

## CAPTAIN'S LOG

Fellow Ruffians,

I wish you all the best for the coming sailing season. I hope you are stirring into action, and preparing for the excitement of another season (at least making a list of things to do!) Looking back, 2015 was an eventful and enjoyable year for the class. The Inter Port event with the Hong Kong Ruffians was a memorable occasion for all who took part.



Team Racing in Carrickfergus was another very enjoyable occasion, hosted in the new club house there. Hospitality was very much to the fore in both venues. The Ruffian Championships, and the DL Volvo Regatta, together with other class events and dinners, made up a full schedule.

A major thanks is due to the 2015 committee, but in particular to Chris Helme, who was an outstanding captain. Also, to Ann Kirwan and

Alan Claffey, who with Chris, put in a major amount of work in organizing the Hong Kong trip and making it the success it was.

The 2015 committee have agreed to remain on for another year, so we are fortunate to have a very experienced committee for 2016.



## 2016 EVENTS LIST

Rules Quiz DMYC, Thur	21-Apr-16
DBSC 1st Tue	26-Apr-16
DBSC 1st Thursday	28-Apr-16
DBSC 1st Saturday	30-Apr-16
Prof, Training, Sat	7-May-16
Inter Club Racing (TBC)	15-May-16
North/South (TBC)	29-May-16
Lambay Race	4-Jun-16
DMYC	11-Jun-16
NYC Regatta	18-Jun-16
RIYC Regatta	25-Jun-16
RStGYC Regatta	2-Jul-16
DBSC "A" Prize giving	7-Jul-16
Ruffian Championships	15-17July'16
Ladies Race, Sun	7-Aug-16
DBSC -- Last Thur	25-Aug-16
Greystones	28 Aug'16
DBSC -- Last Tue	30-Aug-16
Captains Prize -- THUR	1-Sep-16
DBSC -- Last Race	24-Sep-16

## 2016 TRAINING EVENTS

### Racing Rules

To get things going, and provide an occasion for us to meet up after the winter layoff, we are holding a training session on the racing rules. This will be in a quiz format (open Book). Gordon Davies of the ISA will be presenting the quiz. It is scheduled for Thur 21 April '16, i.e. the Thur before the 1st DBSC race, starting at 19:30, in the DMYC. So, please make a note in your diary.

### Performance Training

A training session, with the Prof (Maurice O'Connell), is planned for Sat 7 May '16. The programme will include, on the water training in the morning, and video monitoring of the DBSC race in the afternoon. To gauge interest in this, I would appreciate it if you can let the Hon. Sec. Declan know if you are likely to attend this session

<b>2016 COMMITTEE</b>		<b>RUFFIAN HONOURED</b>
Class Captain	Frank Bradley <a href="mailto:frankbradley@eircom.net">frankbradley@eircom.net</a> <a href="tel:0874130229">0874130229</a>	<p>Early in 2015 a retired Ruffian sailor received the highest honours from the French and US governments. Mickey D'Alton, a member of the RIYC, sailed in SIAMSA for years. He was awarded the French Legion d 'Honour and the American Distinguished Service Award for his contribution, as a Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve, to the D-Day Landing on Omaha Beach in 1944. After the war, Mickey did some remarkable sailing trips. Among them, a trip to Norway in a Dublin Bay 24, and later, trips to Scilly Isles, and to St Kilda in the Ruffian SIAMSA. There was a very good article on Mickey, by W.M. Nixon in Afloat . I included the link below.</p> <p><a href="http://afloat.ie/item/27736-mickey-dalton-legion-dhonneur-celebrates-a-great-sailor-in-war-peace">http://afloat.ie/item/27736-mickey-dalton-legion-dhonneur-celebrates-a-great-sailor-in-war-peace</a></p> <p>I don't know Mickey personally, but I do remember him, and I would like to wish him well on behalf of the Class. If anyone reading this can send me an update, I would like to include it in a later News Letter</p>
Vice Captain / Hon Secretary	Declan Tonge declan_t1@hotmail.com	
Hon. Treasurer	Lorcan Balfe	
Measurer	Alan Kirwan <a href="mailto:alan.kirwan@kmj.ie">alan.kirwan@kmj.ie</a> <a href="tel:0872555650">0872555650</a>	
Communications Officer	Alan Claffey	
Prizes / Merchandise	Michael Hinkson	
Record Keeper	Ann Kirwan <a href="mailto:annkirwan123@gmail.com">annkirwan123@gmail.com</a> <a href="tel:0866065803">0866065803</a>	
Regional Liaison	Henrik Heckmann	
Web Administration	Ian Cutliffe	
Past Captain	Chris Helme	

