

Notice Board

SAILORS' MEETING

8.30 p.m. TUESDAY 4TH NOV.
IN THE CLUBHOUSE

(This used to be called a
"Boatowners' Meeting" – but crews
are welcome as well!)

Your chance to look back on 2003
and let us know how we can do
better in 2004!

ANNUAL DINNER

& Senior Prizegiving for 2003

8.30 p.m. SATURDAY 22ND NOV.
IN THE CLUBHOUSE

A most enjoyable night, in the company
of some honoured guests.
Tickets only €20 per head
–there are still some available!
book by calling the Club (839 3135) or
any Committee Member.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 24th November 8.00 p.m.
in the Clubhouse

See attached notice for Agenda
and 2004 Committee Nominations

This will be a historic occasion,
when our first Lady Commodore
takes the chair – come along and
show her your support!

DIARY DATES!

After the AGM, and the Annual Dinner
– there's more! – don't forget:

Junior Prizegiving and Christmas
Cheer – and Santa Claus will arrive by
boat (weather permitting!) for the
younger members –

Sunday 14th December at 1.00 p.m.

And ring in the New Year with Aidan
Henry and friends in the usual fashion:

Wed 31st Dec. 9.00 p.m. till 2004

TAKE YOUR BOAT HOME!

Now that the only scheduled sailing for is Pico team Racing
in November, please remove your boat from the Club – the
Boat Park has to be cleared for boat storage, winter
maintenance and marking.

Your precious boat will be safer and drier under cover
when Winter winds are blowing and temperatures drop
towards freezing!

If you have already taken yours homeThanks!

VHF RADIO COURSE

VHF Radio course
Friday 28th Nov. – call
the Club office,
tel.839 3135



Sutton Dinghy Club

Autumn 2003



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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 24TH NOV.

Monday 24th November at 8.00 p.m. in the
Clubhouse is where you need to be to
contribute to the discussions on the way
forward for our Club in 2004. Whatever about
expressing opinions throughout the year
(and many of you do!) about what "they"
should or should not do, the Annual General
Meeting is where YOU decide on who will be
running things for the next season, and make
major decisions about the Club's future.

The AGM is where you get to hear first-hand
how our Club is doing, financially and
otherwise, and to elect your new Committee.
Unfortunately, **most members don't bother
coming to the AGM** – it seems that they just
assume that others will, and that "there isn't
much point anyway", since things will carry
on as before. **Your ideas are as valuable as
any others – let's hear them!**

Things never do carry on as before – this
year a new Commodore will be taking her
seat at the head of the Committee table
yes, that's right – **HER seat!** For the first time
in the club's history we will have a **Lady
Commodore**, when **Muriel O'Tiarnaigh**
takes over from **Noel Dempsey**. Our Club
has never had any bar on ladies becoming
Commodore, it's just that the women
who served on previous Committees never
seemed keen to take on the top job!

**Muriel will be taking the helm with the full
support of the membership – but she
deserves to do so with as many members
as possible there to applaud her – be
there!**

Mná na h-Eireann abú!

MICHAEL KELLY – A TRIBUTE

The Committee and members of the
Club were greatly saddened recently to
learn of the sudden death of **Michael
Kelly** while on holiday in the USA
visiting his son.

In recent years, Michael often acted as
Race Officer on the Committee Boat
for Club Regattas and major events.
Long-serving members will remember
that Michael had been an enthusiastic
GP 14 sailor in the Club some years ago,
so he certainly knew what he was
dealing with when running dinghy races!
Michael also served on the Club's
financial sub-committee, helping with
the realities of long-term financial
planning.

Michael's death was even more poignant,
coming as it does less than a year after
that of his lovely wife **Mary**, who with
Michael on board their boat Caoimhe,
contributed with enthusiasm and great
humour to the success of every event.
They made a great team – perhaps fate
never intended them to be apart for
long.

Our sympathies go to their children and
families.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam

Cruise-in – as reported by HYC

On **Saturday 30th August** 25 boats (15 from Howth) took part in the Cruising Association's annual trip up the Liffey. Boats from Malahide, Howth and Dun Laoghaire had a very enjoyable sail to the East Link Toll Bridge, lead by **Eamon Markey** in Orion. The Bridge was lifted at 1600 and the yachts tied up at the Dublin Docklands Pontoon at the Financial Centre.

