

ARRANGEMENTS FOR AGM

The AGM of RYANI will be held on **Wednesday 4 October 2006** at Royal Ulster Yacht Club, Clifton Road, Bangor starting at 6pm.

Maeve Bell the current Chair will be standing down and Acting Vice Chair Stanton Adair has indicated his willingness to stand for election as Chair. The Honorary Treasurer Oliver Lynas is eligible and willing to stand for election for another year. Therefore as a minimum there are vacancies for the offices of Vice Chair and Honorary Secretary.

All RYA affiliated clubs and organisations are entitled to nominate a representative to sit on the Council. Nominations for officers must be received at the RYANI office, House of Sport, Belfast no later than 23 August. Nominations for Council representatives should be received by 6 September.

The meeting will follow the successful format introduced last year of a business meeting followed by a break at 7pm for refreshments before a guest speaker. This year the guest will be David Green. **David, a truly inspirational speaker, is the Chief Executive of the UK Sailing Academy**, a sail training organisation and registered charity set up some 15 years ago, and also leads the Gypsy Moth 1V Project.

While voting at the business part of the meeting is restricted to nominated representatives, all are welcome to attend the AGM.

ON THE WATER – ACHIEVEMENTS BY SQUAD AND LOTTERY SAILORS

Laser Radial World Championships

Northern Irish sailor Ryan Seaton from Carrickfergus Sailing Club finished an excellent 5th place overall at the 2006 Laser Radial World Championships in California USA which concluded on Friday.

The championship was contested in variable conditions by 70 competitors from 22 Countries.

Seaton's (aged 18) 5th place finish was Northern Ireland's best single handed dinghy result in the last 20 years. This result follows his excellent 10th place finish in Brazil last December in the 2005 Worlds and keeps him on course for the London Olympics in 2012.

Ryan, a SCNI Lottery supported athlete, is an RYA Youth Squad graduate and a member of the Irish Sailing Association Academy.

Topper World Championships

Thirteen year old Oliver Loughhead surpassed his own expectations at the Topper dinghy class World Championships at Lake Garda in Italy when he finished in tenth place in the 81 strong Gold fleet. He also won the under-14 age group.

From the 160 entrants the fleet was split after qualifying rounds into Gold and Silver. Oliver from Ballyholme then sailed six races scoring a 2nd as his best result. Winds were generally consistent and predictable starting with about 12knots and increasing later every day to about 15 knots.

Also putting in an excellent performance was Chris Penney of Carrickfergus at 15th. Chris's best results of the six races were a 5th and two 6ths. And Robert Murray of

Lough Erne did well in the Silver fleet, finishing 15th; his best result was a 1st place in the 79 strong fleet with a sixth as his next best score.

Oliver and Chris are members of the RYANI Junior squad coached by Richard Honeyford.

Laser 4.7 World & European Championships

In the huge 236 strong Laser 4.7 fleet at Hourtin in France, Barry McCartin's best result was an 8th and Keith McPartland's best score was 22nd. Tiffany Brien came 25th in the 4.7 Female section.

Laser Radial World Championships (Youth)

At the California Yacht Club Kylie McMillan and Rory, Matthew and Theo Murphy are racing in the Radial Youth Worlds and results should now be on the website See www.laserinternational.org for details

OTHER LEADING PERFORMANCES

No Naked Flames, the J109 owned by Andrew Allen and Colm Monahan of Royal North finished fifth in the prestigious Rolex Commodores Cup at Cowes. They were in the Ireland Green team which had threatened to lift the overall prize until the final race when the French emerged victorious. Ireland Green came in second. No Naked Flames continued in fine form at Cork Week to finish second in the J109 division. (<http://www.rorc.org/comcup>)

And the John Moorehead/Chris Ferres owned *Bengal Magic* from Royal Ulster picked up second overall in IRC3. (www.results.corkweek.ie)

In California Debbie Hanna representing IRL was 21st in the Silver fleet at the Laser Radial Women's Worlds. Ryan Seaton came 3rd in the Silver Youth fleet at Laser Standard Europeans in Poland) and James Espey was 26th in the seniors in the same event. (www.laserinternational.org)

At the 49er Europeans at Weymouth, Russell and Matt McGovern of Royal Ulster and Ballyholme came a very promising 5th while Robert Espey and Richard McCullough from the same clubs took 33rd. Connor and Johnny McGaughey from Larne were 7th in the Bronze division. (www.9erchamps2006.com)

Champion clubs take note!

You will have received an info pack about the Neilson/Volvo scheme *Hero wanted. £2,500 reward!* in which your club 'hero' could win a holiday worth £2500. For details see www.neilson.co.uk/searchforahero closing date is 31st of August 2006.

