

Notice Board

YOU CAN SAIL - WANT TO RACE?

FREE COURSE - Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st June

The Club is very aware of the problem for many adults who have completed Level 1 and 2 sailing courses - building the level of knowledge and confidence required for racing. From Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st June, the Club will provide free "Introduction to Racing" course with ongoing mentoring on Wednesday nights. The aim is to encourage new members to participate in racing from now on. If you want to participate, contact the Club Office (839 3135) and leave your name, telephone number and e-mail address.

LEARN FIRST AID / VHF RADIO / SAFETY BOAT DRIVING

Courses in First Aid, VHF Radio operation, and Safety Boat driving are currently being planned - dates will be finalised when the potential number of participants for each is known. If you are interested in taking any or all of these courses, contact the Club Office (839 3135) indicating which course(s) you wish to take, and leave your name, telephone number and e-mail address.

www.sdc.ie

Don't forget - our Club has a website! Check it out and tell your virtual friends!

CALLING ALL MOTHER(SHIP)S

As part of the planning for the Mirror Eastern Championships at Sutton on July 15th/16th, Sailing Secretary Wendy Rudd is seeking people with cruisers who would be willing to serve as "Mother Ships" during the event. Two needed on the Saturday, two on Sunday - if you can help, call Wendy on 087 279 9488



Sutton Dinghy Club

June 2006



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

WHEN YOU'RE IN A HOLE

If you have been up at the Club in recent weeks, you will have noticed a large hole has been dug parallel to the south-east wall of the Boat Park. This is the start of the construction work on the extension to our boat and car parking facilities (see next page for sketch of the development).

Unfortunately, it had not been possible to begin work earlier in the year, so this will have an adverse effect on the amount of space available for boat parking during the busy part of the 2006 sailing season. The contractors have to place their site buildings on the existing Boat Park, and heavy machinery will be making its way across it to work on the new sea walls.

Because of this, the Committee urges everyone to recognise that this disruption will lead to greatly improved facilities for all our members in the long term. We cannot provide boat parking places for everyone while the work is going on, so **priority is being given to those who are ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING in Club sailing**, and to those taking part in the Junior Training courses.

Once the work is complete, before the end of Summer, there will be enough space for all of the members' boats - even those who have had to limit their Club sailing to one month per year in the past. The Club sailing calendar carries on through the September Series, and the Frostbites in October - and on into November if you are still keen! So there will be plenty of time to enjoy your sailing!

SHORT-TERM PAIN = LONG-TERM GAIN!

TOUGH WORK FOR GP 14 SAILORS

Visiting sailors arrived early at Sutton this year - the Club hosted the **Purcell Trophy** for the **GP 14 Class** on **20/21st May**. The weather forecast for that weekend was bad, so many potential competitors stayed at home - but the 20 boats which did compete had a tiring but fruitful event, thanks to the large team of Sutton volunteers who made sure they were welcomed, fed, launched, well raced, and safely pulled ashore!

*The three scheduled Saturday races went ahead as planned, testing the sailing (and for some, swimming!) skills of the competitors. Unfortunately, conditions on Sunday proved too severe, so the remaining races were cancelled. Top prize went to **Niall Henry** and **Ossian Geraghty** of **Sligo Yacht Club** Best of the Sutton sailors was **Ruan O'Tiarnaigh** sailing with **John Todd** (SDC/RNIYC) in 3rd place. **Stephen Boyle** and **Nigel Tierney** were 10th, with **Hugh Gill** and **Stuart Boyle** 17th (gear failure in the first race meant losing the remaining ones).*

Yet another **Boyle** ("Big Daddy" **Padraig**), sailing with **Mairead O'Hanlon**, capsized before even getting to the first starting line, and decided to come ashore to launch an additional rescue boat. Having seen the conditions at first hand, he generously gave up his race ambitions to provide additional rescue cover for our visitors!

*The Sutton GP 14 fleet have been in action for a while this year, even if they weren't in evidence in Sutton Creek - they were competing in the **2006 Spring Series in Swords Sailing & Boating Club**. **Hugh Gill** and **Stuart Boyle** brought back first prize overall.*

EXTENDING THE CLUB FACILITIES

The new developments at Sutton Dinghy Club have been so long in the planning stages, and gone through so many adjustments, that some older members have forgotten what exactly is being done ... and some new members aren't sure either!

So to refresh your memories, and make sense of the work going on, the diagram below shows what is being built. Basically, the present Boat Park is being extended in an "L-shaped" development which extends **10 metres to the south-east** (towards the Martello Tower) and **11 metres to the south-west** (towards Dublin City).