The party of 75 then headed to the Harbour Master Restaurant for a buffet dinner and a very enjoyable evening. Afterwards all headed back to the boats where the festivities continued - in some cases going on to about 4 am.

Sunday morning 31st August saw a few people in a fragile condition. However, by mid-day everyone was set for the next leg and the fleet set off for **Sutton Dinghy Club** for their annual barbecue. 56 boats of all sizes (a record) were anchored off the Sutton Dinghy Club and a very large crowd enjoyed the hospitality of this marvellous club. **Sean McCormack** (Marie Claire II) won the **best dressed yacht** and **David Hopkins & Barry O'Loughlin** (Toucan Do) won - not surprisingly - **best boat**.

David Hopkins receiving the "Best Boat" prize for Toucan Do



As the tide was ebbing fast the fleet set sail for home at 1500 after a very eventful and enjoyable weekend.

HELMSMAN CHAMPIONSHIPS – A PERSONAL ACCOUNT

Alan Carr was one of four SDC sailors who competed in the 2003 "Champion of Champions" event, with his son **Davie** crewing – here's his unedited story!

"The event was held at the Royal St. George Y.C. on the 4th and 5th October in Dragons. There were 24 entrants including quite a few sailors with international reputations like Gerbil Owens. So it was a fairly daunting task for Davie and I to go up against them in boats which we had never sailed before under fairly challenging weather conditions. If the truth be known, I was in two minds about doing the event, but Davie convinced me we would be well able for it...so we gave it a lash..."

Racing was cancelled after 2 races on day 1 when wind speed hit 30 knots. We got in 4 great races on the Sunday in a stiff North westerly breeze (4 gusting 5). In our flight of 12 we finished 8th with the following results in 4 races:

Race 1-7th (we got a great start....)

Race 2 -10th (totally screwed up rounding the windward mark)

Race 3 - 9th (took the wrong side of the leeward gate)

Race 4 - 6th (we were getting the hang of dragon sailing by this time).

Davie took the view that this was a respectable set of results and showed that we were not complete duffers...

*We had some other SDC mates in our flight..... **Ruan O'Tiarnaigh** (representing the Squib class) was first in our flight and qualified for the final round of races, finishing second overall. **Steven Boyle** (representing the Flying Fifteen class) was crewing in a boat that qualified for the final set of races.*

Thanks again from Davie and I for your support

Alan Carr

YOUR MOTHER SHOULD KNOW!

After the ISA Junior Training courses were over, and the children went back to school – it was time for the mothers to follow in their children's footsteps!

Seven brave (or foolish!) women took to the water under the watchful eyes of **Hugh** and **Paul**, who tried to teach them all they know. By all accounts, the event was a lot of fun, and successful: **Brid Finn, Emer Shanahan, Catherine Donnelly, Lisa Miller** and **Deirdre Newport** all achieved their Level 1 Start Sailing certificates, while the two **Carols – Blay** and **Scott** – went further, gaining their Level 2 Basic Skills certificates. Well done those mothers!



"PENINSULA PRIDE" FESTIVAL 2004 – CAN YOU HELP ORGANISE IT?

The Howth-Sutton Community Council is the body which already represents many of the organisations and groups in the area – Sutton Dinghy Club has been involved since the beginning, and our **Charles Sargent** is currently its Hon. Secretary. The Council is currently planning to stage a major festival in the Howth-Sutton area on a summer weekend in 2004 (date yet to be fixed), focusing on the theme "Pride in our Community".

This event is currently at the planning stage, when people are sitting down to agree on the general picture. There are many organizations and groups in our area which provide social, recreational and educational outlets for our community – some, like Howth Yacht Club, are high-profile and well organized, while others work quietly behind the scenes helping the less fortunate in our society. The aim is to allow all organizations and groups to promote the work they are doing (and the fun they can get out of doing it!), to make the wider community aware of what they do, and to seek new volunteers to help their work

The Council will need expert assistance in staging this event – if you have skills or contacts in **event planning, promotion, or sponsorship**, or can assist by way of **finance, insurance cover, etc**, contact **Brid Finn (Tel. 839 2929)**, who is the current SDC representative on the Community Council Planning team.