

# The October 2010 Newsletter

## It's been a while....



Yes, yes, we know. It's been a while since we last wrote. In that space of time we had the Junior and Adult Club Championships, the end of the Senior League, the start of the Floodlit league, the imminent kicking off of Progressive Doubles, and a definite chill in the air (9 degrees in Highfield Rd at 9.30pm tonight). So a lot to catch up on. Read on for as many updates as we can cram into one bulging newsletter.....

### All the Adult Championships Results

Event	Pos.	Name
<b>Womens C Doubles</b>		
	1	Mary Hughes+Liz Sullivan
	2	Louise Haughey+Karen Lowe
<b>Womens C singles</b>		
	1	Louise Haughey
	2	Karen Lowe
<b>Mixed B Doubles</b>		
	1	Eddie O'Flanagan+Audrey Redmond
	2	Mike Sullivan+Liz Sullivan
<b>Womens B Doubles</b>		
	1	Joan Ennis+Rachel Moloney
	2	Eileen Giblin+Audrey Redmond
<b>Mens B Doubles</b>		
	1	Marco Mc Vey+Michael Meenaghan
	2	Peter Darley+Eddie O'Flanagan
<b>Womens B Singles</b>		
	1	Audrey Redmond
	2	Eileen Giblin
<b>Mens B Singles</b>		
	1	Marco Mc Vey
	2	Michael Meenaghan
<b>Mixed AD.oubles</b>		
	1	Mark O'Neill+Aoife Ryan
	2	John Mc Ardle+Caroline Mc Ardle
<b>Husband&amp;Wife</b>		
	1	Mick Mac Aree+Dympna Kyne
	2	John Mc Ardle+Caroline Mc Ardle
<b>Womens A Doubles</b>		
	1	Siobhan Kelly+Fiona Shackelton
	2	Claire Dempsey+Dympna Kyne
<b>Mens A Doubles</b>		
	1	Declan Harrington+Keith Lyons
	2	Tim Gleeson+Mark O'Neill
<b>Womens A Singles</b>		
	1	Claire Dempsey
	2	Joanne Casey
<b>Mens A Singles</b>		
	1	Ray Nugent
	2	Jason Twohig

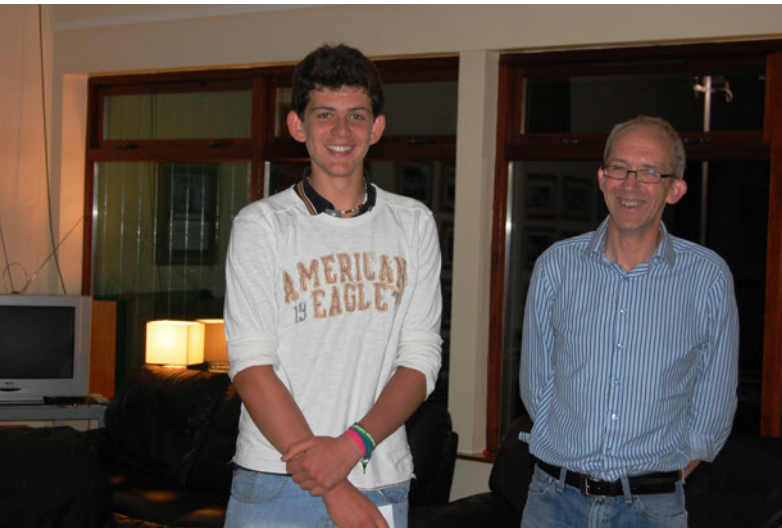


On Finals Night a GREAT turnout enjoyed the food, beverages and banter. And that was AFTER the Final Finals on court. A HUGE thanks to all front, rear and side of house staff and volunteers who ran a tight ship on all our behalf. You know who you are and so do we. Well done to one and all who contributed to a super event. Lets keep on rocking.....

# Smiley happy people



# All the prizewinners....



# Junior Championship Results

A long long time ago - actually it just seems that way - we had the Junior Championships take centre stage around the time the August became September. Happily in the main the event was blessed by clement weather, and a very good entry was seen for the various events. The sheer variety of competitions and age levels is evident from the range of results outlined below. Well done to all who participated, and to those who made it to the Finals day. And obviously a great vote of thanks is due to the organisers who put the whole event together and made sure that it ran to schedule. So to everyone,, take a bow!

One small point - it was great to see some of the participants in the Junior Championships then enter the Adult version a few weeks later, and that is one of the most heartening things of late, to see an element of continuity become evident in the club....Please keep it up.

