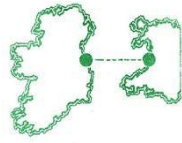


ST. MICHAEL'S ROWING CLUB
DÚN LAOGHAIRE



ARKLOW TO ABERYSTWYTH
ROWING RACE



March 2010

Calling all Mariners!

Your local rowing club is rowing across the Irish Sea in May, but **we need your help**. We are entering two traditional east-coast rowing skiffs in the bi-annual 'Celtic Challenge', but the rules of the race require a powered support boat and RIB for each team entering, to navigate and provide a place to rest for the rotating rowing crews.

If you have a suitable boat and a crew of 2 or 3 that you can lend us for the May bank holiday weekend, we can promise fun, adventure, and the chance to help us raise money for the Crumlin Children's hospital. St Michael's entered a skiff in the Celtic Challenge in 2006, raising €5,000 for Crumlin in the process, a total we hope to beat this year. Those of us who raced in '06 had a memorable crossing and our support crew thoroughly enjoyed the whole event. Now's your chance to participate.

Event details (more at <http://www.celtic-challenge.org.uk/>)

- The crossing is 80 nautical miles, from the South Beach in Arklow to Aberystwyth Harbour.
- All fuel, accommodation, and costs will be paid for by St. Michael's Rowing Club.
- The race is scheduled to begin at 4pm on Saturday 1st of May, and finish the following morning (total time 18-24 hrs). Support boats need to be in Arklow on Friday evening (30th April) for briefings and safety checks. Depending on the weather, the race start could be pushed to Friday evening or Sunday morning. Support boats can return home at their leisure; the rowers and skiffs take the ferry back.
- There are 12 rowers per team, with 4 rowing and one coxing at any time, the remaining 7 rest on the support boat. The RIB ferries the crews from the support boat to the skiff and back once an hour.

Boat requirements (Per team - we are entering 2 teams of 12)

- A support vessel of not less than 10m in length with a GPS navigation system, and enough room for a support boat crew of 2-3 plus 7 rowers, and 12 rowers if needs be. Race speed approx. 6kts.
- A powered RIB / Inflatable not less than 4m in length.

If you would like to hear more, or think you might be able to help with any of the above, do get in touch. Honour, glory, and the eternal thanks of the men and women of St. Michael's Rowing Club await! We are required to finalise arrangements as soon as possible, so if you think you can help, you can email us on info@dunlaoghairerowing.com or call our race coordinator James on 087-9977262. There are details about our club, the event, and photos of the 2006 crossing at <http://www.dunlaoghairerowing.com/> .

Yours sincerely,

Ger Ryan
Secretary, St. Michael's Rowing Club