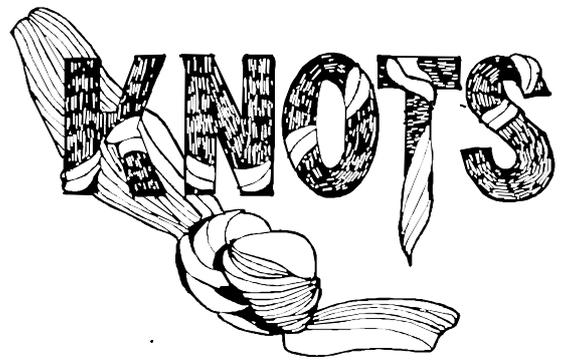




Sutton Dinghy Club

February 2001



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

WE WANT YOUR MONEY!

Well, we're here, well into the new Millennium, and it's down to business as usual. Days are getting longer, some of us are already enjoying activity on the water each weekend, so we 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. If you plan to sail in 2001, **pay the sub and hardspace fee now** - or be prepared to keep the boat on the beach! The Membership Renewal Notices accompany this "KNOTS".

DEVELOPMENT PLANS

As most of you know by now, An Bord Pleanala decided to refuse permission for the proposed extension to the Boat park because "by reason of its scale" would be contrary to the proper planning and development of the area.

Despite the refusal of the specific proposal, the Club will continue its efforts to increase the boat storage capacity to ensure the success and viability of the Club for the foreseeable future.

It is the Club's current intention to proceed with the construction of the new jetty and slipway facilities for which Planning Permission was granted, together with an extension to the Clubhouse Changing Room and Rescue Boat Storage facilities.

SUTTON DINGHY CLUB ON THE WEB - www.sdc.ie

Welcome aboard the new Sutton Dinghy Club web site! Hugh Brazier, Mairead O'Hanlon and Alan Henry have been hard at work over the winter, and an embryonic SDC web site can now be found at <http://www.sdc.ie>.

Over the coming weeks this will develop into a fully-fledged electronic resource, complete with details of membership information, all sailing and social events, sailing courses, the fleets, and of course lots of photos of club activities, and links to all sorts of good sailing web sites - plus weather forecasts, tide tables - and anything else of interest to Sutton sailors.

Visit www.sdc.ie now - add it to your favourites - keep coming back - send in comments and suggestions. And if anyone has any good quality photographs of Club activities (either historic or up-to-date) which could be made available to the world on the web site, we would be delighted to hear from you!

Please note new email address:

Since the introduction of the new Website, the Club's email address is now info@sdc.ie

BRINGING ORDER TO CHAOS – “BOAT STORAGE AGREEMENT”

Having been unsuccessful in the recent application to extend the boatpark, the Club MUST implement strict controls over the use of the limited space for the current season. For each boat in the Boat Park during the 2001 sailing season, the owner must fill out and sign the accompanying "Boat Storage Agreement Form". This sets out the terms under which the House & Grounds Committee will allocate a place on the "Hard". The aim is to ensure that if your boat is at the Club, you can come down and find it in its own place, and get it onto the water without having to shift lots of others. And if you don't respect the rules, your space will go to someone who does!

Strand Road Residents' Association Committee Member convicted of threatening and abusive behaviour

On 15th February 2001, at Tallaght District Court, Mr. Pat Cody of "Halcyon", Strand Road, Sutton, Dublin 13 appeared on a charge brought by Sergeant Tim McCarthy of Howth Garda Station of threatening and abusive behaviour in relation to an incident at Sutton Dinghy Club on May 27th 2000.

Mr. Cody is a Committee Member of the Strand Road Resident's Association, who have been campaigning against the Club's Development Plan, and is their primary spokesman, noted for his interviews on the matter with local media and letters to the Irish Times.

Mr. Cody was accompanied to the court by other Committee Members of the Residents' Association, who have stated in writing that they do not condone "anti-social behaviour" in pursuance of their objectives. The judge found that the facts were proved, and that Mr. Cody and his daughter (who had accompanied him on that day) had no excuse for their behaviour, no matter what their feelings about the Club Development. The judge imposed a fine and ordered Mr. Cody to pay the State witness's costs. He further stated that if Mr. Cody or his daughter (who was involved on that day) went on to Club property, or interfered with Club

activities, the Garda Sergeant was to bring him before the court again where he would be bound over to the peace. The judge commended the behaviour of Club members on the day as "impeccable", and totally rejected Mr. Cody's accusations of harassment or offensive behaviour on the part of Club Member Aidan Henry.

As far as this Club is concerned, this is a satisfactory and long overdue outcome to intimidating behaviour by Mr. Cody and members of his family - it is to be hoped that Mr. Cody will abide by the judge's ruling.

NEWLY QUALIFIED POWERBOAT DRIVERS

The month of January was an ideal time to learn the skills of driving powerboats in Sutton Creek – there were few enough sailors on the water to run into! So seven brave members spent a weekend undergoing a concentrated and comprehensive training programme to learn the necessary skills. The training was provided by Club Manager Hugh Gill, Junior Affairs Officer Gerry O'Hanlon, and Commodore Charles Sargent (all qualified Level 2 Powerboat Instructors) assisted by National Instructor Stuart McNamara. The successful trainees were Sean d'Art, Eamon Murphy, Dick Dunne, Dan Kinsella, Gerry Quigley, Michael Doran and Peter McMeel. A second course is scheduled for March.

EARLY WORMS – THE PICO TEAM RACERS

So you made a New Year Resolution to get on the water early this year? Some talk about it – others do it! At 10 a.m. every Sunday morning in February, between 20 and 30 SDC sailors have been enjoying very competitive Team racing in the Club's fleet of Laser Pico dinghies. Each boat is manned by a Senior and a Junior sailor, working together and with their team colleagues. Lots of fun, variety of weather (from Force 0 to Force 6, when virtually everybody capsized, some more than once!). This series has been so successful that a March series is being considered – they say all things come to he who waits, but lots more comes to those who don't!

Notice Board

EXTRAVAGANZA 2000 - Saturday 3rd March in Clubhouse

A fifth "Fun Extravaganza Night" is happening -the 2001 version will be a "Denim Night" (*Denim jeans, Denim Mini-Skirts, even Denim Bikinis - this is the obligatory dress code*). Aidan Henry's goal this year is upgrade the Club kitchen facilities - we're not sure what the connection between denim and Kitchen equipment is, but does that matter? We have to raise money for to pay for new stuff, and what better way to do it than to enjoy a great evening with a good Aidan Henry meal. If you were at the any of the previous Extravaganzas (or if you heard about them), then you will know what to expect - **Fun, Food, and Mystery Gifts** will be the order of the occasion. *Mystery Gifts? -bring a Kris Kindle, and get as good as you give!*

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 **by 28th February** 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 £15.00 - well worth the price!**

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

TOPPER FOR SALE

Good condition, only 2 years old, includes cover & trolley - what offers?

Phone 832 3171

WOODEN OPTIMIST FOR SALE

Ready to go sailing in 2001, suitable for beginner, only £450

Phone Hugh Gill at the Club 839 3135

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

During the winter 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 2000 hardspace payment does NOT mean you abandon your boat until Summer 2001!

Also please note: the bays under the Club have been cleared out for renovation - that means ALL gear (Oppy equipment mainly, but other stuff as well) has been taken out. Any remaining items 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!