less this race, with Wayne and Angela eventually taking another second place.

Dave and Shan suffered gear failure in *It's a.....broken* and had to retire. Geoff and Sara sailed well to gain a fifth position.

For the last race before lunch, the dark skies delivered their much-anticipated down pour as the complete fleet took to the start. The start was clean with nothing much separating the whole fleet; at the windward mark, Mark and Paul rounded first closely followed by Dave and Zara who quickly manoeuvred into their customary first place.

Racing between the rest of the fleet was tight with positions changing and the home sailors getting closer to the gold standard crews. Mark and Paul held onto second with a battle between Wayne and Angela and Simon and Julie for third place. Rounding the final buoy Simon and Julie held their course, Wayne and Angela tacked for the line and crossed it one second behind.

After a well-deserved lunch in the dry clubhouse, the rain stopped, and the Welsh Area final race began.

It was Jim and Jeanette who cleared the line first. The wind was getting shiftier as the fleet kept in close contact, with Mark and Paul rounding the windward buoy in first position, followed by Wayne and Angela then Dave and Zara. This time tactical manoeuvres between second and third placed boats allowed Elmo to lead the fleet although a spinnaker malfunction on the second lap meant that they had no spinnaker on the third lap and the experts were closing in fast.

Paul managed to rectify the situation, and the spinnaker flew once again on the final leg as they sailed to victory with Dave and Zara taking second over Wayne and Angela in third. An exciting end to a memorable weekend.

The prize-giving was held in the clubhouse, Josie, Shotwick Miracle organiser, thanked the Race Officers and safety crew along with all those who made the weekend a success.

Dave and Zara were the overall winners of the Welsh Area Championship, retaining their title. In second place with 6 points and winning the final race were the Shotwick crew of Mark and Paul. Third also with 6 points were visitors Wayne and Angela. Thanks to all the competitors who made this weekend special.

#### Overall Results:

Pos	Sail No	Helm	Crew	Club	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Pts
1st	4026	David Turtle	Zara Turtle	Shotwick Lake / Shustoke	-1	1	1	1	-2	3
2nd	527	Mark Nield	Paul Newman	Shotwick Lake	-3	-3	3	2	1	6
3rd	4121	Wayne Atherton	Angela Sweeney	Delph	2	2	2	-4	-3	6
4th	4011	Simon Dolman	Julie Dolman	Shotwick Lake	-6	4	4	3	-5	11
5th	4103	Dave THOMAS	Shan STAPLEY	Shotwick Lake	-5	5	(RET)	5	4	14
6th	3705	Jim Young	Jeanette Davies	Shotwick Lake	4	-6	-6	6	6	16
7th	4108	Geoff Weir	Sara Bell	Shotwick Lake	-7	7	5	7	(DNC)	19
8th	3463	Beatrice OVEREND	Joe BARNES	Liverpool SC	-8	-8	7	8	7	22
9th	3597	Neil WALLACE	Ffion Wallace	Shotwick Lake	9	9	8	(DNS)	(DNC)	26





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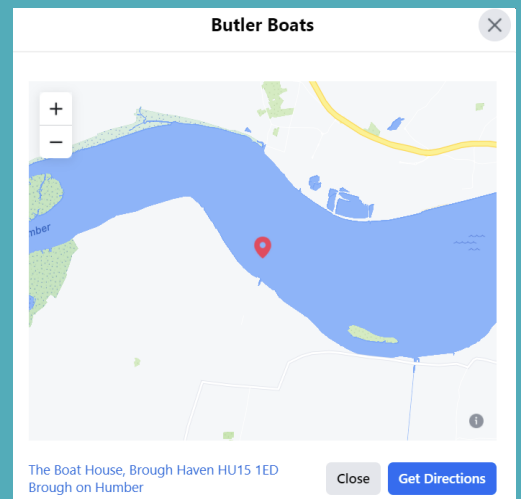
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# Miracle End of Seasons

## October 2024 Shustoke Sailing Club

Article by Zara Frankton

Picture by Tim Mardon



**Shustoke Sailing Club played host for the Miracle End of Season Championship on 5th and 6th October.**

Although we did not have our most ideal wind direction on offer we did manage to supply beautiful autumn sunshine on the Saturday and a mostly dry day on the Sunday (despite the rain forecast!). 7 Miracles took part over the weekend with 4 visiting boats from across the country.

For races 1 and 2 on the Saturday afternoon the race officers set out a challenging course with 3 good beats. The conditions ranged from strong gusts from varying directions, to no wind from any direction under the windward bank!

The start of Race 1 saw David Turtle and Zara Frankton find themselves the benefactors of a "lucky lift" which took them most of the way to the first mark, leaving the rest of the fleet having to tack up the beat. After rounding first David and Zara managed to maintain this lead throughout the race. However, behind them there were many place changes as fortunes oscillated in the tricky conditions and most teams found themselves floundering in a "hole" at some point.

