

MAINSHEET

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL YACHT CLUB

Issue No. 6

November, 1994



NYC DEVELOPMENT PLANS UNVEILED

After a period when little or no investment in the fabric and decor of the Club premises was made the time has come to look to the future again. In the general economic climate of the past few years this was not possible. The Club is now trading well, the economic climate is improving and we can again look to the future of our Club with confidence.

The Premises Sub-Committee, chaired by the Rear Commodore Dick Wharton were charged with coming up with a plan to upgrade the existing premises and to develop proposals to meet the needs of the future. Details of these plans and proposals are contained elsewhere in this issue of *Mainsheet*. Members will have an opportunity to discuss them at the Extraordinary General Meeting on 28th November.

Basically the plan has two main elements, an **Upgrading Project** for immediate

implementation and a **Development Proposal** for future decision and implementation if conditions allow. The **Development Proposal** is dependent, among other things, on the success of the Upgrading Project.

The **Development Proposal** is for a major expansion and development of the premises on the lower ground floor. It is believed, that the planning authorities would be well disposed towards our plans. Therefore, we have decided that there will

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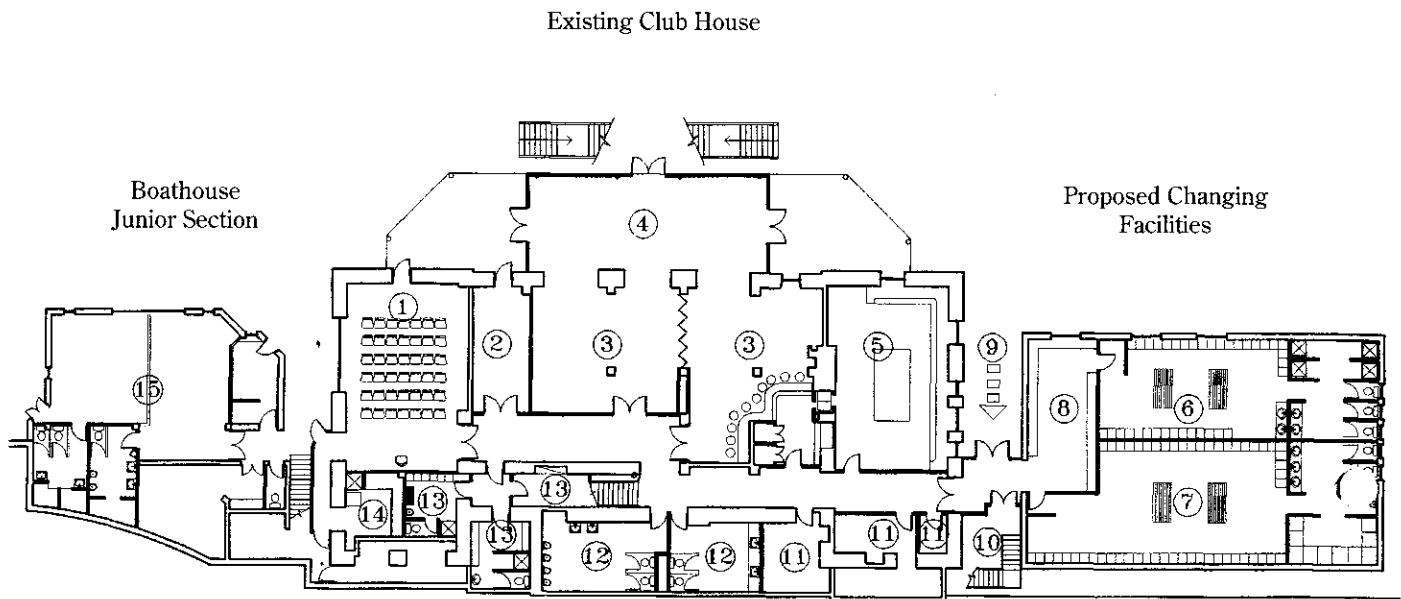
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*Highlights
& Dates*



Mitsubishi Ships Wheel presented annually to the "Yacht Club of the Year" was this year won jointly by the Dingle Sailing Club and the National Yacht Club. At a ceremony earlier this year Joe Keane, Chairman of Joe Keane Motors presented the wheel to NYC Commodore, Michael Horgan. Pictured here from left to right: John O'Connor, Charles J. Haughey, patron of Dingle SC and Michael Horgan handing over the wheel.

