



## RSC Newsletter

January 2014

### Message from our new Commodore

Dear members. Hopefully 2014 our 60<sup>th</sup> year is as good a sailing season as 2013. Having said that it looked like we would not need to crane the yachts in with the high tides we had in recent weeks. Although a lot of us only sail between April and October the juniors as usual are out sailing week in week out all year round. It is great to see their confidence and enthusiasm. Whether you choose to spend your season on or off the water we wish you all the best for 2014. We will be holding our first event of the 60<sup>th</sup> calendar on the 25<sup>th</sup> of this month with our Members night. It would be great to see you all there.

*Patrick Boardman – Commodore*



### 2014 Committee

The 2013 AGM saw some changes in the committee with Patrick Boardman taking over as Commodore as Jacqui Mc Crum decided to step down. Phillip Casey, Martin Redden and Kevin Whelan also stepped down. Many thanks to all four for their excellent contribution. All their efforts on the committee and in the club generally are greatly appreciated.

Thankfully all four have placed their talents at the disposal of the new committee and will continue to help out in very many areas. New members joining are Brenda McGuinness - Vice commodore, Colman Grimes – P.R.O. and committee members Paul Thorne and Karl Flynn.

### Elected Committee

<b>Commodore:</b>	Patrick Boardman
<b>Vice Commodore:</b>	Brenda McGuinness
<b>Sailing Secretary:</b>	Alan Butterly
<b>Secretary:</b>	Marguerite Carthy
<b>P.R.O.:</b>	Colman Grimes
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Des Jones

<b>Committee:</b>	Paul Thorne
	Karl Flynn
	Lorcan Hand
	David Kelly
	Enda Weldon
	Austin (Jomo) Hughes

### 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations of your club



There are plenty of plans being set out for the 12 months ahead to mark our 60<sup>th</sup> year as a sailing club. The most significant of the early plans is to get to work on a new clubhouse bar. We are also awaiting the Mermaid Class AGM regarding this year's Mermaid Nationals. If we are unable to host this we will be looking to put a massive effort into promoting our regatta.

We also want to maximize enjoyment for all members throughout the year. It is your club so if you have an idea please do contact us to discuss. [rushsclub@gmail.com](mailto:rushsclub@gmail.com)

### Time called as Club bar to get a new look

It has been largely decided by the members at the last AGM that the club house needs a major refurbishment in an attempt to generate more use of the bar and lounge by its members and the local community for social events. While there is a significant capital investment to the project, it is needed. With the anticipated increase in sales as a result of this refurbishment it will surely reap rewards for the club long into the future. This will be discussed in more detail in the upcoming Special General Meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January (See notice enclosed).

## Mermaids



Happy New Year to all. Last year's Mermaid season kicked off in late April as all were keen to get going as early as possible.

The first event of the year was the Munster Championships which were held in Foynes in Limerick. Our ever welcoming hosts put on a wonderful show and Rush boats were well represented. A special congratulations to Anthony Carthy and his crew for winning the event overall and starting their season on a very good note. The second event of the year was the Leinster Championships which were held in Skerries. Again Rush were well represented with all boats placing very well and a fun weekend enjoyed by all.

Throughout the season Rush boats enjoyed some favourable sailing with some new ideas introduced into the class. Some new formats in racing included a Harbour Race which saw boats race from the mouth of Rogerstown Estuary to Rush Harbour and then a new race from the Harbour back around to Rogerstown. These races were a huge success and really enjoyed by all who took part.

The second idea which was proposed was a Lambay race, a race around Lambay Island. This again was enjoyed by all sailors and rescue crew alike. And if memory serves me correct it took place on a lovely summer's day.

Then we moved onto some crews races to give some of our non-helmsmen a chance to show their skills. Lynn White was only delighted to take part in this one and was given the chance to order skipper Patrick Boardman around for a few races, which she duly did.

This year's National Championships were held in Galway Bay Sailing Club. Rush boats turned out in force with some very high individual results. Anthony Carthy was again on song winning the Daphne Trophy. A big congratulations to Anthony and crew, Eoin Butterly, and Ciaran Hand. Rush also had two boats finishing in the top ten of the fleet.

The Nationals saw some very close racing throughout the fleet, but no more so than at the top end of the fleet with Jim Carthy exhibiting some fine results, and eventually finishing second overall. Very well done to Jim and crew, Muriel Carthy and Rory Grimes.

At the nationals Rush were also out in force for the talent competition which saw singer/song writer/farmer Enda Weldon write a masterpiece "Grannys Gonna Do It". After the singing competition Rush really came into their

own with Paul "Packer" Thorne and Patrick "Patricia" Boardman giving their very own rendition of Puddy the dog.

Finally Rush hope to be hosting the National Championships in 2014 which would promise to be a very enjoyable event for all. We would like to encourage as many people as possible to come down to support the event.

Happy sailing to everyone for the year, and the best of luck in your respective classes.

