

Ten Minute interviews...Daisy Collingridge

Daisy Collingridge has had a very successful Easter, gaining herself a place at EuroSAF in her Laser Radial by finishing 4th overall and 2nd under 19 Girl at the 2016 Youth Nationals. The light winds at the beginning of the week "levelled it out" she said, "before I dropped a few places on the windy middle days". Daisy, who qualified for 2 Cadet World Championships has been racing her Laser for nearly 18 months and could still sail her Cadet (but she would have to fight Hattie for it!), took 10 minutes away from vital GCSE revision to tell me a little more:

"The Laser is a massive challenge after the Cadet, it's so completely different" she said, "but I do like sailing on my own, I enjoy the self-reliance, making decisions; decisions that are all down to me and no-one else" "I loved sailing with my brother and sister, it was really special, but the Laser gives me that extra independence"

So Daisy, after taking 10 GCSE's and competing in the EuroSAF's in Austria, what's next? "The Radial worlds are in Ireland, Dun Laoghaire". Now that is a great place to sail, good luck there and good luck with your exams too.

So...When did you start sailing?

"I started sailing at 6 yrs old with Dad (and Grandad) in his Wayfarer. I remember it was raining and I was small enough to shelter under the spinnaker bags in the cockpit" "My first Cadet, "Little Miss Trouble" Dad bought from ebay for £500, I started sailing her with my friend Pip at aged 8. I never crewed. Pip and I would just capsize and just sit on the bottom. We used to tie onto moorings, once we were taken aboard a yacht and fed hot chocolate and cake, Mum and Dad couldn't find us!"

They say you never forget your first Cadet?

"Little Miss Trouble....GBR 8849 or ???"

What is your best Cadet moment?

"My happiest moment was 2014 at the 3rd World Qualifier at Stone SC. We went from 15th to 10th by 2 points and just made the team. There was one race where we took a port tack flier off the start line crossed the fleet and we went on to win"

What animal are you when you sail?

"A lion! Aggressive" grrrrr

Who is your inspiration?

My Dad, he has always been so supportive, telling me I can do it when I doubt myself, and driving me everywhere too"

What is your top sailing tip?

"Don't get stressed out when you're doing well, just use your brain, don't miss the shifts, keep calm"

Where is your favourite sailing venue, UK and abroad?

“Lake Garda! Not just for the sailing but because it is Lake Garda, and Weymouth too for its tactical challenges. I also enjoyed Portugal (I can’t remember the name) on the Atlantic with huge waves and 20 foot waves...”

What is your perfect dry bag lunch?

“I hate eating afloat” “Dad makes me do it when I go to see him on the water, so Pesto Pasta in a pot, a Nature Valley Bar and Lucozade sport”

What is your dream boat?

“A moth”

Thank you to.....

“A massive thankyou to my Parents for all they have done for me and for driving me everywhere”

“and Mike Mac for all he has done for my sailing, and Willow (Bland) too for being my perfect sailing partner”