



# ROYAL SUTTON COLDFIELD CANOE CLUB



AFFILIATED TO CANOE ENGLAND

[www.suttoncanoe.org.uk](http://www.suttoncanoe.org.uk)

NEWSLETTER ISSUE No 64

AUTUMN 2008

## CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

I was going to call my chat for this edition "just when you thought you have everything sorted something jumps up and bites you on the bum" but I think it should now be "every cloud has a silver lining". Blackroot is going well, Adam has made a fantastic job of the web site & the Dhow is going along just as it has for the last ten years. But there was a surprise in the post, a letter from the Hardy's who own the marina where we kept the Dhow, they claimed we were making "disproportionately" more use of the boat than an ordinary boater would and so proposed to triple our rent which would come close to £4,500 P.A. we obviously could not afford this and we wrote to them outlining our position, the reply we received was a notice to Quit. I spent a lot of time during the intervening weeks trying to find a mooring for her that we could work from but to no avail so we have had to move her away from the marina on the 9th August. Sarah spearheaded a media campaign getting us into all the Midlands papers and on Central News, this spawned a rash of offers most were unworkable though, I really have been touched by the groundswell of support and will be writing to the parties soon to thank them for their kind offers. Eventually I found a storage mooring for her, but then help came from a source which I never could have imagined, Rushall Olympic Football Club offered us a bankside base which we have now moved into temporarily and during the coming weeks we will develop into our new base.

Blackroot is looking good, the foundations for the containers are now laid so we will need your help as it will be all hands to the pumps to get them fitted out in the autumn so please ring me or Rob soon to volunteer.

Back in June I was honoured to receive the BCU Award of Merit for my national work for the sport.

Mike

## BLACKROOT PROJECT

We now have a site. We have been successful in getting a sufficient grant from Sutton Municipal Charities for both the containers and for some new equipment. It has taken over six months but we now have planning permission for the siting of the pair of containers. The old building is now demolished and the bricklayers have completed the foundations for delivery of the two containers, hopefully during late August the containers that are now on order can be lowered into place and fitting out can start. Bearing in mind the Dhow situation we have had the containers painted to save us a job. We are storing one of the trailers from the Dhow in the yard but it will be locked up so we will not be able to use the boats until the containers are delivered, once they are sited we should be storing boats there before the summer is out. All the rest should be completed during the winter ready for the 2009 season to start. **We do need your help so ring Rob to volunteer.**

ROB

## NEARLY A MARATHON

Vic was spotted at the end of a day circuit at Fradley on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April. He had paddled from Fradley junction up the Coventry canal to Hopwas Woods, portaged down the bank on to the river Tame and so paddled on downstream to the confluence with the Trent, he then paddled upstream for two miles to Alrewas weir ( he said this was very hard work going side to side from eddy to eddy), after portaging round the river lock he carried on back along the Trent & Mersey Canal. Six locks portaged and on to Fradley junction where he finished his epic twenty three mile ordeal.

### FOR SALE

#### KIWI SLALOM 400 KAYAK

THIS IS A GLASS FIBRE BOAT BUT IT IS IN EXCELLENT  
CONDITION, SUIT SMALLER PERSON RING **360 0711**

### FOR SALE

THULE ROOF BARS SUITABLE FOR FORD FOCUS  
2 YEARS OLD

CALL SARAH ON 07967 645055

## EVERY CLOUD AND ALL THAT!!!!!!

On Tuesday the 12<sup>th</sup> August the committee met with Rushall Olympic Football Social Club at Bosty Lane and came to an agreement for us to have the use of a portion of their land bordering the canal. All adults will be members of the social club (fill in the form) so we can join in with any of their functions and events ( and drink in the bar). We will have to clear the land down to the canal, level it and lay hardcore and install 2 20 foot containers. But we are hoping that in a couple of months we will be operating from there. Keep looking at the website for the latest info.

Sadly we must sell the Dhow as we cannot moor her there due to British Waterways regulations, so if you know any one who wants a project she will be up for sale at £13,500 ONO as a shell.

But the committee are convinced that this is the way forward and we must grab this opportunity as it will provide us with a canalside base for the long term.

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August a 20ft container was delivered to Rushall Olympic and sited temporarily so that we could transfer the boats out of the Dhow, this being done over the following weekend. Some of the fitting from the Dhow will be used to fit out the containers. Here again help will be needed so please ring Rob or Mike to volunteer.

FOR YOUR SAT NAV  
ITS WS4 1LJ

SARAH & PETE BEING  
WELCOMED BY  
MEMBERS OF RUSHALL  
COMMITTEE





# Lifeboats

Northesk  
7 Nursery View Close  
Aldridge  
Walsall  
WS9 0YZ

Royal National Lifeboat Institution  
Sefydliad Cenedlaethol Brenhinol y Bad Achu  
Seddiadau ar ymroddiadau Lloerddir  
Cefnogi ym 24fegoriol ger Strykyskyl Bwrdd  
Rydym yn gysylltu gyda chi  
Am ffaith gwyboredd gysylltwch  
Am ffaith gwyboredd ger Mynydd y Ddu / E. Mynydd y Ddu  
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From  
**Sutton Coldfield Branch**

0121 352 1024

E-mail  
tejca.carter@talktalk.net

24<sup>th</sup> July 2008

## To Everyone at Royal Sutton Coldfield Canoe Club

On behalf of all of us at Sutton Coldfield Branch of the RNLI thank you all so much for the tremendous support resulting from your 'Sponsored Paddle'.

