

SIDelines

Sailing in Dublin Club Newsletter

ISSUE # 16 / JULY 2025



IT'S JULY!

Summer is flying in, and we are in July already!

Weather has been kind to us this summer so far, although for the racers there has been a number of light wind days leading to some cancellations. Nonetheless, the racing season has been a good one, and bar a few, Ruff Diamond has participated in most of the DBSC racing dates in the calendar. Our club Fireballs have also enjoyed some good racing - DBSC dinghy racing on Tuesday evenings is still going strong, the Saturday series ended in June but will recommence at the end of August for 5 weeks.

During the 10 - 13 July, the **Volvo Dun Laoghaire Regatta** took place, what a great regatta it was! Both Mayfly and Ruff Diamond participated, and crews enjoyed all the regatta had to offer. The weather conditions for the four days were Mediterranean to say the least, and particularly on the Friday where temperatures reached 27 (and possibly above) degrees, and brought in a significant sea breeze on top of the already consistent winds making for the best racing day of the event. Each evening après sail, there was plenty happening in the waterfront clubs, with daily prizegivings, followed by live music - all enjoyed by the attending SID members!

The plan was to hold the annual SID BBQ before the end of August, but between holidays and various other commitments numbers of members available to attend on either of the two proposed dates (9th or 30th Aug) were a little low, so the BBQ won't go ahead for the moment, but if the interest is there, we may consider having an 'end of season' club event sometime in Sept / Oct. Watch this space and your club communications channels for more info.

Patrick Kinsella, our Safety Officer, has put in a huge amount of work into ticking all the boxes in terms of our club safety. Below Patrick goes into more detail about what has been done to date with a safety update, so please take some time to read.

Cruising folks - if you would like to tell your story about your week on board Silver Wind / Spiral Moon, please feel free to send me a few words and photos for inclusion in the next issues.

Wishing you all fair winds and calm seas until the next edition,

Ally Orr
~ Social and PR Officer



SAFETY UPDATE: NEW MOB SYSTEMS AND TRAINING

It's been a busy few months for safety issues. We had the usual pre-cruise audit of Silver Wind's equipment and supplies, with a number of repairs and replacements needed. We also did a stem-to-stern inspection of the new flagship Spiral Moon, which identified a number of essential big purchases, including life jackets, an EPIRB emergency beacon and much else. Thanks to everyone who helped in the work of acquiring and installing everything.

Behind-the-scenes we've made a big effort to upgrade our MOB procedures, prompted by recent marine accident reports that drew attention to things that can go wrong. We also had a report from Elizabeth O'Gorman on how she and other sailors had struggled to lift a volunteer up from dock level to deck level during a practice drill with our old lifting equipment.

Dermot therefore asked for a working group to review our system, and there have been four meetings so far, and many recommendations to the SID Committee. One is that we should practice lift-out as much as we practice manoeuvring the boat back to the MOB. Another is that we need better kit, and we have already taken delivery of new lifting gear for Spiral Moon, Silver Wind and Mayfly. It will be tested on Ruff Diamond before a decision on a fourth kit. Dinghies have their own MOB recovery techniques.

Now we are finalising a document for all members on keelboat MOB recovery procedures, hopefully to be ready by mid-August. The document is titled Don't Fall In! but it's about a lot more than that.

The new lifting system is demonstrated on this page: <https://moblifesavers.com>

The kit includes a better pulley system, and a leg strap for horizontal lifting – vital for a casualty who has been in the water for more than a few minutes. We also have special 1.4 metre straps that fit inside life jackets and float on the water after inflation, making it much easier to reach and lift the person. The straps will be fitted to all SID lifejackets, and for those who use their own jackets, we offer straps for sale at the discounted price of €20. Limited numbers at first, so email me to get yours (patrick.kinsella@iol.ie). Testing and training with the new kit will begin shortly.

The Working Group has made a number of other recommendations, including on new safety tethers, enhanced training/practice, and much more.

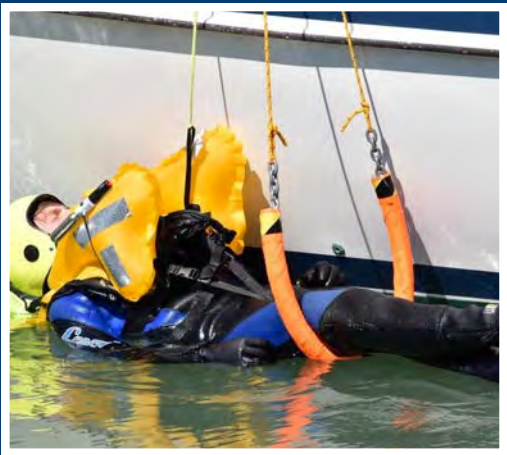
I want to heartily thank those who have done so much on the working group, including Monica Alcock, Cearbhall Daly, Gerry Flaherty, Patricia Heckman, Elizabeth O'Gorman and Lorraine Smith. Thanks to others who have assisted by email and phone call.

