

VOLUME 4, NUMBER THREE AUGUST 1988

# CANOE Slalom

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MAGAZINE



BRITISH WINNERS AT THE JUNIOR WORLDS  
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# CANOE slalom

1 Barnacre View, Highstreet, Garstang, Preston.  
 EDITOR: JOE LYONS  
 FEATURES: RICHARD FOX

The official magazine of the B.C.U. Slalom Executive,  
 45/47 High Street, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey. KT15 1JV

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily  
 those of the Editor or of the Slalom Executive.

### SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions may be obtained at £6.00 for 6 issues post  
 paid from Slalom Magazine, 1 Barnacre View, High St.,  
 Garstang, Preston.  
 Special rates for overseas readers.

### ADVERTISING

Rates for the next issue are available from the Editor -  
 Telephone 021 454 5690

### COPY

Copy for next issue to editor by 21st August, 1988.

Front Cover: Gareth Marriot, Youth Worlds Gold  
 Photo: P. Astles

## Special Features

- **Daily Express  
National U14**  
Ray Croft 7
- **The Savage  
Pre-Worlds**  
Alan Edge 8
- **Worms Eye View**  
Gareth Marriot 10

## Next Issue

- **The Junior Worlds**
- **Europa Cup**

## Regular Features

- |                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| CURRENT AFFAIRS | 3  |
| BACK ROOM BOYS  | 15 |
| READERS LETTERS | 17 |
| ALAN'S ANSWERS  | 19 |
| WHICH SLALOM    | 22 |
| RESULTS         | 23 |



JUNIOR TEAM

## EDITORIAL

### BRAVO!

There is no doubt that at the moment we are top dog in the Slalom World. The bags of medals that we are bringing back from abroad is almost embarrassing! Mind you we haven't got them all yet . . . but we are working on it.

The recent successes in the Pre-Worlds, the Junior Worlds and the World Cup Series are a credit to the determination of our paddlers and the dedication of the coaches and the team managers. It is also not only those who come in the top three medalists who are to be congratulated. There are those who are working their way up, often competing on the biggest water that they have ever seen, yet still beating many world class paddlers. WELL DONE!

### Under - 16 Selection

With one notable exception team selections has all been agreed as per the AGM. The Under-16 selection was for a squad not a team so it was able to get around the rule of no discretionary places. Sneaky but valid for that group. So does it use its power to pick the fastest risers in the

group? Like heck it does. It basically picks the top 8 fastest Div. 1's from the first selection events and the top 4 Div. 2 from the HP event. Little can be said about those selected without upsetting individuals now in the group, which won't help. However, did the selection committee have sufficient background information to make a fair discretionary decision? In fact did they even have a list of the paddlers up for selection at the HP event and did they then watch them all (or even at all??) Actually I suspect that they tried their best with what they had but blew it (yet again). In future lets take the opportunity of discretion to pick the best we can based on performance over the whole year as originally intended, not just one event. Perhaps a system based on also considering results throughout the season, considering factors such as rate of promotion, speed and penalties as separate items would be better. Without this information discretionary selection is not possible but where is it all to come from and who is going to do all the work involved?



ELIZABETH SHARMAN — WINNER OF THE SAVAGE RIVER

## CURRENT AFFAIRS

### New K1 Men Div. 2 Bib Issuer -

Mrs.N.Croft,  
45, Fareham Way,  
Houghton Regis,  
Dunstable.  
LU5 5ER

### Friendly Fishermen

The Dee Users Committee has been working closely with the Llangollen Anglers on joint use of the River Dee to the mutual benefit of both parties. It is to be hoped that the Militant Minority on either front don't wreck what can only be to the advantage of the serious canoeist in the long run.

### Casanova Coach

As first indicated in our February issue a certain member of our coaching staff had romantic interests behind the Iron Curtain. Well, no secret any more as Alan Edge is to wed attractive Marketa, a Prague dentistess in October this year. Unfortunately the wedding is in Prague and my invitation does not include a ticket . . . any offers?

### Finger Torn Off

An unpleasant accident occurred at an event in S.Wales recently when an unfortunate competitor lost a finger in the end loop of a boat. It is not clear whether it was his own boat or a rescuers. One thing is clear to me, however and that is I would not dream of sticking my hand through the loop on a boat, although the requirement is that the loop be large enough so to do. I also would not recommend getting between the end of a boat and passing rocks despite the new end dimensions; keeping it over the shoulder seems the best bet.

### Parr for a New Course?

Dr. George Parr, consultant on design at Holme Pierrepont, was seen examining a stretch of white water in N.Wales last month. Does this mean that plans are afoot for a development there - or is he taking up angling?

### Pool Slalom

Help is urgently required with the organisation of the National Pool Slalom, both for a long term organiser and an immediate clerical/photocopying helper in the Bristol area for the current organiser, A.Longrigg, who has done a sterling job for some years.

## SENIOR GATE JUDGE EXAM AT LAST

The senior gate judges exam is to be held in the Foreman Hardy Lounge, National White Water Centre, Nottingham at 10.00 on Sat 10th September 1988.

Application by Thursday August 11th 1988, enclosing a cheque or P.O. for £5.00 (made payable to the BCU Slalom Executive) and an s.a.e. to:-

Senior Judge Exam Co-ordinator,  
10 Market Hill,  
Southam,  
Warwickshire, CV33 0HE

Candidates will be required to bring to the exam their Judges Card filled in for at least 5 judging events.

NEXT EXAM EARLY 1988

— STOP PRESS —

Liz Sharman has made the Olympic Team in a sprint boat. Is there no end to that girl's talent?

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## CONTRIBUTIONS

WANT TO SEE YOUR NAME IN PRINT OR YOUR PHOTO ON THE FRONT COVER IN GLORIOUS BLACK AND WHITE?

Your chances of doing either of these is much greater if we actually receive the information or a picture of you!!

### THE PROCEEDURE:

*Photographs:* Black and white please (these can easily be some from a colour negative). At least 5x7 and preferably 8x10. Enclose an SAE if you wish them to be returned (this may take time)

*Copy:* Any written material such as:-

Letters to the editor,  
Articles,

Letters to 'Alan's Answers' (he's getting rather annoyed at your lack of response)

Event reviews with results (we know that you all go to them!)

It would be nice if they were typed but legible writing is OK (not having a typewriter is definitely *not* an excuse for not writing!)

Of course if you DO have access to a word processor one copy 75 column double spaced and one 50 column single space would be the all-carbon job!

### **\*\*Special Request\*\***

*We would like letters/short articles from non-paddling parents who coach their own children giving an idea of how they started, what they do, the good and the bad etc., etc.*

Address to send them to:-

'Slalom Magazine'  
1 Barnacre View.  
High Street  
Garstang.  
Preston  
PR3 1EB

or Assistant Editor  
'Slalom Magazine'  
23 Manor Road  
Hastings  
East Sussex  
TN34 3LL

Fax No. 0424 722 387

Coming soon - ELECTRONIC MAILBOX via MICRONET DIRECT COMPUTER LINK to THE EDITOR (Lucky you!)

### Quoteable Quotes

#### 1) Regarding the value of a pre-run mental rehearsal:

At a recent Holme Pierrepont Div 2, a gate which has always been a breakout for as long as anyone (?) can remember, was for once a downstream gate. As a young paddler made a gracefull cross and bow rudder below and into the gate line he was heard to shout 'Oh God - it's GREEN!'

His post-run review with his coach was pretty physical.

