



Sutton Dinghy Club

November 2004



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

Monday 29th 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 2005. 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!

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

NEWS SNIPPETS

The Club Community Employment Project has been approved by FAS for another year. There have been some recent staff changes. **Bernard Field** has decided to leave the Club, and we wish him every success, while **Betty Martin** has joined as a new Office Staff Member - do say "Hi" to Betty the next time you are in.

Gerry O'Hanlon is running winter Pico Team Racing & sailing on Sundays commencing Sunday 14th November. Those interested should contact Gerry immediately at 839 2645, or the contact the Club Office at 839 3135.

On legal advice, **Fingal County Council** decided to reverse its one-sided decision to terminate the Club's Planning application. Then, having considered the clarification information provided by the Club, the Council recently **granted permission** for the proposed Boat Parking development.

BRENDAN HOWARD R.I.P.

The Committee and members of the Club were saddened in September to learn of the tragic death of **Brendan ("Bren") Howard**.

Our sympathies are extended to his mother **Eileen Howard** of Strand Road, who is a Life Member of Sutton Dinghy Club, and to all the Howard family.

Notice Board

ANNUAL DINNER

& Senior Prizegiving for 2004

8.30 p.m. SATURDAY 27th NOV.

IN THE CLUBHOUSE

A most enjoyable night, in the company of some honoured guests.

Dinner Tickets only €25 per head – there are still some available! Book yours by calling the Club (839 3135) or any Committee Member.

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Monday 29th November 8.00 p.m.
in the Clubhouse

See attached notice for Agenda and 2004 Committee Nominations

CLEAR THE DECKS FOR WINTER!

*Now that the only scheduled sailing is for 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 yours is already homeThanks!

Junior Prizegiving & Christmas Cheer

Mulled Pies & Mince Wine in the Clubhouse

Sun. 12th Dec. – 12 noon sharp
- and Santa Claus will arrive by boat (weather permitting!) for the younger members!

VHF RADIO COURSE

VHF Radio course provided by David Gerrard -

February 12th & 13th 2005

Cost approx €250, send booking deposit of €100 to the Club Office to secure your place.

SERIES 2 GP14 FOR SALE

*Hugh Gill has (in his own opinion, which is usually correct!) a **most magnificent Series 2 GP14** for sale. In accordance with his belief that charity begins at home, he is only prepared to sell it to a Sutton Dinghy Club Member.*

For your opportunity to buy this boat, call Hugh at the Club (Tel. 839 3135) – be prepared to pay about €4495 for it.

WANTED - CARING OWNER FOR MIRROR NEEDING ATTENTION

Kate O'Neill's Mirror is looking for a new caring owner to lavish some care, attention and repairs on it, for a nominal sum. Contact Kay O'Neill at 839 1403.

THE STORY BEHIND THE NATIONAL INTER-SCHOOLS REGATTA AND THE CONOR NOLAN MEMORIAL TROPHY

The 2004 SDC “National Inter-Schools Regatta” is now a historic non-event – due to be sailed on October 2nd and 3rd, the weather got the better of us, so the whole event was cancelled. However, if we can’t recount the story of the 2004 event, we should perhaps recall the history of how this competition came to be an annual highlight of the Sutton Dinghy Club calendar.

One of our former Commodores, **Riocard O’Tiarnaigh**, being both an educator and sailor, was acutely aware of the developmental benefits to be gained from maritime activities and sailing in particular by youngsters, many of whom might not have an opportunity to experience water sports. While teaching at **Belvedere College Dublin**, Riocard devised and organised this competition through the college’s sports department. The first ever “National Inter-schools Regatta” sailed in Ireland, was sailed at Sutton Dinghy Club on Saturday April 12th 1975 - now, built on this initiative, sailing is included on many school’s sport curricula.

The youthful enthusiasm of young sailors like **Conor Nolan**, **Aidan Keating** and **Dermot Murray**, who were Transition Year students and sailing members of Clontarf Yacht & Boat Club, helped to organise the first team from Belvedere College - and Belvedere have taken part every year since. Some of the other schools involved in 1975 were **Santa Sabina, Sutton; Catholic University Schools, Dublin; St Fintan’s High School, Sutton; St Paul’s, Raheny;** and **Mount Temple Comprehensive School, Malahide Road.**

1975 was very much the pre “wetsuit” era: dinghy sailing was a summer sport only; and the boats were hauled and stored away from the sea from September to April. Painting and varnishing was done in springtime, but as often happens at the start of the season, not all boats were ready for this event. However, boats were borrowed by those who needed them, and the event went ahead as planned.

