

Notice Board

GP14 NEWS

Sutton Dinghy Club will host the **GP14 Leinster Championships** in on June 18/19. Unfortunately no SDC GP14 made it to the class World Championships in Malaysia this month - maybe next year!

THE NEW NUMBER IS 4

SDC 4, our latest rescue boat will shortly make its appearance in the club. This brings our rescue fleet up to strength and more than capable of pushing more of our racing into the bay area.

With the expansion of our Oppie and Mirror racing fleets the demand for a full range of course and start arrangements greatly increases. Being able to take the fleet safely to the Bay and back is a massive benefit.

CE PROJECT TEAM - COMINGS AND GOINGS

Sutton Dinghy Club recently said "Goodbye" to CE Project Team members who came to the end of their allotted time: **Vera Clarke** and **Paddy Doeey**, who many of you met during their period at the Club, and **Eddie Donegan** who worked for Sutton Tidy Towns. We wish them all every success in their next ventures.

However, one door closes - and another opens: the Club extends a warm welcome to the new CE team members: **Liz Brown** and **Tammie Wolverson**, who will be looking after our Club administration; **Hugh O'Malley** who will keep our website updated; and **Tommy Farrelly** who will concentrate on maintenance and rescue boat driving. We also welcome **Bridie Owens** who has rejoined the team.

Finally, the Committee and members of Sutton Dinghy Club wish **Anto Kelly** well in his new job at **Royal St. George Yacht Club** - that's posh!

RESCUE BOAT DRIVING / CREWING

The next Power Boat Course is on **Saturday 2nd April**. Training and full certification are provided at cost. If you would like to learn Rescue Boat driving, **contact the Club office on 839 3135** and leave your name and contact details. Also do so if you are already a trained driver, or a sailor who would like to be a Rescue Boat Crew, and want to be on a Club Rescue Team in 2011

RACE MANAGEMENT - WE NEED YOU!

With the expansion of both Oppie and Mirror Fleets, and the desire for more Bay racing, the Club are looking to expand the roster of Race Officers and assistants. We are looking for volunteers to lend a hand in this most important of roles.

We are hoping to arrange an introductory Race Management course in the early part of the season. If this is something you would like to get involved in please contact Hugh in the Club office or any committee member.



Sutton Dinghy Club

March 2011



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

NEW YEAR RESOLUTION - PAY UP!

2011 Membership Renewal Notices & Boat Parking Application forms are sent out with this edition of "KNOTS"

Club Treasurer **Jim Lambkin** is a patient man - he doesn't like to hassle people for money, and he does appreciate that in the current financial situation, everybody is cutting back in "unnecessary" expenses. However, we do believe that your Club offers good value for money, especially if you participate fully in the Club sailing calendar! So please don't put off paying your **MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION** - the Club depends on this income each year to keep it 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.

Club sailing starts on Sunday 17th April, only a month away! So use the Paddy's and Easter Weekends to get your boat ready - and the more often you sail, the more you get out of the subscription you've paid!

BOAT PARKING APPLICATIONS

Don't delay booking your Boat Park place for the coming season. The aim is to make sure active sailors get the most appropriate parking spaces, and boats will only be allowed park in designated spaces. There will be NO parking in aisles.

Fill in these forms and get them in now - or be prepared to keep your boat at home or on the beach! Remember, we also need these details to record your racing results during the year - we note the winning sail numbers, then match owners!

HELP US TO HELP YOU

Membership forms include many "boxes" to be filled in - please fill them all in! In our Club, membership comes with an obligation of assistance with club activities. We're asking every one of you to indicate if there are aspects of the Club activities where **YOU** could help out - **catering, race management, safety boat driving**, etc. The success of our club depends on those who give as well as take - that's how we manage to keep our membership fees down while running a full schedule of sailing and social activities.

A special request - when filling in forms to send back to the Club, PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY AND FILL IN ALL SECTIONS! It makes administration a lot easier! And don't forget - YOUR BOAT MUST BE INSURED before coming to the Club.

Apart from returning your Membership Renewal and Boat Parking forms, we would like all Junior Sailors to decide early which Training Course level they would like to take in 2011, and in which months. As usual, there are three choices of dates:

**June 13th to July 1st
July 4th to July 22nd
August 2nd to August 19th**

PLACES ARE LIMITED - forms MUST be returned with your deposit by as soon as possible! Have a look at your schedule for the summer (holidays abroad, Irish College, etc.) and try to see which courses will suit you best - the sooner we know how many will be on each course, the sooner we can book instructors and other staff who make it all possible!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010

The 2010 AGM was unusual, in that it was the first time since 1968 that there a contest for positions on the incoming General Committee for 2011. The differing views on the circumstances which had led to this situation were circulated to Club members in advance of the meeting date, and our members responded by coming to the AGM in huge numbers – almost 100 attended, by all accounts a record. It was an excellent exercise in democracy – the ultimate power in any Club lies with the members, and our members voted overwhelmingly in favour of the following Officers and Committee members for 2011:

Commodore:	Charles Sargent
Vice-Commodore:	Andy Johnston
Hon. Secretary:	Catherine Glackin
Hon. Treasurer:	Jim Lambkin
Sailing Secretary:	Aidan Henry
Junior Affairs Officer:	Mandy Kelly
Membership Sec.:	Carol Blay
House & Grounds:	Gordon Kelly
Safety Officer:	Trevor Blay
Committee Member:	Eimear Shanahan
Committee Member:	Ian McCormack
Committee Member:	Ron Maher
Committee Member:	Scorie Walls

Taking over the chair as incoming Commodore, **Charles Sargent** paid tribute to the amount of work done by those leaving the Committee – Michael O'Neill, Gerry O'Hanlon, Robert Orr and Wendy Rudd, and thanked them for their contribution to the success of the Club in recent years.