2) **At Hambleton one year**, it rained, and rained, and the organisers suffered severe sense of humour failure (a couple of times). One member of the host club was heard to comment 'Next year we'd better have a word with God about the weather and if that doesn't work we'll have to put it to a full meeting of the Slalom Exec.!''

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\* Patent applied for.



THE SORCERER AND HIS APPRENTICE  
Photo: G.D.N.



## Daily Express - National Under 14 Slalom Championships

### Redlocks, Newbury 30th May 1988

Once a year all the under 14 paddlers, be they novice or Div. 1, are equals when the starter calls 3-2-1-GO!!

Redlocks, Newbury has become the home of the championships and is a splendid site with a large camping area, beautiful surroundings and good local facilities. The course starts with a few crosses below a small weir and then winds its way down a swift but gentle moving river. Many trees overhang the banks which are home to a wide variety of wildlife, who take their annual holiday this weekend!

The event is a meeting of old friends, some you left behind at your last promotion, some waiting for you to catch them up in the higher divisions. Our regular friends the wind and rain put in an appearance, but enough sun got through to keep spirits high.

13 girls and 35 boys took part; this was a bit down on last year (20 girls and 42 boys) but the standard of the paddlers was higher overall. Last year the highest ranking boys were in Div. 2, this year there were 3 Div. 1 boys and 3 Div. 1 girls. This shows how well you youngsters are doing and promises well for the future of the sport.

The course was very well designed, offering a good technical challenge for the higher divisions, but still interesting and achievable for the up and coming paddlers - hardly any 50's all day!!

Richard Fox came to present the prizes; Miriam Jerusalmi joined him on the demonstration runs and kept him away from the excellent beefburgers (champions have a strict diet - it comes with the job). Despite a prior arrangement with the judges, no-one gave Richard a 50, but he didn't do gate 2 forward down on his practice run! There's hope for us all yet!!

Good organisation was the order of the day. Runtimes were instantly shown on an electronic display board on top of the control caravan, and a full computer results service was running. Judging was done by Div. 1/Prem style (gate judges and section judges) and the pre-start was a delight to watch. All competitors, from novice to Div. 1 were helped down the river bank with

their boat and paddle, had their boat steadied as they got on the water, their deck fitted and helmet checked. It was nice to see this sort of care being taken, even the older lads were good sports and accepted the help with a smile.

It was a friendly and well run event, many thanks to Dick Kerswell and his team for a great days competition.

Now the important bit - the results.

#### Boys

First	Leo Hoare (P & H)
Second	Ben Gray (Warren)
Third	James Croft (Stevenage)
Best U-13	Robert Ledger (Staff & Stone)
Best U-12	Mark Ratcliffe (Manchester)
Best U-11	Toby Pearn (Chester)
Best U-10	Robert Leech (Winchester)

#### Girls

First	Rachel Docherty (AAAA)
Second	Corrie Johnstone (Newbury)
Third	Ann Stobbart (AAAA)
Best U-13	Alison Kewell (Winchester)
Best U-12	Clare Fox (BADCC)
Best U-10	Helen Platts (Midland)

Thanks to the Daily Express, canoeing suppliers and local firms who sponsored the event and provided the excellent prizes.

So young paddlers - lets see more of you next year when this years' winners aren't under 14 any more, and the field opens up again.

Remember, prizes are also awarded to the best boys and girls aged under 13, 12, 11 and 10 years old, and I'll add a best under 9 prize next year for anyone who wants to go for it! Read Alan Edge's book, 'Slalom Canoeing - an Introduction', get some gate practice and we'll see you all in 1989. Good paddling!

Ray Croft.



LEO HOARE & RACHEL DOCHERTY — THE WINNERS

## THE SAVAGE PRE-WORLDS 1988

otherwise known as....

### 'THE MARYLAND CLASSIC'

by Alan Edge

Temperatures of over 90 degrees F. greeted the GB Team as they stepped off the plane in Washington and these were to persist (give or take 10 degrees!) for the whole of the trip. America was in the grip of one of the worst droughts on record - thank goodness the Savage was dam-controlled! On the days we hit 100 degrees it was like being in a hot oven with your thermals on!

The river was superb -one of the best slalom rapids I've seen. Its a bit like a narrow version of Grandtully with plenty of water. Very similar in character to the European sites of Merano and Mezzana. You don't get 'flake' results on this type of water - its tough physically and technically - Whoever wins the Worlds next year will be THE BEST.....

The race level of 1000 c.f.s was limited to just 2½ hours a day for practice - not due to lack of water but, yes, you guessed it - the fish. Apparently if the level of the dam gets too low the temperature rises and the fish die. A 'fish census' was going to be held after these championships to see if it was all hogwash. Watch these pages for exclusive news....

As expected the Americans had done a typically efficient marketing exercise on the whole event. The organisers (Whitewater Inc.!) could teach us a thing or two about how to promote and package an event to the media and public. The 'Maryland Classic' had constant coverage on the local radio and in the press for several weeks up to the event and TV coverage on the day. EVERYONE in the area knew it, even the speed cops were sympathetic....

The course was a good one - designed by Ex-pat Brit Dave Mitchell who dominated MK1 slalom in GB during the 60's - and it brought out the very best from our paddlers. Richard Fox won MK1 with a blistering clear 1st run 3 seconds up on everyone - he seems to be as fit and hungry this year as I've ever seen him. The silver medal went to Melvyn Jones 2 seconds ahead of Brissaud in 3rd. With this brilliant career-best performance he joins a very select group of paddlers who have medalled in MK1 at World level. It should do wonders for his confidence in Europa Cup and for the Worlds next year. Ian Raspin paddled superbly on the difficult sections but an unlucky blade-trip at gate 6 pushed him into 13th place. Russ Smith put in an over-safe

first run and just pushed too hard on his second, missing the tricky gate 8 and ending up 21st.



LADIES MEDALLISTS

Any doubts that people had over Liz Sharman spending too much time in a 'long pointy boat' were unfounded. Her 2nd run was fast enough to win even with a disputed touch on gate 1. Liz's reserve power on the tough sequence 22-25 proved a decisive factor. In this form she looks unbeatable next year. Sylvie Arnaud of France put in a surprise clear to take the silver with our own Karen Davies placing a superb 3rd, just 6 secs down. Karen had been steadily improving since her senior debut in 1984 and thoroughly deserves her first individual medal at World level. She had to be a strong medal prospect for next year. Rachel Fox in her first Senior event had problems on both runs but finished a presentable 20th.

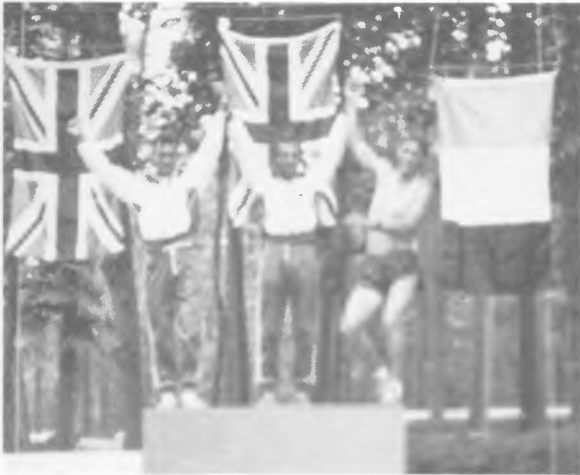
In Canadians we had a somewhat depleted team due to time and work commitments. In C1 the big three of Lugbill, Hearn and Prentice produced a clean sweep for USA - awesome! As one newsman described them. Mark Delaney showed that he is finding the speed to place at this level but 2 fives on relatively easy gates pushed him from 5th to 13th.