PROPOSED LOWER GROUND FLOOR PLAN



- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Multi Purpose Room | 6. Female Changing | 11. Bar Stores |
| 2. Chair/Furniture Store | 7. Male Changing | 12. Existing Toilets |
| 3. Bar & Auxiliary Functions | 8. Wet-gear Holding Area | 13. Staff Facilities |
| 4. Fill-in Area Under Balcony | 9. Changing Room Entrance | 14. Holding Kitchen |
| 5. Billiard Room | 10. Access Stairs/Deliveries | 15. Boathouse/Junior Section |

never be a better time than now to apply for planning permission for such a major development. Permission does not oblige us to go ahead with the **Development Proposal**. The decision is for the members at a later stage. Go ahead is conditional on

- (a) An improvement in the general economic climate
- (b) An increase in membership, which in turn is dependent on improved membership facilities, marina etc.
- (c) A viable business plan for increased banqueting and conference business
- (d) The success of the **Upgrading Project** in improving our trading and membership position

and finally

- (e) The decision of the members when the time comes.

The funding of the **Development Proposal** will require special attention when it is put to the members for decision in one or two years time. A levy is not considered feasible for a development of this size. For the development to proceed to implementation other means of financing would be required, such as a bond issue and/or a large fund raising project. Under-pinning all of this would be a business plan to exploit the new facilities on the lower ground floor to provide a steady stream of income from increased banqueting and conference business.

All of the **Development Proposals** are in the future but the **Upgrading Project** on which they are largely dependent are for NOW. If the members at the EGM approve the Project and the funding, work can go ahead in January and February. March will see the upper floor of our premises, redecorated, refurbished and restored to a standard of which the members can be proud. The long delayed and much needed refurbish-

ment of the JB Room on the lower ground floor will be completed at last. Other restoration and structural work which cannot be much delayed will also be completed at this time.

The **Upgrading Project** is the first phase of an exciting plan to bring our Club premises to standard which will cater for increased membership and bring increased banqueting and conference business to help finance it.

The plan in its entirety, if approved by the planning authorities and by the members, will cater for all our Clubhouse needs with facilities that are attractive to members and capable of generating income to support the Club in all its activities well into the next century. The first step is the **Upgrading Project**. Ω



PREMISES SUB-COMMITTEE

It is self evident that the Club premises in recent years, particularly the fabrics, furniture and facilities have become shabby and tired. This is due to the lack of investment over recent years as outlined by the Commodore in his recent letter to members.

The premises sub-committee were charged with examining and reporting on the functioning and upkeep of the building particularly addressing immediate and necessary improvements together with a long term Development Plan to bring the Club up to a standard that we believe the members would expect. Essentially the plan addressed two main strategies:

1. An Upgrading Project
2. A Development Proposal for the lower ground floor.

The Upgrading Project

This programme concentrates essentially on the ground floor facilitates particularly the dining room, bar, entrance hall, corridor and staircase area. The works envisaged for this programme are as follows:

1. Complete repainting and decoration to the principal rooms on the ground floor.
2. Provide new curtains and pelmets to all the windows.
3. Renew carpets.
4. Provide new dining room furniture.
5. Recover and refurbish bar furniture.
6. Improve bar lighting.
7. Replace doors to balcony and refurbish windows.
8. Minor repairs and alterations to kitchen.
9. Emergency lighting to be upgraded to meet Fire Officers requirements.
10. External decoration of Club building.
11. Upgrading of Jack Brennan Room.

The Development Proposal

It is envisaged that this work is essentially concentrated on the lower ground floor. As pointed out by the Commodore this plan is based on an improvement in the economic climate, an increase in membership and the success of the upgrading project on trading and membership figures.

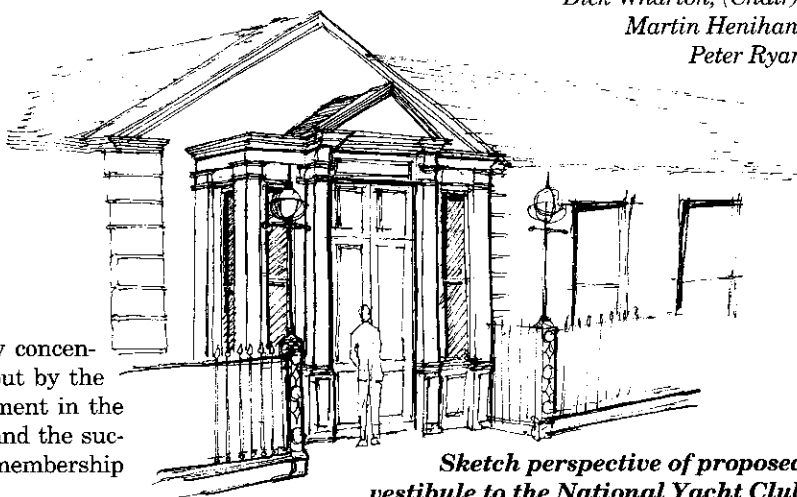
The lower ground floor is substantially rearranged to provide the following additional and improved facilities:

