

# Notice Board

## HELP NEEDED - FOR THE REST OF THE SEASON

It's summertime, and the living is easy – that is, if you're one of the members who just comes down and takes part in Club sailing, then goes home again, leaving "others" to do the work to make sure it happens.

*The Club needs more voluntary input from members to share the workload, and the Committee are convinced that many more are willing to help – if only they were asked, or knew what needs doing! Apart from "regular" things like being available for driving Safety Boats during Club racing, there are several more "Special Events" this year.*

*The "Cruise-In" on August 31<sup>st</sup> will need lots of helpers: to prepare barbecue food; to sell food tickets; to wash up; to drive ferry launches.*

*The All-Ireland Inter-Schools Championships on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> September will need traffic marshals; catering assistants; race recorders. etc.*

*If you think you can help – call the Club office at 839 3135*

## TEA, COFFEE ETC. - CLUB POLICY

*The Club Committee recently discussed the issue of whether or not the Club should charge members for cups of tea, biscuits, cakes, burgers, sausage rolls, or whatever people like to consume when coming ashore after Club sailing. While we wish to continue our long-standing tradition of being an open, friendly and welcoming Club, it is unfair to allow greedy members to exploit our generosity by helping themselves willy-nilly to free food & refreshments.*

*The Committee has therefore decided that tea & coffee will continue to be provided free of charge to sailors, race officials and Safety Boat crews who have participated in Club Racing; all other items (cakes, biscuits, etc.) **MUST** be paid for, in order to keep costs down.*

*If in doubt – bring your own biscuits!*

## IT'S NOT OVER

*It may be hot, but it's the end of August, the evenings are closing in, and it's back to school for many of our younger members .....SEASON OVER?*

*Of course not – Club sailing goes on throughout September; then there's the October Frostbite Series; followed by the Pico Team Racing in November!*

*Watch for notices!*



Sutton Dinghy Club

# August 2003



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

## CRUISE-IN & BARBECUE 2003

*Make sure you don't miss a spectacular sight of a flotilla of majestic cruisers arriving in Sutton Creek, some of them dressed with flags and other items for the occasion, on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August – the first ones should be arriving at the Club by 1.00 p.m.*

The occasion is the annual "Cruise-in" when the sailors from Howth Yacht Club and other cruising bases converge on Sutton Dinghy Club to partake of the social and culinary fare on offer. They will arrive on the rising tide, drop anchor, and come ashore for a barbecue – staying until the falling tide reminds them not to overstay their welcome – or they might be stranded!

This event was started over ten years ago by our friends in Howth Yacht Club, whose members set sail and came around the "Head" with guests galore to a fundraising Barbecue in Sutton Dinghy Club. This proved to be a whole lot of fun for the participants – so they asked us to do it again .... and again and again and again! Since that first year, other cruisers in Clontarf, Poolbeg, and Dun Laoghaire heard about the "Cruise-In", and joined in the fun – we want them to enjoy it so much they will come back next year!

*This event is not just for visitors – all Club members are welcome to the barbecue, whether you arrive on a cruiser or by road! Just call the Club by Friday 29<sup>th</sup> and let them know how many will be in your group, and what they want to eat. It makes planning a whole lot easier if we order enough steaks, beef burgers and veggie burgers for everyone!*

## GLAD TIDINGS – A NEW MEMBER

The Mulhall and O'Tiarnaigh families, together with the GP 14 Class were delighted at the recent arrival of **Fionn Riocard Mulhall**. Proud father **David Mulhall** had been away at the GP 14 World Championships, and returned happy in the knowledge that the baby was not due for at least two more weeks – but should have known better, since his wife **Ciara** is an **O'Tiarnaigh**, and that family have been renowned for doing things "Their way". So Baby Mulhall decided to arrive two weeks early, safe and well, much to the delight of first-time grandmother **Vice-Commodore Muriel O'Tiarnaigh**. One of her first actions was to phone the Club and make an advance booking for Junior Training for her grandchild! The Committee and members of the Club extend their congratulations to all concerned, and will eagerly look for familiar traits as young Fionn Riocard follows in the footsteps of his forebears!

## AND SAD NEWS – KEN GILLIGAN

**Ken Gilligan**, who sailed IDRA 14/120 with **Eddie Bourke**, died after a long battle with cancer on 10<sup>th</sup> August. Ken and Eddie joined the Club in 2002, having previously campaigned their boat on the Southside, and enthusiastically participated in Club racing, local regattas, and the IDRA 14 National Championships – a level of activity to be proud of. Ken's sister **Hilary** also joined the Club, and crews for **Charles Sargent** in IDRA 14/126. Sadly, Ken became ill late in 2002, so had not been sailing this year. The members of SDC extend their condolences to his wife and their two young children.

## SUTTON YACHT CLUB!

When the cruisers arrive in Sutton Creek on 31<sup>st</sup> August, they will be welcomed to **Sutton Yacht** – sorry, **Dinghy Club**: now that the Club has bought a cruising yacht ourselves, we were nearly forgetting our place! The new arrival on moorings in front of the Club is the “**Highland Mac**”, a Macwester 26, which is being used for training and for short cruises to visit other local Clubs. Having been dependent for many years on our friends in Howth and Clontarf to provide Committee Boats for running events, we are now self-sufficient!

*The “Highland Mac” has reigned as Queen of the Creek for a few weeks now, and the “Cruise-In” will be an opportunity for it to be brought down a peg or two by competition on the elegance stakes!*

The new cruiser is not the only new feature since the last “Cruise-in” – the visitors are coming to be fed, and the Club catering facilities have been completely upgraded with the shiny new kitchen, the result of an intensive fund-raising exercise and lots of voluntary work put in by members. Many who toiled for years in the old kitchen thought that this day would never come, but it has – the Club has finally put its money where your mouths are!