In C2 the young French crew Daille/Lelievre just pipped the US boat of Macewan/Haller and the favourites Saidi/Daval. For GB Clive Richardson/Colin Thompsom had their best result to date placing 9th. Once again it was penalties that denied them 6th place. Alan Meikle/Colin Brown for once did not produce it on the day making costly time mistakes on each run which pushed them down to 13th place.

Its a fact of life for GB C2 crews that they will probably never be in the ideal situation to train as the French or Czechs do. All they can do is to make the best of their situations and above all BE PATIENT. There's no way that 'real' success

can happen quicker than it can in a single boat. Over the past few years we seem to have had too many crews who expected it to happen overnight and who refused to work at it. Meikle/Brown and Richardson/Thompson are both crews who seem prepared to stay together long enough to be serious....

In the Team Events the defending K1 World Champions Fox/Jones/Smith were in excellent form to retain their No. 1 spot. After his disappointments of the previous day Russ Smith did a great job with 2 clear runs. LK1 team of Sherman/Davies/Fox were beaten into 2nd place by the French World Champions. Rachel Fox getting her first taste of team paddling at this level kept good control under extreme pressure and deserved her first Senior medal.



MENS MEDALLISTS

All in all a very successful trip — 6 medals and a great deal learnt for next year by paddlers, coaches and managers alike. Thanks must go to John Gosling, Team Manager and to coaches, Hugh Mantle and George Radford. They all did a superb job. Despite what some people might think its no holiday - but they use their own holiday time to do it!

## WHAT OFFICIALS' COMPETITION?

— or how to blow £100!

That was the question asked recently when I was talking to an organiser.

As part of the Gate Judges' Incentive Scheme, a competition was proposed, and accepted, at the AGM for all paddlers competing in the Officials'

Events at ranking slaloms. Broadly speaking, the aim is to reward those paddlers who regularly help out by judging, or carrying out other duties to the satisfaction of the organiser. Even non-paddlers can accumulate points toward the end of season score. Without going into too much detail here I would point out that the competition and its rules are fully detailed on page 26 of the 1988 Slalom Yearbook. Remember, this competitions is running in addition to the Prize Draw which is held at the end of season.

Now that the competition has been running for a few months I feel that it is appropriate to note that I am experiencing one of two problems in collating the points.

The main problem is being caused by the Entry Cards not being completed properly. If we can't identify you, or don't know which Division you are in, we can't award you any points, also, this is true for the Prize Draw; if we don't know who you are, you could miss out on a hundred pounds.

Another big problem for me is where the Organiser doesn't put the points awarded on the card. In a number of cases I have been able to calculate them myself when the Division has been recorded on the Results sheet, but for a number of events I have had no option but to send the cards back to the Organiser in the hope that he or she can enter the information. However, if the cards haven't been filled out properly, the Organiser doesn't have much more chance that I do of entering the points on the card.

At one or two of the more popular events so far this season, the entry in Division B has been so large that the point count has dropped below twenty-five. As I believe it would be most unfair for a paddling official to receive fewer points than a non-paddling official, I have decided that no paddler shall receive less than twenty-five points.

Finally - Qualified Gate Judge No. 38, Anthony E. Hartley - where are you? Letters which have been sent to you have been returned marked 'Gone Away', BCU Headquarters tell me that your copy of Canoe Focus also has been returned. Please, would all qualified judges let me know when they move, otherwise we are unable to invite you to judge at the 'prestige' events.

Peter Denton

# WORMS EYE VIEW

Gareth Marriott

Two years on from the first ever Junior Worlds in Spittal, Austria, the British Junior team arrive at Seu d'Urgell, Spain, for the 2nd Junior Worlds. At Spittal the only medal was a Ladies Kayak bronze. This time I intended things to be different.

After arriving at Seu, to find that our hotel rooms had been let out, and we had nowhere to sleep, (a mistake by the Spanish hotelier!) we settled into a nearby college with the French. The building turned out to be one of the most secure in Spain — which was alright until you want to go paddling at 7.00 a.m. and the minibus is locked into the compound!

Shortage of water is the biggest problem with Seu — just 4 hours a day at race level. This meant sharing water with 4 other nations — Swiss, Swedish, Belgian and Finnish — luckily they had small teams.

All of a sudden its Friday, the course is up, the water is on and its time for the forerunners to try it out. Such famous names as Berndt Deppe, Norbert Sattler and Bruce Lessels try and show us how its done — though even they make mistakes.

Saturday dawns, and in the cool of the early morning we try to eat a normal breakfast. Its hard to eat when your mind is on the day ahead, but its even harder when they give you cold toast which breaks your teeth, and biscuits. The first bus leaves for the site, with C1s and Ladies and a police escort to zoom us along the winding

mountain road as fast as Roger dared (not so very fast in a transit loaded with boats and bodies).

The race begins — or does it? The first few ladies come down, then there is a long delay, half an hour in fact! This means everybody, bar me, sitting in the sun, waiting. I was getting in on the opposite banks to everyone else, about 500m upstream. Having been to Seu before I'd found a good place to warm up, as just above the start is too shallow. Suddenly 51 Richard Gomer GB is on the line, then 54 Mike Wharton, then its me No. 56, ready to race. The course was quite tricky with a double upstream move on the main drop. I manage to mess up one on each run, but with 217 clear I'm well in the lead after 1st runs. The American threat, Adam Clawson had a 50 + 20 to push him well down.

2nd runs and off we go again. I mess up the drop and get 10 penalties (personally I thought only a 5! but the judge is always right!!) Clawson crosses the line behind me and the Americans go wild.

Oh...!! he must have been faster than my first run. This is when you think "I've lost" — the uncertainty of not knowing the other guys score is crippling. As it turns out he is 2 seconds slower and with a 5. But the last man has yet to finish — it isn't over yet. No 60 Michael Duetsch from West Germany comes down in 219 + 5 and sneaks in front of Clawson to take silver by a couple of 10ths.

- |                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| 1. Gareth Marriott  | GBR |
| 2. Michael Duetsch  | FRG |
| 3. Adam Clawson     | USA |
| 4. Bostjan Zitrik   | YUG |
| 5. Emmanuel Brugwin | FRA |
| 7. Mike Wharton     | GBR |

Note the various countries

Lets party — time to celebrate — a bottle of Champagne or two. The celebrations go on into Sunday morning and the C1s uphold the Anglo French connection started by Mr. Fox in the last couple of years — we have a reputation to keep up you know.

G.M.



RUSS SMITH



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## Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham

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RICHARD FOX

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**2 × European Champion Elizabeth Sharman defends her title**



RUSS SMITH



M. DELANEY

**Program  
from 8th to 14th August**

- 8 & 9 August International slalom training  
(nation's schedules will be posted)
- 10 August **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE INTERNATIONAL**  
from 12 noon
- 11 August International slalom training for  
Opening Ceremony for competition
- 12 August 12.00 hours — Course opened  
13.00 hours — Course approved  
14.00 hours — Official non-start
- 13 August **EUROPA CUP SLALOM**  
First runs 09.15 hours  
Second runs 12.30 hours  
PRIZE GIVING — 16.15 hours  
(only the best run counts)
- 14 August **ROBIN HOOD AND MAID MERE**  
First runs 10.00 hours  
Second runs 13.00 hours  
Prize Giving 17.00 hours



DAVY HEARN U.S.A.