1. A multi-purpose room suitable for lectures, committee meetings, private dining, private receptions etc. It is felt that the provision of a first quality room would generate considerable extra income.
2. A space suitable for wet bar, renting out for parties and small functions. A family area where children could be catered for, a disco/entertainment area and an apres wedding room. This space, together with the multi-purpose room, would give the Club two additional income earning spaces.
3. New changing facilities built to the best modern standards to cater for members needs and suitable for partial conversion to fitness area in winter months.
4. A holding kitchen/servery to interconnect with the main kitchen at ground level to facilitate efficient food service at the lower level.
5. New staff changing and toilet facilities.
6. Provide proper storage space for chairs/tables/equipment to satisfy the demands of flexibility that the club would require.
7. Improved bar storage facilities

In addition it is proposed to provide a new porch/vestibule to the front entrance of the Club.

It is our belief that the Development Plan's proposed improvements to the premises and the provision of additional income – earning space will enhance the Club's potential to meet the challenges of the future by providing a facility comparable with the best that other clubs can offer.

*Dick Wharton, (Chair),
Martin Henihan,
Peter Ryan*



Sketch perspective of proposed vestibule to the National Yacht Club

... from the Commodore

With the lift-out safely completed the Club is buzzing with winter activities. Bridge and snooker are well underway as are the very successful series of Ladies Luncheons. The very popular Bar Quiz for the Brains of the Bay Trophy has started with all the usual teams plus a few new ones taking part and the chance to represent the NYC in the East Coast Championship.

This winter we have a new activity for outdoor types. The NYC Hill Walkers have organised outings on the second and fourth Sundays of each month until the sailing season opens again. The walks are proving very enjoyable and are led by Cormac and Barbara McHenry. All members and their guests are welcome. The details of the next walk are on the club notice board.

We have a very full dining and entertainment programme for Christmas and the New Year. Our new Head Chef, Cormac Healy, our new Head Barman Tony Byrne and our new Dining Room Supervisor, Evelyn Doyle are looking forward to catering for members and their guests.

To avoid disappointment during this busy period I advise early booking. To encourage diners in the normally fallow period after the new Year we are introducing a FREE bottle of Club wine for every two evening diners on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in the months of January, February and March.

Sailing Successes

The Club had a very successful season on the competitive scene. Our sailors won no less than six national championships. Offshore in the ISORA series with National boats winning overall in the IOR and Classic Divisions. Our team won the team prize, and the Victoria Cup. Dublin Bay racing results show our sailors keeping the National burgee

flying high in all the series and bringing home the usual crop of trophies. Well done all.

Our cruising sailors visited France, Spain, Bahamas and Iceland as well as the usual haunts in home waters. Perhaps the most outstanding feat of seamanship was Cormac McHenry's single handed battle against the raging elements in two storms in the Bay of Biscay and the Scillies bringing his boat safely home.

All of this brings me to a request for nominations for the NYC Commendation Awards. These are awarded annually to members for special achievements in cruising, racing and service to our sport. There are six categories; most interesting family cruise; most impressive cruise; best performance in off-shore racing; best performance in one design keelboats; best performance in dinghies, Flying Fifteens and Mermaids; and finally the John Byrne Memorial Trophy to be awarded to the person deemed to have given the most outstanding service to the sailing activities of the Club. The Vice-Commodore Andrew

Gray would be glad to receive nominations for all these awards.

Harbour Developments

Everyone is aware of the controversy and debate surrounding developments in Dun Laoghaire harbour. On the initiation of Roger Bannon, President of the ISA, the four waterfront clubs and Dublin Bay SC have formed an organisation called the Dun Laoghaire Combined Clubs. The purpose of Combined Clubs is to represent the views of sailors in a positive, pro-active manner and to work with the Harbour Board as the official channel of communication in relation to the management and development of the harbour. Membership of the organisation is represented by the Commodores of the five Clubs plus the President and Secretary General of the ISA. The Harbour Board has welcomed the formation of the Combined Clubs and discussions have taken place on how best to progress matters for the benefit of sailors. For their part the Combined Clubs have accepted that the HSS project will go ahead and are now directing their



From left: our new Head Chef, Cormac Healy, our new Head Barman Tony Byrne and our new Dining Room Supervisor, Evelyn Doyle



Inaugural outing of the NYC Hill Walkers: Front row, left to right: Cormac McHenry, Linda Ryan, Barbara McHenry, Bernie Bryson; Back row, left to right: Michael Horgan, Patricia Redlich, Tom Mulligan, Margaret Lynch, Martin Lynch, Michael Ryan, Ted McCourt, Tom Mulligan.

energies to maximize the potential of the project works for the benefit of sailors.

