



August 2000

KNOTS

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.

Riocard O'Tiarnaigh – a tribute

In the year when Sutton Dinghy Club are hosting the GP 14 Class Championship of Ireland, it was so fitting that the President of the GP 14 International Class Association should be a former Commodore and Honorary life Member of Sutton Dinghy Club, Riocard Ó Tiarnaigh. Together with his wife Muriel, sons Riocard and Ruan, and daughters Charlotte and Ciara, Riocard has been at the centre of SDC activities for the past thirty years. He made no secret of his pride that this event should be held at his "home base". Unfortunately, just over a month before the date of the event, Riocard lost his struggle with a prolonged illness, and the event will stand as a tribute to a great dinghy sailor and true friend of Sutton Dinghy Club. Over the weekend of his funeral and cremation, the Clubhouse was the central venue where his family joined with members and friends to share precious memories of a remarkable man – he would have been proud of the work put in by everyone to give him a great send-off.



Riocard was never one to do things by half – when he got involved in any organisation, he was never content just to participate, but worked to contribute to the success of that organisation. In terms of our Club, he served on the General Committee "for more years than I care to remember", and was Commodore of the Club on no less than three separate occasions. It was Riocard's commitment, drive, and "can-do" innovations that lifted the Club from the huge building debt he inherited as incoming Commodore in 1990. He inaugurated the Inter-Schools Team Racing competition held annually in Sutton Dinghy Club for the last 30 years.

Riocard was an avid dinghy sailor, having competed in and been involved in the organisation of both the IDRA 14 and GP14 class dinghies. As president of the world GP body for the past three years, he was the first sailor from the Republic of Ireland to have held the world presidency - at National level, he was a former Honorary Secretary of the Irish Sailing Association. An advocate of sailing as a sport accessible to disabled people, he was also involved in setting up the 2.4 metre class in Ireland. In his spare time, he was a member of the choir of St. Fintan's Church in Sutton. All this took up his time – but he still managed to hold down a full-time job as a schoolteacher, in Belvedere College and more recently in Sutton Park School – a wonderful example to any pupil who complains that "I'm bored – there's nothing to do"! There was plenty for Riocard to do – and he did it with enthusiasm, with humour, and total belief in his ability to make it all come right in the end.

And it did.

A dheis Dé go raibh a anam

NOTICE BOARD

Knorr GP 14 Championship of Ireland 26th - 28th August Come to the meeting for all members 5.30 pm Sunday 20th

In case you didn't already know, the month of August will see the most significant senior event to be held at Sutton Dinghy Club for many years - the Knorr GP 14 Championship of Ireland. This prestigious event will attract sailors from all over Ireland and from Britain - possibly up to 100 boats, and the challenge to ensure that it is a successful and memorable occasion for all participants falls on all of our Club members - not just the organising Committee! Come to the meeting in the Club at 5.30 pm on Sunday 20th August

The work already put in to get ready for the event is nothing to what will be involved over the final preparation days and the weekend of the actual competition - particularly as the final day is a Monday, which is not a Bank Holiday here (it is in the UK). The members of the Committee are already calling and phoning everybody to ask for their help - it really is a case of "many hands make light work", or more appropriately "all hands to the pumps"! This is our opportunity to impress visitors, local residents, public representatives and our generous sponsors that Sutton Dinghy Club can organise and run a major national event in a friendly and efficient manner.

How can you help? By accepting to do a task which is within your capabilities, and at a time to fit in with the schedule of events. There are members' boats to be brought home, sandwiches to be made, changing rooms to be cleaned, visiting sailors to be welcomed, traffic to be managed, road trailers to be parked, rescue boats to be crewed, tanks to be refuelled, children's faces to be painted the list is not endless, but there's lots to be done and every member is requested to do their bit!

TO MAKE ROOM FOR VISITING BOATS, ALL NON-COMPETING MEMBERS' BOATS MUST BE REMOVED FROM THE CLUB BOAT PARK BY WEDNESDAY 23RD AUGUST

KNORR G.P. 14 CHAMPIONSHIP OF IRELAND EVENT PROGRAMME

FRIDAY 25TH	Commodore's Welcome followed by music.....	21.00
SATURDAY 26TH	Breakfast.....	08.00 - 11.00
	First Gun.....	12.00
	Childrens' face painting.....	14.00
	Evening Barbecue.....	19.00
	Western music & dancing in Clubhouse.....	from 20.30
	Beach Party & Disco in Boathouse.....	from 21.00
SUNDAY 27TH	Breakfast.....	08.00 - 11.00
	Registration.....	09.30 - 11.00
	Beach Treasure Hunt for children.....	14.00
	GP 14 Class Association AGM at boathouse.....	T.B.A.
	Dinner followed by an evening of entertainment	20.00
MONDAY 28TH	Breakfast.....	08.00 - 11.00
	First Gun.....	11.00
	Prizegiving.....	16.00