



# ROYAL SUTTON COLDFIELD CANOE CLUB



AFFILIATED TO CANOE ENGLAND

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

NEWSLETTER ISSUE No 65

WINTER 2008

### CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

I would have liked to say that everything was going fine but as I mentioned in my last chat the silver lining in the cloud is a bit tarnished. I should have noticed that things at Rushall where going a bit too smooth, we have come up against officialdom which will slow thing right down, we now have to submit drawings to British Waterways and Walsall Council before we can get started again and we know how long that took with Blackroot. There are a number of other hurdles to cross but some of them involve the football club. Sarah has grasped the situation and is acting as front girl for the club at the Rushall site. We are still using the site on Saturdays at 2pm but we cannot launch from our intended spot but must carry the short distance to the bridge and launch there.

Blackroot on the other hand is going very well, Tim is running the new Saturday morning session there whilst Rob beavers away at the fitting out of the boat houses. Talking of the boat houses there is now Lights in them and toilets, also we will be taking delivery of some new boats soon.

Sarah and Pete are leading some local tours in the coming weeks so try your best to come on them.

I must make a mention of Stuart Benson who, by his efforts made possible the quick sale of the Dhow during August/September he really performed a good service for the club by getting us out of the hole caused by the Hardy's

I will look forward to seeing you all at the A G M .

Mike

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **TUESDAY 20th JANUARY 2009**

### **AT RUSHALL OLYMPIC FOOTBALL CLUB**

### **AT 8PM**

ANY NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE OR MOTIONS TO MIKE 360 2136  
BY 21st DECEMBER 2008

**R.S.C.C.C.**  
**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2008**  
**Roller Coaster Ride**

What a year!!, looking back it has been a year of highs and lows and has taken a lot of work from the committee to deal with it. Back in January we ran a sponsored paddle from the Dhow to raise money for the Blackroot project, half of which we wanted to give to the RNLI, the weekend was a great success finishing with a total of just over £2,000 and in July we presented the Sutton branch of the RNLI with a cheque for £1,000, one of their largest donations during the year. Talking of the Blackroot project late in 2007 we were given permission by the park to put a boat store by Blackroot Pool, we planned to install two containers by the pool to keep half of our boat fleet in and in early January put forward to plans to the Council, this resulted in practically a six month wait before they were passed but in June we finally got the go ahead, so we thought things were going well! Also in June I had the great honour of receiving the British Canoe Union Award of Merit for my national work for the sport. The superb web site that Adam created came on line just after this and will be a great asset to the club, log on and find out. Sarah and Pete have taken up the challenge of touring and are doing very well leading local tours.

Then in late June we had a shock! We had a letter from the Hardy's who own the Marina where we kept the Dhow trebling the rent, we replied pointing out that they were being unreasonable but all we got in reply was a notice to quit!! The weeks that followed were full of hard work, anguish & disappointment trying to find a mooring for the Dhow that we could work from, all this ended in failure, all I could find was a temporary mooring for her which was storage only. Sarah worked her magic and we received lots of media coverage, all the local papers and Central News. During the weeks after this I received a number of offers which warmed my heart but were mostly unworkable. The one that was workable was the one from Rushall Olympic Football Club which was the answer to all our problems, unfortunately the Dhow could not be moored there due to British Waterways regulations and so with great sadness we had to put her up for sale. This time it was Stuart who came to the rescue, he mentioned at work about the Dhow and someone there bought her. This was very timely because we had just about run out of mooring options for her. We bought a container and had it delivered to Rushall the next day so we could empty her and off she went to start a new life. All looked well but I blame myself for getting wound up in the euphoria of the new site and the new venue I didn't see the fact that we had infringed on British Waterways land and "made an illegal connection to the canal" without their permission, it took a lot of sweet talking from Sarah to get us out of that hole but she managed it. Since then we have got caught up in red tape and must submit plans to both BW and Walsall Council, also the football club must sort out the lease before we can proceed this may take a number of months to achieve. Blackroot on the other hand is now up and running with lights and toilet installed and our new Tim's Saturday morning sessions are proving popular, Rob is still doing a great job fitting them out but he needs help from members. 2008 has seen us have the most members we have ever had so even with the canal base problems I think on balance it has been a good year for the club. This could not have been achieved without a lot of hard work and dedication from the whole committee who have carried out Stirling work over the year.