## Junior Club Championship results 2010

**BGS U8** Round robin event - those who took part were:

**Eddie Barry, Aoife Kelly, David Blake, Katherine Kelly, Anna Clarke, Ailbhe McAree, Conal Cunningham, Harvey O'Donoghue, Samuel Czerniak, Matthew Sherwin**

**BGS U9** W: Ali McClean R/U: Molly McClean

**BGS U10** W: Cormac McAree R/U: Matthew Dillon

**BGD U10** W: Cormac McAree & Oscar Gleeson  
R/U: Molly McClean & Maria Blake

**BS U12** W: Brian Moran R/U Robert Moran

**BGD U12** W: Brian Moran & Robert Moran  
R/U: Aisling McAree & Kate Moore

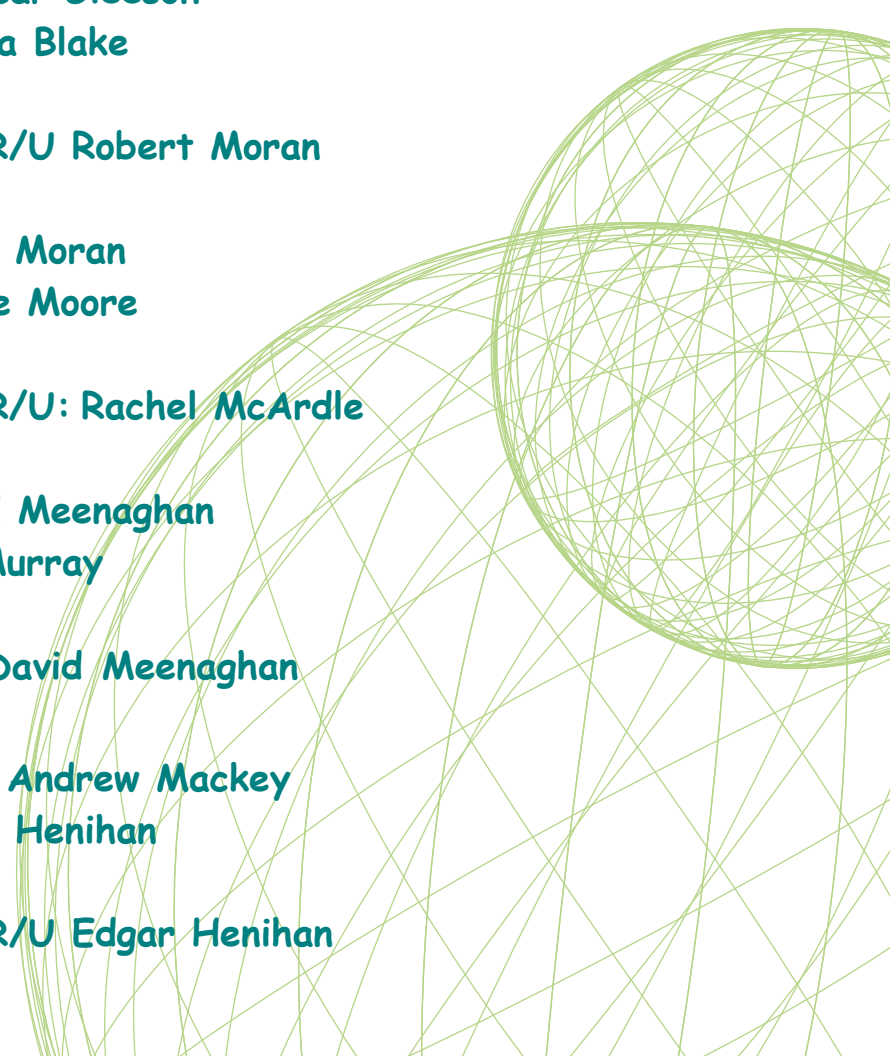
**GS U12** W: Kate Moore R/U: Rachel McArdle

**BGD U14** W: Marco McVey & David Meenaghan  
R/U: Sean Quinlan & Ben Murray

**BS U14** W: Marco McVey R/U: David Meenaghan

**BGD U17** W: Michael Meenaghan & Andrew Mackey  
R/U: Marco McVey & Edgar Henihan

**BGS U17** W: Michael Meenaghan R/U Edgar Henihan



# Junior Championships - More



Participants in the U9 round robin as part of the Junior Club Championships are Eddie Barry, Aoife Kelly, David Blake, Katherine Kelly, Anna Clarke, Ailbhe McAree, Conal Cunningham, Harvey O'Donoghue, Samuel Czerniak, and Matthew Sherwin



On the Left you can see the Under 8 winners who gave it their all during the Club Junior Championships. Well done to all who played....

# Junior News Updates

Well, following a long, hot summer it's hard to believe that October is upon us and the flood lights are starting to be used again. But have no fear, with the fading summer sun and fleeces at the ready - Rathgar T.C. Juniors are back in full force!

