

ADVANCED SEA KAYAK CLUB
NEWSLETTER No 47
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CHRISTMAS BONUS EDITION
EDITORIAL

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Here's a Christmas Bonus from the A.S.K.C. - a marvellous report, most suitable for winter reading, from Krista and Dave on their recent kayak expedition to British Columbia and South East Alaska.

You will also find a promotion brochure on the forthcoming B.C.U. CANOE EXHIBITION - see you there at the A.S.K.C. Stand.

Cheers John.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Dear John,

Our local ZIP Club (whose members have all had open heart surgery and have been successfully sewn up - hence the zip) are fund raising to buy a GAMMA CAMERA for Papworth Hospital. The cost is £100,000, so your local garden fete is a drop in the ocean. We have wondered how local canoeists might help.

On May 5th, 1985, the local board sailing club is hosting a two-way wind surf across the Wash from Hunstanton to Skegness and back, to be run as a sponsored event - all monies to be donated towards that Gamma camera. So we have decided to run a sponsored kayak double Wash crossing - hopefully showing the sailboarders how to cover long distances in light airs! High water at Hunstanton on the Sunday 5th May is 0730 BST, which gives a starting slot from 0830 to about 1000 hrs.

After lunch break at Skegness we would make the return journey at about 1430 BST, arriving back at Hunstanton (all things being equal) around 1800 hrs.

The local sailing club has given up its racing weekend to help provide support, and various offers of safety boat cover have been made to the boarders. I have'nt yet approached H.M.C.G. or R.N.L.I. but they will be consulted and advice heeded.

We will be looking for entrants with boats rigged to sea proficiency standard with flares, including at least 1 para and 1 pin-point with compasses and charts, (Imray Y9 or Admiralty 108 Approaches to the Wash, or 1190 Flamborough Head to Blakeney Point 1 : 150,000) and with a paddler sufficiently fit and experienced to cover the 13 naut. miles twice in one day.

This could be a great opportunity for a 'get-to-gether', camp site nearby, pub in the town. Would you give this event some BIG publicity in the A.S.K.C. newsletter please (WELL, HERE IT IS TREVOR!).

There will be an entry fee of £3.00 per boat, a trophy for ALL boats taking part and various prizes for fastest, slowest, oldest, youngest (that's me, Ed!), most sponsored money, etc.

Sponsor forms, entry forms and further information from:

Trevor Riches
11, Station Road,
Snettisham,
Kings Lynn
Norfolk, PE31 7QL

Cheques made payable to West Norfolk Canoe Club.

Happy paddling,
Trevor Riches.

This is a great opportunity for A.S.K.C. members to get together, I shall certainly be going - SEE YOU THERE, John.

From Terry Storry, at Plas y Brenin, Capel Curig, Nr. Betws y Coed, North Wales.

Dear John,

I am currently writing a Sea Canoeing Guide to the North Wales Coast and I am seeking information about early long distance paddles in the area, together with any up to date records regarding shortest times for specific trips. In particular could you tell me the history of the Irish Sea crossing from North Wales, the history of coastla exploration round Anglesey and the Llyn Peninsular and any timed records you have for the circumnavigation of Anglesey and Holy Island.

Also any information you have on crossings from North Wales to the Isle of Man. Is it the case that the Tidal Stream Atlas is misleading for the approaches to Douglas?.

Terry Storry.

Alan Kimber from 58, Drumfeda Terrace, Corpach, Fort William, Invernesshire, writes:

Dear John,

I am keen to talk to any members of the A.S.K.C. who have fitted rudders to P & H Icefloe boats, just to see if they have encountered any major problems. Also I would like to hear from any canoeists that have boats made from a carbon fibre/kevlar mix material construction, to try and evaluate how long this type of kayak would last compared to a glass or diolene construction. Perhaps our members might help.

Best wishes, Alan Kimber

From Bruce Kitney, 300 Strathmore Drive, Syracuse, New York, U.S.A.

Dear John

I received the Symposium Report Wednesday last week (thank you very much) and on Thursday your letter telling me that I had won the A.S.K.C. Lottery.

As you may recall I have a Nordkapp now; I decided that if I won I'd choose the most 'different' boat (innovative/eccentric) I could find ;; not so much because I need it and can't get on the water without it, but because I'm always interested in technical and design decelopments (by the way, the current front runner, were I to choose, is Nick Padwick's 'SEA TIGER')

Still, the point of the lottery was to raise cash for the benefit of all those who read the A.S.K.C. newsletter. Under the circumstances I must decline with thanks the offer of a new boat and ask instead that you look to replace the duplicator machine that is causing concern. Your offer of life membership to the A.S.K.C. is very generous; if the offer still stands, I am pleased to accept.

I hope to get over to the Canoe Exhibition so we may have the chance to meet. I still have in the works a brief account of our trip to Iceland this summer and will send it off when complete. In the meantime don't hesitate to write for any information or assistance that I might provide you or a club member.

Sincerely, Bruce Kitney.

From Eric Totty, Kendal, Cumbria.

Dear John,

I endorse your remarks about NCC & C and would add only that we must take every opportunity to enlighten the conservationists about the needs of canoeists and the reason for them. For instance, they have been told of the need for the passage between South Stack and Holyhead Island as an escape route in bad weather and for the less experienced. Now that it has been explained to them they understand and acquiesce. Also that a quiet and uninterrupted passage down a river should not be interrupted by forbidden territory in the shape of a Nature Reserve or SSSI. In such cases the canoeist should be requested to pass through quietly and with a minimum of disturbance to wildlife. If it becomes forbidden territory, a portage becomes necessary in order to by-pass this stretch with far more disturbance to wildlife than a simple quiet passage DOWNSTREAM would occasion. It all boils down to communication and understanding to produce good will on each side. ERIC.