

Notice Board



Sutton Dinghy Club

September
2006



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

BOAT PARK CLEARANCE

Sunday 24th September is the last day for scheduled Club racing of the season, before the Frostbite Series and the Inter-Schools event - when the Club will have to make room for a large influx of visiting boats and trailers. The Committee have decided that **ALL boat owners must remove their boats from the Club Boat Park by the evening of Saturday 30th September** - unless the boat is being used in the Frostbite or Inter-Schools event.

Any boats remaining after that time will be moved by the Committee into the Club car park, at the owner's risk.

Remember - if you're not putting your boat away for the winter: the four-Sunday Frostbite Series starts Sunday 1st October!

If you have already taken yours home Thanks!

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

During the course of the Boat Park development, safety fencing had been erected to prevent accidental injury. This was repeatedly interfered with by some local person - ***if anyone has information about this, they should inform the Gardai at Howth.***

DINNER IS LATE

The Hauling-Up Supper, originally scheduled for Saturday 23rd September, has been put back until Saturday 21st October. This is to coincide with the annual Book Race between Sutton and Royal Cork Yacht Club, which has been postponed until 21st October.

www.sdc.ie

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

Frostbite Series 2006

Racing for Lasers, GP14s, Mirrors, Optimists and Picos

Sunday 1st

Sunday 15th

Sunday 22nd and

Sunday 29th October 2006

Good Racing - Good Prizes - Good Food!

ALMOST DONE!

They say it's not all over till the fat lady sings - but she's almost ready to go on stage! The long saga of the Club Boat Park Development is nearly complete. At the time of writing, the sea walls are in place (not before time, with storm waves beating against them!) and the filling has been levelled ready for laying the final concrete surface. **Gerry Maguire** of **GRC Building Ltd.** and his team of workers have done a fine job, and the finished product will be a credit to them. Going into 2007, it will be up to our Committee and members to organise the boat parking layout to make the most of the new space!

The SDC House & Grounds Committee are already considering how to arrange parking bays and aisles, to accommodate the maximum number of boats with easy and safe access to each. There are many parameters to consider - incorporating the Planning requirement for an overflow car park; how much room each type of boat needs; how wide the aisles need to be to move boats without damage; etc. etc. etc.

Nobody claims to have all the answers at this stage - so if you think you can contribute to the solution, contact **Hugh Gill** at the Club (Tel. 839 3135) and he'll put you in touch with the H&G Committee.

HELP APPRECIATED!

The new Boat Park has cost a lot of money - more than the Club could have afforded on its own. We acknowledge the generous assistance from the **Department of Arts, Sport & Tourism** through its Sports Capital Programme, who contributed €60,000 in the form of a Lottery Grant, and **Fingal County Council** who contributed €40,000.

In the years preparing for this development, the Club had been saving and fund-raising to ensure that the job could be done. Now that the dust is settling, and the final bills are being paid, the Club will have achieved the goal of being able to provide parking for all members' boats - but with a substantial bank loan to pay off over the coming years.

If you, or anyone you know, is in a position to ease the Club's financial burden, the Committee would like to hear from you. There are many ways in which individuals or companies can contribute to sports clubs like ours, whether through cash donations or sponsorship of events.

And finally did you hear that during excavations of the earth bank, a body was discovered? There is no truth to the rumour that it was former Club Commodore who took his job too seriously!

WELL DONE, ALAN!

Alan Carr and **Barry Kelly** won the 2006 IDRA 14's Diamond Jubilee Championships held at Lough Erne Yacht Club in Enniskillen. The entry of 26 boats broke the previous record set in 1996. After three days of very close racing in 14/38 they emerged by one point as the new National Champions – beating Sutton clubmates **Alan Henry & Alison Dunne** in 14/125.

*Moderate to fresh conditions resulted in very exciting sailing for all concerned. Thrills and spills were the order of the day for many competitors with the boats, equipment and crews being severely tested - more capsizes in this Championship than any other in memory. Going into the last day the event could have been won by any of the top three boats and the final two races were hotly contested to the end. Sutton also scored by **Gerry O'Hanlon** and **Paul McNally** taking 1st Place in the Silver Fleet.*

Three boats, 14/1, 14/6 and 14/157 were competing in the event after full refurbishment into racing condition last year. 14/6 in particular was singled out and great credit for this is due to her Sutton owner **Paul McNally**. Paul incidentally is a talented bagpiper and piped in the new champions at the prize giving! The age of the boats does not matter in this Class – three of the boats (14/1, 14/4 and 14/6) date from the founding of the Class in 1947. Only one GRP boat (14/125 built 1978) finished in the top 5 in the Gold Fleet.

Overall Sutton IDRA 14 Results:

Gold Fleet:

- 1st. **Alan Carr & Barry Kelly**
- 2nd **Alan Henry & Alison Dunne**
- 4th **Jim Lambkin & Wendy Rudd**
- 7th **Charles Sargent & Gordan Kelly**
- 10th **John Pollard & Noel Dempsey**

Silver Fleet:

- 1st **Gerry O'Hanlon & Paul McNally**

WELL DONE, ALAN!

