



Royal Sutton Coldfield Canoe Club

A Canoe England Affiliated Club

suttoncanoe.org.uk



NEWSLETTER, WINTER 2014/5

CHAIRMANS CHAT

I hope you all had a great Christmas, the club has had some great events for the festive season. We had a lovely day for the Christmas Paddle followed by the usual super meal at the Tame Otter, the best Christmas outfit contest was won by Tina Clarke & Simon Brett in the adult class and Jack Bradbury won the children's class.

Our Christmas party was held at the Brownhills Activity Centre on Friday 12th with just over fifty members attending lots of catching up and socialising went on and some dancing too! The very deserving winner of the Rob Leadley Memorial Shield was Katie Smith who has shown real advances and dedication over the last year.

The Twinkle Paddle at the Canoe Centre on Thursday 18th was a fabulous night paddle with boats decorated with fairy lights, followed by hot dogs burgers and mulled wine everyone had a great time and the boats looked magical, this one is definitely going to be repeated. The best boat was won by Amy who won a tin of choccies.

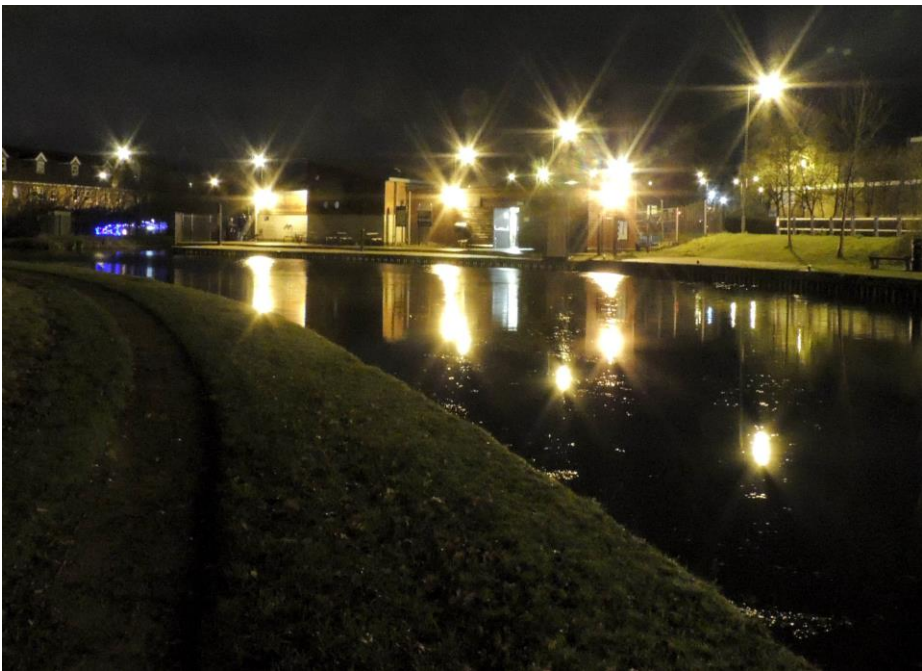
The past months have been very busy, we have to have the finances of the club altered so we can become "incorporated" which is a bit like being a limited company, the reality of it is that each member of the committee is protected and only is liable for £1 which at this moment if we have a big problem isn't the case.

Please see the notice of the AGM later in this newsletter and do you best to turn up it is the democratic meeting of the year where you can have you say in the running of the club.

Mike

PHOTOS FROM THE TWINKLE PADDLE





A great night was had by all at the Twinkle Paddle, The paddle was followed by hot dogs, burgers and mulled wine.

CLUB SESSIONS FOR SPRING 2015

BLACKROOT POOL

EVERY SATURDAY 10.00am UNTIL 12.00noon

ALL YEAR ROUND EXEPT BANK HOLIDAY SATURDAYS

Reopen on 10th Jan 2015

BROWNHILLS

SATURDAY 2-4.00pm (OR DUSK)

ALL YEAR ROUND EXEPT BANK HOLIDAY SATURDAYS

Reopen on 10th Jan 2015

BARR BEACON SCHOOL POOL

FRIDAY EVENING STARTING AT 7PM UNTIL 8PM

The charge for the session will be £3.50 per person

Reopens on Friday 9th Jan 2015

NOTICE OF CLUB AGM

AT

BROWNHILLS ACTIVITY CENTRE

WHERE WE HAD THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

PELSALL ROAD BROWNHILLS

ON

WED 28th JANUARY 2015

AT 7.00PM

Any motions for inclusion in the meeting and nominations for the election of committee members must be received by Sally on the 7th January 2015 (e mail: sally.leese@gmail.com)

Agendas will be published on the 14th January 2015 and will be available on the night.



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Membership report 2014

2014 has been a very busy year for memberships with the change over from Richard to myself.

