



## What's going on, or not!

So here we are in early December yet again. Lots of things going on to tell you about. Though, to be honest we've been rather brought to a full stop since last Saturday by a large dose of the white fluffy stuff called SNOW.

Forget the IMF, there's nothing like snow, night-time temps heading for double digits below, and more of the same forecast to bring the whole place to a shuddering halt. Having said all that, read on for an update on the events that HAVE been happening, and we confidently predict we'll get everything back on track before that overweight guy with a white beard does his thing before the end of the month....

### **A news update from the 2010 AGM held on November 18th...**

The 2010 AGM was held in the clubhouse on Thursday November 18th and the usual stalwarts turned up on the night. After the 2009 minutes were read by Orla Devane and approved, incumbent president Aidan Corcoran delivered a review of the year. In his review Aidan touched on all of the different areas where the club has seen progress through the year under review.

On the junior front the coaching program has been a continuing success story and Aidan paid tribute to all those involved in supporting this, from Mark O'Neill and his assistant coaches through admin support and the Junior Committee itself. Moving on to the adult side there were notable successes during the year, with an especially strong ladies section meaning that we competed strongly in most DLTC leagues and also the Charity leagues. The mens league teams also competed well in a number of leagues and levels and Kieran Galvin's coaching had helped in all of the above, a welcome feature being the arrival and integration of some of the older Junior players into the adult ranks.

At a social level John Foley and others had been behind a number of very successful tennis events through the year and the highpoint of the social year had been the 25 year anniversary event in Summer (where all bar one of the presidents since the club's foundation had been able to attend).

Treasurer Cormac O'Reilly explained that in overall terms the club is financially strong and well positioned to hold its membership in the next few years, so in conclusion Aidan thanked all those, both visible and behind the scenes, who had contributed to this positive state of affairs.

## Committee News

At the AGM the current President Aidan Corcoran outlined a number of changes to the main committee.....

Siobhan O'Leary, Mike Mansfield and Rachel Moloney had all decided to retire and Aidan thanked all three for their contribution to the club and the committee during their tenure. In turn a number of people were joining the committee for the forthcoming year and Aidan announced that with those new arrivals the full committee for 2010-2011 would be as follows.....

Aidan Corcoran, Orla Devane, Cormac O'Reilly, Philip Hardy, Niamh O'Grady, Nuala O'Reilly, Flavio Cali, Veronica Donnelly, Susan Murphy and Karl Boos. All of these committee members were endorsed by the AGM and Aidan also explained that it was likely a few more people would be co-opted to the Committee over the next month or so.

Finally, in terms of officers of the club there was only one nomination for each of the three chief roles of President, Hon Secretary and Treasurer and in each case the person nominated was the current incumbent - respectively Aidan Corcoran (President), Orla Devane (Hon Secretary) and Cormac O'Reilly (Treasurer). Each was in turn endorsed in their role for the upcoming year by the AGM attendees. In addition to this Susan Murphy is the designated child protection officer on the committee. There being no other business the meeting concluded at that point.

A full membership of the Executive Committee, as well as a list of the members of both the Tennis Committee and the Junior Committee will be posted on the website shortly.

## Lets talk about presents....

As you may know if you ever pass through the inner sanctum of the Committee Room we have a great range of adult tennis apparel on sale and this can be ordered through Rachel Moloney, on 087 9893286. Prices start from €12 and hot items are the Gilet at €32 and the unisex navy hoodie at €28. The ideal gift for the man or woman in your life or, indeed, hang it, you owe it to yourself to treat yourself once in a while. Go for it

And if you are looking for Junior garments, well have you ever come to the right place! Junior sweatshirts and t-shirts are available to buy, with stock in all sizes. Sweatshirts are €25 and T-shirts are €7. To get that Junior kitted out to be the envy of their friends, contact Ruth at 087 2931556.

# Junior News starts here....

On a cool, dry and ghoulish Sunday at the end of October, RTC Junior Committee and their ever faithful helpers hosted a fun-filled, successful Halloween / tennis party. There were definitely some little goblins in action on the tennis courts that day, but thankfully there were no ill winds or curses bestowed on anyone apart from a few balls that were OUT!

The event started with the smaller members party and then continued into the afternoon with midi members followed finally by the 11 - 13 year olds. Staggering the party times proved a huge success helping with the flow of traffic and the re-setting of the tables in our function room.

Dara McLoughlin together with some of our teenage members co-ordinated and ran the tennis events, did a brilliant job and no doubt will be asked to do the same again! Thanks Coach Dara and all the supervisors. You can see some Halloweenesque photographs on the next page....

## NEXT UP - Weather permitting!

On Sunday, 12th December, RTC will host a Christmas Family Event, that will be graded / handicapped. Pre-registration will be required.

