

No.10 May/June 1978

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The official magazine of the British Canoe Union



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# Canoe Focus

*Editorial Offices: 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1DT  
Editor: Gordon Richards, MBE, FPEA, ACP.  
Advertising: Colin Higgins, DipEd.*

## Europa Cup

WILD WATER RACE AND  
INTERNATIONAL SLALOM



**BALA**  
**June 1978**

### Programme

Thursday 1st Slalom Practice  
Friday 2nd Slalom & WWR Practice  
Saturday 3rd Slalom & WWR Individual  
Sunday 4th Slalom & WWR Teams

## Editorial

There has always been a constant flow of criticism over the way the affairs of the Union are run. Many members feel they are in the hands of a junta who have no awareness of the wishes of the membership or are possibly inclined to ignore them.

This myth is now dispelled as a result of the Council's response over the issue of Federalisation — an issue that has emanated from the wishes of members who have brought their opinions to notice and who are seeking change.

The work that has been undertaken by the officers of the Union, over the past two years, has clearly demonstrated a democratic response to what appears to be the wishes of the membership — whether it is a majority view remains to be seen.

The present structure has been the base for the Union's functioning for forty years. It is therefore now of paramount importance that what emerges from this current debate, is such that it will see the British Canoe Union go forward, into the twenty-first century, with a strong and equitable constitution that, whilst expressing the wishes of the majority, safeguards the rights of all minorities within the corporate body.

**MEMBERS ARE URGED TO SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY, HAVING CONSIDERED ALL THE FACTORS, TO ENTER INTO THE FINAL DEBATE ENSURING, THROUGH THE TABLING OF THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL OPINIONS AND PREFERENCES, THAT THE OUTCOME EXPRESSES THE MAJORITY VIEW.**

THE DATE OF THE SPECIAL AGM, TO CONSIDER THE FINAL PROPOSALS, IS 30th September.

# Sponsored Paddle

The 1978 weekend will be the third annual Venture which offers a canoeing weekend for Schools/Colleges/Youth Organisations and Club personnel and, at the same time, raises much needed funds for severely handicapped children under the care of Barnardo's in Scotland. Both of the earlier projects raised sums in excess of £1,000, and there is no doubt that it is a popular weekend for young canoeists.

The weekend is scheduled for the 27/28th May and there are several permutations of participation. These are:

1. Full Weekend and Bivouac at Lindean
2. Saturday ONLY from Peebles to Lindean
3. Sunday ONLY from Lindean to Kelso plus Saturday night Bivouac on site.
4. Senior Trophy Race on Sunday ONLY
5. Junior Trophy Race on Sunday ONLY (Age Under Sixteen)

There are also the Senior and Junior Shields to be awarded to the Groups who raise the largest sum of sponsorship money during the Weekend for the benefit of the severely disabled boys and girls in the care of Dr. Barnardo's in Scotland.

Further details can be obtained from,  
Mr. Keith Gordon,  
17 Nether Currie Crescent,  
CURRIE,  
EH14 5JJ  
Tel: 031 449 2534

# September Changes...

*Work is to start on the river bed between Artist Corner Car Park and the bottom of the Slalom course, soon after Easter. The weir will be removed first and it is hoped that liaison between Frank Goodman, George Parr and the River Authority will result in some water suitable for the canoeist when work is completed some time this Autumn.*

*This work could affect the slalom in September and all week-day canoeing will have to stop whilst work is in progress. Weekend canoeing can continue, at the paddlers own risk, though care should be taken as the workings and machinery involved may make this dangerous at times.*

*Keith Maslen,  
Chairman, East Midland Regional Group.*

# Welcome to Hillingdon

For many years Hillingdon Sailing Base, as a combined educational and recreational centre has been a popular venue for young and old alike to enjoy sailing.

Two years ago facilities were extended to include canoeing, and with the steady growth of the sport, BCU Elementary and Proficiency Courses were introduced.

To strengthen our coaching structure we are happy to announce we will be holding a residential Inland Senior Instructor assessment on the weekend September 2nd/3rd. As we have only a limited number of places available, applications should reach us as soon as possible.

R. Allingham  
Organiser/Instructor  
Hillingdon Youth & Community Services  
Hillingdon Sailing Base,  
Dews Lane, Harefield, Middx.

