



Commodores Address 2008

It's always very exciting for me when February comes around and the various club committees start getting together to make plans for the new season.

So far I've been able to sit in on first meetings of the year of the House Committee, the Dinghy Committee and I know Lee Douglas has had the racing skippers together and Dave Farrell has had a meeting of the Cruising Group.

We have 3 new class captains in the Dinghy section and possibility of an active Laser class for the first time in a number of years.

The Main Committee have already met twice and our 5 members new to us for 2008 are working very hard to get into their roles for the year.

It was also great to see 6 cruisers out on the water mid February the largest group I've seen for months.

We are planning a new club diary format for 2008 and will also move to more actively manage our parking permit program to the benefit of our members.

This year we will host the East Coast Cruiser 999 championships in July and an open Topaz event is planned.

All of these are positive signs that we're looking to another very busy year at the club with expanded activity across all of our sailing sub-groups.

2008 will be another year to remember for MYC for another reason.

The club was founded in 1958 and starts its 50th anniversary year on April 10th. We have a 50th anniversary group forming to make sure our 50th year is special so keep an eye on our communications for events and activities.

We will start refurbishing our Clubhouse at St James Terrace in the coming weeks so I ask for your patience, as there will be some disturbances to our usual rhythm as we get through the work program.

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable 2008.

Colm Fitzpatrick.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

8 th	RUGBY IRL vs WALES
8 th	TABLE QUIZ
14 th	GOLF
15 th	RUGBY ENG vs IRL
17 th	IRISH COFFEE -RLNI
29 th	OPERA NIGHT
29 th	RIGGING DAY

APRIL

5 th	RIGGING DAY
10 th	MYC 50th Anniversary
12 th	FIRST DINGHY RACE
19 th	FIRST CRUISER RACE
19 th	LAUNCH SUPPER
27 th	EARLY BIRD REGATTA

TAKE PART
AND ENJOY
THE SEASON !

DON'T FORGET TO LOOK

WWW.MYC.IE

FOR ALL UP TO DATE
INFORMATION

ANYTHING FOR SALE?
USE THE BUY & SELL
WEBPAGE

2008 - celebrating 50 years of sailing in Malahide

The Club celebrates its Golden Jubilee this year, having been formed 50 years ago as Malahide Sailing Club with a small wooden clubhouse on the site of the present modern premises.

Since 1958, club members have achieved considerable success at all levels, with representation at eight of the last nine Olympic Games (including a Silver Medal winner in 1980), numerous National Champions in various classes, international cruising exploits and administrators of national and international repute.

To mark the 50th milestone, a Golden Jubilee anniversary publication is currently in production, to be launched in April to coincide with the actual anniversary and the start of the 2008 sailing season.

It has been researched, written and produced by Graham Smith, one of the Club's longest serving members, and is intended to give a snapshot of 50 years of Malahide Yacht Club (incorporating Malahide Sailing Club) with some historical data, pictorial records and amusing anecdotes.

It will form part of a Golden Jubilee programme currently being planned by a special committee headed by another long-standing member Rose Michael.

Laser Class

Too big for your Optimist?
Looking to get into racing?
Tired of looking for crew?
Want to remember what real dinghy sailing is all about?
Well it might be time to get a Laser.

Judging by the number of Lasers purchased over the winter and the level of interest from numerous others, 2008 will see a major revival of the Laser class in Broadmeadows. Given the cast of newbies and hasbeens, if nothing else, it promises to be entertaining.

The Laser was designed back in 1970 and almost 200,000 of them are sailed around the world. From a racing standpoint, the boat is a step up from the Topaz (its longer and lighter) and there is a full circuit of regional events, local regatta's and frostbite series to keep you busy all year round. In fact the Laser is an Olympic class, but let's not get carried away.....

The number of committed sailors is already well into double figures and we want to encourage as many more to join us. The focus will be on good quality club racing and we will have our own start



Broadmeadows 2008 ?

on Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons. We may even talk the kind OOD into having two races on Saturdays. The fleet looks likely to be split between the 4.7, Radial and Standard rig. (If you weigh less than 55kgs then the 4.7 is for you).

There will be lots of experience in the class so all newcomers, regardless of age, size or ability, will get plenty of

assistance and encouragement.

If you're interested, want more info on buying a boat etc please contact me.

Garrett Donnelly
Laser Class Captain
086 8594689
garrettjdonnelly@eircom.net

Have you paid your 2008 subscription yet?