Mark O'Neill our Head junior coach will run the event on a time-sheet

- start times 2pm and 3pm,
- finals 4.15pm

Groups as follows:

- Parent (or older sibling) and under 7yrs
- Parent (or older sibling) and 7 - 11 yrs
- Parent (or older sibling) and 11yrs +

Entry fee €5 euro per person, prizes and refreshments afterwards.

Watch the notice board for sign-up sheet or register by e-mail with social committee members.

## NEW COACHING TERM

The time is looming when a new coaching term is already on the horizon and shall be upon us all too soon. The new term will start on January 17, 2010 and will be a 10 week term.

It is necessary to secure your coaching place by placing a deposit of €40 per class required or paying in full by December 10<sup>th</sup> 2010.

Please contact [dympnakyne@eircom.net](mailto:dympnakyne@eircom.net) or telephone Dympna on 087 9368853 for further coaching and term details.

# More Junior News and Pix

## ROUND ROBINS

Round Robin draws for the U10's are up on the junior notice board together with the rules/guidelines. There are plenty of matches to be played and the children have until end of February to play them.

Ladders are in the process of being drawn up for the U12, U14 & U17 age groups and they will be up in the club very shortly. Keep a sharp eye on the notice board. We would encourage all children to get involved.



**Coach Dara and most of the kids that were at the Halloween Camp**

**A few more lingering images on the next page.....**

# Yet more news

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In Junior League news it's all been quiet since around mid October. Our Boys U17 team made the quarterfinals of their league, as did our U14 Boys team. However both went out at that stage to strong teams from Greystones and Naas respectively. Well done to all concerned on getting so far down the road and we look forward to further successes in 2011.

## And back to some adult news and information.....

### LADIES MORNING DOUBLES TENNIS LADDER

A new Doubles Tennis Ladder will be set up for all Ladies Morning Players.

The Ladder will run for December/ January and will be used as a guide in the selection of Charity League Teams.

Players can select their own partners and can put their names on the Noticeboard in the Club.

If you do not have a partner the Tennis Committee will organize one for you.

### TURKEY TOURNAMENT Final Night AND CHRISTMAS MEAL

This is **still planned** for Friday December 10th but due to the recent snowstorms in the Rathgar area we may need to reschedule this. Current plan is to try to catch up the unplayed games early next week and a newsflash will issue shortly...Note that for a very reasonable €10 you will get two courses and a lot of socialising. Now we just have to confirm that date. Back soon!

# The way we were.....part 1

To mark the end of our 25th anniversary year, and thanks to the incredible filing capabilities of Brid and Billy Dunne, reproduced hereunder are some selected extracts from newsletters from the dawn of time. OK, 1985 and shortly thereafter. They are produced as verbatim extracts so don't blame the current editorial team. One observation - there seem to be a lot of things that have never changed, must be part of our DNA. Read on.....

**From the Christmas 1985 Newsletter.....YES 25 Years AGO!**

In the month of May this year Dublin Corporation, as represented by Miss Terry vaughan, approached Rathgar Residents Association with a suggestion that the residents of Rathgar might be interested in taking over and operating the Tennis Courts in Quarry Park and in developing them as a local amenity....A steering committee was set up and in May a public meeting was held at which over two hundred people attended.....Most difficulties were ironed out and at present we have a thriving club. In fact there is a waiting list for membership....Is this the end of a success story? In fact it is only a beginning. We have excellent modern tennis courts, a splendid membership with a really enthusiastic junior section, and a great courts' staff. What more could any club want?

The dark evenings would no longer be a barrier to Winter tennis if we could afford to have some of the courts floodlit. Perhaps this sounds ambitious for a new club, but what a great facility it would be, especially for the young adult members....

At this stage the committee members were Dermott Flynn (president), Ann Kerr, John McKiernan, Oliver Nugent, Fiona Lindsay, Dorothy McCauley, Joan Mulvihill, Gemma de Barra, Maureen O'Hara, Renee Lynch, Stephen Daly, Michael Egan, Sorhairle MacChongaile.

***Fast forward to Autumn 1986***

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Indoor American Tournament**

A special American Tournament for senior members of RTC will be held at the tennis complex, Kiltiernan Sports Hotel on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm. No children allowed. Tickets £5 to include entry to tournament, court fees and snack.

**News from the Courts 1986 season**

Rathgar Tennis Club has now completed it's record season of play. What the club lacks in facilities is made up for by the enthusiasm of it's members. Certainly the courts do not suffer from the 'under use' which was the reason put forward by Dublin Corporation when they first asked the people of Rathgar to form a club and take over the running of the then 'Quarry Courts'....Toward the end of the school year and as part of the Rathgar Festival an open tournament was organised by our court supervisors John, Paul and Willie for all the schools in the area, members or not. School children between the ages of 9 and 18 years took part, 140 in all... Oliver (Nugent) and John (McKiernan) are two core members of the club without whose commitment and hard work the club could not have functioned so successfully.