## APPOINTMENT OF NATIONAL COMPETITION COACHES

### A – For RACING & MARATHON B – For SLALOM

Applications are invited for the following 2 positions:—

- A A National Coach to organise the Competition Coaches (Racing) Scheme in order that Racing and Marathon paddlers at all levels may be provided with sufficient qualified coaches and instructors.
- B A National Coach to organise the Competition Coaches (Slalom) Scheme in order that Slalom paddlers at all levels may be provided with sufficient qualified coaches and instructors.

Such National Coaches will be expected to attend conferences held in connection with their work. (At present these are held annually).

The successful candidates will be expected to make positive contributions to the formulations of the policies for the Schemes as laid down. They will be expected to maintain close contact with the Racing and Marathon disciplines on the one hand, and with the Slalom discipline on the other in the execution of their duties.

These part-time appointments are honorary; but the successful candidates will each receive £500 per annum as a contribution towards his expenses. Any fees which he may earn as a result of the appointment will in no way affect the above arrangements. Each will be responsible to the BCU Council through the Director of Coaching and the National Coaching and Development Committee.

### APPLICATIONS

No application forms are being issued.

Letters of application, which should include a summary of relevant experience and qualifications, together with the names and addresses of two persons to whom reference may be made, should be sent to

The Chairman,  
B.C.U. National Coaching & Development Committee,  
70 Coopers Road,  
Handsworth Wood,  
Birmingham, B20 2JX.



Please note our New address.

**BCU Insurance**  
**33 Somerset Road**  
**Histon CAMBRIDGE,**  
**CB4 4JS**  
**Tel. Histon (022-023) 2781.**

# Henry Compton Canoe Club

Henry Compton School Canoe Club is now in its fourth year and during that time it has risen to be one of London's strongest canoeing schools, being overall canoeing champions in London for the last three years.

It all started with canoeing being introduced on to the games timetable for the 3rd, 4th and 5th years, enabling me to build up a reasonable canoeing team in each year from these games groups. During the winter months boys were introduced to pool work after school when we were able to use St. Thomas the Apostle School's swimming pool for one evening a week. One other evening a week is spent on repairing canoes and equipment and also planning trips and expeditions which the boys take part in. In the summer the evenings are spent out of doors on the Thames, at Putney, Chertsey and Windsor, where notable experience is gained in tidal and river work.

Many weekend trips were arranged in the beginning by the staff to enable the club to grow and these took place on various waters, south coast and the Isle of Wight, river trips on the Thames — sponsored paddles, raising money for the R.N.L.I., competitions run by other canoe clubs and expeditions in conjunction with the B.S.C.A. Awards. The wide choice of canoeing which we offered gave the boys a chance to take up an aspect of canoeing which they liked and enjoyed so that when they left school they would feel strong enough to continue with canoeing, whether it was in competition or just for enjoyment.

Longer trips of a weeks duration materialised and the club visited the River Wye, upper and lower (Easter and October), Cornwall's surfing beaches (June and August), Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal (November) and the Pembrokeshire Coastline (May and October). The cost of a week away being no more than £15.00 per boy. Four full trips are run each year in holiday time to the places mentioned and the equipment, canoeing and camping is all supplied by the school.

Within the London Schools competitions, the school club has been overall canoeing champions for the last three years and senior sprint champions for the last two. It has also held the Leaside Min L.D. Trophy for the last two years as well.

With all this canoeing in the school involving teaching, competition work and school journeys, I find the expedition side the most enjoyable. The appreciation can be seen in a boy's face when you take him canoeing and camping for the first time (for some its their first trip outside of Fulham) and although you may never hear a 'thank you', at least some of the boys would not be lost to canoeing when they leave school.

The future of Henry Compton canoeing lies in its strength within the school, the enthusiasm of the staff and boys and the willingness to learn what is to some a very difficult skill. We hope to get more canoeing on the games timetable, run courses in water safety, train for the B.C.U. Proficiency and Advanced Tests, venture further with the B.S.C.A. Expedition Awards and introduce the less able boy into the canoeing world as an option to team games, in which he is unable to compete with his peers.

In all, there is a bright future for canoeing at Henrys and we will continue at school level to turn out pupils who one day may join larger clubs when their school days are over to continue where we started. That will be our loss — but canoeing's gain.

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## No Lead

by Jim Hargreaves

Having just read the last issue of *Canoe Focus*, I feel I must make a comment regarding the article on our Cape Horn expedition. One of the prime aims was to work together as an autonomous unit. Without this team spirit, I very much doubt if we would have been successful on our journey. The success was in my opinion attributable solely to our unified determination and the general ability of the group as a whole.

