

CONTACTING SUTTON DINGHY CLUB

The main point of contact for Club members and the public alike is the Club office, which is manned from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily throughout the year from Monday to Friday.

phone: (01) 839 3135

fax: (01) 839 0174

email : info@sdc.ie

The full postal address is :

Sutton Dinghy Club
Strand Road
Sutton
Dublin 13

All queries should be directed in the first instance to the Club Office. However, depending on what the nature of your contact may be, you may find it useful to speak directly to particular individuals:

Club Manager:

Hugh Gill, Tel. 839 3135

Commodore:

Muriel O'Tiarnaigh, tel. 832 5250

Vice-Commodore:

Aidan Henry, tel. 832 6869

Sailing Secretary:

Michael O'Neill, tel. **831 3456**

Junior Affairs Officer:

Gerry O'Hanlon, tel. 839 2645

GP14 Class Captain:

Tom Burke, tel. 848 6254

IDRA 14 Class Captain:

Charles Sargent, tel. 846 2211

Laser Class Captain:

Davie Carr, tel. 832 5869

Mirror Class Captain:

Trevor Blay, tel. 831 4273

Optimist Class Captain:

Wendy Rudd, tel. 846 3656

SAILING COURSES AT SUTTON

Are you looking for a relaxed, friendly and affordable way to experience the thrill of sailing? Sutton Dinghy Club has long been recognised as one of the greatest venues from which to learn the sport of dinghy sailing. Whether your ambition is to enjoy a leisurely afternoon sail, become a competitive racer or a competent offshore racer, a good start with the right course is the all-important first step.

COURSES FOR NON-MEMBERS:

Sutton provides training courses which are open to the general public – you don't have to pay any annual membership fees to avail of these! Our open courses have been carefully developed to provide the best introduction to sailing. The programmes are practical and designed to cover the basic techniques, so that you will be able to take control of a dinghy as quickly as possible. Upon completion of each course, participants receive an Irish Sailing Association Certificate.

If you are interested in taking one of these courses, ask for the 2005 Training Course leaflet at the Club Boat Show Stand, or telephone the Club at 839 3135.

COURSES FOR MEMBERS:

The Club organises three-week ISA Junior Training Courses for Junior members who have their own equipment and their own boat (or a place in a friend's boat). This costs only €190 for the three weeks. To facilitate holidays, etc., members can choose from three alternative dates to take their course during 2005:

Course 1: June 13th – July 1st

Course 2: July 4th – July 22nd

Course 3: August 2nd – August 19th.

OUR INSTRUCTORS:

All Sutton instructors are fully qualified and have been trained to the highest calibre on courses recognised by the Irish Sailing Association.



Sutton Dinghy Club

Boat Show 2005



KNOTS is the Sutton Dinghy Club magazine. Input & notices - contact the Club office (Tel. 839 3135), or any Committee Member.

MEET US AT THE BOAT SHOW!

Are you looking for a relaxed, friendly, and affordable way to experience the thrill of sailing? Then come to Sutton Dinghy Club - long recognised as one of the great venues from which to learn and enjoy the sport of dinghy sailing!

The Club are exhibiting at the 2005 Dublin Boat Show, hoping to attract even more people to come out and enjoy sailing on North Dublin Bay, in a **warm and friendly Club environment**. Club officials will be on hand to provide information on the **Club facilities**, the **boats** sailed there, and the **wide range of training courses** open to members and the general public alike.

*Founded by a group of local dinghy sailors in 1940, Sutton Dinghy Club now provides a valuable recreational and educational amenity **open to all**. The membership numbers have increased over the years to a **current total of over 400 people – more than half of whom are Youth members** (children and full-time students) who avail of on-the-water racing and training activities - the most enthusiastic are involved in on-the-water activities from February until the end of November.*

The Club ethos has always been, and remains, **to provide affordable access to sailing and marine-based recreation for all**. Through its Sailing School fleet of boats, the Club also provides opportunities for **schools, community groups and individual members of the public** to participate in a wide range of water-based activities and training courses.

