

Galway Bay Drascombe Rally

21st to 30th July 2017

UPDATE

Check List:

- *Everybody needs to have charts of the area; there are a lot of rocks!*
- *Bring spare fuel containers as it can be a long walk to the nearest petrol station.*
- *It will be a great help if I can have some solid numbers as to how many boats (including type) and people are coming to the event.*
- *Plan on launching on Friday 21st around 16.21 (High Water) at Kilkieran. It is a drying harbour. Have a look at “in your footsteps kilkieran”.*
- *We are planning to have dinner at around 20.00 in the restaurant above the harbour.*
- *If you need accommodation in Kilkieran then please contact Richard McDonagh directly. His number is +353-85-8755864, or email r.a.foodstores@gmail.com. Richard is based in Kilkieran and will be a key contact during the rally. Please contact Richard soonest with your accommodation requirements.*
- *If you need accommodation in Oranmore (close to Galway Bay Sailing Club) then type into your browser booking.com, oranmore, co galway. There are lots of places available to stay.*
- *We will attempt to arrange shore transportation to get those who are in B&B's back to the starting point: Kilkieran for the first part of the rally and Oranmore for the third part of the rally. Please advise if you are staying in a B&B as this will help with providing shore transportation. I hope to have names and contact numbers for shore transportation when we meet on Friday 21st*
- *As well as registering on the drascombe website can you please forward all application forms for the event to myself: brianpark@eircom.net.*

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 – If you are going to be late then please contact me.
- There are two slipways at Killkieren, not the best, however, we should have lots of water near high tide.
- There is a pub/restaurant/shop/post office all rolled into one that is just a few paces from the harbour. I met with the owner back in February and spoke to him again last week. He is very positive about the Rally. Boats could tie up beside the harbor wall and it's a well sheltered place.
- Richard has confirmed there will be no problem leaving cars and trailers beside the pub/shop in Kilkieran.

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 Century 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 liveboards

Monday 23rd July

- Sail from South Connemara to Kilonan on Inish Mor; a very good harbour and sheltered in almost all conditions.
- There is a choice of visitor moorings or the harbour wall. Plenty of places to eat and drink.

Tuesday 24th July

- Sail round to Port Murvey and anchor off the pier. Probably better not to tie up to the pier as you can get a swell which could be tricky enough. From the pier you can walk to Dun Aengus; well worth a visit.
- Later that day head for Ballyvaughan in North Clare. Ballyvaughan bay is sandy and somewhat shallow. Nice places to eat in Ballyvaughan.

Wednesday 25th July

- Try to get into Bell Harbour - it's a shallow entrance and there is a relatively small window to get in and out. There is also a shingle bar when you get into the main part.
- Spring tides will prevail so that is very positive ; an early start will be needed. You could spend the day there and leave in the evening on the spring tide. Alternatively overnight and then leave early on Thursday morning. See ("meandering and drifting" for more details on getting in and out.

Thursday 26th July

- Sail to Kinvara and spend a relaxing day in the village; then sail on to GBSC.

The Third Part of the Rally

Friday 28th July (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.
- We are planning an activity for Friday night; most likely a social get together.

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. It is well worth a visit.
- Either return to GBSC or head on towards Kinvara
- We will provide contact numbers for shore transportation for those taking part that want to leave their boats in Kinvara but who are not liveboards.

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!