Frank Goodman was not leader of the expedition. There was no leader, and we have all emphasized this to the press. However, they still choose to nominate Frank as the leader of the expedition, causing him some considerable embarrassment.

Our determination to work together as a group unlead by any one individual was a most important part of our success and I feel I must point out to all *Focus* readers that this was a group effort in all departments.

## Canoe Instructors

For Adventure Activity Centres in Wales and the Wye Valley. Short and long periods between May and September. Full board and pocket money provided.

## Chief Canoeing Instructor

With responsibility for running River Wye Canoe Centre. May to September. Full board and sensible wage.

Write for details: — **Liz Lloyd, Personnel Officer, 631 Station Street, Ross on Wye, Hereford. Tel: — Ross 4211.**

## Devizes Westminster

The 1978 Devizes to Westminster race was held in good conditions on a warm night with a reasonable flow on the Thames and a following wind. 60 senior crews and 54 junior crews completed a 125 mile course with Brian Greenham (Reading and Leighton Park) and Tim Cornish (Richmond) finishing with a sprint from Lambeth Bridge to take 5 minutes off the record. Junior winners were K. Smith and J. Raciborski (Warren Canoe Club). Newham were disqualified as a Junior team as the club did not comply with relevant conditions.

The new Canadian record was 26 hours 33 minutes set by K.A. Gale and R.A. Clements of the 35th Norwich Sea Scouts. The Gluckstein Trophy, given for courage and fortitude, is to be awarded to A. Stainsby of the Metropolitan Police, who completed the whole course with a painful back injury. He continued solely to give his partner the opportunity to complete the race before going back to Australia.

### SENIOR RESULTS

- 1st B. Greenham/T. Cornish  
Leighton Park and Richmond Canoe Club 16 hrs 50 mins 51 secs
- 2nd J. Hayden/P. Hignett  
Royal Engineers  
18 hrs 10 mins 34 secs
- 3rd P. Heather/R. Dickens  
Royal Marine C.F.  
18 hrs 30 mins 54 secs

### JUNIOR RESULTS

- 1st K. Smith/J. Raciborski  
Warren Canoe Club  
16 hrs 45 mins 01 secs
- 2nd G.H. Bourne/P. Dimmock  
Newton Canoe Club  
16 hrs 49 mins 29 secs
- 3rd P. Lancaster/H. Berdall  
Leighton Park School  
16 hrs 58 mins 30 secs

### DRAMA!

42nd placed Juniors, E. VanDyk and C. Maertens of the Power Commando Kadets (Belgium) completed a time of 23 hours 49 minutes 57 seconds with one of the paddlers completing half the course with a serious boil in the groin, and one official was pushed into the river by an irate paddler — a good race!!

## Canoeists Wed



The marriage of canoeists, Stephen Brown and Karen Money, took place in Loughborough on February 25th. Stephen, a member of the Montreal Olympic team, and Karen, a member of the Junior Squad Vichy, were greeted outside the church by an archway of canoe paddles. All the people at Focus, and canoeists everywhere wish them the very best luck in the years to come.

## BCU Films

Send S.A.E. for lists

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M10 6QQ

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## Norway Canoeing

*Is it of interest to you or your members to know that here in Norway we have endless lakes and rivers available of all grades I—VI with NO ACCESS problems, and endless camping facilities, food, accommodation and services are all expensive but a group with mini-bus, trailer and camping gear plus food could have a reasonably priced holiday in Norway, between April — October. The air temp. is cold at each end of this period, the water is cold at the beginning.*

*I would be quite happy to point any paddlers in the right direction, be it a family tour or hard paddlers.*

Details from H.Q.



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**WEST MIDLANDS CENTRE of EXCELLENCE**  
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**WHITE WATER CANOEING**  
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College Road,  
Stoke-on-Trent, ST4 2DE.  
Telephone (0782) 45531

For Prospectus and Application form please write to:-  
The Academic Registrar,  
Beaconside,  
Stafford.  
Telephone (0785) 52331

# Federal Structure

*The Council of the British Canoe Union at the Annual General Meeting on the 18th January, 1978, submitted proposals for a federal structure for the British Canoe Union.*

Prior to the meeting, the membership had received a circular outlining, in detail, how it was proposed to structure and operate the new Federal System.

A motion was to be presented to the meeting to cover the formation of a new British Canoe Union and English Canoe Association. However, just before the A.G.M. the Chairman received legal opinion which indicated that the motion and proposed constitution may not be admissible in law and that they should be withdrawn pending further discussions.