LUBOS HILGERT



M. DELANEY

GARETH MARRIOTT

## Programme from 8th to 14th August inclusive

- 8 & 9 August International slalom training  
(nation's schedules will be posted at Information Point)
- 10 August **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE INTERNATIONAL RAPID RACING COMPETITION**  
from 12 noon
- 11 August International slalom training followed by —  
Opening Ceremony for competitors at County Hall
- 12 August 12.00 hours — Course opened by 'Forerunners'  
13.00 hours — Course approval  
14.00 hours — Official non-stop practice — 1 run per competitor
- 13 August **EUROPA CUP SLALOM**  
First runs 09.15 hours  
Second runs 12.30 hours  
PRIZE GIVING — 16.15 hours  
(only the best run counts)
- 14 August **ROBIN HOOD AND MAID MARIAN CHALLENGE**  
First runs 10.00 hours  
Second runs 13.00 hours  
Prize Giving 17.00 hours



MELVYN JONES



**Programme**  
**from August inclusive**

ing  
(posted at Information Point)

**INTERNATIONAL RAPID RACING COMPETITION**

ing followed by —  
competitors at County Hall  
ened by 'Forerunners'  
proval  
n-stop practice — 1 run per competitor

ours

**AND MARIAN CHALLENGE**



MARTYN HEDGES



MELVYN JONES





ON THE COURSE



LIZ SHARMAN

### BRITISH ROLE OF HONOUR 1977 - 1987

Year	Event	Result	
1977	World Championships	World Champion	Albert Kerr
1979	World Championships	Team World Champions	Kerr/Fox/Edge
		Silver Medal	Liz Sharman
		Bronze Medal	Richard Fox
1980	European Championships	European Champion	Martyn Hedges
		Silver Medal	Richard Fox
		Silver Medal	Liz Sharman
1981	World Championships	World Champion	Richard Fox
		Team World Champions	Fox/Kerr/Wain
		Team World Champions	Young/Munro:
			Joce/Owen:
			Jamieson/Williams
			Sharman/Roderick/Small
1982	European Championships	Team Silver Medal	Richard Fox
		European Champion	Liz Sharman
		European Champion	Martyn Hedges
		4th place but best in Europe	
1983	World Championships	World Champion	Richard Fox
		World Champion	Liz Sharman
		Silver Medal	Jane Roderick
		Team World Champions	Fox/McConky/Dolan
		Team Silver Medal	Sharman/Roderick/Garriock
		Team Bronze	Hedges/Keane/Taylor
		Team Bronze	Jamieson/Williams:
			Smith/Smith:
			Joce/Owen
1984	European Championships	European Champion	Richard Fox
		Silver Medal	Liz Sharman
1985	World Championships	World Champion	Richard Fox
		Bronze Medal	Liz Sharman
		Bronze Medal	Martyn Hedges
		Bronze Team Medal	Sharman/Allan/Davies
1986	European Championships	European Champion	Richard Fox
		European Champion	Elizabeth Sharman
1987	World Championships	World Champion	Liz Sharman
		Team World Champion	Fox/Smith/Jones



THE BRITISH TEAM 1988



FOX/SMITH/JONES — 1987 WORLD CHAMPIONS

# THE BACK ROOM BOYS

## This Month — Colin Manton

It all began over training and those arduous hours of gruelling and sometimes boring paddle strokes when Colin Manton entered races that were measured in half hours on the water and not half minutes down the slalom course. One day Colin switched from long distance racing to slalom and neither he nor the sport has been the same since!

In those halcyon days of the late fifties only a few nutters like Dave Mitchell took slalom seriously, for the rest it was a doddle with emphasis on paddler rather than parent participation. On the day of the slalom the competitors would roll up in the morning, eventually the course would go up, a practice run would be held and then the event with competitors staying on to pack up.

Colin enjoyed those slalom days so much he felt he wished to put something back into his sport. Organisation was creeping in; Roger Hardy had originated the 'Results Card' and was already into telephones and building our very first equipment. Nothing was purpose built and there was not much to be bought on the market so ex-government headsets were used. 'Tutti' was a term generated by Roger from the Timer itself. After these initial years Colin, an electronics engineer gradually took over from Roger Hardy. It was a never ending battle, time had to be spent on repairs as well as organising the collection and delivery of equipment.

Times have changed. Colin no longer plays with cast off telephones, he's working on custom printed circuits, and into the computer world that some understand better than their car engines and others even less so. Writing programmes for your computer is one thing but Colin, hidden away in the depths of his Coventry house, is designing those complicated circuits, that microscopic jumble of wires that sits inside the Timer. In other words Colin is involved with the design and manufacture of our timing equipment and is asking for a budget of thousands of pounds to spend on it.

It is not surprising that he rarely has time for a paddle these days, not even with Janet, in a double canoe on their wedding anniversary! Janet is more than tolerant and understanding of Colin's involvement in the sport, she is steeped in technology herself and can, when given the

opportunity, talk electronic jargon down the telephone and is irritated when the world at large assumes that she only understands about knitting with wool and not working with wires!

To-day Colin has been joined by a team which organises "Timing and Communications Equipment" and, together with Rod Gordon he has installed the cables for the Europa Cup. These men are professionals, they no longer roll up on the day for important events; the basic timing equipment for the Europa Cup was laid by the middle of June. It has to be right, it has to be perfect and it has to be tested.

There is satisfaction — being around and involved means that he is there, ready to meet old friends when they drop by to see a slalom and Colin knows that he is doing his bit for sport. There is also the frustration of those endless meetings which he feels should always be old palaver fashion, not under a banyan tree but under a suspended canoe.

For time, expertise and vision — thank you Colin.



COLIN MANTON

# New World Cup Series or The World Ranking List - Richard Takes the Lead!

The new World Cup Demonstration Series has got off to a rousing start with the 4 events in the Americas. Seven events make up the series with points - ranking positions being awarded to the winners. Summary so far, below:-

RIVER WAUSAU - WISCONSIN, USA - WORLD CUP I June 15/19

		Seconds	Total
<b>Men's Kayak</b>			
1.	Richard Fox	Great Britain	178.07 25 pts
2.	Laurent Brissaud	France	179.00 20 pts
3.	Richard Weiss	USA	188.67 15 pts
13.	Russ Smith	Great Britain	3 pts
<b>Ladies' Kayak</b>			
1.	Zdenka Crosemanova	Czechoslovakia	204.01 25 pts
2.	Dana Chladech	USA	204.06 20 pts
3.	Myrian Jerusalem	France	206.35 15 pts
<b>Canadian Singles</b>			
1.	Jon Lugbill	USA	189.60 25 pts
2.	Mike Prentice	USA	120.21 20 pts
3.	David Hearn	USA	191.56 15 pts
8.	Mark Delaney		8 pts

2.	J. McEwan/J Baller	USA	224.59
3.	M. Saidi/J Duval	France	224.82
9.	C. Richardson/C Thompson		
<b>Men's Kayak Teams</b>			
1.	Great Britain	180.81	
2.	Yugoslavia	214.98	
3.	United States	215.42	
<b>Ladies' Kayak Teams</b>			
1.	France	263.32	
2.	Great Britain	287.38	
3.	United States	316.16	

PRE-WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS - RIVER SAVAGE, MARYLAND, USA - World Cup II

