

# White Water



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Are you ready for the new season? Boat repaired after that summer trip. Paddles renovated in readiness for those autumn ditch crawls? Rehearsing your most trusted raundance?

The Year Book should be with you by early September - and this issue contains details of early season races so you can be making your plans. The major changes in the Autumn calendar are the Aire Classic (a fortnight earlier than usual on 16/17 Sept - including the first two Div 'C's) and the Universities race (Llangollen, 25/26 Nov, now elevated to Div 'B' ranking status thus offering real promotion possibilities for those who have trained up for the big Unis event). David Goldstrom is presenting Rapid Racing once more (now in its 5th domestic season) with a new start venue - a double header at Nottingham on 24 September.

## Advance Warning - Early Div 'C's & Rapid Racing

Aire Classic, Leeds	Sat 16 Sept	Noon	Race 1 - Open
		4pm	Race 2 - C & Open
	Sun 17 Sept	Noon	Race 3 - C & Open
		2.30	Race 4 - Open
Dave Kay, 19 Brierley Green, Buxworth, Stockport SK12 7NL			
Trent, Nottingham	Sun 24 Sept	11am	Rapid Race 1 - Trent Brdg
		1pm	C & Open & Plastics
		2.30	Rapid Race 2 - Slalom Crs
John Handyside, Glebe Farm, Cotgrave, Notts NG12 3JX			
Avon, Bath	Sun 01 Oct		C & Open
Phil Dingsdale, 16 Bennett Road, St George, Bristol BS5 8EY			

## Autumn Div 'A's

Dee, Llangollen	4 November	2 Rapid Races
	5 November	Div A & Open 'B' & VETERANS RACE

Tees, Barnard Castle	11 November	Rapid Racing Final
	12 November	Div A

NB Ardeche Marathon (France) also on 12/11 .... Details from the Editor

Dart, Ashburton	18/19 November	Div A & ranking 'B'
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## BCU Membership

The executive emphasise that BCU cards must be shown at every event - even for Open races at Div 'C's (excepting the Dee Masters Invitation) otherwise it will not be possible to enter. Remember however that BCU membership arrangements are available for first timers.

## Dee Veterans Race - '1st Masters Invitation'

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John Handyside is organising 'The Masters Invitation' as part of the Sunday programme for the extensive Dee Div 'A' weekend (which also includes two bouts of Rapid Racing on the Saturday).

Who is invited? Anyone of 35 or over who has raced in Div 'B' or equivalent in any class. Some notables from the past are being strongly 'encouraged' to add a touch of class to the field. Among those still paddling but no longer competing in WWR, we hope to see such stalwarts as Goodwin/Court, Dave Mitchell, Ray Calverley, Jim Sibley, Sue Hornby, Anne Plant, Graham Goldsmith, Bob Evans, Martin Bosher, Bill Fraser & Danny Broadhurst.

'Masters' are encouraged to paddle a boat representative of their WWR heyday if possible - though any craft is acceptable including plastic & other slalom boats. (How about the Molokai C6?). We certainly hope to see Interceptor kayaks & 80cm Cls. The course has been curtailed to finish above Mill Fall to replicate the race format of early WWR!

The key however to this event is that absolutely ANY over 35 racer is welcomed in any craft complying with WWR safety regulations. Non Div 'A' entrants should contact John Handyside. Here's a chance to get a new and newsworthy 'fun' event off the ground and to develop the November Dee weekend into a WWR festival challenging the International Slalom and Mike Jones weekends.

PS Will the BCU Director be making a guest appearance?

## Aire Classic

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The 8th Aire Classic takes place on September 16/17 in Leeds. Since inauguration in 1982 it has been sponsored by Queens Moat Houses & then by Yorkshire Television and has certainly earned its title - not for exciting wild water (though the weirs present a unique challenge) but for setting the stage for the coming season's Men's K1 National Championship. Consider the winners and their subsequent rankings :

Year	Classic Winner	Town/Club	National Champ
82	Jeremy Hibble	Leeds	Jeremy Hibble
83	Dave 'Geordie' Taylor	Gateshead	DRH Taylor
84	Andrew Martin	New Zealand/Chester	Andrew Martin
85	DRH Taylor	Newark/Leeds	DRH Taylor
86	DRH Taylor	Newark/Leeds	Alan Tordoff
	nb Alan Tordoff was 2nd		
87	Alan Tordoff	Congleton/Leeds	Alan Tordoff
88	Neil Stamps	Birmingham/Royal	Neil Stamps
89	Win if you dare!		

