



## **JAMES O'MAHONY**

**DOB:** 24/12/1989

**Grew up:** Cork, Ireland

**Currently Living:** Southampton

**Occupation:** Studying Ship Science at University of Southampton

**Position on Boat:** Trim

**Sailing/ Yacht Club:** Wessex Sailing Club

**First sailing experience:** It was when I was 15 in Kinsale in Ireland for an ISA Level 1 course with my school. We were sailing Toppers and I was with Alan Macilwraith, and we just capsized all the time!

**Greatest sailing goal:** Sailing around the World

**Greatest sailing achievement to date:** Having sailed for the first time when I was 15, I was offered a job by an ISA and RYA Coach to teach sailing when I was 16.

**Most memorable sailing experience:** It has to be the first time I went sailing with my friend, Alan, and it was windy and we were just constantly capsizing and swimming and he never let me helm again after that first day!

### **Meet the sailor...**

**Greatest strength you bring to the academy?** *A good balance of sense of humour and work ethic.*

**Most influential person in your sailing career to date?** *It's probably very cliché but Ellen Macarthur is definitely that person. She inspired me to push the boundaries and really get into sailing.*

**What do you hope to achieve from joining the Keelboat Academy?** *A better insight into racing keelboats and a knowledge of events while gaining contacts in the sport.*

**If you could compete in any Keelboat event what event would it be and why?** *For me it has to be the Vendee Globe. Again probably a bit cliché but it is still the toughest and for me it is the pinnacle of sailing.*



**Other notable achievements away from sailing?** *I am a black belt in Tae Kwon Do. I currently sit on the Athletic Union Executive committee for the University of Southampton. I am also a Powerboat Instructor.*

**Other interests away from sailing?** *Skiing, badminton, kite surfing, cricket, Tae Kwon Do*

**Any famous relatives?!** *Titus Oates (He went to the Antarctic with Captain Scott)*

**Who is your hero and why?** *My hero would have to be..... I have no idea!! It's a question that I've never been asked before, and I really don't know!*

**Any famous relatives?!** *Unfortunately, not to the best of my knowledge!*