JUNE 25/26

<b>Men's Kayak</b>			
1.	Richard Fox	Great Britain	180.21 50 pts
2.	Melvyn Jones	Great Britain	183.45 20 pts
3.	Manuel Brissaud	France	185.44 15 + ?
13.	Ian Raapin	Great Britain	192.19 n.c.
21.	Russ Smith	Great Britain	196.30 3 pts
<b>Ladies Kayak</b>			
1.	Liz Sharman	Great Britain	215.42 25 pts
2.	Sylvie Arnaud	France	219.70 20 + ?
3.	Karen Davies	Great Britain	226.90 n.c.
20.	Rachel Fox	Great Britain	309.20 n.c.
<b>Canadian Singles</b>			
1.	Jon Lugbill	USA	- 50 pts
2.	David Hearn	USA	- 35 pts
3.	Mike Prentice	USA	- 35 pts
10.	Mark Delaney	Great Britain	
<b>Canadian Doubles</b>			
1.	J. Daille/G Lelievre	France	221.41 -

CULL RIVER, ONTARIO CANADA WORLD CUP SERIES III JULY 1/2


<b>Men's Kayak</b>			
1.	Richard Fox		
2.	Melvyn Jones		
<b>Canadian Singles</b>			
8.	Mark Delaney		

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA, USA WORLD CUP SERIES IV JULY 4

<b>Men's Kayak</b>			
1.	Janez Skok	Yugoslavia	195.65
2.	Lubos Hilgert	Czechoslovakia	198.78
3.	Ivan Hilgert	Czechoslovakia	199.71
4.	Richard Weiss	USA	
5.	Richard Fox	Great Britain	with 5 second penalty
6.	Melvyn Jones	Great Britain	
<b>Canadian Singles</b>			
10.	Mark Delaney		

OVERALL POINTS IN MEN'S KAYAK AFTER THE AMERICAN EVENTS

1.	Richard Fox	Great Britain	86 points
2.	Laurent Brissaud	France	57 points
3.	Melvyn Jones	Great Britain	50 points
4.	Richard Weiss	USA	45 points
5.	Janez Skok	Yugoslavia	44 points
6.	Lubos Hilgert	Czechoslovakia	38 points



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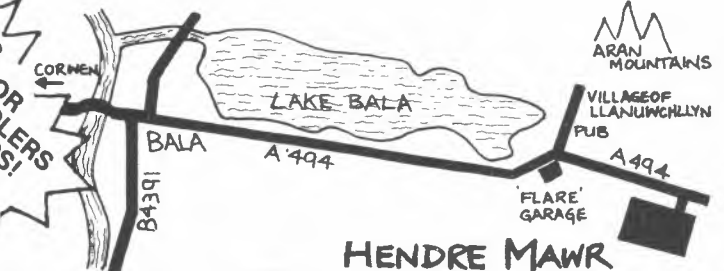
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# READER'S LETTERS

There has been an excellent response to our article 'Coaching Juniors' in the last issue. At first glance it seems that we have those in agreement and those disagreeing (sometimes strongly). A closer inspection finds the split to be more those who read article closely and those who didn't! A selection of the best letters are printed below.

Dear Sir,

The article concerning parents' behavior in the last issue is almost the limit.

Not only so we parents buy the boats, kit and paddles, the transport, accommodation, grub, and that shoulder to cry on at the end of the day but we are reprimanded as if we were ten year olds.

We know that the paddlers think we never get it right but as a breed we are fantastic and the sport would be lost without us. We parents, siblings and friends, rise at cockcrow, get soaked to the skin, frozen to the marrow or frizzled like lobsters. We pander to fads and fancies in food, drink clothing and sleep all in the name of sport - not to mention slalom - we worry about homework (more than the teachers) their future and our bank balance (less than the bank manager) while the children worry about the next event or go out on the town to drown the after effects of a bad run.

All this may be good character building stuff for parents but just once in a while it would be nice to have a pat on the back not a slap down for cheering our lot on from the bank.

Yours faithfully,

Parents at Bala June 1988

## UNDER 16's SELECTION

John Gosling Replies

I have been asked if I wish to comment on the article 'Under 16 Selection'.

1. After last Summer's trip of the Under 16 Team, it was discussed then, to have for the 1988 Season, a U.K. based squad and not a team. This was not to cut around the rules.

2. I sometimes wonder if we are all in the same sport? Yes, we did watch all the paddlers and have long discussions and meetings before selecting the squad.

3. I hold back on what you think or what you believe you know about the selective paddlers. I am sure the whole squad and therest of the Slalom world would like to know your thoughts and comments.

4. What a great idea to look at all the factors concerning results and to look at an overall performance. I wish I had thought of that!

If this reply is taken as a little cynical, it is because I received a letter in the morning post asking for my immediate reaction. My word to the 'Under 16's' paddlers and indeed to any paddler trying for a Great Britain squad or team place, is that hard work and training will pay off in the end.

## PARENTS CAN BE AN ASSET!

I thought it was unfortunate that the article in the last edition 'Coaching Juniors' (p15) seemed to be written in such a negative vein.

I am convinced that the parents of junior paddlers can be an asset in their training and not just 'create headaches for the coach'.

The main problem is that the parent invariably **wants** to help (why else would they **fetch, carry, transport and encourage**) but lacks the direction on how to do it in the most effective manner.

So often I've heard it said by parents 'It's all very well their coach not wanting me around but I'm the one who is with them for the rest of the year, day in day out, and its me that needs to be able to advise'.

So — how about getting together?!

During last winter the National Junior Training Squad experimented by involving parents in the training and it proved to be successful. Albeit with one or two qualifications fully on their coaching.

It also meant that parents, although asked not to get involved **during** sessions, were there to see what was going on and were able to seek advice during the weekend.

I would refer you to Len Smith's excellent advice contained in 'The Pushers' (Feedback No. 4) and I know most well-meaning parents are conscious of the dangers and are constantly seeking guidance.

It was interesting that an evening session, when parents were invited to have a chat with team management, it lasted for over three hours and involved some very lively discussion on the parents' role and how they could best help without being too 'pushy'.

It is very important that coaches have unhindered access to the paddlers to enable them to establish a good rapport and gain their confidence and this is difficult with mum or dad looking over their shoulder. Equally at the end of any weekend's training it is that same mum or dad who takes over the coaches role until the next formal training session which is sometimes a month away! Most genuinely motivated parents want to know how best how to keep up the momentum during 'the gap'.

I'm not saying that we have yet got the formula **quite** right or that we have all the answers, but I **am** sure that the best way ahead is via CO-OPERATION and not CONFRONTATION and that at junior level certainly we will continue to explore, together with the coaches, the avenue of -  
**THE PARENTS AS AN ASSET!**  
Brain Fuller  
Junior Team Manager

## AMATEUR STATUS AND THE PAID PADDLER

Dunster  
Heath End Road  
Great Kingshill  
High Wycombe  
Bucks, HP15 6HS

Dear Joe,

I am sending this letter to you because I believe it raises a matter of general importance and interest to a great many paddlers (myself included), and explanation of the point in Slalom magazine would probably set a large number of minds at rest -

The matter of amateur status was brought to light at a recent discussion, and we feel a little illumination of the rules would be useful. The yearbook states; 'an amateur canoeist may not be or have been... a professional coach in any sport'. The problem is what is a coach? Many canoeists, especially younger paddlers, because of the training which they have received, have taken part-time, or sometimes full time jobs teaching canoeing or swimming at sports or outdoor centres, or coaching on courses run by companies such as Slalom Schools. Does an instructor qualify as a coach, and if not - where does one draw the line between being a coach and being an instructor? Also where do people such as Jimmy Jayes or even Alan Edge fit in, spending most of their time coaching, but still competing in ranking competitions?'