## Coaching

Rathgar Tennis Club is continuing its growth in popularity for junior coaching and this season we have approximately 300 kids in the coaching programme. This is a significant increase on last year and has meant the introduction of a new junior coach **Dara McLoughlin**, who lots of you will know by now. So, with Mark (Head junior coach), Morgan and Dara operating the junior programme would you believe there is **56** hours of junior coaching taking place each week.

## Social Tennis

Keep your eyes open for text messages and emails as a new calendar of events for social tennis is coming up soon. But for the moment keep **SAT OCT 30<sup>th</sup> (HALLOWEEN!!!!)** free for a fun afternoon of social tennis for all age groups. There will be fancy dress, spot prizes and lots and lots of fun!

## A few words from Head Junior Coach - Mark O'Neill

'Rathgar Tennis club in the past 2 years has been a relatively new Junior Programme and there has been much success in developing Junior tennis in lots of children, the standard in which they play and the quality of coaching they receive'.

'When the junior programme was growing, goals were set to eventually have children gain national and provincial invitations to take part in coaching with the best players in Irish tennis. It is a great honour for any junior to be invited to take part in this coaching as very few kids are considered out of hundreds of children from each county in Ireland'.

'Rathgar Tennis Club has the honour of having 2 of our young stars being chosen to take part in the Leinster U9's Tennis Squad and they started their coaching with Leinster in September.

'Ellie O'Reilly-O'Kane was a complete beginner when she started in our coaching programme just over two years ago. She first took part in Mini red classes, progressing quickly to orange classes where she took part in more coaching hours plus private coaching. I see great potential in Ellie, but not without the hard work she has put into her tennis. I feel that Ellie along with being talented above all loves tennis and it is this that has made her work hard and want to take part in tennis tournaments in Dublin and throughout Leinster, winning her first tournament at the U8's Open in Carrickmines this summer.

'Ali McClean also joined the Leinster U9's Tennis Squad this September. Ali has been in RTC since the new junior program started and Ali impressed me from day one. She was chosen early on from the Parks Tennis Program to train in Fitzwilliam with my old coach Owen Casey, so her talent was obvious from an early age. Ali is a hard worker and has won many matches, and this summer won the U9's Open in Greystones when she was still just seven years of age.

'I want to mention Morgan Dunne who has worked hard with both Ali and Ellie independently and continues to do a wonderful job coaching them and working on their techniques. Together with myself, and now with our new coach Dara no doubt they will both continue to excel'.

'Morgan, Dara and I, are very proud of all the juniors and these two young stars. Their success is down to a positive on court experience, good coaching and positive communication between coach, parent and player, but most of all their own hard work. In the coming months we will work hard to make sure all our juniors continue having fun on court, improve their game techniques and their love for tennis. I believe we have a great junior program where every child is given the chance to achieve maximum potential on the tennis court'.

By Mark O'Neill

# Junior News Updates cont'd

## League Teams

Rathgar entered 5 teams into the DLTC leagues - 2 U17 boys team, 1 U17 girls team, 2 U14 boys team and 1 U14 girl's team. All teams showed great commitment each week and did a fantastic job in representing the Club.

We have had some great results so far:

Boys U17 1st team are through to the playoffs having won all of their matches and with one match still to play, they are currently leading their section by 1 point and their match on Sunday 10th Oct against Sutton will decide who tops the section. Well done to team members Todd Harrison (Capt), Michael Meenaghan, Edgar Henihan and Rory Devitt and the very best of luck in the playoffs.

Boys U14 1st team are currently 2nd in their section with only one more match to play and will definitely go through to the playoffs. Another great result for RTC. Congratulations to Sean Quinlan, Ben Murray, Jake Moore, Oisin Farrell (Capt), Fergal Moran and Jack Gleeson. (Sub - Ben Cowan)

The girls U14 girls team are all only aged 10/11 so they have 3 more years at this age level. They are brave and competitive to play at such an older age group and should be commended for doing so. Very well done girls! Ailsing McAree (Capt.), Ael O'Flynn, Sinead Kieran, Dearbhla Quinlan, Rachel Finnerty and Rachel McArdle.

So here endeth the Junior news for this month - in the next issue we hope to report on social tennis, more league news and images of our Halloween party. In the meantime get back to your tennis rhythm and most of all ENJOY!



On the LHS are Ali and Ellie at the Leinster Junior Camp, evidently having a terrible time and missing their friends in Rathgar. Or maybe not...



Molly and Ali on Finals Day

# And on the Adult front.....

On the League front no sooner does one League start than, you guessed it, another one begins. So the next time you see Rafa or Roger whining about the number of games they have to play, well we can empathise. And guess what, they dont have to find the courts in Swords that turn out to be tarmac (with gigantic bounces) under their own steam on a Sunday morning in late September. But hey, there's no-one forcing us to do it.....