In 2014 we issued a total of:-

64 adult memberships,
33 youth memberships,
3 affiliated groups and
16 family memberships that including all members of the family total 64.

This puts the total club membership at 164 a significant increase on last year.

We took a total of £4489.

£1327 was for membership renewals

£3162 was for new members

The good summer that we had this year has no doubt worked as a positive and has influenced the increase in new members. We now need to focus on having another good year in 2015 to enable us to keep the membership numbers high.

Nicola Gledhill
Membership secretary

R.S.C.C.C. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2014

We didn't suffer the long freezes that we had in the previous two years and so got off to a good start at both locations. We have worked very hard over the year to serve the members and the communities that we belong to, both sites seeing lots of use over the year.

Sutton Park has figured largely in the year, the club providing canoeing and support to other events as well as our own, we had a good Open Day in May followed by the Triathlon, and then the Community Games. Saturday mornings have been well attended some days in the summer we had well over thirty paddlers on the water, we have continued with Monday evenings during the summer reserving Thursdays for any groups who wish to use the lake. We must spend some time upgrading the facilities here during next year.

Brownhills is also returning very good attendance figures both on Saturdays and Wednesdays and has been used for some very promising events such as the Easter Egg, Halloween and latest the "Twinkle Paddle" (see newsletter photos), we have been actively redeveloping the building over year and hopefully by next spring it will be laid out to our liking, my thanks to the people who have shown up and worked in the work parties to get the place back up to the first class venue it should be. Brownhills has taken a lot of administrative time this year, the previous year we just rented it for the time we used it but after some negotiations we agreed in June to take over the running of the centre from the BCA and so have been booking out the centre for groups and schools over the summer months. We hope that the centre will be more financially viable as time goes on.

With the expansion of the financial liabilities of the club in mind we have been advised to make the management of the club more protected and are going through the process of making the club "incorporated" financially, this will restrict liability of the committee members to £1. To do this we have decided to engage the services of Chase Accounting to help us through this process and be our financial advisors in the future.

A club is all about people and I must pay tribute to folk who have figured greatly this year, in the spring we were joined by Clare and Ian who have, over the year transformed the white water touring side of the club and have inspired many members to sample the delights of white water which after all is what most canoeists aspire to. I was touched to meet Abbie Creswell who had been a member through her youth until she went to university, she is now a member of the GB ladies Polo team, I would also like to wish the Creswell family who have been long standing & active members of the club all the best in their relocation to Cornwall. The Rob Leadley Memorial shield winner this year was Katie Smith who has been transformed into a

very capable paddler and potential young coach. My heartfelt thanks also to Jennie Aulman (nee Leadley) who has been our treasurer over the past few years. There have been so many people who have gone that extra mile for the club Taz & Marc who look after the swimming baths, all the management team who are the most dedicated and enthusiastic bunch of people, the coaches who without them we would be nothing I could go on and on.

This will be my last report to you all as I feel that 25 years is enough and will not be standing at the AGM next year I hope to sit back on the side lines and watch the club flourish under new and younger leaders, I will be still involved and will contribute gladly to help the club go forward.

Mike

CLUB GEAR

POLO SHIRTS £8.50

FLEECES £17.50

CHILDREN'S T SHIRTS £ 6.50

CAR WINDSCREEN STICKERS £1

RING MIKE ON 0121 360 2136

ALL MEMBERS OF OUR CLUB QUALIFY FOR AN UP TO 15% DISCOUNT ON SELECTED CANOEING EQUIPMENT FROM WEST MIDLANDS CANOE CENTRE ON PRODUCTION OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD. THEY HAVE EVERYTHING YOU WILL NEED SO JUST POP ALONG TO SNEYD WHARF, 401 SNEYD LANE, BLOXWICH WS3 2LT

MEMBERSHIP CARDS **IMPORTANT!!**

Please always bring you membership card with to club sessions and show it when you sign in, also by showing your card you can get 15% discount at West Midlands Canoe Centre. We have decided that as some of you are forgetting or losing your card take a photo of it on your phone and show that it will be accepted.

BANK SUPPORT

When we run our normal sessions we need to have a person to help us to get the kit and people ready. This person doesn't necessarily have to be a canoeist or an instructor but someone who can help get members signed in and kitted out to go paddling. If you are a parent or partner of a canoeist and would like to help out in this way please get in touch with Paul Ryder on paul@pryder.wanadoo.co.uk

TOURING CALENDAR

Spring 2015

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 CONTACT GRAHAM THORN ON 07425147489 or email grahamzone1@gmail.com OR SEE FACEBOOK.

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

SUNDAY 11th OR 18th JANUARY 2015

White water training tour, river TBA due to water levels, watch facebook for latest news.

MORE TOURS COMING SOON!