Renewal notices for 2008 subscriptions were posted on 9 January and if you have not yet paid please do so today.

If you did not receive a renewal notice in the post please contact Robin McKay, Membership Secretary, for a copy.

Text: 087 245 8762 or Email: robinmckay@vodafone.ie

Junior Affairs

Congratulations to Richard Arthurs, Clodagh Somers and Katie White on obtaining their dinghy instructor qualifications.

We will be running three, two week, junior training courses again this year. The courses will start on Monday 30th June, Monday 14th July and Monday 28th July. Each course will cater for Levels 1, 2 & 3. We will be offering Level 4 Racing in the first course and Level 4 Advanced Sailing in the second course.

I am concerned about the low pass rates in Level 4R and Level 4AS last year. We want our young sailors to have fun while they are learning and we would also like them to succeed in reaching their objectives. I have therefore come up with a couple changes to our Level 4 programme which will hopefully make it more enjoyable and successful.

The ISA recommends that everyone starting a Level 3 or Level 4 course has already mastered the practical skills and absorbed the background knowledge covered in their previous course. In practical terms this implies a seasons sailing between courses. Last year it was noted that many people taking part in Level 3 or Level 4 courses had done very little sailing since the summer courses in 2006. ***This year we will be introducing a minimum logbook requirement of at least 15 races or training sessions since the end of last years courses before you can do Level 4R or Level 4AS.*** If you have not logged the required experience don't panic, there will be plenty of opportunity between the start of the season and the junior training courses. You will need to enclose a copy of your logbook with your application form. If you have not already logged the required experience you will need to look at the club sailing diary and submit a plan of how you are going to get it.

If logging extra training or races sounds too much like hard work or if you would just like to take a more relaxed approach to training, we will be offering a new course called **Sailing 4 Fun..** Starting on Monday 28th July. This course will be run as part of the junior program but it is not an ISA course. The aim of the course is to provide, carefully planned, sailing experience with an emphasis on spending as much time as possible on the water. We will be using the same ISA qualified instructors and Level 4 instructor ratios. We intend to introduce elements of both Level 4R & 4AS as part of the course.

John White will be working with our instructors and junior sailors to provide regular coaching sessions throughout the season. Coaching will start in May after the completion of Leinster Optimist training. I will be working with the Laser, Topaz and Optimist class captains to schedule training sessions and to encourage as many people as possible to come along. We recognize that sailing in your first race can be a little bit scary. However our instructors, who you will probably recognize from last year, will be there to encourage and support anyone who has already reached Level 1 standard.

The Dinghy Committee has been looking at ways of encouraging more junior to participate in club events. We will be making a big effort to provide support to young sailors who are new to racing. We will also providing racing results on a regular basis so that inexperienced sailors can see how they are doing against the "hotshots" in the handicap results.

As an added incentive to encourage participation and to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the club, we will be awarding a specially designed rugby shirt to all junior sailors who participate in a specified number of sailing events. In order to be awarded a



shirt, which will be similar to ones worn by your instructors you will have to complete a junior training course and a number of sailing events which depends on your level of experience. The experience requirement will be:-

- Level 1 – 3 sailing sessions
- Level 2 – 8 sailing sessions
- Level 3 – 15 sailing sessions
- Level 4 – 25 sailing sessions

Where club or regatta races count as one session. A half days training also counts as one session and a full days training counts as two. Fun events are important too. So you if you take part in a Bring a Friend Night (1) and Widewater Day (2) you will have logged three sessions, **provided your name is on the sign in sheet.**

The Junior Training Application Form and Code of Conduct will be e-mailed to all last year's course participants. For members who did not attend last year, forms may be obtained by downloading from training page on www.myc.ie. or from Cora Garvey of DMG Sailsports at 8456946.

Brian McDowell
Junior Affairs Officer

Use your vote or lose it !

The ISA are undergoing a strategic review with a view to publishing a strategy taking them from 2008 to 2012. They are in the process of collecting information from the membership in the form of a member survey. All MYC members are also ISA members

You should go to the ISA web site and take part in their survey if you want to register your own views.

As Commodore representing MYC I'll be working to make sure ISA analyse what data they get from this survey and that they respond to the major issues that emerge, however, if there's a poor response then the survey will be invalid and not a terribly useful part of the process.

I'd encourage you all to visit www.sailing.ie and visit the link referring to the member survey over the coming weeks so your views can be taken into account.