High on the list of potential benefits is, of course, a marina. We have had extensive discussions with the

harbour authorities on the provision of marina facilities. the authorities accept the case for a marina in Dun Laoghaire. Wave studies are nearing completion. Preliminary studies indicate that a solid rather than a floating breakwater will be necessary. This will have implications for both the size and location of a marina in the harbour. The Combined Clubs will work with the Harbour Authorities to identify the optimum site for the location of a breakwater in order to attract a developer for a commercially viable marina.

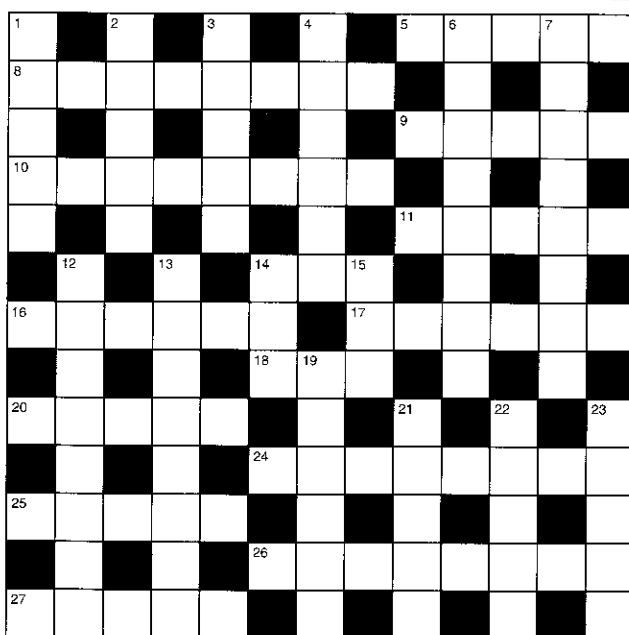
The ball is still very much in play at the time of writing but I would hope to be in a position to give a more detailed and up-to-date report to the EGM on the 28th November.

Greetings

As this is the last edition of Mainsheet before Christmas I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Prosperous New Year. Ω

Michael Horgan, Commodore

Navigator No. 2



Answers to Navigator No. 1

Across: 5. Shift; 8. Foresail; 9. Plato; 10. Anchored; 11. As Put; 16. Top Off; 17. Oracle; 18. Tot; 20. Drift; 24. Splicing; 25. Ennui; 26. Fee Green; 27. Aspen.
Down: 1. Offal; 2. Track; 3. Ashot; 4. Diners; 6. Helmsman; 7. Fitfully; 12. Moorings; 13. Coiffure; 14. Aft; 15. Pot; 19. Osprey; 21. Bilge; 22. Timed; 23. Agony.

Two tickets for Christmas Dinner and a bottle of house wine with their meal for the first correct entry opened.

Entries to **The Editor, Mainsheet** should reach the **National Yacht Club** to arrive not later than 5 p.m., on Wednesday, December 7th, 1994. No correct entries were received for Navigator No. 1. Navigator No. 2 is therefore a little easier. Test your skill and beat the Navigator to win our super prize.

ACROSS

- 5. Quartz gem stone. (5)
- 8. Clip Joints for sail some are Sweedish (8)
- 9. Holiday mementoes (5)
- 10. All alone (8)
- 11. Eastern dish end F or U (5)
- 14. Importune (3)
- 16. The Spanish Party (6)
- 17. Firm instruction to Bear Away. (2,4)
- 18. Desire. (3)
- 20. Assisted passage. (2,3)
- 24. Facing. (8)
- 25. Accountant with grain for protection. (1,4)
- 26. Given shape by man. (8)
- 27. She launched a MSS (5)

DOWN

- 1. Jelly. (5)
- 2. Sterile noble man. (5)
- 3. Gulls. (5)
- 4. Remove. (6)
- 6. Aid to hitting the target. (8)
- 7. Seen above the yard. (8)
- 12. News housing (8)
- 13. The way you are seen. (2,3,3)
- 14. With ona for modus vivendi. (3)
- 15. Three eighths of six. (3)
- 19. E with ten for the left side to send abroad. (6)
- 21. The family of Morse; perhaps (5)
- 22. A kiss could sound dear. (5)
- 23. Flogs to weather. (5)

SIX IRISH CHAMPIONS IN THE NATIONAL YACHT CLUB

Now that the summer is over we can reflect on a busy season where NYC members were amongst the prize winners in most classes and events. However 1994 was a record year in that six of our most competitive helmsmen took the National titles in their respective classes.