Yours Sincerely  
Guy Gratton, Marlow CC

Dear Guy,

Your letter raises a very valid point that could effect many paddlers and we will try to have a definitive reply for you in the next issue. — Ed.

Dear Editor,

As a parent of an under 14 Div 2 paddler I would like to congratulate Nottingham Kayak Club on giving an U14 prize on 25/26 June. This was the first event that we had attended where one was actually given.

This is my son's last year in U14 and therefore like a lot of other paddlers he will get few tangible incentives until he has become much stronger. I do think that it is vital that we 'dangle a few carrots' for these younger paddlers. So please. Organisers, bear in mind that these are the paddlers as those who come 1st, 2nd, or 3rd prizes are often older, especially at higher divisions.

Thanks again to Nottingham KC and come on all you other clubs!

Liz Waller

Dear Liz

You have a good point. U14 prizes are less common at higher division events, perhaps due to fewer eligible paddlers. At lower div. events U14, U12 and even U10 prizes regularly occur. We would be glad to publish all events offering such prizes in the next issue so write in for free publicity.

### PREMIER/DIV 1 PRACTICE WARNINGS POSTED

The below notice is being posted at all Prem/Div 1 Events.  
Ignore it at your peril:-

## OFFICIAL PRACTICE

All competitors should be aware of the rules for Official Practice as listed in the Slalom Yearbook 1988 i.e. sections C.22 (page 36) and D.3.2 (page 46).

To summarise these rules, during official practice competitors:

- are allowed **one practice run only**, even if they are entered in two or more classes.

*Example:* This means that a C2 competitor who is also entered in C1 can take either a C1 run or a C2 run, but not both.

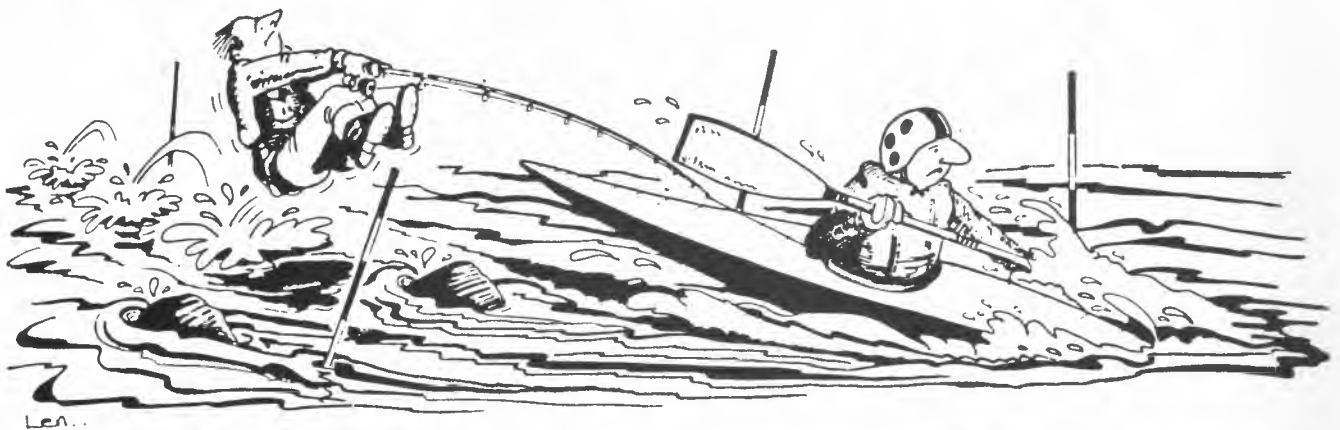
- must negotiate each gate once only. Second (repeated) negotiation is allowed only when it is one of a pair of gates **and this has been stated as such by the Jury in writing before the start of official practice.**

- must not disembark during their run to resume from a higher point on the course.

Official Practice will be monitored by Section Judges and all the relevant rules will be enforced.

The maximum penalty is **disqualification** from the competition.

## A light-hearted look. . . .



### TWO EXPERTS SHOOTING THE RAPIDS

(Reproduced courtesy Len Gurd and 'Coarse Fisherman' Magazine)

## Alan's Answers. . . .

Well here we are again, pen hovering and not a lot to go on I'm afraid. There a basic fact of life about 'answers columns' that perhaps I ought to explain. They don't work awfully well without questions to answer. This might come as a surprise to some of the more slothful of you out there but its a well known fact. If you ask nowt you learn nowt. So come on - there must be a question of some kind nagging away - something you've never really been SURE about - something your just plane curious about. . . . Get a pen and paper NOW and write to us before we all get sick and tired of writing to ourselves!

DO IT NOW !!!!!!!

Here's this month's offerings....

Dear Alan,

My main sport for the last 15 years has been squash and whenever I thought it necessary I found it quite easy to obtain good quality coaching at a realistic price - usually form the club where I was a member. Alas, the same does not seem possible within Canoe Slalom. My son is fast approaching the stage where I can no longer be of any help to him. Can you tell me what is available and how to go about finding it?  
Yours, Simon D. Northampton

Dear Simon,

*You've put your finger on quite a problem here -its not easy to answer but I would make the following points:-*

*- I would disagree with you when you say that you cannot help your son. You need to attend a Slalom Trainer course to find out just how useful you could be. These courses are aimed as much at non-paddlers as paddlers. You might be surprised at what you can do for him especially as regards stopwatch work, splits, observation feedback and all manner of 'on the day support'. For the next issue how about a non-paddler parent writing in to tell us what the word 'coach' means for them?*

*- Back to the Question. As far as technical information/coaching is concerned your choices are as follows:-*

*a) Write to the Assistant Director of Coaching or to Alan's Answers!*

*b) Ask around some of the top paddlers in your club or area - they may be prepared to help - if not they can only say no! If there are none in your area contact me and I will put you in touch with the nearest and most suitable.*

*c) Contact one of the National Team Coaches*

*(addresses in the yearbook) If they have no time they will certainly point you in the right direction. Canoe Slalom is typical of many small, fast-growing sports in that the those with the greatest technical knowledge are often still seriously competing. For instance in C1 at the present time few would dispute that probably one of the best coaches around is Martyn Hedges - not much use to anyone though whilst he can still achieve the level of performance he does. When top paddlers retire they do not neccessarily stay involved, quite the opposite in fact. They often drop out of the sport or choose not to coach. Coaching is not everyones cup of tea and the transition from paddler to coach may take time and in some cases never happen at all. Part of my job is to try to keep people of this calibre in the sport. There isn't much incentive unless they have a burning ambition to spend their time on a cold, wet, muddy bank giving.....Bill Endicott maintains that for a top paddler to become a coach he or she must change from being selfish to being selfless - easier said than done. Our aim must be to increase the status of coaches within our sport - recognise their importance - cover their costs and then some - pay for their time so that they do not have to use all their holiday away from their families.*

*I could go on for ever on this subject - maybe I will in the next issue!*

*Meanwhile any thoughts on coaches or coaching in GB would be of interest....*

*Alan Edge*

Dear Alan,

Can you sort out a problem regarding practice runs? I'm presently in Div 1 and likely to go up into Premier at the end of the season. I'm looking for ways that I can start to prepare for 'life in the fast lane!' One of the most obvious differences is the emphasis on getting it right with out the help of team event practice. When I've watched Premier practice there seem to be several approached taken. Some do a continuous flat out run, others do the course fast, but in sections and others seem to spend as much time as possible looking at each section from the water often letting several paddlers pass them during the run.

Which is the best way?