NEW Personal Watercraft School

Wave Riders based at Coleraine have just become an RTC (Recognised Training Centre), supported and assisted by RYA NI

Principal and Instructor Wesley Montgomery is delighted that the school has recently won the contract to train lifeguards. Here is what he has told us: -

"Waveriders Training School is based at Benone beach near Limavady. We decided to extend our expertise into other areas aside from training new and casual users in the correct use of PWCs laid down in the RYA syllabus. We were approached by HM Coastguard (NI) to train its staff using the RYA training syllabus. A

training package was set up and completed by Coastguard members as part of a pilot scheme using PWCs as a form of rapid response patrol craft for the coastline." Waveriders believe this to be the first time that a training package has been given on a private basis to a statutory service provider in Northern Ireland, using the public sector in private partnership approach.

Waveriders was also approached by the Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) to carry out training for Coleraine Borough Council so their beach life guards could use PWCs for patrol and surf rescue purposes along the North Coast. The Council has just purchased two new Yamaha x1700 personal watercraft and this is the first time that a Council in Northern Ireland has provided PWC for rescue. As the national governing body, RYANI liaised with Coleraine Borough Council regarding the suitability of the school and its location.

ANY OLD LASERS?

Here is a worthwhile campaign to which sailors and clubs may be able to contribute.

In recent years The Sri Lankan Yachting Association has been trying to introduce younger children to sailing. They have done well with their Optimists but now these kids are growing out of the boats and sadly have no other dinghies to move onto.

Following the Enterprise World Championships held in Sri Lanka this year, a plan has been put together between UK and Irish Enterprise sailors to send a container out to Sri Lanka. The plan is to pack the container with as many Lasers, or Laser parts, as possible.

There must be a large number of old and unwanted Lasers or parts in garages, sheds and boat parks. This is a good opportunity to "recycle" them, clear some space at home or at the sailing club and at the same time help an emerging, less advantaged nation. Condition doesn't matter as all repairs and modifications required for the boats can be made locally there upon arrival.

Ideally the organisers are looking for donations of complete Lasers or laser hulls but will accept anything in the form of spare gear from spars to foils to sails etc. If you feel you can help in any way towards this very worthy cause, please make contact with Alice Driscoll: Sri Lanka Appeal Srilankaappeal@adpr.co.uk

ULSTER UNIVERSITY SC BACK ON TRACK

After some years in the doldrums, the UU at Coleraine Sailing Club is up and running again. Mover and shaker Steve Robinson, well known sailor in the Triangle, got things going and now the club, with Amy Mullee driving, is on the water again.

A refurbished Wayfarer is their first club boat, and now that it's affiliated to Coleraine Yacht Club, members can use the facilities to get afloat. Students pay only £5 a head in a special membership category and the impetus has resulted in 15 members for the University Club.

With support from Eamon Masterson of RYANI it looks as though there will be many more newcomers to the sport in the Coleraine area and UUC SC is now in a more positive position.

RYA AT THE SOUTHAMPTON BOAT SHOW

This year's Southampton Boat Show will be most exciting yet for the Royal Yachting Association with best selling authors launching new books, birthday surprises, parties and competitions galore. The RYA and BMF joint environmental awareness initiative 'The Green Blue' celebrates its first birthday with a huge

birthday party and kids will be able to get OnBoard a dinghy and have a go at sailing - no matter what their level of experience is. Regional winners from across the UK will also be gathering to take part in The Honda RYA Youth RIB Championship Final on 23rd September.

On Saturday 16 September, the RYA will be celebrating the launch of 'Go Cruising' - the third title in the hit children's series - with a fun-filled children's party.

RYA Publications, the largest marine publishers in Europe, will also be launching the new VHF Handbook. Author, Tim Bartlett will be on hand to answer questions and for book signing.

For the first time ever at the show, kids will be able to get afloat with the RYA's OnBoard scheme. During both show weekends, kids will be able to have a taster sailing session which is fully supervised by experienced RYA dinghy instructors.

The RYA members VIP day will be Thursday 21 September. Tickets are £10 in advance (saving £4.00) with a £1.25 booking fee per transaction.

Throughout the week, the RYA stand will also be the place to find out about how to get started in one of the many aspects of boating, buy RYA Publications and RYA Vouchers, talk to RYA experts for advice on all boating matters, or show your support for the RYA by joining as a personal member.

The RYA stand is no E052. www.southamptonboatshow.com

DONAGHADEE SC PROGRESS

Donaghadee SC has been successful in reaching the second stage of its application for a grant under the Sports Lottery Fund for a new clubhouse. The club has expressed its appreciation for RYA NI support.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Youth Squad trip UK Laser Nationals at Largs 12th to the 18th August.
Contact jfarrell497@btinternet.com or mtcfarrell@hotmail.com

RYA NI Youth Championships Sept 2nd & 3rd at SLYC. Notice of Race and Entry Forms can be downloaded from our website at www.ryani.org.uk

RYA NI AGM Oct 4th RUYC

YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED

Please feel free to send any RYANI related information for inclusion in the next bulletin to Betty Armstrong at mearmstrong@tiscali.co.uk or telephone 028 9146 5372 by Friday 26th August.

This bulletin is compiled by Regional Communicator Betty Armstrong and produced by Lisa Waugh.