### **SUNDAY LUNCH**

During the Summer, I will be keen to facilitate Sun lunch & family type trips to Howth and Greystones. The new club house in Greystones will be an added attraction this Summer. Anyone interested in this, please let me know. I would like to be able to arrange this at relatively short notice, when the weather is good.

### **LAMBAY RACE**



This race is started for DBSC and is always a great event. We will be planning a get together in Howth on Friday evening. The race is on Sat

### **ITEMS WANTED**

- Reasonable used sails
- Spinnaker pole
- Road Trailer

If you have any items that you think can be recycled, please let us know, and we will maintain a register of them on the Web Site

### **NORTH/SOUTH TEAM RACING**

The Northern team is due in Dun Laoghaire this year, determined to recover the Bill Brown Memorial Trophy, which was won by the South last Summer.

In the racing on Belfast Lough, the Southern team was represented by crews from, Carmen, Diane 2, Bandit, Crescendo, Paramour, and Ripples. The tentative date is Sun 29th May'16

## GOOD REISLING for RUFFIAN RIRA !!

From Regional Rep Henrik Heckmann

Prize-givings are marvellous events, especially when your 37-year-old Ruffian has been crowned 'Boat of the Bay' in WSC's mixed fleet racing season - that is until the memories flood back of the last Ruffian Nationals, when the self-same boat couldn't do better than tenth place overall. That's usually the time when a motley crew of Wicklow Ruffian skippers (five in total, with four boats between them...) will congregate and theorise about why it might be that success in Dublin waters has by and large eluded us; between 'strange tides' and 'adverse currents', 'odd wind sheer' and 'skipper's incompetence' we usually come up with quite a few reasons and/or excuses for this lack of National performance (even if that shouldn't stop us from travelling up to you again this

summer - hope springs eternal!)

And yet the chat spawned an idea we wanted to share with you - by way of an invitation: We would be delighted to welcome any Ruffian sailors to join us on the weekend after this year's Greystones Regatta for a 'RiRa' - a Riesling Race between visiting Ruffians and our own WSC fleet, with a case of that lovely white wine awarded to the winning boat - can we tempt you? Who knows - maybe home advantage will come to our aid? It would be fabulous to see you in the Garden County!

Details are to follow, but do not hesitate to get in touch: [henrikheckmann@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:henrikheckmann@yahoo.co.uk) (087 8207003), or check out our fab new website: [Wicklow Sailing Club](http://WicklowSailingClub.com) | [Wicklow Sailing Club site](http://WicklowSailingClub.com)

### LINE DUTY

A list has been prepared by the Vice Captain, Declan. This will be published on the class web site when the DBSC dates are available. Declan will also be in contact with the boats listed



### RUFFIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Always a high point of the season. Although it is not until mid July, I would ask people to keep it in mind when you are planning your holidays! Colin Mc Mullen who did such an excellent job last year, has agreed to do OD for us again this year. The proposal at the moment is to go with the same format and race schedule. There was a suggestion at the AGM, that we should review/change how the Silver Fleet is determined. At the moment, it is based on the Fri results. I would welcome any suggestions or feedback on this.