Aisling Bowman followed her Gold Medal success at the Goodwill games in St. Petersburg with a convincing win at the Europe Class Championships in Bangor.

Mark Lyttle confirmed his position as Ireland's most successful Laser sailor with his fifth National title at the Laser Championships in Dromineer. Our third single handed trophy was clinched when our youngest National Champion, **David Crosbie**, retained the Optimist title in very windy conditions on Dublin Bay.

John Lavery and **David O'Brien** added another title to their CV's this time in a Fireball, when they won the National Championships in Wicklow, thus confirming their status as the leading Irish contenders for the Fireball World Championships to be hosted by the National in August next year.

Another Laser sailor, **Evan Dolan**, beat the country's best junior sailors to become the Irish Junior Helmsman Champion and finally our most senior National Champion (although not a veteran) is **Dermod**

Baker who fought off some determined challengers to win the Ruffian National Championships in the final race of the series which was run by the NYC.

Clearly competitive sailing in general and dinghy sailing in particular is as strong as ever in the Club and, while they may not have won titles, our other members, their boats and crew were participants at all levels at almost every event this season from ISORA series to Cork Week and the October series at Howth to Junior, National and International events and the Olympic Circuit.

Martin Byrne, Sailing Secretary

The photo shows from left to right: John Lavery, Dermod Baker, David Crosbie, Mark Lyttle, Martin Byrne, Evan Dolan and Aisling Bowman



FLYING 15 EAST COAST CHAMPIONSHIP

1st-2nd October, 1994

An entry of 38 Flying 15s turned out for the last championship of the season, held under the burgee of the National Yacht Club.

Conditions over the weekend were light and shifty which suited English lake sailors Steve Coacher and Phil Evans who won the championship.

Jim Rodgers and Shane McCarthy from Kircubbon Sailing Club, sailed a consistent series to finish second overall while John Tait and Michael Barry from Kinsale YC filled the third slot.

Best of the Dun Laoghaire fleet was National Yacht Club's Gerry Donleavy and Mark Nolan, who were making a return to championship

sailing after a 14 month absence, finished in fourth place. Justin Burke and Ciaran Crummy also from the National Yacht Club, while winning the third race had a bad day on the Saturday and could do no better than finish sixth overall.

The flying 15 fleet would like to thank the National Yacht Club for hosting the event and for the excellent dinner on the Saturday night. Also many thanks to Jack Owens and his team for setting excellent courses in the trying conditions. Ω

MERMAID FROSTBITERS AT THE NATIONAL YACHT CLUB

The traditional Mermaid Frostbite Series hosted by the Club during October was considered to be the most successful ever. The "Merry Maids" enjoyed particularly good conditions for winter sailing and completed the twelve race series without one cancellation.

Twenty mermaids competed and the Club's fleet was joined by competitors from Clontarf, Rush, Skerries and Wexford. The title was won by Wexford sailor Derek Joyce but he was pushed to the very last race by National sailors Barry and Gerry O'Neill who were 2nd and 3rd respectively.

The Club and the Class are indebted to series organiser Frank Cronin and Race Officer Jack Owens for their commitment and expertise. Ω



SPECIAL NOTICES

Corporate Entertainment/ Christmas Parties

Club Manager Padraic Conneely and his team are all geared up to welcome you and your guests to our Club. For large or small parties you can be assured of excellent cuisine and service and superb ambience. Contact the manager and advise him of your requirements.

Important Notice

Over the Christmas and New Year period, a taxi service from a local firm will provide a prompt and efficient service for those wishing to leave their transport at home.

Booking Cards available in the club at all Christmas Functions

Wine Vouchers

From January, Mid-Week Diners can avail of a complimentary bottle of house wine for every two full dinners. Vouchers enclosed.

Bar Catering

Bar Food:

Absolutely superb value and quality available Tuesday to Friday.