Mike

**FOR SALE**  
**CLUB KEY FOBS ONLY £1 EACH**

**CATCH ROB WHEN YOU SEE HIM OR RING 353**  
**3765**

# HOLIDAY 2009

Tim is starting to organise a weeks holiday sometime during the schools main weeks in the summer next year.

Would you like to join him and the kids at either Blackrock Sands near Portmadoc or in France.

He needs feedback from members wishing to go so that arrangements can be made early.

**IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU RING HIM NOW IF YOU WANT TO BE INVOLVED**

## **TIM NEW CONTACT DETAILS ARE**

**MOBILE 07796494551**

**HOME 0560 1623413**

**E MAIL tim1840@btinternet.com**

## **CHRISTMAS PADDLE**

Decemeber 14<sup>th</sup>

The Christmas paddle for 2008 will be using the Tame loop circuit at Tamworth, This year the theme will be baubles, kids are wear baubles on their hard hats adults anywhere they like!!!

We will start at the Three Tuns at Fazeley at 10.00am where Bacon Butties and coffee/tea will be available to buy

Then off on to the tour finishing at the Tame Otter at 2pm for a meal. You can either just come for the food or do the lot it up to you.

**BUT WE NEED TO KNOW NUMBERS FOR  
THE PUBS SO RING TIM ON THE  
NUMBERS ABOVE TO BOOK**

**FOR SALE  
THULE ROOF BARS SUITABLE  
FOR FORD FOCUS  
2 YEARS OLD  
CALL SARAH ON  
07967 645055**

# INSTRUCTOR COURSE

In the new year the club will be organising and funding a level 1 coach course using the club venues, we will be bringing a coach in from outside the club to run it.

There are 12 spaces on the course , we have a list of approx 5 so far so if you would like to take part it will be first come first served. It is a four day course and it will take place over two weekends at a date to be announced.

## **RING MIKE ON 360 2136 TO BOOK**

## **WE NEED HELP**

Rob is steadfastly turning up at 10.00pm on Saturdays to continue sorting out the containers but he needs your help, if anyone can turn up and give him a hand he would be grateful

Try to bring some tools like battery drills and things or give him a ring on 353 3765.

## WINTER SESSIONS

### BLACKROOT POOL

SATURDAY MORNINGS 10.30AM UNTIL 12.30PM

General canoeing

### RUSHALL CANAL

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS 2pm until 4pm (approx)  
journeying

## SPONSORED PADDLE

We have the final account for the sponsored paddle it shows a tremendous effort by you all to achieve the amount we raised. £2193 was raised of which:-

£1000 was donated to RNLI

£ 36 came from the raffle

£115 came from entry fees

£ 1042 from club sponsorship

An astounding result from only 25 paddlers just imagine what we could have done if more of you had taken part.

Rob

# I BET YOUR DIDN'T KNOW THIS

The club has a agreement with a local supplier to source printed items featuring the club logo and other details so if you would like to order an item please see the list below and give Carol a ring

## Clothing:

White Promo T-shirt 140g	£6.95
White Promo Polo Poly/Cotton	£14.00
Top T-shirt 155g (White or Ash)	£8.95
Beefy T-shirt 195g (White or Ash)	£10.50
Sweatshirt 260/280g (White or Ash)	£17.95
Polo shirt 100% Cotton (Ladies/Mens) (White or Ash)	£15.95
All available in S/M/L/XL/XXL/3X (XXL add £1.18, 3X add £1.75 per garment)	
Junior Top T-shirt 155g (White or Ash)	£6.95
Baseball Caps 100% Cotton Twill One size (White or Grey)	£4.95
White Ceramic Mug	£3.75
Badges	£1.00
Keyrings	£1.00
Pocket Mirrors	£1.50
Fridge Magnets	£1.50
Vinyl Sticker (15cm x 15cm) (suitable for Canoes)	£1.00
Quadra Sports Holdall (53x32x26cm)	£11.95
Quadra Jumbo Sports Bag (75x35x30cm) (Black/Green/Navy/Red/Royal)	£14.95
Golf Umbrellas	£19.95

Prices include Full Colour printing in one position.  
This can be with or without Canoe Club Logo.

Other items and colours are available  
please phone Carol or Steve for more information on  
01543 675852

# suttoncanoe.org.uk

The web site has been running for some time now so we thought we would just remind you about it

Some of the features of the site are:-

Location maps and information for people wishing to join the club and go to it's sessions

Contact information

Contains the story of the club.

