

Notice Board



July 2002

KNOTS

KNOTS is our Club magazine. We welcome your input & notices - contact the Club office (Tel. 839 3135), or any Committee Member.

BE ON TOP - REGATTA WEEKEND

TOP (Tedcastles Oil Products) have reached agreement with Sutton Dinghy Club to make reparations for the unfortunate oil spill which spoilt our 2000 Junior Regatta, and have agreed to sponsor both the 2002 and 2003 Regattas. The 2002 event spans two days: the **Junior Regatta on Saturday 3rd August**, and the **Senior Regatta / Cup Races on Sunday 4th August**.

*Looking forward to creating a good working relationship with TOP, the Club have been working with their Marketing Department to come up with a package which will mean that **everyone** who enters either the Junior or Senior regatta will benefit. So we encourage all boat owners to **make sure that their boat is on the water for the event** – if you're going to be away over the weekend, see if you can lend your boat to some competent person to sail it for you!*

The Junior Regatta will (weather permitting) involve two races back-to-back for four classes of boats: Lasers (all rigs); 420s, Mirrors and Optimists. With First Gun scheduled for 13.00 hours, you'll have plenty of time to register and rig your boats – but please get your entries in early (preferably by Wednesday 31st July) so that we know what numbers to cater for. And tell your friends in other Clubs to come along: the more the merrier – and you'll get a free tee-shirt!

The Senior Regatta will also involve two races back-to-back, for five classes: Lasers (all rigs); 420, Mirrors, GP 14s and IDRA 14s. Don't forget - the winners of the second race in each class (the "Cup" race) will receive a trophy to hold for a year.

BIRTHDAY PARTY – SUN. 30TH JUNE

In 2001 we held a Birthday Party to celebrate the fifty years since the official opening of our Clubhouse – in glorious sunshine, it was a great fun event. If at first you succeed, you have to do it again – but the gods did not smile on us in 2002! **SUNDAY 30th JUNE** was just like much of our summer so far: windy and dull, so all ideas about bunting and balloons were quickly discarded – the question became one of whether to cancel everything and go back to bed, or go on the water and have a blast.

*In the interests of safety, it was decided that only the Senior boats would go on the water, and the less experienced Juniors stay ashore. **Alistair Kissane** was the lone Optimist on the water, but made his presence felt – leading the fleet of GPs, IDRAs and Lasers across the starting line!*



*Here's our brave Sailing Secretary **Hugh Brazier**, celebrating the event while sheltering from the spray – wearing a plastic bucket as a party hat!*

Sutton Dinghy Club

JUNIOR REGATTA

Saturday August 3rd



Laser, 420, Mirror and Optimist.
2 RACES BACK TO BACK.
Registration 11.00 - 12.00. First gun 13.00hrs.
Entries by 31st July, on a first come first served basis.
Phone Sutton Dinghy Club 839 3135

Sponsored by



Sutton Dinghy Club

SENIOR REGATTA

Sunday August 4th



Laser 1, 420, GP 14, IDRA 14 and Mirror
2 RACES BACK TO BACK
Briefing 11.00hrs, First gun 12.00hrs
Entries by 31st July, on a first come first served basis.
Phone Sutton Dinghy Club 839 3135

Sponsored by



SITTING ON THE (NEW) FENCE

In preparation for the Regatta, Club volunteers have worked to ensure that the work involved in repairing the February storm damage was completed in time. The Club restoration has finally been completed, with the erection of the new fencing to replace the damaged sections. The new fence is less visually obtrusive than the old palisade type, but will serve the same purpose: to prevent casual interference with the Club property and members' boats.

*Being less "dense" than the palisade, you should not expect it to break the force of strong winds quite as much as the old one - please make sure that your boat cover is securely in place and **tyed down**, and even better, that your **boat is tied to your launching trolley**. This is good practice anyway, but many members had got used to the shelter provided by the palisade!*

Fingal County Council recently sent a JCB to carry out its regular beach maintenance, pushing back the storm accumulation of shingle and sand. With the assistance of Club personnel shifting the piles of shingle on the access path to the shoreline, there is now no obstruction to movement of boats to and across the shore.