For just a quick snack or a simple bowl of soup and a sandwich, why not pop in to the Club where Tony and his team will ensure a speedy and pleasant lunch.

Saturday Brunches

A Treat on Saturday. Well established Bar Brunch served from 11 a.m.-2.30 p.m.

To Bayona with Modus Vivendi

Unfortunately, due to space restrictions, the log of *Modus Vivendi* has been held over for the next issue which will feature the voyage of our six intrepid sailors to foreign parts.

Highlights

Catering and Entertainment

Dates

On the Sailing front, 1995 promises to be an exciting year. The Fireball Worlds will obviously be the major event of the calendar. However on the social side there will be an equally busy time. The Spring programme offers something for everybody:



Sunday Family Luncheons
Table d'Hote Luncheon & Bar Food
– Tues-Fri from 1 p.m.
Dinner & Club Supper – Tues-Fri from 7 p.m.
D&D Nights – See Listings



Ladies Day Luncheons
(these have been very successful)



Bridge Dinners; Snooker Dinners;
International Rugby Brunches & Dinners
(Complete with Big Screen)
See Listings for Dates



The final of this popular competition will take place in March 1995. The winners will go on to represent the Club in the *Brains of the Bay Inter-Club Competition* scheduled for late March, 1995.
Quiz takes place on Wednesday evenings.

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS DINNERS

Mulled wine, carol singers and the finest seasonal fare.
Have a whirl around the dance floor.
Saturdays, December 10 & 17 at 9.00 p.m.
Booking Forms Essential – Non Voucher Nights
– £18.50 p.p.



Santa's Party: Sun. December 18 at 3.30 p.m.
Kiddies entertainment / Disco.
Presents for all the kids.
Chicken nuggets 'n chips ... £6.00 Inclusive.
Booking Absolutely essential

CHRISTMAS EVE LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 24, 1 p.m. sharp!
Probably the most popular Family Luncheon of the year.
£12.50 (Children £6.50) Non Voucher Function
Booking forms only, limited numbers
Club closes after lunch & re-opens December 28 at 3 p.m.
Bar only.
Full Bar and Catering Service December 29

NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE

Once again you are advised to book for one of the social highlights of the year.
Black Tie: £25.00 per person – Non Voucher Evening

DECEMBER

- Wed 7 Bar Table Quiz. *Third round.*
Fri 9 1st Friday Christmas Luncheon.
Sat 10 1st Christmas Dinner. *Carols and Dancing.*
Booking forms only.
Tue 13 Ladies Luncheon. *Fashion show.*
Fri 16 2nd Friday Christmas Luncheon
Sat 17 2nd Christmas Dinner. *Carols and Dancing.*
Booking forms only.
Sun 18 Santa Party. *Remember to book early.*
Fri 23 3rd Friday Christmas Luncheon.
Sat 24 Christmas Eve Lunch.
1 p.m. sharp. Booking forms only.
Clubhouse closes 4 p.m.
Sun 25 Christmas Day.
Mon 26 St. Stephen's Day
Wed 28 Normal catering & bar facilities.
Sat 31 New Years Eve Dinner & Dance £25 p.p.
Booking forms only. Non voucher night.

JANUARY

- Sun 1 Bar service only.
Tue 5 Bridge Dinner
Wed 11 Quiz Night
Fri 13 Preston Ball Auction Dinner
– *McWilliams Trophy Snooker Final.*
Wed 18 Ladies Day Luncheon – *New Year Resolutions – Department of Preventative Medicine, St. Vincent's Hospital*
Sat 21 Rugby International (Home) Rugby Brunch
Wed 25 Quiz Night
Sat 28 D&D Night £25 per couple

FEBRUARY

- Fri 3 Dublin Bay Mermaids Dinner
Sat 4 Rugby International
(Away) Brunch & Big Screen
Wed 8 Quiz Night
Tue 14 St. Valentine's Dinner
Sat 18 D&D Night £25 per couple
Wed 18 Ladies Day Luncheon
– *Speaker: The Lord Mayor of Dublin*
Wed 22 Quiz Night
Tue 28 Pancakes in Bar

MARCH

- Fri 3 Mermaids Dinner
Sat 4 Rugby International
(Home) Brunch & Big Screen
& Rugby International Dinner
Wed 8 Quiz Night
Fri 17 St. Patrick's Day Family Luncheon
Tue 21 Ladies Day Luncheon
– *Make-up / hair demonstration*
Wed 22 Quiz Night *Final*
Sat 25 D&D Night £25 per couple
Wed 29 Quiz Night – Inter Club