Blackroot

Rushall

Forum, I feel that this will be very useful, it will enable chat between members and will help to create new networks of members

Gallery, lots of photos of the club's activities

Videos, great video clips of basic techniques which will be very useful

**GET ON THE WEB AND TRY IT I KNOW YOU WILL LIKE IT  
ALSO GET REGISTERED AND USE THE FORUM IT WILL BE  
A SUPER RESOURCE FOR THE CLUB.**

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

CAN ANYONE VOLUNTEER TO HELP US WITH THE FOLLOWING LIST IF YOU CAN RING ROB AND HE WILL ORGANISE YOU

2 NOTICE BOARDS FOR THE CONTAINERS

A GAS LOW LEVEL HEATER

CUPBOARDS

RUB DOWN AND PAINT THE TRAILER  
(you will need to take it home to do this)

## Royal Sutton Coldfield Canoe Club Membership Report 2007/8.

1. During the year, the Club had 178 members, of whom 48 did not rejoin.
2. Of the 130 members at 31st October 2008, 2 had rejoined the Club after a 2 year gap, 63 had rejoined from 2007 and 67 were new members.
3. New member numbers have improved, particularly during June after another very successful Open Day.

Our use of Blackroot Pool is also proving very magnetic. It is a very good 'Shop Window', with passers-by to and from the Bistro helping to spread the message - they're canoeing at Blackroot.....etc....

In 2002 there were 31 new members.

In 2003 there were 63

In 2004 there were 27

In 2005 there were 22

In 2005/6 there were 40 new members.

In 2006/7 there were 46

In 2008 we had 67 new members.

<b>Non-renewal</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Renewal</b>	<b>New</b>	<b>Paid-up-total</b>
16	Full	32	24	56
1	Youth	5	7	12
7	Junior	4	13	17
	Country	2		4
12	Family	10	11	21
11	Minor	2	10	12
	Honorary	1	1	2
1	Affiliated	3 + 2*	2	6
48	TOTALS	62	68	130

\* 2 of our Affiliated groups are free by special agreement with the Committee.

4. 22 of our Club members are also members of the B C U or the W C A
5. 5 family names have held continuous Club membership since the Club's founding in 1990, (Cadwallader, Dowsett, Leadley, Nicholls and Stanton).

*Rob Leadley - membership hat.*

# **TOURING CALENDAR**

## **WINTER 2008/9**

**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**

### **XMAS PARTY PADDLE**

**SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> December 2008 RIVER TAME /COVENTRY CANAL**

**A shortened version of our nice Hopwas tour. Grade 0/1 suitable for most paddlers, we start at the Three Tuns for brekkie and end up at the Tame Otter for lunch and a merry get together . If you don't want to paddle just turn up at the pub by 2pm Meet at Rushall 9.30 am baubles in your hat is a must. Ring Tim, see article.**

**SUNDAY 11<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

**CANAL/ RIVER TRENT, KINGS BROMLEY TO ALREWAS**

**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 and a nice little weir at the end. We will be getting on from lay bye near Kings Bromley. Meet at Rushall at 9.15am for Kings Bromley at 10.00am**

**SUNDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2009**

**RIVER SOW CIRCULAR TOUR**

**Another new one start at Great Heywood up the Staffs and Worcs canal then on to the river for the return, a very nice grade 0/1 with just a bit of moving water to train on. Meet at Rushall at 9am for Great Heywood at 10.00am**

**SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> February 2009 SUNDAY MORNING RIVER TAME TOUR**

**NEWTON ROAD TO PERRY BARR**

**This river is only 15 minutes away and will surprise you suitable for most grades of paddler meet at the Dhow at 9.30 am for New ton road bridge at 10am.**

**SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2009 RIVER TAME /COVENTRY CANAL**

**Another favourite 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 at Rushall at 9.15 for Hopwas at 10.00am**

**SUNDAY 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2009 RIVER TAME , LUDLOW TO ASHFORD  
CARBONNEL**

**This river is a step up from our local rivers, a good experience for those wanting some white water action in a very good setting. Grade 1 / 2 only improvers please. Meet at Dhow at 8.30 am for Ludlow at 10am.**

**A unique opportunity to paddle this river which is only open to canoeists for this weekend every year. Grade 0/1 with 3 weirs all of which can be portaged. Paddlers must be competent and self supportive, ferry will be provided by Burton Canoe Club.**

**SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2009**

**RING AROUND OR INTERNET TOUR**

**WE WILL TOUR ON A RIVER SUITABLE FOR THE TIME OF YEAR**