

ROYAL SUTTON COLDFIELD CANOE CLUB



AFFILIATED TO CANOE ENGLAND

www.suttoncanoe.org.uk

NEWSLETTER ISSUE No 69

SPRING/SUMMER 2010

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

I think we may have now seen the last of the extreme weather for this year, it has been a longer winter than we have seen for many years but I feel that spring is now firmly in charge. The weather was so bad we missed all of the Saturday morning sessions during January as the lake was frozen over. Rushall on the other hand has been moving on a pace after planning permission was granted and now is ready to go, the containers have been installed and fitted out thanks to the efforts of Rob, Tim & a gang of dedicated members. Sarah is now planting shrubs and bushes in accordance with Walsall councils planning decree. Also there are still some slabs to lay and the landing stage to erect.

Touring has been badly affected by the weather and has now only just started to recover, but we hope that we can get out on the rivers throughout the rest of the year.

We have started to run our first one star course of the year, if you have missed this one don't worry there will be another one (see inside) so if you want to get the award get in touch with Rob to book on. See the session list later in this newsletter as there have been some changes to times and things for the coming months. Our very successful swimming pool sessions came to a sad end with the closing of the whole leisure complex at the end of March, Birmingham Council needed to save over £600,000 in the area and the centre was one of the things that had to go, we will have to seek out a new one for the Autumn so if you know of one please let me know. We are hosting one of the regions "Go Paddlin" days on May 8th at Blackroot Pool, please try to come along and help out, talk to any of the instructors or me.

Mike

CLUB SESSIONS FOR 2010

BLACKROOT POOL

EVERY **MONDAY** 6-8PM
(EXCEPT BANK HOLIDAYS)

STARTING 12th APRIL TO 27th SEPTEMBER

EVERY **THURSDAY** 6-8PM

STARTING 8th APRIL TO 23rd SEPTEMBER

EVERY SATURDAY 10am UNTIL 12 Noon ALL YEAR ROUND (not run during xmas holidays see later n/letters)

RUSHALL OLYMPIC

EVERY **WEDNESDAY** 6-8pm

STARTING 14th APRIL TO 29th SEPTEMBER

EVERY **FRIDAY** 6-8pm

STARTING 9th APRIL TO 1st OCTOBER

AND AFTERWARDS JOINS US FOR A DRINK IN THE CLUB ROOM

SATURDAY 2-5pm (OR DUSK) ALL YEAR ROUND (not run during xmas holidays see later n/letters)

As the main gate will be locked because of security issues please ring nominated people to see if the sessions are to be run also you will need to be prompt as we will have to lock up before we leave on the trip.

WEDNESDAY SESSIONS RING ROB 0121 353 3765 OR SARAH 01922 424210

FRIDAY SESSIONS RING SIMON ON 07713332902 OR SARAH 01922 424210

SATURDAY SESSIONS RING SARAH 01922 424210 OR ROB 0121 353 3765 OR SIMON ON 07713332902

IF ALL ELSE FAILS RING MIKE ON 0121 360 2136

BLACKROOT OPEN DAYS

SATURDAY MAY 8th

10 UNTIL 4 NATIONAL GO PADDLIN DAY

SATURDAY JUNE 12th

10 UNTIL 4

THE BIG ONE

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 4th

10 UNTIL 4

IF YOU MISSED THE FIRST ONE HERE IS THE SECOND

ONE STAR COURSE

(PADDLEPOWER PASSPORT FOR UNDER 14'S)

AT BLACKROOT & RUSHALL

STARTING ON THURS 10th JUNE

WE WILL BE RUNNING THIS COURSE FROM 6pm UNTIL 8pm

OVER FIVE WEEKS (INC JOURNEY ON CANAL)