Alan Blay from Sutton Dinghy Club with crew **Cian Hickey** took 2nd place overall at the Irish Mirror National Championships, and received the **ISA Gold medal** for **1st placed Irish boat**.

Alan has had a very successful campaign in his Mirror this season, with an unexpected bonus! By winning the Northern Championships, he won a day's coaching at Sutton for himself and his crew by Olympian **Iain Percy**, GBR, who won gold in the Finn Class in Sydney 2000 together with his Star crew, **Steve Mitchell**, (Star World Champions 2002, European Champions 2005). The event sponsors (Skandia), who are also Iain and Steve's sponsors, funded the trip to Sutton.

Alan and Cian also won the Eastern Championships, which of course took place here at Sutton. Other Sutton sailors who competed included **Gerard O'Sullivan** and **Eoin Hickey** (2nd); **Darel & Kirsty Clarke** (33rd); **Eamonn Bourke & Ross Harte** (38th); **Niamh & Harry McCormack** (47th); **Hugh & Cian McNally** (48th); **Ian & Claire Beatty-Orr** (51st); **Andrew McGonigle & Rory Nevin** (52nd); and **Declan Egan & Finbar Neery** (53rd).

GP 14 WORLDS

Four boats flew the Sutton flag at the **2006 GP14 Class International Association Championship of the World** in Sligo. Best performer was **Ruan O'Tiarnaigh** who with **John Todd** of RNIYC finished 12th in the Gold Fleet, followed by **Hugh Gill** and **Stuart Boyle** in 18th place. **Stephen Boyle** and **Cathal Leigh Doyle** took 3rd place in the Silver Fleet, and **Dave Mulhall** and **Ben Saunders** came 36th in the Bronze Fleet.

LASER SHINER

At the Laser Irish National Championships in Ballyholme Yacht Club, Sutton sailor **Troy Hopkins** took 41st place in the Standard Rig.

REGATTA 2006

A record number of 55 boats attended our Club Regatta on 20th August. Local sailors came out on top in two classes: **Hugh & Daniel Gill** won the GP 14 Class; while **Callum Maher** and **Jack Hitchcock** took first place in the Pico. **Ciaran Murphy** in the Laser Class let a visitor in ahead of him, taking 2nd place, while **Eamonn Bourke** and **Sam O'Byrne** came 2nd in the Mirrors. **Conor Hopkins** came 2nd in his Optimist. In the IDRA 14 Class, National Champions **Alan Carr** and **Barry Kelly** must have been exhausted after their Lough Erne win – they finished 3rd behind two Clontarf boats.

CRUISE-IN 2006

Sunday 27th August saw the annual spectacle of a flotilla of cruising yachts make their way up Sutton Creek and drop anchor off the Club. As well as cruisers from Howth, visiting boats came from Clontarf and Dun Laoghaire. Most came for the sheer fun of it, but the Clontarf E-Boats mixed business with pleasure by racing to a finish line at Sutton! The crews, not just intrepid round-the-world racers, but their wives, children, grannies, friends and hangers-on, then waited patiently to be ferried ashore to enjoy the food and refreshments provided by the Dinghy Club personnel.

As usual, prizes were awarded to those who went to great effort to dress their boats and crews to suit the occasion.

The success of this annual event doesn't just happen – it is due to the huge amount of work put in by all those members who volunteered their time both before and on the day itself. To those who did the advance publicity, cleared the Boat Park, set out the tables, prepared the food, ferried visitors ashore – THANK YOU! And when the party was over – the big clean-up and bringing the dinghies back into the Boat Park – THANKS to those who got the Club ready for "business as usual" on Monday morning!

INTER-SCHOOLS TRIAL

It's the Autumn Equinox, and the weather is typical – gales getting in the way of sailing! Club racing has suffered, but we're hoping our next two major events will be spared.

The first major event at SDC is a real trial for the organisers – hosting the annual **All-Ireland Inter-Schools Team Racing**. The weekend of Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th October will see schools from all around the country sending their best sailors to compete at Sutton – in Optimist, Mirror and Mixed Class fleets.

Devising a schedule for so many teams, running and recording races for Teams and Portsmouth Yardstick competition, then correctly identifying the winners – no wonder everyone is exhausted at the end!

SEASONAL BOOKS

The next event will be the Annual Book Race between SDC and the Royal Cork Yacht Club, a Team racing event which started way back in 1944. The winners of each race – Junior and Senior - get to take away "The Book" trophy, which is an actual book in which the story of the race gets written. Last year, Sutton Senior and Junior teams travelled to Cork and tried but failed to get the better of their Cork hosts – and came back bookless!

However, it's our turn to host the event in 2006, and the racing is scheduled for Saturday 21st October, with the Senior event being sailed in IDRA 14 dinghies. With a bit of luck and good sailing, our teams are hoping to make sure that the Cork teams leave "De Books" behind when they catch the train home!

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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