Oh, one more thing: the working group decided to continue using MOB rather than a more inclusive term, taking the view that SID shouldn't change before a new phrase becomes generally accepted in the sailing community.

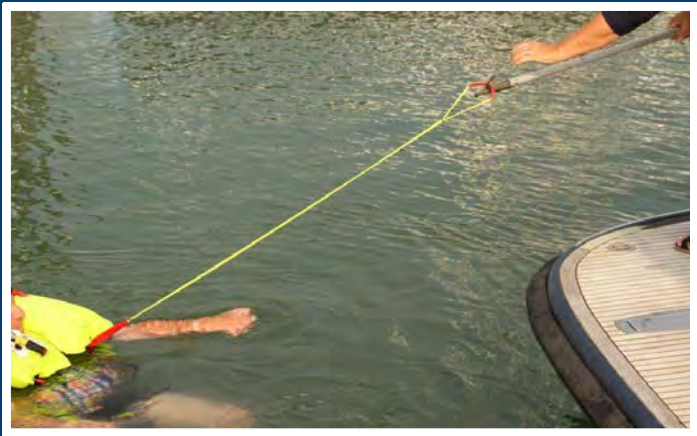
Much work remains to be done – next up, the annual audit of Mayfly.

Patrick Kinsella
~ Safety Officer





HORIZONTAL LIFT-OUT WITH LEG SLING



THE YELLOW STRAP MAKES MOB CONTACT EASIER



THE STRAP FITS INSIDE THE LIFE JACKET

SPIRAL MOON IS OFF ON HER INAUGURAL SUMMER CRUISE...

Spiral Moon departed Dun Laoghaire for her inaugural SID cruise season on 29th July.

Thus followed a frenzy of preparation and fixing, so a huge thanks to the maintenance team and to the delivery crews for helping get her down south, and for getting Silver Wind back to her home port at record speed. It was great to have the delivery time on Spiral Moon to appreciate the added benefits of a bigger boat designed for comfortable cruising. Her relative luxury will bring a smile to all in the cruising group, whether it's the comfort and handling on board in higher swell, the space in the lounge (rather than a human slider puzzle to furnish the available space around different corners of the lounge), the speed of a turbo engine, mattresses that you don't stick to, mould free cabins (this will need joint effort to maintain with regular use of the dehumidifier through winter), options for a single bunk bed, a nice instrument panel and big chart plotter, a massive double access fridge for extra beer and wine!! The list goes on.

If you've cruised on her this summer, send in any feedback to the cruising committee, because some tweaks will be needed for club suitability (versus private ownership). Thanks also to all the time given by the purchasing committee earlier in the year.

Sonja Masterson
~ Cruising Officer

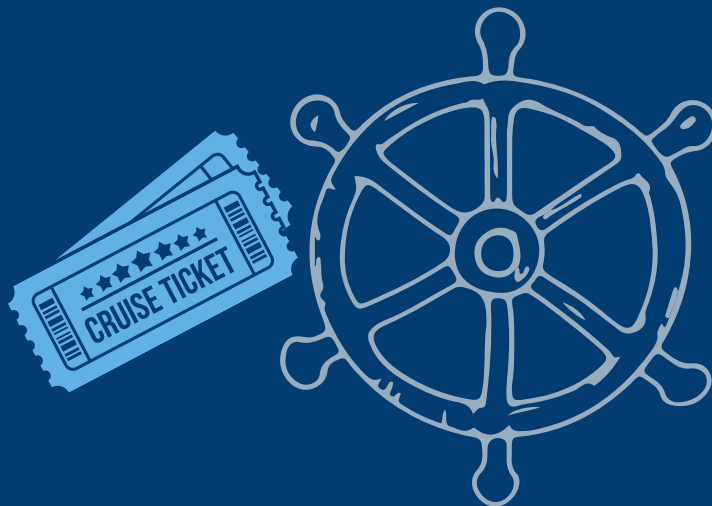


PHOTO GALLERY