As has been the practice for many years, in order to accommodate visiting boats in the Boat Park, the Club will be moving non-competing boats onto the shore during the Regatta weekend - **Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th August**. All boat-owners are reminded that the Club is **NOT** responsible for damage to parked boats - *if you're not competing, **TAKE YOUR BOAT HOME!***

G.P.14 CLASS NEWS

Sutton GP 14 sailors have been to the fore in recent away events: **Stephen & Stuart Boyle** won the Leinster Championships, with **Hugh Gill** and **Barry Canton** taking third place. It was Hugh and Barry's turn to take the overall winning gun at the Ulster Championships, all the more welcome a win after seeing **Damien Bracken** of Clontarf win both of the first two races in the event.

The top Sutton GP sailors set their sights next on the UK National Championships, to be held in Ballyholme Yacht Club. So far, the Sutton group consists of **Stephen Boyle** and **Peter Reynolds**; **Hugh Gill** and **Barry Canton**; **Emmet Ryan** and **James Kelly**.

Stephen Boyle is taking his competition very seriously this year, he's currently getting some experience in a different fleet, crewing for Sean Craig in the UK Flying Fifteen championships - probably hoping to pick up tactics which the rest of the GP sailors don't know about.

BUT IT'S NOT ALL POSITIVE NEWS!

Where were all the GP 14s this year, when every Dublin Bay Club included them for their Annual Regattas? Four Dun Laoghaire Clubs and Clontarf Yacht & Boat Club held regattas in the bay, all of them accessible to Sutton, and GP 14s were listed as a competing class. In each case, the warning signal was given, the GP Class Flag went up but no sign of a fleet of competitors! At one of the regattas, there was a lone GP 14 sailing around in vain looking for someone to race. *If Sutton boats can't be bothered to enter other regattas, don't be surprised if **people don't come to ours!***

JUNIOR TEAM RACING 24TH JULY

The Sutton Dinghy Club **ISA Junior Team Racing Championships** were held at the Club on 24th July, attracting 8 teams of Mirrors (3 boats per team) from 4 Clubs (**Howth Yacht Club, Clontarf Yacht & Boat Club, Royal St. George Yacht Club**, and of course, **Sutton Dinghy Club**).

For the second year running, without consultation, the Dun Laoghaire Motor Yacht Club scheduled their Junior Regatta for the same date - last year this led to the cancellation of the Sutton event due to lack of attendees. However, after the issue was taken up with the Irish Sailing Association, the DMYC moved their event to Friday 26th.

The Team Racing event was finally won by a team from the Royal St. George Yacht Club, with Sutton taking second place - well done to Race Officer **Barry Canton**, and to all the Sutton personnel who made it happen!

PIPELINE WORK STILL DISRUPTIVE

Although the Dublin Bay Pipeline is nearing completion, obstructions and operations are still impeding Club activities. In addition, Dublin City Council have been reminded that the increased height and width of the sandback in front of the Club is severely restricting sailing.

THANKS TO GENEROUS FRIENDS!

Some generous Club members contributed to Club activities recently in a very practical way - one couple by donating two fridges to the Kitchen area, and another by supplying the Club with stocks of Knorr foods for the children. Thanks to all!

NEW TROPHY FOR GP 14 SAILORS

Back in the "good old days", **Donal Sweeney** was one of prominent GP 14 sailors in SDC - and not just because he served as Commodore, he was prominent in terms of enjoying life to the full, aided and abetted by like-minded individuals (**Riocard O'Tiarnaigh** comes to mind!). Sadly, Donal passed away some years ago, but like Riocard, his memory is treasured by his family and members alike.

Donal's wife **Chris** and his daughter **Carol** have never forgotten what enjoyment both he and they got out of Sutton Dinghy Club, so they are presenting a new trophy in his memory. This trophy will be awarded to the **best-performing GP 14 at Sutton Regatta each year**, and Chris will be at the Club on August 4th to present it for the first time!

DALKEY CRUISE - BIT BY BIT!

The date for a cruise to Dalkey Island had been put back and back so many times because of bad weather that two IDRA 14s went on their own little cruise on Sunday 21st July - **Charles Sargent** with **Hilary Gilligan**, and **Alan Carr** all alone (*no crew to shout at!*). The cruise as far as Dalkey Island went very well, with a fleet of Clontarf E-Boat cruisers joining in from the middle of Dublin Bay, but the wind went down on the way back, so it took longer than expected! However, the boredom of sitting waiting for wind was lifted by watching a dolphin pass by!

CLUB WEB SITE - NEW WEBMASTER

Martin Kennedy will be maintaining the Club Web site - www.sdc.ie - contact him at catchmartin@hotmail.com