

The August 2010 still Summer Newsletter

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Whats going on....



It's August. The open season in Dublin is in full swing and a great opportunity to get out there and see some competitive action. Lansdowne and Templeogue come immediately to mind. Closer to home, a trailer for the RTC club championships which start on **September 8th** with a gala Finals day on Saturday September 14th. Meanwhile Summer Junior supervised tennis is still running and the first mixed team are in playoff action at home next Friday night, August 6th. And despite the showers, it's still the time of year for tennis and the courts are waiting. Get out there.....

Club nights - a successful conclusion for Summer 2010

With the usual excellent level of support and thanks in no small part to the indefatigable John Foley, the Summer Monday series of Club nights ended in mid July. There had been a great turnout for the duration and happily the final night was graced with lovely weather. A complimentary BBQ had been laid on, and special mentions to Pat Caden for burger-flipping (and general contribution during the series) and Veronica Donnelly for her front of house activities on the night. Not to mention all the people who contributed a wonderful array of salads and sinful desserts. On the night the perpetual Brendan Glacken trophy was presented by his wife Trish to the most consistent player over the series, which on this occasion was - you guessed it - Eddie McNally, a popular winner. In return Ruth Ivers presented Trish with a framed article from the Irish Times in Brendan's memory. As you can see from the attached photographs, a good time was indeed had by all and thanks to ALL the participants over the Monday nights.



Herzog Park | Orwell Road
Dublin 6 |

More pix from Club Nights finale

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You're all winners to me....

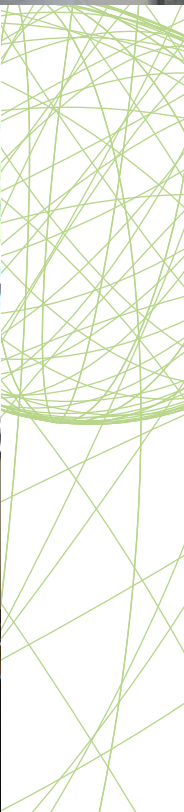
In the last newsletter we highlighted the fact that the mens third team had been promoted from Class 6 in the Summer League, and were playing their semi imminently. Sadly they went down 2-3 in that Semi to Ratoath, who eventually won it out. But well done guys and a great performance to come out of a tough division.

Meanwhile, in a parallel universe we had five teams entered in the Charity league this year. Our Tuesday non league section is for players who may never have played league before class 7 and it was made up of all new members to the club who all thoroughly enjoyed playing the various clubs in Dublin. We also entered one Monday non league team for improvers and two league Monday teams class 6 & 7. All teams did well in their section with the Tuesday class 4 & 5 winning their section (PHOTO BELOW). We all look forward to September for the next league to commence and would welcome any members free on a Monday or Tuesday morning to try out for the teams.

However, and deserving a much bigger typeface as a result, the Ladies First team also made it to the semis. But that wasn't enough. Oh no. They won the semi. And then they went to Naas and - gasp - won the final against a fancied Templeogue team in a gripping competition that went right down to the wire and left no fingernail un-bitten. Last off the court to secure a fantastic 3-2 win were Lucy Flynn and Gillian Daly, with the other team members being Ali O'Riordan, Dympna Kyne, Clare Dempsey, Siobhan Kelly and Fiona Shackleton. An absolutely great result to win out Class 3 and obviously the ladies will grace Class 2 next year as a result. Phew.....

And last but certainly not least we're aware that many RTC members play in the Open weeks during the Summer. It's impossible to keep trawling the websites for results and sadly they normally fly under the radar of Sky sports. But we're glad to report that the two beaming gentlemen below won out the Class 6 doubles competition in Bective Open week and are available for autographs on demand.

Next Page - Pic of the Summer League Winning 3rd team.....



Still More News.....



Summer League Class 3 Winners - L to R, Dympna Kyne, Gillian Daly, Siobhan Kelly, Fiona Shackleton, Clare Dempsey, Lucy Flynn - absent Ali O'Riordan

A roundup of other news: The Annual Club Championships will be held in early September once everyone comes back tanned and refreshed from their hollies - watch the clubhouse noticeboards and e-mail newsflashes for more details. If you want to get some lessons to iron out those kinks in your game before the club championships, then Kieran Galvin is your man and can be reached for emergency assistance during daylight hours on 086-2100440. Or, indeed, saunter down to Court 9 and loiter with intent, looking at Court 10. He'll find a way to sort you out. In the meantime get practicing and start thinking about your partners.

In the Clubhouse the Presidents board has now been mounted on the gable wall. No, inside. And we have a vending machine in the lobby area that sells balls on demand to make it easier to get your hands on same when there's no-one in the committee room. And, umm, that's about it for the news shorts (it's mid-summer after all).

The Junior News is here!