Cruising

The aim of the group is to foster: good seamanship, through sailing in company for safety & encouraging members to broaden their sailing experience and knowledge with trips to unfamiliar ports. It is an ideal vehicle for training members (especially newcomers to sailing) in the hands-on practical elements of sailing and broadening their experience. So, this Section of MYC is an important area for development of skill and knowledge, for the club as a whole and, on a personal level, for the members involved in cruising.

Over the winter, several meetings with skippers and crew have been held and soundings made as to what the members actually want to get from the season. Most meetings had an excellent turnout and some very interesting ideas were aired. It was recognised that difficulties arise most often in cruising, when arriving and departing ports ~ and that *'there is always something to learn!'* Better training can go a long way towards dealing with these issues, when they arise, especially through sharing knowledge and experiences. The draft calendar for the 2008 season tries to reflect this ~ particularly in promoting 'up-skilling' of crew and skippers, to benefit all.

Crew:

From conversations and survey, the feedback overall from crew showed that most are very keen to improve their knowledge through more practical experience. Quite a number aspire to do a practical exam this year for either RYA Day Skipper/Watch Leader or ISA/RYA Coastal Skipper and are anxious for opportunities to do more hands-on sailing, in the early part of the season. With that in mind, the cruising programme for 2008 was drafted with a particular emphasis on practicing boat-handling skills etc. ~ back-to-basics exercises for the beginning of the season, from mooring exercises through safety procedures, navigation and passage planning.

Skippers:

Besides a willingness to co-operate with the training above, the feedback from skippers was for a greater pool of trained dependable crew. Several have relied heavily on one or two people in the past. That can lead to disappointment when events outside their control prevent the crew from participating in 'the cruise for the season'. Hopefully, the involvement of more people will develop

larger cohesive/integrated crews, who are familiar with their boats, skippers and colleagues, leading to more efficient and therefore more enjoyable cruising later in the season.

Calendar:

When the weather gods refused to co-operate as we saw last year, the best-laid plans can be torn up. So, nothing is set in stone in the calendar. It is a template/outline only based on Sunday sailing, in order to avoid conflict with racing commitments, as much as possible. Starting in March, with its 2 Bank holiday weekends, there is a concentration on departure/arrival boat-handling manoeuvres, most of which could be done in the channel or marina. For those whose boats are out of the water in March, they could simply use the template for later. It is anticipated that each 'practical' should not take more than an hour or so, with each crew member taking the 'lead' during that time. Hopefully, as the weather improves, and longer day-sails as feasible, the other main elements of crew training can be worked through, across April & May. All of this should help prepare those taking practical exams in June or July.

As the season progresses, through June and July, besides day-sails, various short cruises are planned, based around Bank holidays weekends. Several, more adventurous skippers, are planning longer voyages, including, South Coast, Anglesey/Wales, Scotland and the Scilly Isles. Of particular interest is The Celtic Goodwill Raid, which been a great success since its inception. (Several MYC/Howth and DL skippers have participated over the past couple of years and have brought home great reports). Various legs are involved and skippers can opt for one, many or all! The CGR plan for 2008 is being investigated at present, to see which legs might be attractive to our skippers. Legs include: Scotland/Isle of Man, IoM/Holyhead, Holyhead/Dublin, Dublin/Arklow/Milford Haven, Milford H/Cornwall/Plymouth, Plymouth / Brittany, France/Spain.

It is being planned to coincide with several Maritime festivals in the various ports. Full details are unfolding on their website: www.goodwillraid.com ~ Well worth checking out.

Arrangements:

Sundays: As was done in the past, it was felt that skippers and interested crew should gather at the clubhouse on the day, about 30 minutes before cast-off time, to ensure that all have a slot/complement of crew. A lead skipper for the day will be confirmed.

A short briefing on the day's conditions and plan would be discussed and then quickly off to the boats.

Wednesdays: evening get-togethers in the club will help refine the weekend plans, select a lead skipper and discuss any issues arising from previous outing and to help newcomers to the group to get to know it better.

Participation:

It is hoped that as many club members as possible will participate in the cruising activities ~ even if only once or twice. Obviously, the greater the participation, the more people will get out of it. It is up to the members to make this section a success through participation. It's your club, put forward your ideas and do not expect spoon-feeding! If you were not involved in any of the pre-season meetings, just drop in on Wednesday evenings, to get up to speed on plans for the coming weekend, or drop an e-mail to myccruising@gmail.com. All have something to contribute and comment will always be welcome, good or bad to help improve the section in future.

