



Galway Hooker Sailing Club
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NAWAKA 2022

See some of the photos of the Sea Scouts' adventures in the Netherlands.

MEET THE CREW

This month's crew member in the spotlight is Orla Curran.

GALWAY REGATTA

The Galway regatta took place on Sunday 21st of August.

COMMENT

with Ciarán Oliver

Another busy month, with the Loveen back from her travels. Great to see all the activities the Sea Scouts got up to at Nawaka 2022.

We had a lovely day out for the Galway Regatta even without much wind. It was a shame we didn't take part in the Galway to Cong race but again lack of wind made that not feasible.

We had some very enjoyable talks in the Claddagh Hall for Heritage Week and lots of work has been done on Caper Beag, so thanks to everyone for all their hard work. Hopefully, lots more sailing to be done before the autumn sets in.

MEET THE CREW

with Mary Cunningham & Brenda Foy

This month's meet the crew member is Orla Curran.

Born and raised in the Claddagh, Orla has loved the sea all her life. Having cousins in Connemara who owned a Bád Mór, she was often around boats and attended the Spiddal Currach races as a child.

Orla joined the GHSC in May 2021 and was delighted to be involved with the restoration of Loveen. She has learnt a lot from the club; how to read the tides and currents and how the winds and the River Corrib are such a challenge to us as sailors.

Orla has also learnt all about powerboating and how to tow the hookers with the RIB, something she never envisaged herself doing.



She was involved in the restoration of Loveen and found the whole process fascinating. She admits she got almost obsessive when it came to sanding, looking for the slightest bump that might mar the appearance of the boat.

Like all club members she is in awe of the skills of the Hernon family and is proud that she was part of the project which brought Loveen into active service again.

One of Orla's standout moments was when she first took the helm, feeling the response of the Loveen to the tiller, and feeling it glide through the waves.

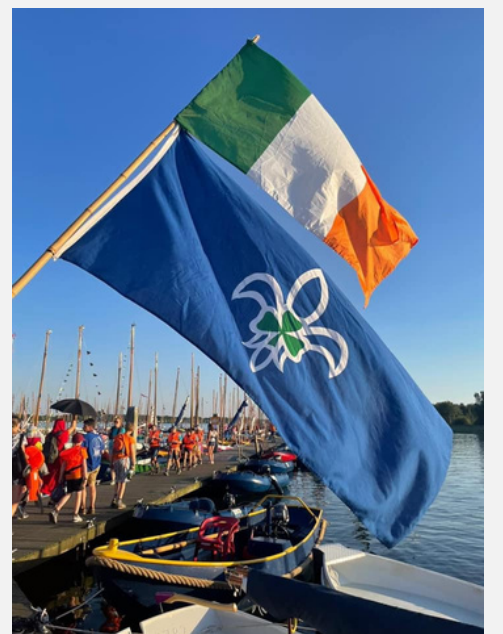
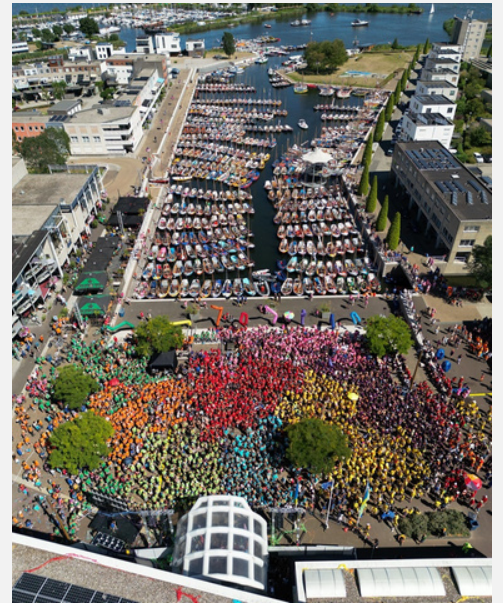
Orla would love to see the club continue to grow and hopefully see more members achieving skipper status so more members can get out on the water as much as possible.