In Race 2 the wind gods chose not to favour any particular boat up the first beat and it was Graham Watts and Helen Jacks who rounded the windward mark first and start to open up a lead. David and Zara managed to hold on to Graham and Helen, eventually overtaking halfway through the race. They were closely followed by Simon and Julie Dolman. Harry Marlow was borrowing a Miracle for the weekend and teamed up with fellow Laser sailor Lucinda Thornton for the Saturday. They had a close tussle with Paul Robinson and Karen Glisson throughout both races and managed to hold onto 4th each time. In an effort to get as many boats out on the water as possible non-Miracle sailors at Shustoke are enticed into any spare boats and this year it was Harry who took the opportunity - he's done the best so far...! Home boat Ross Patterson and Paul Jephcott are also very new to the fleet, having only purchased their boat a couple of weeks ago, and were sailing excellently in a very old boat and without a spinnaker.

Sunday provided lighter winds and from a, slightly, less shifty SE direction. Today the Miracle fleet were sharing the water with a Midland Topper series event so there were lots of other boats across the course to look out for or to use to lose other boats behind! The experienced team of Wayne and Angela joined us for the racing Sunday and would give all the other boats a good run for their money!

Race 3 saw Simon and Julie charge out of the blocks displaying some impressive boat speed. However, the lucky puff had David and Zara's name on it again and they found themselves at the windward mark first. Harry teamed up with Solo sailor Jamie Cuxson for the Sunday, fresh from his triumphant second place at the South Cerney Solo Open the day before. Wayne and Angela managed to close the gap on David and Zara on the runs but David and Zara managed to defend their position take their third 1st place, and the title. The battle for third was very tense during the short beat to the finish line with Simon and Julie just holding off Graham and Helen by a matter of inches. Harry did less well in this race ending up in 6th... I wonder if he blamed his crew?!

After a short break on the water Race 4 was held back to back. There were many place changes up the first beat with most boats passing in front at some stage but at the buoy David and Zara emerged in front closely followed by Simon and Julie.

Harry and Jamie swapped roles for this race and got off to a promising start, rounding the windward mark in third and holding on to the position for a few legs before dropping down the rankings. By the end of the race Graham and Helen had moved up to second with Simon and Julie claiming third.

With first and second overall now decided, all eyes were on third place with Wayne and Angela on equal points with Simon and Julie.

Excitement for the rest of the fleet when the wind filled in from behind on the run, the wind gods obviously thought they'd used up their fair share of lucky puffs! Graham and Helen went from second to last on that run whereas Wayne and Angela pulled up from the back of the fleet to first! David and Zara managed to get on the inside on the following reach to get to the next mark first but the proximity of Wayne and Angela meant that a tacking duel commenced on the beat - is it even a Miracle open meeting if David and Wayne don't battle it out up a beat at some point?! David and Zara managed to extend their lead again but on the final run the same happened again! The whole fleet bunched together seeing Graham and Helen reverse their bad luck from the previous lap and launch from near the back up to second place which they held to the finish. Simon and Julie and Wayne and Angela had a very close race to the line with Simon and Julie just nipping in front to complete their consistent string of thirds for the weekend!

So after an exciting final finish that left David and Zara in first place, Graham and Helen in second and Simon and Julie in third. Big thanks to all the volunteers at Shustoke SC for making the weekend run smoothly and providing sustenance - the galley, race team and rescue team - thank you!

Picture by Tim Mardon



Picture by Ria Burgoine



**Overall Results:**

Pos	Sail No	Helm	Crew	Club	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	Pts
1st	3794	Dave Turtle	Zara Frankton	Shustoke SC	-1	-1	1	1	1	3
2nd	4114	Graham Watts	Helen Jacks	Staunton Harold SC	-2	2	-4	2	2	6
3rd	4011	Simon Dolman	Julie Dolman	Shotwick SC	-3	-3	3	3	3	9
4th	4121	Wayne Atherton	Angela Sweeney	Delph SC	(DNC)	(DNC)	2	4	4	10
5th	4026	Harry Marlow	Lucinda/Jamie	Shustoke SC	4	4	-6	-5	5	13
6th	4110	Paul Robinson	Karen Glisson	Whitefriars SC	5	5	5	-6	(DNC)	15
7th	1638	Ross Patterson	Paul Jephcott	Shustoke SC	6	6	(DNC)	(DNC)	DNC	20



Picture by Ria Burgoine

# Editors Corner

For me and my husband and crew, Tom, it has been a slower year with regards to our attendance at events and getting out on the water. Since we went to Carsington in May, it took us a while to get a new boom to replace the one we broke and by then, I wasn't as mobile due to my advancing pregnancy. In September, we welcomed our little bundle of joy, Madelynn, to the world. My lightweight crew is now in the making, but it'll be a little while yet before I can source a lifejacket small enough. The boat has been tucked away in the garage and is awaiting the new year for our next adventures – when we can get a babysitter.

From all the reports, by all accounts, it's been another exciting year for the Miracle fleet for events and a successful 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. Well done to our new National Champions, Jon and Jess Willars!

And it has been an exciting time on the committee as our new Chairman, Graham Watts takes over and Paul Robinson takes a well-earned rest after contributing six years of hard work to keeping the association running and ensuring we've got events to go to throughout the year.

A big thank you to all those who contributed race reports to this edition of the Halo – we all love to hear about your adventures! Looking forward to seeing you all on the water soon!

Hannah Metcalfe-Smith  
Halo Editor, Pamela - 3805



# **Miracle Nationals 2025**

# **TENBY**

**Save the Date**

**2 August – 9 August 2025**

**Further information to follow ...**