Off season 2008

Crew, who have not already done so, will be encouraged to take formal training in ISA or RYA shore-based courses over the winter. But also to help maintain contact and develop ideas for the next season, it is intended to have a series of talks in the club, dealing with a variety of subjects that are generally excluded from these courses such as the 'practicals' of boat-handling, All ideas in this area are welcome. Fair sailing for 2008.

David Farrell

MALAHIDE YACHT CLUB
St Patrick's Weekend
GOLF OUTING
TO
MALAHIDE GOLF CLUB
12 HOLES
FRIDAY 14 March 2008
TEE TIMES 13.00 - 14.00
Cost € 5 for MGC Members
€25 for MYC Members

Adjourn to
Malahide Yacht Club
For Dinner & Prizegiving
6.30pm

Timesheet available in St James Terrace.

Cruiser Racing

The 2008 season beckons - time to start thinking about your boat - where is it and what does it need doing to it? probably all the jobs from last year you meant to do plus a couple of new ones !

The racing season starts Saturday 19th April '08 , and as is usual at this time of year, we look around to see the comings and goings of the various club boats. There are a number of boats up for sale, though to date only Hydrogin has left us, for Wicklow Y.C. I for one will miss that lovely view of her stern, in the distance!

Total boat numbers for this season are difficult to confirm due to the amount of hoped for sales activity, but look to be in the region of 18.

We held our first skippers meeting of the year on Thursday 24.01.08. The main matters discussed were: -

1. The re-organisation of the races into three series of equal number. The series will simply be named Series 1, Series 2 and Series 3. Each race is also numbered with the series organised as follows:

Series 1 – Races 1 to 8
Series 2 – Races 9 to 15
Series 3 – Races 16 to 22

The club diary has been up-dated to reflect the changes.

2. The importance of applying for your Echo and IRC certificates early in order to have them before the start of the season on 19.04.08. The rule is “ No cert –No Points”

3. The club is hosting the East Coast Cruiser 111 Championship this year 11-13th July - due to the amount of organisation involved I will be looking for volunteers for the racing committee.

4. There have been a few comments re the reduced number of races per season. It was highlighted that there is plenty of racing available through the Fingal Series and the ICRA's being hosted by HYC 16-18th May '08.

5. There were some very good ideas proposed for the improvement of the Fingal Series to make it more attractive to enter – these have been forwarded to HYC.

6. The point was raised that non-club members can sail a maximum of only 5 races per season - skippers should try and (gently) persuade these crewmembers to join the club.

7. The idea of a club one design was discussed – there is a possibility that we could have three J24s racing this year. It



is too soon to confirm what will happen, but if we could achieve this it would give a great boost to our cruiser racing.

We are in the process of printing the 2008 Course Cards, which will be distributed before racing starts.

For those wanting to practice, our racing marks will be in position soon-ish.

Lee Douglas, Class Captain

Learn a new skill in 2008 !

A Club such as MYC with a busy year of activities on and off the water always has a need for volunteers to help out with club activities. Involvement in these activities can help people learn new skills they might never gain access to elsewhere.

Here are some interesting skills that can be learnt by becoming involved in the running of the club during 2008.

Social Event Management.	Contact Bob Sugrue
Sailing Event management	Contact any sailing secretary
Race Management .	Contact Peter Cunning or Lee Douglas
Sailing Instructor.	Contact Brian McDowell
Powerboat handling	Contact Brian McDowell
Safety Management	Contact Noel McShera
Fund raising	Contact Martin Clancy.
Transition to keelboats (dinghy sailors)	Contact Brian McDowell
Facilities management	Contact Michael Arthurs

In return for your time we'll provide an environment where you'll learn about how the club runs and you can practice and develop your new skills.

Colm Fitzpatrick
Commodore.