At a special meeting of the Executive of the British Canoe Union, held immediately prior to the A.G.M., it was decided, after long discussion, to withdraw the motion from the agenda. The Executive decided to ask the meeting's agreement to federalize the Union, when the proposed constitution had been re-written to cover specific legal requirements.

The proposition was put to the A.G.M. together with a rationale of the proposed Federal System. The proposition was defeated and a long discussion ensued which resulted in the following proposition being unanimously approved:

1. That a federal structure for the B.C.U. shall be implemented from 1.11.78.
2. That the basis of federalization shall include items 2, 3, 4, 5, 14 and 15 of the draft constitution (as circulated).
3. That a special general meeting be held within six months to agree the details of the constitution of federal association.

The agreed clauses are as follows:—

2. The Union shall be the governing body for the sport and recreation of canoeing in the United Kingdom and the Channel Islands and Isle of Man and shall represent the U.K. and the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.
3. The Union shall promote canoeing in all its forms and shall work to improve the facilities available for canoeing in the U.K. and the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.
4. The four national canoe associations for England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales shall constitute the British Canoe Union and be integral parts of it. The national associations shall be responsible for the conduct of canoeing within their own areas for all members of the Union and Union shall be the body responsible for matters of collective concern throughout the United Kingdom.
5. These matters of collective concern include:
  - a) The overall broad promotion of canoeing as a major water based activity.
  - b) All negotiations with Central Government departments and other British National Bodies, including the British Olympic Association.
  - c) All matters of liaison and negotiation with the international Canoe Federation.
  - d) The promotion of Touring and Recreative aspects of canoeing as required by the International Canoe Federation.
  - e) The organisation and conduct of British Championships and where allocated by the International Canoe Federation, World Championships and such other events as may be designated.
  - f) The maintenance of comparable making standards for competitive canoeists at United Kingdom level, and if necessary and appropriate devising the procedures for determining the British Rankings for top competitors.
  - g) The Training and Selection of British Competitive Teams (e.g. Training arrangements, selection procedures, appointment of Selectors and Team Managers, etc.)
  - h) The administration and development of coaching throughout the U.K. including establishment, review and maintenance of uniform standards for Coaching Awards.
  - i) The provision of a central Journal and Publications service for canoeists in the United Kingdom.

## Information Smalls

### LOST

At the BCU A.G.M.

A BCU Award of Honour, with the owner's name engraved on the back. It was in its blue box, and may have got muddled up with the trophies and picked up by accident among them.

If the finder will notify Head Office that he has it, arrangements will be made to pick it up.

**LERIDA — CAN ANYBODY OFFER A ONE WAY LIFT TO SORT THIS SUMMER FOR A KAYAK AND EQUIPMENT (NO PASSENGERS) CAMBRIDGE 43645, IAN. (REVERSE CHARGES)**

*Training Course for those who wish to teach the Disabled.*

*Port Elliot, St. Germans, Cornwall, 23 — 29th July, 1978*

*Minimum age 20.*

*Candidates should be either proficient canoeists, or should be taking some professional training with the disabled. Cost £16.*

*Further details from Ron Moone, A.C.O. Devon and Cornwall, Mill Ford School, Plymouth.*

### WHISKY WINNER

**MR. W. SIBLEY OF 11, NORTHFIELD WAYE, WELLS, NORFOLK, WAS THE LUCKY WINNER OF THE FLAGON OF WHISKY WHICH WAS RAFFLED AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE EXHIBITION.**

Bath Canoe Club  
Open/Novice Slalom (Open and Novice Non-ranking)  
Pulteney Weir, Bath.  
September 2nd and 3rd, 1978  
Entries to:- Pete Wood,  
7 Sunnybank, Wick,  
Bristol BS15 5PL

BCU Wessex Coaching Panel  
Present BCU Senior Instructor  
(Inland) Assessment Course  
July 7th — 9th, 1978  
Send S.A.E. for details to:—  
Pete Wood, 7 Sunnybank, Wick,  
Bristol BS15 5PL Abson 3458

Cont. opposite



# Surrey on the Move

Focus No. 9, "Demob", reported that the Surrey Coaching Panel were running their last course at Stoughton Barracks, Guildford, due to the disbandment of the 39 AYT. We are now able to announce that they have been successful in finding new pastures and two further courses have been arranged for this year.

A further significant development is a Coach Training Course, which will be held in conjunction with a Senior Instructor Training and Assessment Course at Shepperton on 21/23 July. The weekend will be under canvas on Shepperton Island and it is anticipated that this environment will provide an informal atmosphere particularly for assessment.