Ken L. Coventry

Dear Ken,

Good Question! Some of our best paddlers are still making mistakes in this department. There are 2 angles to the answer - practice run tactics on race day - preparation for limited practice in your training.

a) RACE DAY PRACTICE - Firstly its best to remember what the rules call it - **NON-STOP TRAINING**. To me this implies that a practice run should as far as possible be taken **without stopping**. Unfortunately this is virtually impossible to enforce, i.e. when is a stop not a stop? If a paddler misses a gate in practice can he or she go back and have another go? If so how many times? They are allowed to do it in the race so why not in practice? We have all seen experienced paddlers practising different moves - without actually doing the gates - all quite legal but not exactly within the spirit of the rules! There have been problems this year with paddlers repeating gates in practice and being disqualified. This is only permitted if the gates in question are part of a sequence named by the jury in advance. This is very rare and only ever occurs when a move cannot be re-attempted without repeating a gate. Since Grandtully Premier this year section judges have been on duty during practice to check for repeated gates. As regards repeating moves very little can be done to stop it. On the continent I have seen section judges try to 'move paddlers on' when they delayed on a section - not very effectively however.

Returning to your question however there is no doubt in my mind that the most successful paddlers paddle their practice run as close as possible to race pace and 'non-stop'. Fox often times his practice run to within 5 seconds of his eventual result time. Unless it is at race pace without stopping - then it is not a practice for a competitive run...All the preparation, decisions on routes strokes and lines are made **BEFOREHAND** from the bank with their eyes and watches. The crucial difference between Div 1 and Premier is that you can no longer use 'trial and error' to get things right. Your training must become geared to getting it right first time, ie on practice....

**HOW THIS AFFECTS YOUR TRAINING** - You must start to include more course changes in your sessions. Maybe only 3 attempts at each course - keeping a very careful record of where your best run occurs. If it comes No 3 all the time then you might find yourself on race day with a do or die 2nd run to put in. Remember Canoe Slalom is a time trial event and one of the

few ways you put pressure on your opponents is by getting your first run right. This in turn gets easier if you have got your non-stop right. Another point about training is that you must force yourself to get out of your boat and prepare the course from the bank. This is very hard to do in training because it appears to waste valuable boat time. It takes discipline and the acceptance that the ability to visually prepare a course is a vital part of success at Premier level and above. Good luck and get looking!

Alan Edge

### Results from the Junior Worlds 9/10 July 1988

These were held at La Seu d'Urgell in Spain, close to where the Olympics will be held in 1992.

#### K1 Men

14th Kim Gaster  
23rd Matthew Stevens  
45th Michael Green

#### K1 Ladies

2nd Lara Tipper  
7th Lynn Simpson  
21st Susan Marriott

#### C1

1st Gareth Marriot  
7th Michael Warton  
13th Richard Comer

#### C2

1st Brian Holden/Jason Bennett

### Did you read it in the Telegraph?

Are you one of those who says our sport never gets any coverage.

Extract 7 July 1988

Richard Fox, Britains three times world champion, holds a 29 point lead in the canoe Slalom World Cup Series.

He won the first three events and was fifth in the fourth, in Indiana, giving him an overall points total of 86, with Laurent Brissaud, of Franc having 57 points, seven ahead of Melvyn Jones of Britain.

# From one extreme . . . .

Melvyn Jones — 2nd in the Pre-Worlds 1988  
in a Carbon Kevlar Lightweight Race Boat



Melvyn raced an Arrowcraft built extreme and left a lot of less perceptive paddlers in his wake!

## . . . . to the other

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# WHICH SLALOM?

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*'Which Slalom' is again in the south of England this month as no one in the North has been sufficiently interested to submit photographs and a few words to us! As a reminder, the idea of these articles is to encourage people to new sites by extolling their virtues. Surely some sites up North have something to recommend them! Ideally we'd like to do 2 sites an issue.*

## **Shepperton**

Three slaloms a year are held on this site near London and it has several things to recommend it. The water can be excellent, often big and sometimes massive but on occasions rather flat as the volume of the water is in the lap of the gods and control of it largely in the hands of Thames Water.

Over the years impressive courses have been designed by people like Jimmy Jayes and Rob Wright on a weir which is compact but often challenging. Most of the course can be viewed from one point which is a great advantage to spectators and paddlers alike

and the water is only feet away from the campsite. Food is usually basic but adequate and excellent inexpensive pubs are within easy reach for evening meals - some catering for accompanied youngsters.

Weir paddling is sometimes decried by river paddlers and it is undoubtedly different but there is a lot to be said for a 30 second paddle back to the top of the course!

Flush toilets are within yards of the site and for the Div 2 event in March the floor is generally heated: a thoughtful touch. Parking is a little more tricky but in recent years Shepperton Club have been able to provide off the road parking a few minutes away.

Highlight of the event has always been good prizes, with divisional prizes for judges and recently results have been computerised to add to the efficiency.

Recommended for all events with the bonus of big water after rains - without the disadvantage of rocks.



DOMINIC BRECHER —  
MEETING THE SHEPPERTON CHALLENGE

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# RESULTS

## Canford Weir, Div. 4 Novice May 7/8 1988

This event is held in the classic grounds of the exclusive Canford School and in previous years has always been run by Worthies. With the sad demise of Worthies, Winchester & District C.C stepped in at the last minute to run the event and brought all their expertise with them to make the event a memorable one.

Well over 100 competitors attended the event which is run on an unusual course which starts on a flat lake, goes down a set of salmon steps with two right angle bends and a stopper, over a drop into a second stopper, up to weir and finishing down a river. I suspect that it was as exhausting to paddle as it sounds. The novices missed out the three gates below the weir but otherwise had the same course. The event was as efficient as one would expect from a W.D.C.C event with rescue in the stoppers and super food in the cafe tent. Cost of camping was low for a site better than many commercial ones complete with toilets and showers.

The weather was excellent (sometimes I wonder if they don't have a pact with someone as it rarely seems to rain at one of their events!) and as for the prizes see the list below!

We extend our thanks to Neville Unwin for presenting the prizes.

### Novice K1 M

1st Prize	Stuart Pevy	G.S.C.C.
2nd Prize	Adrian Chaplin	G.S.C.C.
3rd Prize	Gareth Jeffries	Canford School C.C.
Best J18	James Orlebar	W.D.C.C.
Best U16	Mark Reynolds	Exeter C.C.
Best U14	Michael Bennett	Harlow C.C.

### Novice K1 L

1st Prize	Susan Gray	B.A.D.C.C.
2nd Prize	Sarah Webb	W.D.C.C.
Best Junior	Sophie Sharman	W.D.C.C.

### Novice C1

1st Prize	Tony Moss	Alton
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### Novice C2

1st Prize	Westley/Marsden/RNKA	
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### Novice Teams

1st Prize	Jeffries/Allchin	Canford School C.C.
2nd Prize	Alwright/Wright	Soton Univ
	Beetle	
3rd Prize	Martin/Sinclair	Fairthorne 'A'
	Joint	

### Officials Event

Div 2 Prize	Mike Owens	Independent
Div 3 Prize	Jethro Nelson	Canford School
Ladies Prize	Sue Freeman	W.D.C.C.

### DIV 4 K1 Men

1st Prize	Barrie Howe	W.D.C.C.
2nd Prize	Darren Pedryc	Newbury C.C.
3rd Prize	Ash Partridge	B.A.D.C.C.
Best Junior	Rhys Pritchard	W.D.C.C.