SUPERVISED SUMMER TENNIS FOR JUNIORS

STARTED MONDAY 26TH JULY

run by our new junior assistant coach, Dara.

Supervised tennis is part of the Summer Junior Programme in Rathgar Tennis Club for junior members over the summer.

It will run from 10am to 1pm weekdays

Supervised Tennis involves juniors being organised to play tennis with people of a similar level and lots of games which are relevant to tennis.

It will be run on a drop in basis – there is no need to book in advance.

Cost: €5 per junior per morning

Ages: 7 years and upwards

Dates: Mon 26th July to Fri 27th Aug

As we will be operating a strict supervisor to junior ratio, there will be a limit to the number of children who can be accommodated on any one day, and entry will be on first come first served basis.

ALSO THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER - FOR JUNIORS:

There will be an adult presence in the club in the weekday afternoons over the summer, checking membership and assisting juniors in partnering up to go out on court.

Our U8's & U9's have really drummed up some winning results this summer and here's another terrific win for the club. Ali McClean (pictured below) won the girls U9's open in Greystones on July 16th - bearing in mind that Ali has just turned 8 years old shortly after this win, this is a terrific achievement for her.

Some of our Juniors are off to the Donnybrook open commencing this Saturday August 7th - so good luck to all you entrants.

COACHING NEWS

Preliminary coaching classes and hours are on the junior notice board for September - there are now up to 250 kids in the coaching programme and demand is high. Coaching will start up again during the second week of September so be prepared! Don't forget to check your days and times and if there's any queries - Dympna Kyne is the lady to talk to: 087 9368853



JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS - DONT FORGET!

Entries for the junior club championships need to be in by August 24th - Entry forms are in the reception area of the club house or can be downloaded online from our website. Don't forget to enter it's a great fun week! That's it for the moment - there will be lots more to tell in mid September so in the mean time continue enjoying your Summer and practice, practice, practice!

From Rathgar to Nepal.....

Article below came in from Simon Corcoran who, along with Finn Gleeson, spent a number of months recently working in a school in Nepal. Aidan Corcoran, Club President did an impromptu collection recently before spending 2 weeks in Nepal. So the article below explains the good works that the collection (including contributions by Club members) led to. Sincere thanks to everyone who chipped in,,,,,,

Fund Raising Programme for Tri-Ratna Co-operative School & Hostel

Many thanks to everyone who contributed over to the recent appeal by Aidan for support for the hostel and school located in Bungamati, a small village located near Kathmandu, Nepal. We decided it would be a nice idea to put this newsletter together to inform you where your generous donations have gone and to give you some kind of idea of the impact they have had on the local community.

For the last two and a half months, I have been living in a small village in the Kathmandu valley called Bungamati. I am staying in a hostel with four disadvantaged children, all from different parts of Nepal, who have been given the opportunity of receiving an English education. These children endured great poverty and numerous hardships before they arrived at the hostel between three and nine years ago. You could not ask for a happier, polite and good humoured bunch of teenagers. As well as helping the children in the hostel, I also worked in the local school, Tri-Ratna School, which caters for both primary and secondary education. All subjects (except for Nepali!) are taught through English with the aim of providing the children with a solid foundation for whatever they may endeavour to do in the future.

The school does charge extremely low tuition fees but also facilitates the education of many of the poorer children in Bungamati through organizing sponsorship. Because of its emphasis on providing education to as many children as possible as opposed to a more businesslike approach, the school is in a fairly bad financial state, and relies on donations from various NGO's and individual volunteers to sustain itself whilst developing its facilities slowly but surely. The vice-principal, Krishna Man Maharjan, is an incredible person dedicated to the running of both the hostel and the school, working from 6am to 8pm every day for a meager salary that comes to around fifty euro every month. He is the man that implements all projects related to the improvement of the school, finds the sponsors for children and takes care of the hostel children as if they were his own (as well as the 1001 other jobs he has every day).

Before coming over to visit me, Aidan decided to raise some money to bring with him to help develop the school and hostel. What initially started as raising two hundred euro in one night escalated over the following days to raise a huge total of two thousand euro. Absolutely fantastic work. After various meetings with the board of the school, we decided to implement the money in the following ways.

- We provided a laptop computer and CD/DVD/radio player for the children in the hostel. We also contributed a laptop bag, an external DVD drive and a wireless mouse to the school.
- We organized and oversaw the renovation of the infants class room in the school, painting, carpeting and providing new tables, cushions and a whiteboard for the classroom, plus replaced windows throughout the school.
- Provided one year's salary for a new hostel warden, who will supervise and help the children throughout the day with their studies and also monitor them at nighttime. The situation in this regard before was not adequate, and the hostel warden will greatly improve the educational development of the children.
- Sponsored a child in the community's education for the following year. Her name is Ayushma Bista, (pictured below in the middle) she was in my class 3 English class and she is a hardworking young girl.