Follow this link <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1819632/11277332> to listen to Orla chat about her club activities and stand out moments.

NAWAKA 2022

by Eileen Cameron

The Port of Galway Sea Scouts had an amazing adventure with Loveen at Nawaka 2022. They took part in a parade of sail and a night sail with the other traditional boats. Lots of fun and games also took place.



PACKED HALL FOR HERITAGE WEEK

by Mary Cunningham

We are delighted to report the events planned for Heritage Week, and funded by Galway City Council, were a resounding success.

On both evenings, despite the beautiful weather, approximately seventy people turned up to learn about incidents that occurred at sea in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

It was particularly gratifying to see so many Claddagh people in the audience. The events were live streamed and can still be viewed on the club Facebook page. Copies of Hooker information panels from the Timberstore were erected in the hall and the exhibition attracted a lot of interest.

Thanks to the speakers Dr John Cunningham, Donncha Ó hÉallaithe, Dr Míchéal Ó Fathartaigh and our own fount of knowledge on Galway maritime history Cóilín Ó hIarnáin.

Thanks also to all club members who helped with publicity, refreshments, mounting the exhibition and technical issues at the event.



SPEAKERS DR JOHN CUNNINGHAM, DONNCHA Ó HÉALLAITHE, DR MÍCHEÁL Ó FATHARTAIGH AND CÓILÍN Ó HIARNÁIN



ROWERS

by Eileen Cameron

Our rowers have been making the most of the fine weather with regular sessions from our base on the River Corrib.



CONG TO GALWAY SAILING RACE

by Eileen Cameron

The annual Cong to Galway sailing race took place on the 27th of August. Unfortunately, due to lack of winds the decision was made by the club not to take part. It takes a lot of work to get the boats to Cong and then back to the Claddagh so it was felt it would not be worthwhile.

Some GHSC members went along to support the race which went ahead in slack winds probably best suited to the smaller dinghies. Due to the slow progress, the Race Committee shortened the course and it finished off Inchaquin.

First over the line and overall winners were a team from Monkstown Bay SC and Royal Cork Yacht Club, pictured below with Elizabeth Steede from GHSC (pic from Afloat.ie)



A group of rowers from the Gráinne Mhaol club made the most of the calm conditions and rowed the second leg of the race from Kilbeg to Galway.



GALWAY REGATTA

by Eileen Cameron

Lack of wind is not usually an issue in the West; indeed the reverse is usually the case. However, this year's Galway regatta was a bit of a non-starter.

It was still a magnificent sight to see all the boats out. There were hookers from Connemara, Kinvara and the islands alongside the Galway boats.



HANDS AROUND THE CORRIB

by Eileen Cameron

A special event took place on Lake Corrib on Sunday 21st of August as part of Heritage Week. It was organised by Corrib Beo and called "Hands around the Corrib".

The event was designed to celebrate the intercommunity traditions and rich culture of the Corrib region. Boats carried participants to and from Kilbeg on the Headford side and Knockferry on the Moycullen side. Events included talks, music and hospitality.

Members of both GHSC and Gráinne Mhaol took part in the celebrations, rowing between the piers and enjoying the festivities.



LON DUBH AT CRUINNIÚ NA MBÁD

by Maria Buckley

Cruinniú na mBád is a festival held every August to celebrate the living tradition of sailing Galway Hookers.

Lon Dubh made her journey from Claddagh to Kinvara with a tow from TJ to Parkmore Pier and despite the calm conditions, even managed to sail into Kinvara Quay on a light breeze.

Unfortunately, Sunday's sail and races were called off due to an orange thunder warning. Crew were still able to enjoy the festival's activities such as the climín race, all the while taking in the fleet of hookers on anchor from all over the west.

Hopefully next year's weather will allow for more sailing and racing



KJS AND MORE

by Eileen Cameron



KJS sessions continued this month with sterling work being done on Caper Beag.

We also had rigging sessions that turned into sailing sessions - have to make the most of the weather!