*Andre Berg - Mermaid Class Captain*

## Laser Land

The lasers have had another healthy start to their winter chill series with some great racing in November and almost 20 boats registered. The weather has not been so kind in December only getting one Sunday of racing in. January has been much of the same but there is plenty of chilly Sunday's left yet!

Next race this Sunday at 12.30pm and full timetable for the coming months is available on the club website and notice board.

The juniors have really stepped up to the mark this year and I am delighted to announce that Aoife De Faoite leads the way after two months. David Kelly is in 2<sup>nd</sup> overall and Michelle Ryan & Lauren O Hare tie for 3<sup>rd</sup>. Rumour has it that the adults are looking to regain control and will be out more prominently over the coming months! The newer sailors in the Picos are having great fun out there too.

We all need as much practice as we can get as we are organising two day weekend laser event in April. This will/ be held annually to end the chill series and start the summer. Dates to be confirmed.

Finally, any parents that want to try out sailing or feel they might be a bit rusty to get back out please do not hesitate to give me a shout and we can get some practice in before or after racing (When it's not too cold!!)

*Colman Grimes - Laser Class Captain*

## Juniors Update

The enthusiasm for sailing throughout the year continues strongly with the junior section, with the chill laser series being completely dominated by the younger members of the club. Well done to Fionn Higgins and Tom Fox [who only started sailing last season] for braving the elements and turning up in the wildest of weather to see if they could get a spin. Equally 'Alan's army' [Alan Ruigrok] has a merry band of four enthusiasts [Aoife de Faoite, David Kelly, Lauren O'Hare and Michelle Ryan] doing fitness training to improve their endurance capabilities on the water .....so that's why they were running up and down the beach in their wetsuits. Others have joined in as

timetables and weather has allowed. We would love to see more juniors joining us on the Sundays and all are welcome.

*Jacqui McCrum - Junior Organiser*

### New summer racing formats to be proposed

The committee have been discussing ways of generating more activity in the club. As we are a Sailing Club at the end of the day we are looking at each avenue with the overall goal to have more people on the water, more often. As a result more people will be using the club facilities for some apre-sail socialising to coincide with this activity. A win-win for the club in general and its members.

Andre Berg (Mermaid class captain) and Colman Grimes (Laser class captain) will be reinventing the summer sailing. While the Mermaids will continue to have their own leagues it is aimed to have a PY (Handicap system) to coincide with these races with the hopeful result of having more boats of all types on the start line all summer.

Successful ideas which were introduced by the Mermaids last year such as the Harbour race and the Lambay Race will be discussed with the idea of having more of these types of days out.

The Cruiser Class has also been contacted and will hopefully put some ideas on the table to have more activity in their class.

Any Ideas are welcome so please contact your class captain.

### Laying Up Supper

The laying up supper at the end of 2013 was another successful night with the clubhouse packed to capacity. Hopefully everyone enjoyed their night and congratulations to all the prize winners.

On the night Alan & Erica Ruigrok were presented with individual awards for their high achievements in the Laser Class at national level. They will continue to fly the RSC flag long into the future and we wish them the very best in their endeavours. It was also pointed out the effort they put in with youths in the club, and it's easy to see the direct results of this on the water on Sunday!

### New Gate Access

Access to Rush Sailing Club is now available by your mobile phone. Your mobile number is registered on a new system for the gate access. To gain access call the number **0892071261** from your phone and the gate will open and close automatically. Please ensure your number is not blocked or the gate will NOT open. Calling from another phone will not gain access. Please only dial

the number once you are near the Club. The present "zappers" will continue to be used but may need to be reprogrammed. Passing this number to another person will not give them access as their phones will not be registered on our system.

### Christmas Swim



The Irish Cancer Society – Rush Ladies Group held the annual Christmas swim at RSC at the usual time of 11.30 on Christmas Day. The turnout was excellent with every space taken in the car park and more than 40 swimmers participating. A final figure of funds raised has not yet been established but over €2,000 was collected on the day. Many thanks to all who took time to help on the day and supported this cause.

### Dates for the diary

25<sup>th</sup> January: Members night – All welcome  
31<sup>st</sup> January: Special General Meeting  
31<sup>st</sup> March: Membership Fees Due  
April: Weekend Club Laser Event (Date TBC)



Other dates are to be agreed. Watch the Club website [www.rushsc.ie](http://www.rushsc.ie), noticeboard and texts/emails for details.

### P.R.O. Message

I am delighted to join the committee for the 1<sup>st</sup> time this year, particularly with such an exciting year ahead of us. With plans for the new bar at the forefront, a new laser event in April, new formats being thought out to increase those sailing on those long summer evenings/weekends and the hope of getting to host the Mermaid Nationals it sure is exciting times ahead. Let's hope the sun shines like it did last year and we can soak up the atmosphere of our big year in style.

If I can be of any assistance to any member either on or off the water please do not hesitate to get in touch.

*Regards Colman Grimes - P.R.O. (RushSCLub@gmail.com)*