Galway Bay Drascombe Rally

21st to 30th July 2017

*If you ever go across the sea to Ireland,
Then maybe at the closing of your day,
You can sit and watch the moon rise over Claddagh,
And see the sun go down on Galway Bay.*

It should be a really good event and I hope you have logged onto the drascombe.ie website and entered in all you relevant details. So far there are just four of us registered on the website

…. come on everybody let’s get those applications in…

**The First Part of the Rally**

*Friday 21st July (HW Galway 16.21. 5.0 metres) (LW Galway 22.30. 0.9 metres)*

* We’re going to meet up at place called Killkieran on Friday 21st July – I know there are one of two people who can’t make it till Saturday 22nd July. No problem there - we can liase on how and where to meet up nearer the time.
* There are two slipways at Killkieren, not the best, however, we should have lots of water near high tide.
* There is a pub/restaruant/shop/post office all rolled into one that is just a few paces from the harbour. I spoke with the owner back in February and he is very positive about the Rally. I plan to call out to see him again in early July – it will be a great help if I can have some solid numbers as to how many boats are coming.
* Boats could tie up beside the harbor wall and it’s a well sheltered place.
* Should be no problem leaving cars and trailers beside the pub/shop.
* There are plenty of B&B opportunities – they may not all be signposted but locals will be OK to look after us. Key thing here is to know how many people are going to need B&B.

*Saturday 22nd July (HW Galway 17.12. 5.3metres) (LW Galway 23.19. 0.6 metres)*

* We’ll set off in good time and head for one of the Islands. Perhaps head for Dinish Island first – there is a lovely beach there and it’s only about 4 NM from Kilkieran.
* The next port of call could be St McDara’s Island which is about 6NM from Dinish Island. There is a most interesting and well preserved 12th Centuary church on the island. Unfortunately we’ll miss St McDara’s day which is on the 14th July!
* The next port of call could be Roundstone; this is a most scenic place and is a tourist centre for South Connemara. There is a very good choice of places to stay and eat in Roundstone. It’s about 6 NMs from St McDara’s island to Roundstone.

*Sunday 23rd July (HW Galway 18.01. 5.5 metres) (LW Galway 11.36. 0.7 metres)*

* Sail from Roundstone.to Mweenish Bay; this is well sheltered bay and is very scenic;
* .At the top of Mweenish Bay is a smallish pier called Carna; we can tie up there or maybe anchor off and ferry people in and out. There are possibilities for Tea/Coffee and lunch in Carna.
* It’s about 10 NMs from Roundstone to Carna
* After lunch we could head to Finish Island go ashore and have a look. I understand that very recently the pier on Finish Island has been re-furbished.
* We could spend the evening on Finish Island and then anchor off and overnight there.
* Alternatively boats could leave Carna and head for Kilkieran It’s about 6 NM from Carna to Kilkieran.

**The Second Part of the Rally**

*Monday 23rd July – Friday 28th July*

* This part of the Rally is best suited for liveaboards
* Sail to the Aran Islands and cruise between Inish Mor, Inish, Mean and Inisheer.
* Head for Ballyvaughan and onwards to Kinvara
* Plan to be at Galway Bay Sailing Club on Friday 28th July

**The Third Part of the Rally**

*Friday 28thJuly (HW Galway 21.47; 4.8 metres) (LW Galway 15.14. 1.3 metres)*

* Launch Boats that have been trailed to Galway Bay Sailing Club.
* This part of the Rally will be based in Galway Bay near the sailing club.

Saturday 29th July (HW Galway 22.33. 4.5 metres) (LW Galway 16.05. 1.6 metres)

* Sail to Island Eddy from GBSC. This is a most scenic island – there are some nice beaches and also some deserted houses.
* Either return to GBSC or head on towards Kinvara
* I hope there can be a joint Bar-B-Q or other activity at the sailing club

Sunday 30th July (HW Galway 11.56. 4.1 metres) (LW Galway (17.07. 1.9 metres)

* Head for Barna and have lunch at one the many places there; an excellent café serves some very good coffee!

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