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# RSC NEWSLETTER

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The committee would like to extend the warmest of Rush Sailing Club welcomes to the many new members who have joined us in the first 6 months of 2017. Many of you will have seen (and heard) our new rowing members as they practice each night and at the weekends. They are super enthusiastic and an example of making maximum use of their vessel. In an attempt to integrate all our new members into club life we hope to organise a get-together on the 13th August and we will contact you further with details so keep an eye out on facebook & texts.



This year we have introduced club membership cards which will entitle holders to a discount at the club bar and also make it easier for the committee to track membership renewals. A card is enclosed for paid up adult members so if you have paid and do not receive a card with this mailing please contact us by email and we will be in touch. Membership fees are long overdue so if you are using the club facilities and have not yet paid, please arrange to do so immediately as our membership list will be updated shortly and your access will be removed. Payment may be made by cash, cheque, direct lodgment, or by credit card during bar opening hours.

The Sailing Schedule got started earlier than ever this year with the first race taking place as soon as the chill series ended at the end of March. By the time of the Blessing of Boats on 14th May the club racing schedule was well underway.

Cruisers had an early lift-in also hitting the water on 1<sup>st</sup> April and the first away sails took place over the Easter holiday with trips to Isle of Man and Wales.

The much anticipated new club training boats, two Wayfarers, funded by the Sports Capital Grant arrived in early June and have already received great use in both adult and junior training. They were also invaluable in the schools 'Try Sailing' event which this year saw St. Brendans N.S. from Loughshinny get the call up. So



successful was that day that 3 new junior members signed up by the following week-end. The Wayfarers will mean that we can now run Kites & Wires training and courses will be organised, progressing anyone wanting to eventually advance to instructor level or just sail in multi-handed boats. Two new ribs will also be funded by this grant and should arrive shortly. This year we have submitted an application for the next phase of development which will be the extension and upgrade of the changing facilities and toilets. Fingers crossed between now and the expected announcement of funds allocation in September!

As well as the successful Try Sailing event we have been busy organizing powerboat, adult sailing, mark laying and VHI courses. We have had a high demand for all courses and are hoping to see this reflected in an increased number of participants on the water. None of this is possible without our loyal rescue volunteers and we are actively seeking more rescue personnel, so any power-boaters please consider getting involved.

Our Mermaids now have some new companions for club racing with the Wayfarers, GPs, RS400, & the recently restored club boats a 420, Hobi, Feva and Laser 2, thanks to Aine Carroll for getting them up and running. The Mermaids are getting race ready now for their upcoming Nationals in Skerries starting on the 5<sup>th</sup> August.

Various club boats have been sailing at outside events with some great success. 'Storm' won the Scottish series having sought the title for many years which saw them being named as Afloat sailor of the month. They also travelled to Kinsale for the Sovereigns Cup where they came home with 2<sup>nd</sup> place. R.S.C has been well represented at many of the Laser events this year with some notable results including Youth National Champions, Conor Quinn & David Kelly, Tom Fox who won the Volvo Dun Laoghaire regatta and Aaron Rogers who took 3<sup>rd</sup> position at the ISA Youth Pathway Nationals. Well done to all who competed under the R.S.C. banner!

It was also great to see some of our juniors compete in the Topper event that the club hosted at the end of April. As the outside sailing waters were cut off due to conditions on the Bar, sailing took place for the first time in many years at the top of the Estuary. It was a great success as spectators were close to the action and a great relief that our many visitors did not have to be sent home without any sailing. Hopefully there will be no repeat of these conditions when we host the Laser Leinster Championships on 5th/6th Aug. This is a big event and will need a host of volunteers to run so please attend one of the meetings that will be held in the run up to August or email us with your details and availability.

This year the Junior sailing evening programme started in mid April and successfully ran over 10 weeks with some Juniors getting actively involved in club racing. An Information meeting was held in June to explain the structures that needed to be in place to schedule week long summer programmes which this year could not be run in June. Following this meeting sufficiently qualified instructors and back-up support became available and a three week programme was put in place on the 10th July. Congratulations to Erica Ruigrok who is now qualified as a Senior Instructor and is leading the way for our many Assistant Instructors to follow suit.

The Snooker section teased us with the possibility of success in the interclub league this year with the decider being held on home territory on the last weekend of the competition. There were great expectations of a victory after a win against Clontarf, however it wasn't meant to be, when the following week the old enemy Dun Laoghaire, the Institute, left them destitute!

Socially the club-house has been exceptionally busy with most weekends being booked for various events. On 18<sup>th</sup>. June it was great to see the premises choc-a-bloc with members and their families. Earlier in the day the rowers had competed in Skerries and a mixed fleet of 20 club boats had sailed around to the Harbour. Coupled with a really fine day, parking and seating were at a premium.

We hope to run a number of events before the end of the sailing season as do the various fleets. Please keep an eye on the website, your e-mails and of course the text system to keep up to date and make the most of your membership.

Phil Casey  
PRO

Some Photos of the year so far .....