By comparison, the Panel's October course is being held at Ravens Ait, Surbiton, which is probably the most luxurious and well appointed Water Sports/Conference Centre in the South East. Ravens Ait, an island in the Thames is now operated by the Inner London Education Authority Youth Service and provides a high standard of residential accommodation. In addition, it has a large fleet of canoes, comfortable lecture rooms and a considerable range of visual aids (including video).

The course, which takes place on 6-8 October will embrace Senior Instructor Training and Assessment. Staff for the weekend will include Oliver Cock MBE, Director of Coaching, Bob Gray, Senior Coach, and Gordon Ray ACO for London and the South East.

These courses are open to any canoeists suitably qualified and details can be obtained from Mrs. J.M. Gray, 11 Prairie Road, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey.

## Mike Jones Visit

Heriot-Watt University Canoe Club have arranged for Mike Jones to visit Edinburgh to give an illustrated talk on his recent descent of the Orinoco river.

The talk is open to all and further details can be obtained from:

Term Time : Canoe Club  
Sports Union  
Sports Centre  
Ricarron, Currie  
Midlothian

Vacation : Mr. I. Macbeath  
8 Danube St.  
Edinburgh



Members of the Severn-Trent Water Authority's Regional Land Drainage Committee watching canoeists from the Coven Outdoor Education Centre, Slade Heath, Wolverhampton.

Taken on the upper reaches of the Trent at Walton Bridge, near Stone, Staffs. 1977

## Federalization (cont).

The voting rights of each national association shall be:

England	6 votes
Northern Ireland	1 vote
Scotland	3 votes
Wales	2 votes


Motions before the Council shall require at least 9 votes in favour if all associations are represented and cast their votes. If a representative abstains from voting or in the absence of a representative or authorised deputy the number of votes required to pass a motion shall be reduced by the number of votes of the associations.

A consultative paper will be sent to all full members in the next few weeks. A special General Meeting will be held in London on 30th September 1978 to discuss the final proposals contained in the new consultative document.

The special AGM has been delayed until over six months after the AGM in order that the members could be fully informed and have an opportunity to take part in the full consultative process.

### STICKERS

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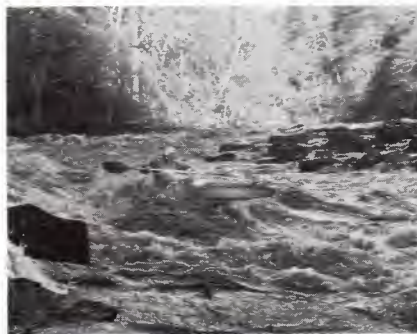
# From the Camera of... Bill Sampson



*River Dee White Water Race January 1978*



*River Dee White Water Race January 1978*



*Hugh Pashley of Sheffield Canoe Club*



*Sheffield Canoe Club at play*

Two persons wanted to assist with general work in the running of our Sports Lodge. Family atmosphere. Caravan accommodation available. Canoeing qualification an advantage.

Apply John Barber, Goswick Sands Sports Lodge, Goswick, Berwick-upon-Tweed. Telephone: 0289-81232.

#### THE FARNE ISLANDS AND THE RIVER TWEED

Goswick Sands Sports Lodge, situated 4 miles from either venue, on its own private six mile sandy beach by Holy Island. With surf canoeing on the doorstep. 60' private pool for practice. Self catering bunk-house accommodation. Tents and dormobile welcome. Sailing, fishing, diving, tennis, horse riding, golf, airstrip. Write or phone for brochure and prices.

Goswick Sands Sports Lodge, Goswick, Berwick-upon-Tweed. Telephone: 0289-81232.

#### CALSHOT ACTIVITIES CENTRE

##### ASSISTANT INSTRUCTORS – SAILING AND CANOEING

Assistant Instructors in Sailing (both Dinghy and RYA Coastal Certificate) or Canoeing are required at the above Centre from 2nd April to the end of October 1978.

Besides running residential courses, the Centre directs many non-residential courses for local school children, youth groups and adults. An interest in the other activities of the Centre (Ski-ing, Climbing, Track Cycling, Archery and Shooting) would be a recommendation.

The posts are residential. The rate of pay is £4.14 per day with accommodation and meals provided free of charge (additional increments for RYA Coastal Certificate Instructors).

Applications giving details of experience should be made direct to:—

The Warden, Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot, Southampton.