TABLE QUIZ



Saturday 8 March 2008

Tables of 4 €30

8 pm sharp

Great Prizes & Great Fun
with our usual
Quiz Master Alan Johns

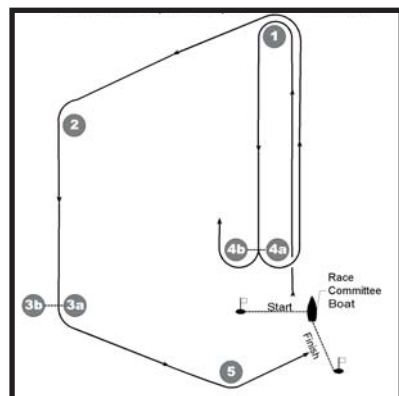


Optimist Training in Schull

The Optimist Class season is "unofficially" launched...Over 80 Optimist sailors from all over Ireland attended the 5 day training programme based in the Fastnet Marine & Outdoor Education Centre in Schull. MYC had two sailors there, Séan Anglim and Órlagh Thompson. They were in the Main fleet which numbered about 40, with the other 40 sailors in the regatta fleet.

The 5 day programme was both educational and social, with activities organised for parents and children and even non-sailing siblings. There was sailing every day, thanks to the great weather, which comprised of sunshine and a nice 3 – 5 knots of north easterly wind. Some of the mothers went for a swim in the sea, but the MYC mummies wimped out as it was 8 degrees in the

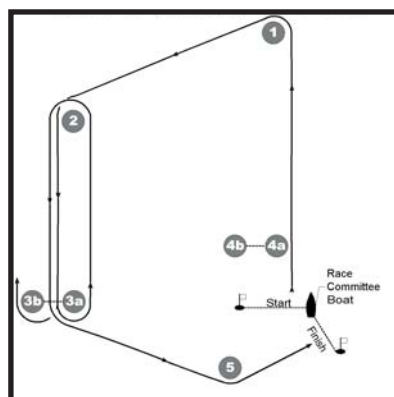
fleet, and sailors returned for a debriefing at about 4.30pm. The two MYC sailors had a great week. The professional photographer in Schull took one fantastic shot of Optimists training out at sea, which included Séan. The framed picture was on display in Schull during the week and is now holding pride of place in the Anglim household. Órlagh Thompson returned home with a wallet, for 5th place in the race series. Both MYC sailors improved their racing skills during the week, and did well in the last races on Friday. The MYC quiz team was less successful at the Sailors' Social Night, but they still managed to get a box of chocolates for



Inner Loop

water. The MYC daddies were on rescue duties for the week, and Fran Thompson and John Anglim won the competition for the biggest RIB.

The sailors in the main fleet started rigging their boats each day at 9.00am. Following a briefing, they were divided into groups and spent the morning session concentrating on improving skills and learning new skills. Each afternoon there was racing for the whole main



Outer Loop

their efforts.

Off the water, the parents' forum

organized by IODAI discussed two proposals which were eventually agreed. The first is to split the Optimist Class by age and the second is to change the course layout. It is proposed to make these changes from the Leinster Optimist Championships in Skerries in May. There will be an under 11's Junior Fleet and an over 11's Senior Fleet. This is the type of system used in France, Italy and Spain. It will mean that each event will have two starts, the Juniors first and a later one for the Seniors. There will still be a single Regatta Fleet. The Leinster Championships will also use the new course layout. It is an inner and outer loop trapezoid course.

The Junior Fleet will use the Outer loop and the Senior Fleet will use the Inner Loop. The www.iodai.com website will have all the details. And remember to check it regularly for details of training courses and information.

Fran Thompson
Optimist Class Captain



SIX NATIONS in MYC

ON THE BIG SCREEN

Bar open before each match Finger food at interval

Mar 8	13:15	Ireland	v	Wales	15:15	Scotland	v	England
Mar 9	15:00	France	v	Italy				
Mar 15	13:00	Italy	v	Scotland	15:00	England	v	Ireland
					17:00	Wales	v	France

A sample of the 2008 diary's new layout !

The new diary prepared by Emma Hurley provides a host of information about the sailing season. This will be distributed to all members over the coming weeks. To keep up to date with any changes and corrections you should keep an eye on the website and sign up for the very informative text and e-mail alert system. This was introduced in 2007 and has proved to be very successful.

Contact Robin McKay at 087 2458762 for details.