CLUB AND TUITION CENTRE

*As well as being a long-established sailing club catering for dinghy enthusiasts, Sutton Dinghy Club is also an Irish Sailing Association (ISA) **Recognised Teaching Establishment (R.T.E.)** and its sailing coaches and instructors are trained, monitored and accredited by the Irish Sailing Association to its certification levels. Many Irish National and International dinghy racing champions have been trained in Sutton Dinghy Club. Coaching at the competitive end of the sport is also carried out there - the Club is used as a base for training coaches under the National Sail Coaching Development Programme. As well as sailing courses, the Club can provide training in **Windsurfing, Powerboat Driving, and VHF Radio Communications**.*

There is a full-time presence in the Club from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily throughout the year from Monday to Friday. Voluntary committee members provide supervision of Club activities daily from Easter to October, and during weekends throughout the year.

CALL OUT AND VISIT THE CLUB!

Located at the entrance to Sutton Creek, Sutton Dinghy Club boasts clear access to open water in Dublin Bay. In the event of varied weather conditions, sheltered waters are available only a stone's throw from the Clubhouse. 15km from Dublin city centre and 2km from Sutton Cross - just keep the sea on your right and follow the coast road. You can't miss us!

The Club has its own Website: visit www.sdc.ie for more information!

LOOKING BACK – SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2004

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

IDRA 14 – 3 Sutton boats in top 4!

The IDRA 14 National Championships took place in August at Wexford Harbour Boat & Tennis Club, and Sutton Dinghy Club boats were well to the fore in the fleet of 22 boats. At the finish line of the last race, **Alan Henry** and **Gerry O’Hanlon** of Sutton (14/28 “Charmian”) and **Pat O’Neill** and **Killian Sargent** of Clontarf (14/15 “Delos II”) tied on 12 points each.

When the tie break rules were applied, the Henry/O’Hanlon pair took the trophy for the third year in succession. In third place was Sutton’s Jim Lambkin and Noel Dempsey, (14/134 “Siobhán”) closely followed by another Sutton pair, **Alan Carr** and **Alan Blay** (14/38 “Starfish”). The other Sutton team, **Charles Sargent** and his son-in-law **Edmond Fleming**, competing in 14/126 “Smurfette”, achieved 10th place.

Alan Blay also won the Crew’s Race.

GP 14 – Irish Champion Hugh Gill

The GP 14 National Championships were held this year in Mayo Sailing Club. Although they didn’t win the event, Sutton’s **Hugh Gill** and **Stuart Boyle** are definitely the “Best of the Irish”, being beaten into second place by **Richard Instone** and **James Goodfellow** from Britain.

Two other Sutton GP 14 teams competed in the event - **Stephen Boyle** and **Diane Parker** (10th place), and **Dave Mulhall** and **Peter Reynolds** (28th).

Mirror National Championships

Three Sutton boats competed at the 2004 Mirror Championships at the **Royal North of Ireland Yacht Club**, Cultra, Co. Down – **Ronan** and **Rachel Cull** achieved the best result, coming home at 11th. **Alan Blay** and **Ross Harte** were 13th overall, and **Gerard O’Sullivan** and **Ben Saunders** came 23rd.

CRUISE-IN 2004

Sunday 5th September saw the annual spectacle of a flotilla of cruising yachts make their way up Sutton Creek and drop anchor off the Club. The crews, not just intrepid round-the world racers, but their wives, children, grannies, friends and hangers-on, then waited patiently to be ferried ashore to enjoy the food and refreshments provided by the Dinghy Club personnel.

2004 certainly was vintage year, not just in the fact that on this day the sun shone and the wind didn’t blow, but also the numbers attending were an all-time record. Counting every vessel arriving in Sutton proved too much for **Aidan Henry** (and even for **Noel Dempsey!**) – there was consensus about there being more than any previous year, and possibly eighty if you count the RIBs as well, but who cares they were gorgeous!