Robin Murray (Tideswell/Leeds) looks a hot challenger for the 89 Classic - though a number of previous race winners should be on the start. Equally interesting will be the performances of some much improved ladies and

juniors (notably Karen Porter, Katie Watt, Gareth Jones, Michael Mason & Tim Suggett).

With two Div 'C' promotion opportunities included in the 4 race programme, it is a weekend for everyone with entries welcomed on the day. Naturally the individual race venues will be altered to suit low (or high!) water levels - no cancellation!

Great Britain Junior Squad - European Tour

- by Phil Dean

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As part of the build up to the 1990 Junior World Championships in Switzerland, the squad took in three of the World Series races this Summer. First, the race on the Inn covering part of the popular Imst to Haiming section though finishing at Silz, next the potential venue for the 1993 World Championships - Mezzana in Italy, and finally the site of the Junior Pre-World Championships on the R. Albula in Switzerland.

The final race on this dam-released river provided the 'icing on the cake' for the Junior squad when the under 17 team, all eligible for next year's Worlds ( Tim Suggett, Gareth Jones, Dean Thompson ) gained a bronze medal in the team event, raising hopes for an even better performance next year.

#### Boats for Sale

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Sprinter Kayak - made in 88 by Andrew Martin & in perfect condition - 8.5kg all kevlar - £260 from Dave Kay (0663 34730 or 0742 686090 in the day)

Superstar Kayak - Andrew Martin's Worlds race boat - 9kg in Kevlar with extensive Carbon reinforcement - as good as new - £320 from Dave Kay (0663 34730)

Superstar Kayak - Gaybo Kevlar construction - well used but very sound - ex-Robin Murray - £160 from Henry Camilleri via Dave Kay (0663 34730)

The James Wingfield collection - contact James on 0602 819749

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|---|----------------|-----------------------------|
| - C1 Ace II Epoxy kevlar Worlds race boat | Perfect        | £400                        |
| - C1 Ace II Kevlar Carbon                 | Hardly used    | £300                        |
| - C1 Joker Diolen                         | Good condition | £180                        |
| - C2 Prijon Mark 3                        | Diolen         | Must clear store space! £30 |

#### Get Obsessed!

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The next shipment of Obsession kayaks from the manufacturer in France is due to arrive in Britain for November 21st. To ensure your boat is there please place orders with Dave Kay (0663 34730 Home / 0742 686090 Work) by September 21st. The Perspective C1 (as used by Benamrouche) is also available.

*The Inn : Waves the size of houses!*

The first race was held on the infamous Imst to Haiming stretch of the river Inn. Originally scheduled to start on the Otz, continuing down the Inn to Silz, due to the level of the Otz and the organiser's unwillingness to sentence everyone to death, the race start was shifted to the Inn just above the Otz confluence.

The main feature of the race was the 'Housing Estate' rapid in the first couple of minutes, the rapids continued down to Haiming which marked the half-way point. The race having been extended beyond Haiming to Silz to keep the sponsors happy, this final stretch was fairly flat, but very swirly, feeling very similar to paddling on the sea.

Excellent results in the mens from Andy Curtis (7th) and Robin Murray with Andrea Clayton causing a bit of an upset in the ladies (does she practice on the sea at Brighton?)

*Mezzana: "I love the river, but my boat hates it!"*

This piece of Goetschy-lore sums the place up. The proposed site for the '93 Worlds (though they may use a different stretch of the river) - the river is excellent, fairly technical and rough for the whole length - very similar to the Savage by all accounts. The major difference being that it was very rocky. The rocks, being about the same height as the waves and very difficult to see, spelt disaster for the unwary - and many were claimed!

The first night saw EVERY Frenchman repairing his boat - and they knew the river! In the race the French clearly applied their previous knowledge of the river to good effect, taking the first 6 places with Herve Vitali getting his 4th win to take overall victory in the World Series.

The other story of the day was Yves Masson, falling in and losing his paddle on the slalom site, only to hand-roll, recover his blades - and still come second! - who says rolling has no place in River Racing?

*Albula - Junior Pre-worlds And World Series Final*

The dam controlled Albula offers an excellent site for training or racing with little or no boat damage. The race is about 18 minutes with waves the whole way, and until the last 5 minutes the routes are obvious and there are no rocks. The last 5 minutes is a continuous succession of holes and needed to be inspected to find a fast route.

Ashley Mason and Tim Suggett came out top GB in the Juniors - Tim's 16th, with two years left as a youth; has to be a good prospect for the future. In the World series final there were good results from Rob Murray (9th) and Andy Curtis - well on the pace again - with Shirley Bain showing good form in the ladies.

The best performance of the trip by far has to be 'Sid The Manager' for making sure everyone knew what was going on all the time, whilst coping unselfishly with the inevitable number of traumas on such a long trip.