Mar	Lower Estuary	Upper Estuary	Cruise in Company	Outside & Open Events	Social	HW (mtrs)	LW (mtrs)		
1	Sa				Opera Talk	05:36 18:25	3.0 3.0	11:51 1.6	
2	Su	IODAI Training MYC				06:57 19:52	3.0 3.0	00:30 13:17	1.7 1.5
3	M					08:10 20:58	3.2 3.2	01:48 14:25	1.6 1.2
4	Tu					09:07 21:50	3.4 3.4	02:45 15:17	1.4 0.9
5	W					09:56 22:34	3.7 3.7	03:31 15:59	1.1 0.6
6	Th					10:39 23:15	4.0 3.9	04:11 16:38	0.9 0.3
7	F					11:20 23:53	4.3 4.1	04:49 17:16	0.6 0.1
8	Sa				13:15 Ireland V Wales 15:15 Scotland V England 20:00 Table Quiz	12:00	4.4	05:26 17:53	0.4 0.0
9	Su	IODAI Training MYC			15:00 France V Italy	00:31 12:40	4.1 4.5	06:05 18:32	0.2 0.0
10	M					01:09 13:22	4.2 4.5	06:45 19:13	0.2 0.1
11	Tu					01:48 14:05	4.1 4.3	07:28 19:57	0.3 0.3
12	W					02:30 14:52	3.9 4.0	08:15 20:45	0.5 0.6
13	Th					03:16 15:46	3.7 3.7	09:09 21:41	0.7 1.0
14	F				Golf Outing from 12:00	04:11 16:53	3.5 3.4	10:15 22:50	1.0 1.3
15	Sa		Local Waters		13:00 Italy V Scotland 15:00 England V Ireland 17:00 Wales V France	05:19 18:18	3.3 3.2	11:36	1.2
16	Su		Dublin Bay			06:43 19:48	3.3 3.2	00:14 13:05	1.5 1.1
17	M		Local Waters		RNLI Irish Coffees 12:30– 15:00 17:00 Bar Food	08:03 20:59	3.4 3.4	01:38 14:19	1.4 1.0
18	Tu	CD WI course				09:07 21:54	3.6 3.6	02:43 15:16	1.2 0.7
19	W	CD WI course				09:59 22:39	3.8 3.8	03:34 16:02	1.0 0.5
20	Th	CD WI course				10:43 23:17	4.0 3.9	04:16 16:41	0.8 0.3
21	F	CD WI course			Good Friday: Clubhouse and Bar Closed	11:22 23:52	4.1 4.0	04:54 17:16	0.7 0.3
22	Sa	CD WI course	Lambay	Laser Munsters BSC		11:57	4.2	05:28 17:50	0.6 0.3
23	Su	CD WI course	Skerries	Laser Munsters BSC	Easter Sunday Lunch from 12:30	00:24 12:31	4.0 4.1	06:01 18:22	0.5 0.3
24	M		Local Waters		Easter Monday	00:54 13:04	3.9 4.0	06:34 18:55	0.6 0.5
25	Tu					01:25 13:37	3.8 3.9	07:08 19:27	0.6 0.7
26	W					01:55 14:11	3.7 3.7	07:42 20:03	0.8 0.9
27	Th					02:28 14:49	3.6 3.5	08:21 20:41	1.0 1.2
28	F					03:04 15:33	3.4 3.2	09:05 21:25	1.2 1.4
29	Sa	Rigging Day		IODAI Training HYC	Opera + Supper	03:48 16:32	3.2 3.0	10:00 22:26	1.3 1.6
30	Su			IODAI Training HYC		05:50 18:51	3.1 3.0	12:14	1.4
31	M					07:05 20:14	3.1 3.0	00:41 13:34	1.7 1.4

St Patrick's Day in MYC

For a great days fun and entertainment why not come and join us in the club on Monday 17 March. Irish Coffees or Hot Toddys will be served from midday and the social committee will be on hand to serve smoked salmon and hot-dogs. We will also hold a raffle at approximately 3pm for all of the great prizes donated by the boat owners of the club. All of the proceeds of the food, drink and raffle will be donated to the Lifeboats. So please come and help us to increase our total for this really essential service that the RNLI provide to us all providing a 24-hour lifesaving service around the Irish coast. Their volunteer crews give up their time and comfort to carry out rescues in difficult and often dangerous conditions. Your support is vital in training and equipping these volunteer lifesaving crews.

A group of young musicians from Ceoltas will be along to entertain us during the proceedings and we will also have a visit from our local Irish dance troupe for a demonstration. For those that survive all that and indeed those that have returned from the parade we will be serving bar food from 4.30pm.