This will provide approximately 750 m² of additional hard surface, including space for overflow car parking. The building work is being carried out by a local company - GRC Construction Ltd of Strand Road, Baldoye. Members are reminded that safety on building sites is paramount – under no circumstances should you enter the fenced-off areas. If you want to see what's going on, just go look from the road or the car park.

MANY HANDS MAKE MIRROR WORK

Our Club hosts open events every year, which attract visiting sailors from all around the country. 2006 will bring the Irish Mirror fleet to Sutton for their **Eastern Championships** over the weekend of **15/16 July**.

This will be a particularly prestigious event for us, because the Mirror Class is still very popular with young sailors, and the numbers attending are expected to be considerable. We will be calling on all members to help make this event a success, both ashore and afloat. To make room for the visiting boats, all non-competing Club sailors will have to bring their boats home (or to a friend's garden!) on Thursday 13th July.

Sailing Secretary **Wendy Rudd** (mobile no. **087 279 9488**) is the Club co-ordinator for the event – she will be seeking willing workers to manage traffic, register competitors, prepare food, man rescue boats, and do lots more! She is particularly looking for people (Mirror parents, perhaps) with access to **cruisers to act as mother ships** for the event. **Two are needed on each day – call her if you know of any.**

A TOUCH OF OPTIMIST-ISM

Our youngest sailors have begun enjoying their Optimists in the 2006 series of Fun Nights. If you're a parent of an Oppy sailor (or of a potential Oppy sailor), contact **Wendy Rudd** (mobile no. **087 279 9488**) if you'd like to get involved. There are presently some parents looking for an Optimist for their child – if you have one your kids have grown out of, or know where there is one lying idle, please let Wendy know.

REFLECTING ON AWAY SUCCESSES

Our Mirror sailors have been keeping Sutton Dinghy Club's name to the fore this year: **Alan Blay** and **Cian Hickey** are second in the Mirror Class national rankings, having taken 6th place in the Spring Trophy in the NYC in March, 1st place in the Western Championships in Mullingar and 1st place in the Northern Championships in RNIYC, both in April. **Gerard O'Sullivan** and **Eoin Hickey** are close behind, fourth in the national rankings, with 2nd in the Spring Trophy, 13th in the Westerns, and 4th in the Northern - well done to all! Back in the Club, "**Magic Mirror Nights**" will be re-launched in the Club to regenerate an enthusiastic spirit in the Class.

LASERS BLOW AWAY EXAM BLUES

With the majority of our Laser Class sitting Certificate / College exams, all Laser sailors should make an extra effort to attend club racing from the end of June to help blow away any remaining exam blues and get our full Laser fleet sailing. We are planning to **sail to Dun Laoghaire** on the weekend of **July 29/30** for the **Leinster / Junior National Championships** (accompanied by a Club Safety Boat). We will hold a **Laser Class meeting** at Club racing on **Sunday morning, June 25** to provide further details / forms on the Dun Laoghaire Championships and obtain input / ideas for other Sutton Laser Class events.

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE IS BETTER!

The Club has a new weather station which was fitted to the main flagpole. This will provide information on local wind speed and direction, air pressure, humidity, etc.

SENIOR CLASS NEWS

Two Sutton IDRA 14s travelled to Rostrevor for the Northern Championships over the June Bank Holiday. **Alan Carr** and **Barry Kelly** brought home 2nd prize, while **Charles Sargent** and **Gordan Kelly** took 4th. The IDRA 14s next away event is the Open Championship in Clontarf.

JUNIOR TRAINING UPDATE

*There are still limited places available for the ISA Junior Training courses during July / August: if you want to check availability or book a place, contact the Club Office (tel. 839 3135). For all parents of children booked on courses, there will be a **Parents' Meeting in the Clubhouse at 8.00 p.m. June 28th**. The aim of this meeting is to help impart an understanding of the depth of the training provided, and of the commitment needed from both participants and their families.*

LOCAL FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT

Fingal Co. Council has launched a **Facilities Implementation Project** for the Howth Peninsula, in conjunction with the Howth-Sutton Community Council and the Howth Sutton & District Community Centre. This is a direct follow-up to the Needs Analysis survey carried out over last winter. SDC Committee Member **Charles Sargent** is a member of the Facilities Implementation team.

COMINGS... AND GOINGS

*Sutton Dinghy Club extends a warm welcome to **Tricia Donnan**, the most recent addition to our CE Project Team. She will be working in the Club Office, so do say "Hi" to her, and introduce yourself to her when you're passing! We also wish the best of luck for the future to **Jane Darmody**, who recently left for greener pastures.*

WHERE ARE YOUR PHOTOS?

A reminder to all you snappers – we want your photos! The Club has set up a competition for the best photo every month – and we have received **NO entries yet** for 2006! Each monthly winner will go forward to the 2006 final: the overall winning photo will be on the 2007 Club Handbook.