On the league front hard luck to the Mens 2nd O-35 team who went down narrowly in the playoffs to the home club in Swords just over a week ago. It was a close run thing but in the end the 12 ft bounces just got the better of us, sorry, them. Its crowded in here.

At the time of going to press it's week 2 of the Floodlit league, which is held during the week to ensure that while you can enjoy the Sunday roast en famille you get the indigestion from the awful traffic as you try to make a weeknight deadline or forfeit the game. Swings and roundabouts people....We have two teams in both the mens and ladies Floodlit leagues and we hope that the innate ability wins out over the Traffic jitters. Good luck to all concerned, and remember we always need subs for this one, so answer the call if called. Please.

**Next, some news for all Ladies League Players.**

## **Coaching for Ladies League Players**

The coaching for ladies league players begins next Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at 8.30pm, where Kieran and Mark will each week go through doubles techniques. Players are not required to be in their pairs for coaching, just turn up and pay the coaching fee €40 for 7 weeks..

## **Ladies Doubles Ladder**

The tennis committee is also running a ladies doubles ladder for the next 8 weeks, a text went out in the past few days in this regard. Partners are required to give their names to Kieran Galvin and a ladder will be set up for Wednesday. Players can play their match on Weds after the coaching or at a time agreeable to both pairings. Rules will be posted on notice board. The ladder will be used to assist the tennis committee in the picking of Winter League teams. Players who have not got a partner will be matched with others at their level.

**Next, if you are a little bit less competitive.....check out**

## **A. Beginners Coaching**

Just joined the club and not feeling very confident about your game? This session is ideal for players who are just getting introduced to the game and who are struggling to serve, rally and score from full court. Get the basics and develop your technique and tactics with other beginners. These sessions offer coaching and match practice.

Started on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 11.45 am but places still available going forward...

## **B Social Tennis**

Interested in playing more tennis but finding it difficult to fit a game in your busy schedule? Why not join us for organized doubles match play on Tuesday nights at 8pm. Social Tennis is a great way to meet other members, and find new friends and opponents to play. Cost €10. This started Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October but places are still available . For both of the above Contact Kieran Galvin 086 2100440

You can see an exhaustive and exhausting list of upcoming Adult Tennis events on the following page. The bottom line. There's absolutely no excuse for slumping on that couch. There's a myriad of events on offer, so get organised and take advantage.....

# 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**

# The very last word.

## Charity League October// November 2010

We have six teams entered into this years league. This is the highest number in years, thanks to all the new members to our Wednesday ladies morning. So we must be doing something right! League class ranges from improvers to class 4 & 5. All teams have commenced a coaching programe with Kieran and we are hopeful that we will have success throughout the league. We wish all players taking part success and enjoyment over the next few weeks. Lets make it a year to remember for RTC in this much-loved event.

## A Very Good Cause

The **St Vincent de Paul D Day (Donate Day. Don't Dump)** for Vincent de Paul's Rathmines Branch is on Thursday 14th October (12-7 pm). **Rathgar Tennis Clubs support last year was fantastic and much appreciated.**

As you all know times are very tough and we urgently need donations. All we ask is that each member of the club donate one good piece of clothing, Men's Women's or Children's, or shoes, handbags, jewellery, belts, household items, **the only thing we cant accept is electrical goods.** We all have something in our wardrobes or in our homes that we haven't worn or used (Unwanted gifts). The good news is that by donating one item you can help those in need.

**Please leave your item in the reception area in the club no later than next Monday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2010. If you have any queries please contact Catherine O'Dowd at 0872384762**

Ane remember, it's genuinely about donating and NOT dumping. Please respect this basic idea. Thanks.

## Everything else

Well you may have seen the cherry picker parked this week on the Front Courts as we try to improve the light quality on the 'show courts'. The good news is that by polishing the lenses and replacing the occasional defunct bulb we have pushed the light rating up by 30%. We may need a different strategy long term, but as quick fixes go it's not to be sneezed at. In general we're pleased to say that the courts are now well maintained, and we hope to get a light onto the practice wall shortly so that you can work on that backhand into the wee hours.

The AGM of the Club is set for the night of Thursday November 18th and we'll remind you about that again as the date gets closer. Please do turn out and give your committee the support that they deserve on the night.

Last but not least we'll probably close a bit early on Halloween night to avoid an invasion of ghouls, goblins and crazed invaders of a more terrestrial nature. And that's about it for now. Nothing left to do except get out there and whack that yellow ball. We'll see you on court shortly we hope....