Following the AGM, **Catherine Glackin** decided to step down from the position of Hon. Secretary and resign from the Committee – **Ron Maher** was co-opted to fill the Hon. Secretary role.

We have a strong management team - just what the Club needs to rebuild morale and get our Club back in a steady course. Every member of the 2011 Committee is determined to relegate issues to the past, and focus on the tasks in hand – ensuring that our members can enjoy their 2011 sailing season in a safe and friendly environment. **Any concerns you may have, don't keep them to yourself - TELL US!**

SAILING – AND TALKING ABOUT IT!

The 2011 season has started – the Club Committees have been busy putting things in place, so let's look at what's on over the coming weeks:

ON THE WATER:

*The popular **Pico Team Racing** kicks off on **Sunday 6th March at 10.30 a.m.**, and runs for the four Sundays in April. This is held in Club Sailing School boats, so you don't have to wait for your varnish to dry!*

*The **Mirror Class** in SDC are launching 2011 by having a "Rigging & Sailing!" session on **Saturday 19th March at 10.30 a.m.***

*The **Optimist Class** have scheduled a coaching session on **Sunday 20th March at 10.30 a.m.***

OFF THE WATER:

***Safety Rescue Boat driver meetings** are scheduled for **Sunday 13th March** and **Sunday 27th March**, both at 1.30 p.m.*

*The **Spring Sailors Meeting** takes place at **8.00 p.m. on Monday 14th March** – your opportunity to "fine-tune" arrangements for the 2011 Club sailing, so that we all make the most of the time & tide available!*

FOR PARENTS OF JUNIOR SAILORS

The Sailing Committee have organised a meeting at **8.00 p.m. on Monday May 30th** for parents of children who intend to participate in the 2011 Junior Training Programme at Sutton Dinghy Club. This meeting is **mandatory**, meaning that places will only be given to children whose parent (or a designated adult standing in for a parent) attends the meeting. The agenda for the evening will cover items which are essential for parents to understand what is involved in the courses, before commencement of the sailing season. In particular, it will help you understand the Pathway Plan and Requirements for the Junior Sailing Summer Courses, Club policies, and most importantly, the duties and responsibilities of parents while their children are taking part in the course. It is hoped to cover all of the above in an hour or so, please arrive ON TIME!

SPRING TRAINING IN BALTIMORE – A SAILOR'S ACCOUNT

Five SDC sailors headed to Baltimore last week for a super training week packed with fun, nice lunches and training with great international coaches.

We learnt a lot about racing speed and improving our starts. We got lots of encouragement and mixed with other oppie sailors from other clubs in a non competitive environment. Apart from sailing we socialised and had great craic. In the end we felt we are much better sailors and up skilled and ready to start the new season. I would recommend more Sutton sailors to travel to this event and other training as you feel better on the water and have developed your skills and confidence on the water.

Darragh Kelly

OPTIMIST CLASS REPORT

*Well done to our five SDC Oppie sailors **Hugh Perrette, Darragh Kelly, Tim Farrelly, Shane O'Brien and Sadhbh Farrelly** all participated in the International Optimist Dinghy Association in Ireland (IODAI) Spring Training Clinic over the Mid-term break week of **Monday 21st – Friday 25th February**. **Baltimore Sailing Club** provided the Club facilities. Top International Coaches were booked for the week on a ratio to ensure each sailor received training suitable for his/her ability.*

As you can see from Darragh's report above, they got a lot from the training in a non-competitive environment. We have pencilled in some training dates in the sailing calendar so I hope to see a steady flow of old and new Oppie sailors come along during the course of the season.

*The next "Away Event" date for your calendar is **Craftinsure Junior Spring Open** in The Royal St. George Yacht Club on **March 19th and 20th**. This inaugural event is for all Lasers, Fevas, 420s and Oppies. Please see web-site www.rsgyc.ie.*

Mandy Kelly – Optimist Class Captain

CLUB SAILING 2011 – ENJOY!

The Sailing Committee are looking to build on the successes of last year, and the 2011 Sailing Calendar (see inside your 2011 Club Handbook) has been structured to provide what sailors told us they want. It's up to YOU now to get out on the water – there are 80 races scheduled, on 28 different dates, and that doesn't include the early- and late-season Pico Team Racing! Don't miss the "**Commodore's Prize**" race on **July 27th**.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Series</u>	<u>No. races</u>
April:	Early Bird	6
May:	Spring	19
June:	Midsummer	9
July:	Holiday	14
August:	Sunburn	11
September:	Fall	9
October:	Frostbite	12

2011 is a significant year in the Club history, celebrating 60 years since the Clubhouse was officially opened in 1951 – what better way to commemorate this than by using the facilities as often as possible!

MIRRORS ARE MAGIC !

The biggest fleet in Sutton! There may be more Oppies, but they're single handed, so Mirrors make twice the amount of Sailors!

When we finished up last year we had 26 boats in the fleet, and I know of at least 5 new boats joining us in 2011. That means 10 more Sailors out on the water, enjoying Sutton Creek.

We are just heading into a new season; it will take a while for membership to be updated. So **please contact me** if you have joined the Mirror class since last season, eimear@shamrocksolutions.eu. We have a great season planned, with events and training each month from March to October.

The Mirror Worlds have been confirmed – 2013 – Ireland! Let's see SDC on the Ranking/Winning list – get practising!

I look forward to seeing everyone soon – have your boats down to the Club for tuning Saturday March 19th at 10.30 a.m.

Eimear Shanahan - Mirror Class Captain