It was a wonderfully unique occasion, with many supporters from all the competing schools out in their colours, cheering on their schools team. The Mount Temple Comprehensive School’s team won through to become the first winners of the “Sutton Dinghy Club National Inter-schools Regatta”.

As all sailors are aware, boats are occasionally damaged in competition – after the event, one of the boats borrowed by the Belvedere team needed repairs. The following Wednesday the three friends Conor, Aidan and Dermot came out to Sutton to assess the damage, and returned on the following Saturday to effect the repairs, under the extra-curricular supervision of teacher Riocard O’Tiarnaigh. They left Riocard’s home at 3.30 in the afternoon in cheerful, carefree high spirits, typical of their age. They were heading into Clontarf Yacht and Boat Club to finish varnishing their GP14s for the start of the season’s racing.

It was a gloriously sunny spring day as they strolled to Sutton Cross, laughing and chatting, to catch the bus. Tragically, on that short walk to Sutton Cross, Conor fell and suffered fatal injuries. At 8.30 that evening, Riocard received a telephone call from Aidan Keating telling him of Conor’s death.

In memory of young Conor, the “**Conor Nolan Memorial Trophy**” is presented annually at Sutton Dinghy Club Inter-schools Regatta. It was obviously the most fitting memorial to a very fine young man, whose contribution helped to establish one of Sutton Dinghy Club’s most prestigious annual competitions, which is still going from strength to strength.

The committee and members of Sutton Dinghy Club gratefully acknowledge the continuing support of Conor’s parents, **Patsy** and **Paddy Nolan**, who present prizes annually to the winning sailors.

Long may youths compete for the “Conor Nolan Memorial Trophy” at Sutton Dinghy Club’s National Inter-Schools Regatta.

FROSTBITE SERIES 2004 – TOP RESULTS OVERALL

<u>Helm & Crew</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>Final Points</u>
GP14 (10 boats competed)		
1 Hugh Gill & Daniel Gill	Sutton	8.00
2 Stephen Boyle & Peter Reynolds	Sutton	13.50
3 David Mulhall & Ben Saunders	Sutton	20.00
Mirror (9 boats competed)		
1 Gerard O’Sullivan & Simon Pearson	Sutton	7.00
2 Alan Blay & Ross Harte	Sutton	8.25
3 Ronan Cull & Jamie Carton	Howth	18.75
Laser (4 boats competed)		
1 Alistair Kissane	Sutton	1.50
2 Amy Wickham	Sutton/Howth	4.00
3 Sorcha Maguire	Sutton	6.00
Optimist (7 boats competed)		
1 Richard Murray	Sutton	4.75
2 Darel Clarke	Sutton	5.75
3 Diana Kissane	Howth	7.50
420 (2 boats competed)		
1 Bernard Duffy	Swords	6.25
2 P Savage & P Murphy	Swords	7.00

PRIZEWINNERS: FOR CLUB RACING DURING 2004 SEASON

<u>Series / Event</u>	<u>GP 14</u>	<u>IDRA 14</u>	<u>Laser</u>
Spring Series:	Stephen Boyle/Diane Parker	Noel Dempsey	Neil Gibson
Mid-Summer Series:	Paddy Chambers/Brendan McGirr	Charles Sargent	No. 46281
Holiday Series:	Padraig Boyle	Alan Henry	Neil Gibson
Sunburn Series:	Dick Dunne/Michael O’Neill	n/a	Conor McMeel
Sunday Series:	Stephen Boyle/Diane Parker	Charles Sargent	No. 167818
Wednesday Series:	Padraig Boyle	Alan Carr	Neil Gibson
Handicap Series:	Padraig Boyle	Charles Sargent	Neil Gibson
Championship:	Stephen Boyle/Diane Parker	Alan Carr	Neil Gibson
Commodores Prize:	Hugh & Hugh Gill	Alan Carr	No. 147248

<u>Series / Event</u>	<u>Optimist</u>	<u>Mirror</u>	<u>Pico</u>
Spring Series:	n/a	Alan Blay	n/a
Mid-Summer Series:	Richard Murray	Alan Blay	Ross Harte
Holiday Series:	Andrew McGonigle	No. 67033	n/a
Sunday Series:	Darel Clarke	Alan Blay	n/a
Wednesday Series:	n/a	No. 61619	Ross Harte
Handicap Series:	Darel Clarke	Alan Blay	Ross Harte
Championship:	Andrew McGonigle	No. 61619	n/a
Commodores Prize:	Andrew McGonigle	n/a	n/a