



Sutton Dinghy Club

February
2000



KNOTS is the newsletter of Sutton Dinghy Club. Contributions for it are always welcome - contact the office in the Clubhouse (Tel. 839 3135), or any Committee Member.

Well, we're here, definitely well into the year 2000, the Millennium Bug has come and gone, and it's down to business as usual. The Club computers did not crash, the Membership Lists had not disappeared, so we are able to come looking for your MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS - you know, the money we need each year to keep the Club afloat! Don't wait, paying bills is no easier if you shove them to the bottom of the pile, get it over with and start getting the boat ready for the season. There's another reason to get in early - we have a very limited space for boat parking in the Club, and we really want to make sure our active sailors get spaces, but come the end of March, if the available spaces are not fully allocated, *it will be "First Come, First Served"*. If you plan to sail in 2000, **pay the sub and hardspace fee now** - or be prepared to keep the boat on the beach! The Membership Renewal Notices accompany this copy of "KNOTS".

Where were you on New Year's Eve? If you weren't at the Club, then you missed the best grandstand in Dublin to witness the fireworks as they went off all around the Bay - and Sutton Dinghy Club had lots of fireworks of its own! All in a good cause, to raise money for the RNLI - Aidan Henry sold space on each rocket for personal wishes, and most of the members were happy to see their New Year Resolutions go up in smoke! A night to remember, a morning after to forget - thanks for all the hard work and organisation put in by Aidan, Denise and Laura Henry; Gerry, Leonie, Mairead and Niamh O'Hanlon; Sarah-Ann Muckley and Leah Ward. And of course to Riocard & Muriel O'Tiarnaigh, who then celebrated Millennium Night with all of their wandering children back together for the occasion - who says we're not a family Club? The Club "extension" on the balcony was built by Dick Dunne and friends - but it did not have Planning Permission, so it had to be dismantled - does anyone have a copy of the Planning Regulations?

On the morning of New Year's Day, Club members were in short supply around the place, but those who were up watched a group of hardy swimmers (organised by Gillian Guinness of Howth Yacht Club) who took a (short!) plunge from our slipway. The whole affair was to raise funds for an electric wheelchair - they managed to raise even more than expected, and have thanked SDC for the use of the Club.

Were you one of the Junior Sailors who did NOT receive an IYA certificate at Christmas, because your Log Book had not been filled in? We do our best, organise the Training Courses, hire the instructors, run the courses, set the tests - all for YOUR benefit, not ours! For the 2000 season, we want all of our Juniors to do well - and will be encouraging you to keep up to date!

Can you read and write? Even more specifically, can you record minutes of meetings, keep records of correspondence, chase people for reports and send out notices of meetings? If so, YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU! The position of Honorary Secretary is vacant - could you fill it? With the Project team doing much of the admin work, you could do it!

The year 2000 sees Sutton Dinghy Club on the Internet - starting with an e-mail address! You can contact us at sd@clubi.ie - but polite messages only, or constructive criticism, please!

NOTICE BOARD

EXTRAVAGANZA 2000 - Saturday 4th March in Clubhouse

A fourth "Extravaganza" is happening - the proposal is to have a "Night on the Tiles" (*new tiling in the Wet Area - we have to raise money for to pay for the tiles*); basically to enjoy a great evening with a good meal (*chef: Aidan Henry*). Dining music and Dance music will be part of the evening fare. If you were at the Millennium Party (or if you heard about it), then you will know what to expect - **Fun, Food, and Frisky dancing** will be the order of the occasion.

You may capture a Mermaid or pet a Pirate privately - some more suitable "games" are planned, but details will not be divulged until the great night itself! Support your Club - join the party, press the flesh (*I think this means hand over some money - Aidan wrote this stuff!*).

IMPORTANT: Please help to avoid stressing the Chef and his staff - let the Club know *as far in advance as possible* how many will be in your party. You can book a table or two in advance, but only if you pay up front! **Tickets cost £12.50 - well worth the price!**

Phone: **839 3135** (Hugh Gill at S.D.C.) or **832 6869** (Aidan Henry at home)

SAILORS' MEETING

TUESDAY 15TH FEBRUARY

***20.00 hrs. in the
Clubhouse***

**Skippers, crews, race
officers, rescue crews - all
welcome**

**Let's get the plan for the year
together -**

***Then let's get down to
enjoying the year!***

G.P. 14 for sale

GRP, complete with road trailer, £600 o.n.o.

Phone 832 4547 (evenings)

JAZZ NIGHT - Sat. 19th February

***That old swinger, Pdraig Boyle, is going to bring all his
Jazz records (vinyl?) and play them in the Clubhouse on the
evening of 19th February - at no charge whatever he is
prepared to let you join him, and will entertain you by
giving the background to all that jazz (he really does know
his stuff!)***

***Come along, and have a pint or two while you let it all
hang out!***

***And if you play the saxophone or clarinet, bring it along
and show us how it's really done!***

IS YOUR BOAT STILL AT THE CLUB? OR BITS OF YOUR EQUIPMENT? YOU SHOULD CARE!

With the recent gales, boats have been physically blown across the hard, damaging themselves and other boats. Those who are doing winter sailing are down each week looking after their boats, but all others should be taken away - they need care and attention, and your 1999 hardspace payment does NOT mean you abandon over winter!



Also please note: the bays under the Club are being cleared out for renovation - that means ALL gear (Oppy equipment mainly, but other stuff as well) will be taken out. If it is not claimed, it will be given to needy sailors, or dumped! The Club has NO RESPONSIBILITY for minding your stuff over the winter - so claim it or lose it!

MORE NOTICE BOARD

WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR YOUR CLUB?

Aidan Henry can cook; Dick Dunne can paint (buildings, not pictures!); Noel Dempsey can get showers to work; Scorie Walls can run races we could go on, listing the people who we know can do things around the Club.

But what about the rest of you all of the membership who pay their subs, bring down their boats, come to the functions - how many of you have talents or skills or lots of money which you could share with your fellow members? At times it seems the bulk of the work is being done by too few people ... and there may be members who would be better at it, if asked! For example, if our Development Project is to succeed, we will have to find ways of raising lots of money, whether through corporate sponsorship or fund-raising schemes - otherwise we will have to get members to dig deep into their own pockets, whether through a levy or increased subscriptions. If any of you have expertise in fund-raising, or are willing to join a fund-raising committee, or have contacts in business who could help, let us know as soon as possible.

On your membership renewal form this year, we are asking you to give us an indication of any skills, abilities or contacts you may have which could be of use to the Club - boat repair; electrical repairs; race management; plumbing; rescue boat driving; catering; instructing; sponsorship; secretarial skills; book-keeping; french polishing whatever you can do, please let us know so that we have some idea of the wealth of experience already aboard!

Charles A. Sargent Commodore

HOW YOU CAN HELP TO WIN GOLD - FOR IRELAND

As part of its fund-raising campaign for the Irish sailing team in the 2000 Olympics, the Irish Sailing Association has come up with a way in which the members of each Sailing Club in the country can contribute to the fund - without spending more than you do now!

MBNA Bank is keen to get more people to use its Visa Card, and has produced a special card affiliated to the Irish Sailing Association. Every time the card is used to make a purchase, MBNA donates a portion of its profit to the ISA for the Olympic Fund - and it doesn't cost the user anything more than using any other credit card.

The ISA have provided the enclosed application form for an MBNA Visa Card - even if you already have a credit card, consider switching - to help our sailors win gold!