### DIV 4 K1 L

1st Prize	Kristin Hansen	Adur Centre
2nd Prize	Alison Mann	Army
Best Junior	Claire Fox	B.A.D.C.C.

### DIV 4 C1

1st Prize	Glyn Lock	Taunton Scouts
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### DIV 4 C2

1st Prize	Nisbet/Hamus	Newbury C.C.
-----------	--------------	--------------

### DIV 4 Team

1st Prize	Smith/Derbyshire/G.S.C.C.	
2nd Prize	Dugard/Marsden/R.N.K.A.	
	Woolstienholme	

## Shepperton Div. 3 25th/26th June, 1988

The second slalom to be run by Shepperton Canoe Club at Shepperton Weir in 1988, took place this weekend. Despite considerable difficulties the event ran well and was enjoyed by all who took part. The number of entries, which seemed at one stage likely to be very low, was in fact quite reasonable and 82 actually turned up and competed.

For several years, this summer event has been ranked as Divisions 4 & Novice & the water has often been rather too severe for novice paddlers. This year the event was given a Division 3 ranking but unfortunately the recent dry weather resulted in a low water flow which, while it would have been ideal for novices was rather too easy for Division 3. Despite the low flow over the weir, a course was arranged with several quite technical gates at the sides of the weir, where there was a very limited amount of turbulent water. As a result, a large number of paddlers got penalties for touching poles, mostly in the very tight sequence of gates 4 to 8. The organisers were congratulated on a course, which while it could not wholly compensate for the lack of water flow, at least used what there was to the maximum advantage. It did however put a premium on strength & speed & some of the older competitors did relatively better than at many events.

The events opened in fine warm weather on Saturday with the Team Event. Right at the beginning, the very first team of Johnson/Blake/Rance from Langlebury established a target for others to aim at. Their score of 164sec (time 164sec plus 0sec penalties) remained unbeaten throughout first runs & was only beaten when they reduced it by 1sec to 163sec (163 + 0) at the start of second runs.

Longson/Donovan/Corbyn of Stubbers, who were second at the end of first runs with 166sec (166 + 0), also did a time of 163sec on their second run but spoiled it with a 5sec penalty to give a total of 168sec, & they had to be satisfied with holding on to second place. It was interesting that all the first 3 placed teams after first runs improved on their second runs, but still did not alter the placings.

On Sunday the event restarted for the individual classes in overcast weather with a spot of drizzle. This & stories of heavy but this did not happen & the weather soon cleared & became fine & 'bright at times'. In the K1 Men James Chesney of Stubbers led at the end of first runs with 138.5 secs (138.5 + 0) but he failed to improve on his second run and his clubmate, Alex Longson, also of Stubbers, improved from third place to first with a second run score of 136.9 secs (136.9 + 0). Peter Johnson of Abbots Langley also improved on his second run, with a score of 137.8 secs (137.8 + 0), to split the two Stubbers paddlers and push James Chesney into third place.

This was followed by the K1 Ladies whereas the entry in the men's class was disappointing, the lady's entry was very good. Sixteen year old Louise Hilton of Whitmore won quite clearly; her first run score of 160.3sec (160.3 + x 0) put her 8.7 secs in the lead at the end of first runs and this would have been good enough to win even if she hadn't improved to 156.5sec (156.5 + 0) on her second run. Jillian Dickson of Windsor, who had a disastrous first run in which she collected 15sec penalties, recovered with 161.6sec (161.6 + 0) on her second run to take second place. Fourteen year old Alison Kewel of Winchester, who was second after first runs, failed to improve on her second run & finished in fifth place.

The Canadian classes had contrasting entries. There was quite a good C1 entry & a very poor C2 entry. In C1 John Willacy of the RAF with

146.6sec (146.6 + 0) led at the end of first runs from Andy Stuart of Shepperton with 147.1sec (147.1 + 0). Although they both did clear (penalty free) second runs, they were both slower & the positions did not change. John Willacy's result was especially creditable since he has only just been promoted from Division 4 & this was his first Division 3 event. For some of the older paddlers it was good to see the 1970 National C1 Champion, Jim Sibley of Windsor, still competing, even if he could only manage seventh place. The C2 class was won by Wisbet/Hemus of Newbury.

Finally the Officials Event was dominated by the home club who took the first B places. Chris Hendy won with a first run of 119.3sec (119.3 + 0).

The event ran well & finished to time. Despite a series of near disasters in the pre-event administration it all 'came well on the day' & was an enjoyable weekend for all concerned.

## Ironbridge Slalom

### Div. 4/Novice

The weather remained fair and agreement was given by the executive committee to alter the programme of events during the weekend to accommodate 250 rafts passing through the slalom course on Sunday.

The course was ready for practice early on Friday as all the novice events were to take place on Saturday. Saturday found refreshments on sale bright and early, last minute rush for late entries and the usual organiser's panic to get enough judges in position - and tutti working in time to start. Everything worked out and the event ran smoothly and to time. The afternoon turned out to be less hectic than expected as there were regular breaks to try to ensure at least one hour elapsed between individual and team runs.

Sunday and an earlier than published start meant all the Div. 4 1st runs were over before the rafts descended upon us. After 5 hours the last of the rafts had passed through, 15 minutes to repair the course and 2nd runs were under way. Paddlers were very patient and helpful throughout the day, and the event actually finished by approximately 4.30p.m..

### Novice Results

#### K1MN

1	Roden - Staffs & Stone 124
2	Binstac - Bruner U 125
3	Isaac - Pegasus 130

#### K1LN

1	Murray - B'ham U 179
2	Rowland - Northwood 261

#### C1N

1	Evens - Kinver 167
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#### C2N

1	Lowndes/Holden - Telford 184
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#### Officials

1	V Furrmenger - Northwood 164
2	M Nicholls - Wolverhampton
3	R Thornton - Telford 109

### Div. 4 Results (Ironbridge)

#### K1M4

1	W Edwards - Cresyellog 114
2	A Pates - Swinfen 116
3	M Wilson - Gloucester 123

#### K1L4

1	G Pearce - B'ham 151
2	S Webb - W.D.C.C 158

#### C14

1	J Willacy - RAF 112
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#### C24

1	McSweeney/Clark - B'ham U 152
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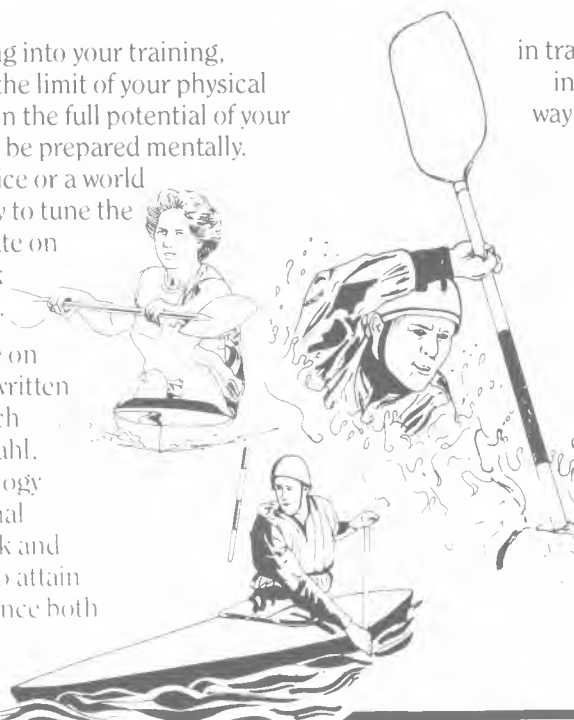
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