Broadmeadows, Dinghy Sailing

We had a great dinghy sailing season last year, hopefully we can repeat that success this coming year. A big thank-you to all those that assisted in any form last year. I would like to extend a particular thanks to an number of people. Mary White who is stepping down from the role she has forged as Optimist Class Captain and made a very hard act to follow. Fran Thompson kindly accepted the challenge, so we should wish him well on living up to Mary's vigour and determination ! Please also welcome Diarmuid Marron who has taken on the role of Topaz Class Captain, good luck Diarmuid. Mick Arthurs has also stepped down with Eamon McGratton stepping in to take on the maintenance and repairs at Broadmeadows. Mick has served Broadmeadows very well over the past number of years, filling many roles and doing many many jobs, which most of us are totally unable to do ! Mick will be missed. Finally, Bob (does he need a last name) has taken on the role of Rear Commodore with

responsibility for St James Terrace. Bob has worked tirelessly for many years at Broadmeadows and has left me with a hard act to follow.

We have two main goals for the coming season. 1, **to start races on time and 2, to have more participation.** We are looking at various schemes to achieve both goals including creating an OOD roster in addition to the current rescue roster, publishing course details in advance, ensuring members know that **the racing rules are in the Diary** and publishing results quickly amongst others. Any ideas would be welcome too.

Events for this season at Malahide:

1. Early Bird Regatta Sun 27th April
2. MYC Dinghy Regatta, 16th August
3. Wide Water day, 4th August.

First Dinghy racing is on Sat 12th April 15:00 **SHARP** Don't be late!!!

This year we will be holding two rigging days. The intention of these two days are to tidy up the pen, ensure rescue boats, engines, committee boats, club boats are all clean and ready to go. We will also prepare the marks and get them set out. It is a great opportunity to get together, fix your boat up, get advice,

Malahide Yacht Club
St Patrick's Day
Irish Coffees and Hot Toddy's,
Smoked Salmon and Hot Snacks

in Aid of **RNLI**
from 12.00 - 3pm
Raffle Tickets €2
Raffle Taker Place 3pm
As usual Fabulous Prizes
donated by Club skippers
Bar Food Menu Served from 4.30pm
Cool 7 Craic 'til Late



help out etc.. Please come along & get yourself and the club ready to sail. **All sailors or parents are expected to assist** on at least one of the days. The rigging days will be on 29th March and 5th April.

Peter Cunning,
Dinghy Sailing Secretary,
086 805 1783,
Peter@cunning.homeip.net

Topaz Class

2008 is now unwinding in front of us all and it won't be long before we dust down our boats and rigging for another campaign on the Broadmeadow and beyond.

2007 was a very successful season for the class both in the club and nationally. Club racing was well supported but quite a number of Topaz members were not as active as both they and the club might have hoped. MYC have the largest Topaz fleet in the country so let's make 2008 prove that in terms of active participation.

Four open race events took place nationally in 2007 and it is hoped these will be repeated this year. MYC hosted the Nationals, Courtown the Easterns, Baltimore the Southern, and Mullaghmore the Westerns. This is testament to the growth and accessibility of the class.

As MYC celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2008, the Topaz Class in the club wish to make a special effort to take part in club racing on Thursday evenings

and Saturday afternoons as well as participation in the larger inter-club events. Those Topaz sailors who have found it difficult to find time to sail in 2007 are asked to dig deep this year and get out there and find their wind. You will never regret it!

If you have not already done so, please ensure you are included on the Text or Email circulation lists for dinghy events and news. This is the ideal way to keep up to date with what is happening. Contact Robin McKay to have your name included – email robinmckay@vodafone.ie or 087 245 8762. Also keep an eye on the Topaz Class Association of Ireland web site for national news and general information on the class www.topazclass.com

Wishing you all an excellent year of Topaz sailing.

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 Opera Ireland 
presents
The Marriage of FIGARO (Mozart)
in the
 The Gaiety Theatre 

Saturday 29th Mar 2008

Il Conte di Almaviva Paul Armin Edelmann Susanna Maria Carola Cherubino Anna Agathonos Bartolo Marcello Lippi Don Curzio William Saetre	La Contessa di Almaviva Daria Masiero Figaro Francois Lis Marcellina Helen Field Basilio Roberto Covatta Barbarina Claudia Boyle
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Antonio Alfred Werner
Conductor: Jari Hamalainen Director: Marc Adam

TICKETS €88 (includes Bus Transfer to / from performance
& Fork Supper in MYC afterwards)

**Closing date for
MYC Group Booking
SAT. 1 Mar 2008**

TICKETS LIMITED TO FIRST 50 PEOPLE
Application forms on Website www.myc.ie & Notice Board in Club