

Summary:

Date 13th September to 15th September 2024

Location Lough Erne Yacht Club (LEYC), Gublusk Bay, Co Fermanagh <https://leyc.net/>

Rally Plan:

The Drascombe Association will return to LEYC for the first time in a number of years. We will meet up on Friday afternoon and launch from the club slipway. Saturday & then Sunday morning will be spent exploring the lower lough, with Inishmasaint, Tully Castle and Devenish Island possible destinations. The waters of Lower Lough Erne, up to the “Broad Lough”, are sheltered and are suitable for smaller Drascombes.

LEYC is a marvellous club who have welcomed us on many occasions. There is provision for camping and a few camper vans. This is adjacent to the clubhouse where there are showers and a bar. B&B’s are also available in the vicinity.

Friday night will be self catering as boats will arriving throughout the afternoon and evening, Saturday will be a “bring your own” BBQ with socialising in the club bar afterwards.

Haul out will be on Sunday afternoon but in the past sailors from further afield have stayed on for independent cruising after the formal rally

Rally Notes:

- i) Please note that the club slipway is used by the RNLi lifeboat and they have priority in case of a “shout”
- ii) Camping and Launching Fees will be advised
- iii) Navigation on Lough Erne is very straightforward. The markers are numbered, ie the NW entrance to Gublusk Bay is 52C.
- iii) Chart / Maps; The OSNI 1:25,000 Activity Map is available from NIDirect or map sellers. This has the Navigation marks marked and labelled.
<https://mapshop.nidirect.gov.uk/Catalogue/Paper-maps>
- iv) The Navigation Guide available from IWAI includes Upper & Lower Lough Erne
<https://www.iwai.ie/product/navigation-guide-to-the-shannon-and-erne-waterways/>
- v) OSNI 1:50,000 sheets 17 & 18 will be useful for shore based crew who may be walking or cycling near the yacht club
- vi) Although this Rally is Suitable for Smaller Drascombes it is the skipper’s responsibility to decide whether to sail or not, as each crew will have a different level of competence
- vii) As per DA guidelines, each boat must carry third party insurance
- viii) As we sail in many different waters all hulls should be washed after hauling out to minimise the spread of zebra mussels or other invasive species
- ix) Although a VHF radio is not mandatory it will be the primary means of communication while on the water. Channel in use will be advised during daily briefings