



Galway Hooker Sailing Club  
proud affiliate of



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### THE YEAR SO FAR

It is only March but already a lot has happened with the club since the start of 2022.



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Big news as Galway Hooker Sailing Club is set to take up oars....

## WELCOME TO THE MASTHEAD

*with Ciarán Oliver*

Well here it is, the first edition of our very own newsletter, The Masthead. As everyone knows, we are a very busy club and news is something that we have plenty of. So each month we will be sending out a newsletter to our members to keep you up to date with all that is happening and what is coming down the line. As we look ahead to spring our focus is on getting the fleet ready to sail, brush up on our member's skills and to start getting out onto water as soon as possible.

Here is to a great year of sailing, rowing, sanding, painting, learning and laughing!





# THE YEAR SO FAR...

by Eileen Cameron



2022 has been busy so far. The AGM was held on 24th Jan with the new committee elected and reports made on last year's activities. Sail training is to be a major focus for the club this year and already a number of courses have already been held. The National Powerboat Certificate (Level 2) course was held in January. A new Hooker Skills course commenced in February and is ongoing. This opened in Kate's Cottage and is aimed at new members or anyone in the club yet to complete it. A total of four First Aid courses were held over January and February. These were run by club member Lisa McDonagh and included CPR and AED training.

In addition, regular KJS sessions commenced in January. These are held every Tuesday night in the Timberstore.

Sessions so far have covered knots, safety skills, parts of a hooker and the restoration of a model hooker. Tea and cake eating has also been covered!

Club member Brendan Blake created a Google map showing all GHSC locations. This has been very useful in finding our new locations at NUIG and Menlo. The winter storage space at Menlo has seen lots of activity with repairs and sanding carried out both on the Loveen and An Lon Dubh.

In addition, work has also been ongoing in our other facilities. New shelves were made upstairs in the timber store and club member Gina Gardiner led a team in creating a cool new floor design in the workshop.

## DATES FOR MARCH

- KJS Session every Tuesday
- Sanding & repairs sessions at Menlo
- Hookers Skills Course for new and existing members

*All dates & times will be sent via WhatsApp*

## IRISH SAILING VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FOR CIARÁN!



The nominees for this year's Irish Sailing Awards have just been announced and we are both proud and delighted to say that our very own Commodore, Ciarán Oliver, is up for Irish Sailing Volunteer of the Year award. We all know how well deserved this nomination is and there is absolutely no doubt who would get our vote!

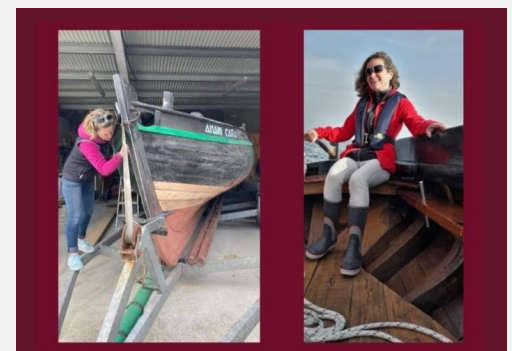
Go n-éirí leat Ciarán!

## SEA SCHOOL SHARES THE LOVE!



As part of our Sea School project, Scoil Bhríde, Shantalla's second class were learning all about RNLI, Galway Lifeboat Station. They took it upon themselves to fundraise for the station with a Valentine's chocolate shop. A huge well done to everyone!

## AIDEEN 'TAKES THE HELM'



We're delighted that one of our crew, skipper Aideen Kilkelly, has been selected as a 2022 mentee in Irish Sailing's sport initiative 'Take The Helm'.



# MEET THE CREW

by Mary Cunningham and Brenda Foy

This month we are introducing you to Gina Gardiner who joined the club in 2019. As she had always been interested in boats and the water her mother suggested to her that this new club might be worth checking out. Gina got herself down to the Claddagh Hall for a meeting and signed up immediately. Since joining up she has learned a lot about Hookers and, of course, sailing. She completed a day skipper course which boosted her confidence in her ability to sail. She was there when Loveen was brought into the shed and recalls that moment. 'The idea of having something so old and bringing it back to doing something it was supposed to do. That was really exciting...' Seeing Loveen go into the water at Long Walk was a very special moment. Gina says that joining the club and going sailing has made her step out of her comfort zone and find herself doing things she never imagined she could do. She says 'Everyone should try it'.



To hear more from Gina copy and paste this link:  
<https://www.buzzsprout.com/1819632/10161374>

# WHEN SAILING MEETS ROWING

by Jen Cunningham



Our Club has been offered a fantastic opportunity to develop an even stronger and far-reaching boating community on a site located up river. This site is in a key location, perched along the banks of the River Corrib, offering a truly unique vista of the Corrib's unique biodiversity and natural habitats.

Galway Hooker Sailing Club is collaborating with Gráinne Mhaol Rowing Club's Recreational Programme, and Port of Galway Sea Scouts at this beautiful location. Activities include sharing skill sets, delivering cross-community projects and facilitating environmental programmes for schools (Scoil BhrÍde Sea School Project), whilst incorporating a shared vision of Community, Connection and Conservation for all those who have a passion for water and boats, both modern and traditional. Activities will also include a newly launched programme offering Transition Year students a field trip experience, this programme is called Eco Advocates and is an EcoEd4All.com initiative.

# GREETINGS FROM ANTARCTICA



Collette is back onboard the beautiful Bark Europa. Having left Ushuaia port, she will spend about 55 days sailing Antarctica, South Georgia, Tristan de Cunha before finishing in Capetown.

# IT'S ALL GO AT MENLO



# LOVEEN THAT PODCAST!



Mary Cunningham has produced a 'must-listen' podcast documentary on the Loveen. She brought it together with Brenda Foy and it captures action from the workshop, the splash at Long Walk, the launch party and many great chats along this great journey. Copy and paste this link -  
<https://www.buzzsprout.com/1819632/10158919>