PRICE WILL INCLUDE BOAT HIRE

ADULTS £25 & CHILDREN £20

DATES WILL BE JUNE 10/17/24, JULY 1/8/15, RUSHALL JULY 9/14

RING ROB 0121 353 3765

TO BOOK AND FOR MORE INFO

CLUB WINDSCREEN STICKERS

ONLY £1

AVAILABLE FROM BLACKROOT POOL,

JUST ASK SOMEONE

FOR SALE

6 WOODEN

RAILWAY SLEEPERS

OFFERS + FREE DELIVERY

RING MIKE ON 0121 360 2136

RIVER LUGG

Kinsham Bridge to Mortimers Cross

11th April 2010

We had seven paddlers on this tour which was one of our white water improvers tours. There was Andy Hughes, Andy Nicholls, Sarah, Paul, Tim, Matt & myself, there was plenty of cover as there were three level three coaches & two level one on the tour. The weather had just turned nice a few days previously which made it a very pleasant spring run but the river was just a tad low.

We drove to Mortimers Cross and met Andy N then drove up to the start, the ferry dealt with we set off down the river which is an eight mile tour with six weirs, the first weir is a very nice play spot and much fun was had messing about and a quite a few things were taught. The river is very interesting with lot of bends and small rapids to negotiate, it wanders well away from roads and becomes quite isolated with lots of wildlife for Sarah to tell us about. The next weir is not possible but there is a small stream which goes around it which we took, the river tested everyone as bend followed bend until we got to a massive 1 metre high log jam which blocked the river and was followed shortly by another so we had to get out and walk across a field to get back in a short distance downstream. Weir three which was a bit rocky but went well, just after this we met a couple of fly fishermen standing in the river and in the ensuing traffic jam Paul caught and edge and fell in much to the amusement of the rest of the party. We went under the main road and came to the first of the Yatton Court weirs, this weir has had a flume fitted in recent years (these double as a fish pass) so Andy N and I shot it just to see how good it was and it was very nice, the second of the Yatton weirs looks big but is quite easy. Almost at the end is Mortimers Cross Mill weir, this also has had a flume fitted to its face to stop it undermining the foundations of a building close to the bank, this also was shot and was very enjoyable. The river runs quite fast after the bridge making it just a bit difficult to get out especially with my knees so we arranged a single get out plan six of us getting out quite quickly but where was Sarah? I knew she was waiting upstream of the bridge, I called but no answer, so I waded out to see if she was OK and there she was buying flour from the miller! women can shop anywhere!!

A lovely paddle on a nice day what a way to spend a Sunday.

Mike



THE CONTAINERS BEING LIFTED INTO PLACE AT RUSHALL
We spent most of the afternoon waiting for them to arrive and finally they arrived just at dusk.

DATES FOR YOU TO THINK ABOUT

CANOE 2012

These are events that are run with juniors in mind and are try out days for disciplines such as marathon, slalom, wild water racing etc, these are run as sub ranking with not many rules just tailored for you to have a go.

They are being run at :-

16th May TRENTHAM

22nd May "YOUTHFEST" at UPTON WARREN

18th September BURTON

STAFFORD & STONE Canoe Club

Will be running three entry level slaloms at their Stone site dates to be announced see their web site, staffordandstonecc.co.uk

CHASEWATER RESERVOIR

The work required to put Chasewater reservoir dam right is going to be extensive, the lake has been drained completely now to allow work to be carried out and there is now just a few pools in a sea of mud. It was hoped to start filling the lake again by the end of June but it is now revealed that work may not be completed until the end of the year. The streams that flow into the lake are small and few in number and it may not reach its usual level for over a year.

This will affect the canal at Rushall for longer than we expected as water from the only other major source at Bradley, near Wolverhampton will struggle to maintain the level, even as BW are planning to pump 24/7 at maximum output. BW are also going to padlock all the locks on the waterway at night to conserve water. Even with all this it will mean the level of the canal at Rushall could be a lot lower, this should not affect us too much but just think of the sailors and skiers who use the lake they are really in trouble.