As usual, prizes were awarded to those who went to great effort to dress their boats and crews to suit the occasion – **B. Freyne** won 1st prize for “Empress II”, and **Wendy Rudd** (with her motley crew of bloodthirsty pirates) won 2nd in “No Strings”.

HIGHLAND (MAC) CRUISING

2005 was a significant year for the Dinghy Club, in that some of its members began exploring the joys of cruiser sailing from the home port in Sutton Creek. **Aidan Henry** and **Gerry O’Hanlon** have been trying out their skills as navigators and ocean sailors in the Club cruiser “Highland Mac” as they took fellow members and friends on overseas trips (well, maybe not really “overseas”, but they were observed to go round the Bailey to Howth to the Squib Championships – it’s a start, they have to gain confidence!).

Having returned to base successfully every time, this intrepid duo should see some more adventurous trips in 2005!

CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Once you have completed the Start Sailing course and learned the basics, or you are already an accomplished sailor, the best way of progressing in the sport is to **join the Club – all are welcome!** And it’s not that expensive – **Family Membership is €240; Adult membership is €160**, and a **Youth** (up to 25 if a full-time student) **pays only €85**.

*Unlike other sailing clubs, where you have to own or know someone with a boat in order to go sailing, **Sutton Dinghy Club provides a range of boats and other equipment which can be availed of, subject to certain conditions.***

MAIN CLASSES OF BOAT IN SUTTON:

GP 14: A two-person 14-foot plywood dinghy, the most popular class among adult sailors at Sutton. Most are wooden, but some fibreglass boats are sailed.

IDRA 14: A two-person 14-foot clinker-built trapeze dinghy adopted by the Irish Dinghy Racing Association (now the ISA) in the 1940s. Both wooden and fibreglass versions are sailed - visit the IDRA 14 stand at the Show.

Laser: An Olympic single-hander sailed at Sutton (both 4.7 and full rig versions) mainly by the under-20s - but there are also several older (including some much older) Laser sailors!

Laser Pico: Initially introduced as a training boat in Sutton, this is now becoming popular with young sailors.

Mirror: The most successful two-person Junior boat ever on the Irish sailing scene, the Mirror has long been the boat of choice for Sutton Junior sailors.

Optimist: The boat in which most under-15s learn to sail - but also a very competitive class throughout Ireland and the world. Sutton “Oppies” range from old boats to the latest fibreglass models.

CLUB RACING ACTIVITIES

The Sutton Dinghy Club racing season runs from April to October, with Club Racing on Sunday (mornings or afternoons, depending on tide) and on Wednesday evenings when daylight permits. Club Racing is based on Class of boat, with competition results based on the performance of each boat against others in the same Class

Sailing also takes place through the winter months, although the winter racing programme is run separately and does not count towards the Club Racing points. All members are free to use the water while racing is in progress.

Races take place on **Sunday (aim: 3 races, mornings or afternoons depending on tide)**, and **Wednesday evenings (aim: 2 races, starting at 7.30pm)**. Over the entire season, this amounts to a total of over 100 races scheduled over 40 dates – enough for any enthusiastic sailor!

The Club season begins with Team Racing in the Club’s Pico dinghies every Sunday in February. This is aimed at shaking off the Winter blues! Club racing proper begins in April and continues through the season until the end of October. The season concludes with another Team Racing series in the Picos on the Sundays in November. Major sailing events to be hosted by Sutton Dinghy Club in 2005 include:

Jun 14/15: GP14 Leinster Championships

Jun 28: Junior Regatta

Jun 29: Senior Regatta & Cup Races

Jul 16: Junior Team Racing Champs.

Aug 31: Keelboat Cruise-in & Barbecue

Sep 27/28: Inter-Schools Team Racing

And it’s not “**all work and no play**” – there’s a full Social Schedule as well!