**Social Activities**

A big thank you for all your support in our social activities over the last 9 months. We started this year with a family treasure hunt which proved very popular and we hope to have another couple over the coming months. We followed this with a giant quiz and it was a challenging night for all who attended. The Garda Club in Harrington Street kindly gave us the hall for the night and they also gave us the use of Stackstown for our dance.

# The way we were, part deux .....

## Tennis reminder

We are now affiliated to the ILTA and are entitled to play in the leagues that they run, Winter and Summer. Those who have Class 5 or better standard and are interested in playing should get in touch with Anne McMahon and Dermot O'Rourke – by leaving a message for them up in the hut.

## Coaching

Coaching for seniors (beginners and improvers) ran throughout the Summer on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The sessions were run by coach Feargus Farrell. Junior coaching took place early in the Summer and the sessions were given by Pat McCrann.

## The Summer League – results

Men: Singles, winner Liam Nugent, runner up Dylan Todd

Men: Doubles, winners Ray Fearon/Neil Kelly, r/up Fergus Finch/Leon Flanagan

Ladies: Singles, winner Mandy Grieve, runner up Ann McMahon

Ladies: Doubles, winners Ann McMahon/Marianne King, r/up Mandy Grieve/Ann Kerr

Mixed Doubles: winners Marion Hefferon/Dermot O'Rourke, r/up Ann McMahon/John Fitzsimon

## Juniors:

Boys U12 Singles – Winner Darren McGill, R/up Raymond Nugent

Doubles: Winners Cillian Flynn/Darren McGill, r/up Raymond Nugent/Ian Gilmartin

Boys U16 – Winner Rory Breen, r/up Anthony O'Donoghue

Girls singles: Winner Deirdre O'Malley, r/up Karen Griffin

## *Fast forward to Summer 1987*

To all members – Now that the tennis season is again in full swing we are sending you an update of activities in our newsheet – but remember that notices concerning day to day goings on are always posted in 'the Hut'.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our Senior treasure hunt on Thursday July 9<sup>th</sup>....

## Club Championship week

Where were all your entry forms for the Club Championships? The response was so poor for what should have been the highlight of the Club year that we have decided to postpone the event and give you a second chance!

## American Tournaments

Senior members (over 16s). Every Tuesday at 7pm. Cost £1. Come 10-15 minutes before the start time to ensure entry

## League Results – The Mens Team

Having grown accustomed to defeat in our previous summer campaign the men's first victory over luckless Meadowvale this year was all the more relished. Alas it was to be the sole high point of their Summer League matches. Despair not, reader, rest easy in the knowledge that they were gracious in defeat. And who knows what next year may bring!

Rathgar 1 Ladies – did extremely well this year. Won four of their league matches and almost won the last one against Clontarf. This was a nailbiting marathon, which continued under lights until 10 minutes to midnight and needless to say there were some electric moments for the watching team members from both sides.....

Rathgar 2 Ladies – the track record of success for first time participants in the Summer League is not promising and, despite a zealous and enthusiastic approach, the Rathgar 2<sup>nd</sup> team did not prove the exception. The team thoroughly enjoyed the event which afforded an opportunity not only for match practice but for making contact with other clubs. Some enthusiasts are already challenging on the ladder to ensure a Winter League place!

**And FINALLY: One more shortish issue will be nestling in your inbox before Christmas (aagh, the C word). And remember, the snow will thaw eventually, it always does. Ciao.....**

# More Adult content.....

## Rathgar Tennis Club Senior Tennis Programme (Autumn/Winter 2010)

The tennis committee is delighted to announce the following upcoming events! **Lets face it - there has to be something in here for YOU.**

	Time	Name
Monday:	10am – 12noon	Ladies Charity League
	7.30pm – 9.30pm	Mens Floodlight League
Tuesday:	10am – 12 noon	Ladies Charity League
	7 – 8pm	Group Coaching Stroke Clinic
	8pm – 9pm	Social Tennis – Drop in Session
	9pm – 10.30pm	Circuit Tennis – League Players
Wed:	10am – 12 noon	Ladies Coffee Morning
	7pm – 8pm	Cardio Tennis
	8.30pm – 10pm	Ladies League Teams Club Night
Thursday:	9.30am – 10.30am	Cardio Tennis
	10.45am – 11.45am	Charity League Doubles Training
	8pm – 9pm	Teenage Tennis Night
	8.30pm – 10.30pm	Mens Progressive Doubles
Friday :	10am – 12noon	Ladies Charity Lge Dbls Training
	8pm – 10pm	Mixed Doubles Social Tournament (All Standards Welcome!)
Saturday:	2.30 pm – 4.30pm	ITN Assessments

**“More members hitting more balls!”**

**For info on any of the above, contact a Tennis Committee member or Kieran Galvin direct on 086-2100440**