YOUTH FREESTYLE SERIES

This may be something you would like to go and see, just to get the experience of the wide range of activities on offer by the sport of canoeing.

Events 2010

- 25th April - Nene White Water Course
- 16th May - Washburn – Yorkshire
- 11th July - Boulters – Maidenhead
- 15th August - Cardiff White Water Course NEW
- 12th September - HPP Nottingham FINAL

look smart in club gear
T shirts, sweat shirts, bags, ect
ring carol on 01543 675852



THE LEVELLING TEAM

Members of the astronomers and canoe club working to level the foundations for the Rushall containers

**DON'T FORGET THE WEB SITE
FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS
SUTTONCANOE.ORG.UK
THERE'S LOTS TO SEE AND DO ON IT!!!!**

TOURING CALENDAR SPRING/SUMMER 2010

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 MEETING PLACE AS WE DO NOT ALLOW MUCH TIME FOR WAITING ABOUT. WHEN WE MEET 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 TOURS PLEASE RING MIKE ON 0121 360 2136.

YOU MUST RING THE MEET LEADER IN PLENTY OF TIME AND BOOK YOUR PLACE, THE CUT OFF TIME FOR BOOKING WILL BE FRIDAY EVENING.

SUN 25th APRIL 2010 RIVER TAME /COVENTRY CANAL

Another local easy touring circle from the Tame Otter at Hopwas, paddling on the canal and the river Tame Grade 0/1 suitable for those wishing to gain moving water experience. Meet at Blackroot at 9am. Ring Tim

SUN 9th May 2010 RIVER TEME

This is a tour for those who are moving on to harder water please ask about your fitness for this tour. We will run the river Teme Ludlow to Ashford Carbonnel . Meet at Blackroot at 8.15am for Ludlow at 10am . Tour leader Mike Nicholls

SAT/SUN 15/16 May 2010 THE BIG PADDLE AT SYMONDS YAT

You can go to this as an individual see www.thebigpaddle.com there is lots happening over the weekend.

SUN 23rd May 2010 RIVER TAME TOUR NEWTON ROAD TO PERRY BARR

This river will surprise you, suitable for most grades of paddler, but can be shallow. Meet at Blackroot at 9.30 am for Newton Road at 10.00am. Ring Sarah

SUN 6th June 2010 RUGELEY CIRCLE

Nice easy canal/river paddle, grade 1 suitable for most paddlers meet at Blackroot at 9am for Rugeley at 10.00am. ring Tim/Rob

SUN 20th JUNE 2010 RIVER AVON “RAFT RACE” the only opportunity to paddle this section of the avon this year

We require a number of paddlers who wish to gain rescue experience, we will be providing safety cover for the local “Lions” raft race. We will be splitting the trip into two parts so if paddlers wish they can do the first half down to the 2nd weir and get or join at this point, we will also be sweeping the river after the rafts. It will be an interesting day. ring Tim for details.

SUN 11th JULY ANNIVERSARY TOUR RIVER SEVERN, HAMPTON LOADE TO BEWDLEY

This is the tour we first ran as a club and we repeat it every year . This will be a relaxed summer paddle suitable for any skill level. A 10 mile tour down the river Severn. A lunch stop will be made at Arley and there will be time to play on Eyemore rapids in the afternoon. Meet at 8.30am for Hampton Loade at 10.00am, ring Mike for details.

SUN 25th JULY 2010 T&M CANAL/RIVER TRENT, HANDSACRE TO ALREWAS

This may be a new section to some of you but a very nice grade 0/1 with some moving water to train on. We shall be launching By Handsacre and touring down to Alrewas. Meet at Blackroot at 9am. ring Tim for details

SUN 22nd AUGUST 2010 RIVER SEVERN WM REGION “GO PADDLIN” TOUR

This is a nice 4.5 mile tour from Arley to Bewdley, suitable for all skill levels, also will be the opportunity to play on Eyemore rapids. Meet at Rushall at 8.30, Ring Mike for details.