To have raised monies not only for your own club but also for the 'Lifeboats' is quite amazing and to have donated the fantastic amount of £1,000 to RNLI is absolutely brilliant. We are all astounded by this wonderful gesture.

On top of that you kindly held a bucket collection at your Open Day in Sutton Park which raised another £22

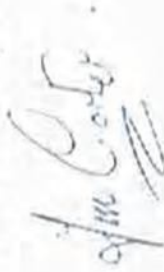
On top of that you kindly held a bucket collection at your Open Day in Sutton Park which raised another £23.

Please thank everyone concerned for their involvement, commitment and generosity and if you feel that we can lend a hand in any way, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Hopefully both our associations will obtain some publicity from tonight's Presentation which may attract more members and supporters.

Once again, thank you all so much.

Yours sincerely,



Jill Carter.  
Hon. Chairman.



**Train one, save many**

# BCU WEST MIDLANDS GO PADDLIN' DAY 2

SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST 2008  
BURTON CANOE CLUB  
NEWTON ROAD, BURTON ON TRENT

A DAY WITH HEAPS TO DO INCLUDING



GO TO [BCUWESTMIDLANDS.ORG.UK](http://BCUWESTMIDLANDS.ORG.UK)  
TO DOWNLOAD A BOOKING FORM

BOOKINGS TO DAVE BATEMAN

ACKERS TRUST, WAVERLEY CANAL BASIN, SMALL HEATH HIGHWAY B10 0DQ

TEL: 0121 772 3739 [info@ackers-adventure.co.uk](mailto:info@ackers-adventure.co.uk)

## ARTICLE SENT TO CANOE FOCUS

### ROYAL SUTTON COLDFIELD CANOE CLUB OPEN DAY 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2008

The club's annual open day was held at Blackroot pool in Sutton Park, throughout its 18 years existence the club has held an open day in the park in June. In recent years the club has been allowed to use Blackroot Pool and will later this establish a boat store there with the aid of a grant of £16,500 from Sutton Municipal Charities.

Along with club members and coaches were two scout troops who are part of the club's "affiliated group" scheme which allows uniform groups, schools and youth organisations to access the club's expertise, facilities and equipment. At one point there were over 30 paddlers, scout & families on the water leaving only one boat on the shore. The good weather helped with the star testing, capsizing and deep water rescues.

The day had been well advertised using posters and the local papers and so there was a steady stream of people and families turning up to "try it", by the end of the day the club had introduced 50 people to the pleasure of canoeing and made some new members as well.

Mike Nicholls

MIKE &  
GRANDDAUGHTER  
PENNY ON  
BLACKROOT POOL  
7th June 2008



## TOURING CALENDER

SEPT/OCT 2008

ALWAYS CONTACT THE TOUR LEADER BEFORE THE TOUR AND TAKE HIS OR HER ADVICE AS TO YOUR FITNESS FOR THE CONDITIONS PREVAILING ON THE DAY OF THE TOUR. PLEASE TRY TO BE PROMPT AT THE DHOW AS WE DO NOT ALLOW MUCH TIME FOR WAITING ABOUT. WHEN WE MEET AT THE DHOW IT IS TO SHARE CARS FOR THE JOURNEY AND TO SHARE COSTS FOR THE TOUR. PLEASE OFFER THE DRIVER FUEL MONEY AS IT IS SOMETIMES EMBARRASSING TO ASK.

ANY ENQUIRIES, ALTERATIONS TO PROGRAMME OR SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE TOUR PLEASE CONTACT MIKE NICHOLLS ON 0121 360 2136

**SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> SEPT 2008, SUNDAY SURFING AT BLACKROCK SANDS, PORTMADOG**  
Ring Sarah on 01922 424210 for this event, meet at Sarah's house time TBA

**SUNDAY 28<sup>th</sup> SEPT 2007 ANNIVERSARY TOUR RIVER SEVERN**  
(TRY AGAIN)

**HAMPTON LOADE TO BEWDLEY** easy 10 mile paddle in the Autumn sunshine (hopefully) grade 1 suitable for most paddlers meet close to Sutton 8.30am for Hampton Loade at 10.00am ring Mike for details or to rent a boat

**SUNDAY 12<sup>th</sup> OCT 2007 RIVER TAME /COVENTRY CANAL**

Another local easy tour starting at Tamworth and paddling down to Hopwas the up onto the canal and back. Grade 0/1 suitable for those wishing to gain moving water experience. Meet meet close to Sutton at 9am Ring Tim & Vic

**SUNDAY 26<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2008**

**CANAL/RIVER TRENT, HANDSACRE TO YOXALL BRIDGE.**

This may be a new section to some of you but a very nice grade 0/1 with just a bit of moving water to train on. We shall be launching at Handsacre bridge and going up the canal then getting on the River Trent. Meet close to Sutton at 9am Ring ROB 353 3765 OR mike 360 2136

**SUNDAY 9<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2008 SUNDAY MORNING RIVER TAME TOUR**  
**NEWTON ROAD TO PERRY BARR**

Ring Mike/Sarah for this tour, this river is only 15 minutes away and will surprise you, suitable for most grades of paddler if you need to rent a boat ring Mike 360 2136

**SUNDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2008 RING AROUND OR INTERNET TOUR**  
**WE WILL TOUR ON A RIVER SUITABLE FOR THE TIME OF YEAR**

**SATURDAY CANAL TOURS**

**IF THE DHOW IS UNAVAILABLE WE WILL TRY TO TOUR ON VARIOUS CANALS**  
**STARTING AT 2PM ON A SATURDAY RING ROB 353 3765 OR MIKE 360 2136 FOR**  
**MORE INFO AND TO RESERVE A BOAT**