***And in order to facilitate those ashore who will want to admire the yachts as they drop anchor outside the Club, we have fitted new windows in the Function Room – maintenance-free PVC, double-glazed, we can now see the Creek clearly again, a sight we had almost forgotten!***

Those of you who are actively participating in sailing this season will have noticed the new addition to the Safety Boat fleet – the **Stingray**, a smaller RIB (Rigid Inflatable Boat) than the YAM and Sea Rider types already in use, but a very practical and economic boat for close-quarter rescue work, with its 15 HP motor.

***2003 has seen considerable investment in improving our Club facilities – we’re spending your money wisely!***

## AWAY EVENTS – SDC SUCCESSES!

Although Sutton Dinghy Club is the centre of the Universe as far as some of our sailors are concerned, the real measure of competition is to be found at Area, National and World Championships for each Class. Several of our Club members travelled to these “Away events” during 2003, with varying levels of success.



### GP 14s – success for Hugh Gill & his Dad!

The most prestigious of these events by far was the **GP 14 World Championships**, held this year in South Caernarvonshire Yacht Club in Wales. Great credit must go to **Hugh Gill** in coming 42<sup>nd</sup>, up in the top third of the GP world fleet, crewing for his father. With beats of up to two miles, it was tough going for young Hugh but with words of encouragement from his dad on the helm (coincidentally, also called **Hugh**, and with not a little experience in GPs!), the Gills “done us proud”.

Other Sutton participants at the Worlds were **Dave Mulhall** with **Gavin Ferreira**, and **Anthony** and **Diane Parker**. Well done and congratulations from the SDC GP 14 sailors to all who took part in this great event! An incredible 175 GP's took part in the event (including our former Sailing Secretary, **Hugh Brazier**, who now lives in York, with his daughter **Ruth** crewing!).

The GP 14 Ulster Championships were held in Sligo Yacht Club. Fifty-two boats took part in the event - first place went to Damien Bracken and Allen Parker. SDC's Anthony and Diane Parker came 22<sup>nd</sup>, with Dave Mulhall 32<sup>nd</sup>.

## MORE AWAY EVENTS!

### **IDRA 14s – Sutton boats first & first!**

The IDRA 14 National Championships took place recently at Lough Erne Yacht Club, and it was a case of two Sutton Dinghy Club boats fighting over first place! We encourage our sailors to do as well as they can, and after the last race, both **Alan Henry** and **Gerry O'Hanlon** (14/28 “Charmian”) and **Alan and Davie Carr** (14/38 “Starfish”) tied on 9 points each! When the tie break rules were applied, the Henry/O'Hanlon pair took the trophy for the second year in succession, with the father & son Carr team having to be content with second place. **Charles & Vanya Sargent** also competed in 14/126 “Smurfette”, achieving 9<sup>th</sup> place overall.

### **Stephen Boyle – in another World**

Another recent World Championship was the Flying Fifteen event held in the National Yacht Club. **Stephen Boyle**, who we're more used to seeing in a GP 14 at Sutton, crewing for Sean Craig, finished a worthy 12<sup>th</sup> out of a fleet of 77 boats. Conditions were very light for the entire week of the event which didn't suit Stephen and Sean – but there's always next time!

### **Mirror Nationals– Sligo Yacht Club**

Two Sutton Mirrors competed in the National Championships in Sligo - **Gerard O'Sullivan & Ben Saunders** won 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Silver Fleet, with **Alan Blay & Alannah Clarke** coming 57<sup>th</sup> overall in a fleet of 89 boats – well done all!

### **Optimist Nationals– Royal Cork**

Three Optimist sailors who are members of Sutton Dinghy Club are currently taking part in their National Championships (although entered as HYC members). The event is being held at the Royal Cork Yacht Club, and as we go to press, after 6 races, **Alistair Kissane** (Gold Fleet) is lying 17<sup>th</sup> overall; **Timothy O'Laoire** (Bronze Fleet) 51<sup>st</sup> overall; and **Diana Kissane** (Silver Fleet) 60<sup>th</sup> overall.

## PLANNING APPLICATION STATUS

As most of you are aware, Sutton Dinghy Club has submitted an application to Fingal County Council to extend the boat and car parking facilities at the Club. Rather than approve or reject the application, the Council has requested the Club to provide additional information in regard to the application for an extension to our parking facilities, in order to better understand the issues involved and to make a better informed decision.

The Club are preparing a response document, which will provide more information regarding our application for a lease from the Department of the Marine; up-to-date information on membership, boat numbers, and the relative numbers of the non-members who participate in Club activities (e.g. public courses) as compared to numbers of full members. Other information to be provided includes traffic survey information and an assessment of the impact that our proposed development would have on the sea views.

### **BOOK RACE vs. CORK – 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPT.**

Two valuable books were lost by Sutton Dinghy Club in Cork Harbour last year - but don't bother going down there to look for them – we know where they are! The loss happened during the Annual Book Race between Sutton Dinghy Club and the Royal Cork Yacht Club – the Team racing event which started way back in 1944. The winners of each race – Junior and Senior - get to take away “The Book” trophy, which is an actual book in which the story of the race gets written.

Last year, Sutton Senior and Junior teams tried but failed to get the better of their Cork hosts (who, of course, were playing “at home”) – so .... we lost the Books! However, it's Sutton's turn to host the event in 2003, and the racing is scheduled for Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September, so let's give our Cork visitors the best of hospitality – but beat them on the water and send them home !