**BREDWARDINE LODGE** – Situated in Herefordshire and adjacent to river Wye, require seasonal instructors at Easter, Spring Bank Holiday and Summer periods. The lodge provides **ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS** between 12–17 age ranges. Instructors should be experienced in canoeing and or Hill Walking. Remuneration will be scaled in line with relevant BCU and or MLC qualifications.

Further details:

The Manager, Bredwardine Lodge, The Old School, Bredwardine, Herefordshire.

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## Access... River Wye 1978

Conditions set out in previous years will continue, with little change, during 1978. Relationships between canoeists and fishermen have continued to develop during 1977 with the majority of groups having apparently adhered to the terms of the agreement.

It is felt that these efforts will not go un-noticed and may help to bear fruit in future when additional open days during the fishing season are again sought. Unfortunately, a specific request for additional open days was refused for 1978, with the rider that (a) effective control over those groups still offending the fishing interest and (b) an acknowledgement fee should be mooted before increased access could be made available.

#### RHAYADER

The agreement with the Rhayader Anglers Association will be continued through 1978. In addition to the period stipulated for canoeing, a number of canoe groups have gained permission to canoe during the last few weeks of November.

#### RIVER IRFON (Tributory of the Wye)

Pending a decision by the British Canoe Union regarding a financial acknowledgement to the Owners of this river, for canoeing use, without prejudice to discussions regarding a trial agreement for access in the closed salmon and trout season, and during spate conditions, the Owners downstream of Llangammach Wells are prepared to allow canoeing until the 31st March 1978. Providing groups adhere to certain conditions Canoeists anticipating using this river should write for further details.

Further details can be obtained on receipt of a 9" x 4" SAE from:

River Wye (upper) J. Greenland, Woodlands Outdoor Centre, Glasbury-on-Wye, Hereford.

River Usk C. Green

River Monnow R. Burson, Langton Youth Adventure Centre, The Court House, Longton, Abergavenny.

## Canoe Rally

Readers of "Canoe Focus" may be interested in partaking in the sponsored canoe rally down the Wye from Hereford to Ross, funds thereby being raised for the Herefordshire Society for Mentally Handicapped Children.

This has now become an established, popular, annual event and this year is being held on Sunday June 18th, starting from Hereford at about 9.00 a.m.

Although not a race, participants – of whom there are now 300 or 400 – are timed over the 27 miles and a prize is awarded to the person collecting the most sponsor money; in 1977 this was won by a debonair grandmother in her 60s which indicates the scope of entry!

The route is well marshalled, refreshments are provided at Hoarwithy and Ross and every effort is made to transport canoeists back to their cars at the end of the day.

Further details and entry forms may be obtained from:

Mr. Fred Carpenter, Grove Farm, Llangrove, Ross on Wye, Herefordshire. Tel: Llangarron 357





# Canoe Camping 1978

## BRIDGWATER & TAUNTON CANAL

St. Quintin Guest House, Bridgwater Road, Bathpool, Taunton, Somerset. (Taunton 3016) Caravans and tents all year.

Lakeside Caravan Park, 121 Taunton Road, Bridgwater, Somerset. (Bridgwater 3352) Caravans all year.

## COVENTRY CANAL

Drayton Manor Park, Tamworth, Staffs. Caravans and tents Easter – October.

## GRAND UNION CANAL

Cosgrove Lodge Park, Cosgrove, Wolverton, Bucks. (Stony Stratford 3360) Caravans and tents April – October.

Trax Camp Site, Warwick Race Course, Warwick. Caravans.

Riverside Caravans, Thorney Mill Road, West Drayton, Middlesex. Caravans all year.

## LEICESTER LINE

Bramfield Park, Lubenham, Market Harborough, Leics. (Market Harborough 2941) Caravans and tents all year.

Kilworth Caravan Park, North Kilworth House, North Kilworth, near Lutterworth, Leics. (Husbands Bosworth 385) Caravans and tents all year.

## KENNET & AVON CANAL

Newbridge Caravan Park, Brassmill Lane, Bath, Somerset. (Bath 28778) Caravans April – October.

## LANCASTER CANAL

Intack Caravans, Nether Kellet, Carnforth, Lancs. (Carnforth 2884) Caravans March – October.

Millness Hill, Preston Patrick, Milnthorpe, Westmorland. (Crooklands 306) Caravans and tents March – October.

Six Arches Caravan Park, Scorton, Garstang, near Preston, Lancs. (Forton 683) Caravans March – October.

## RIVER LEE & STORT NAVIGATIONS

Anchor Cottage Riverside Caravan and Camping Site, Church Lane, Hartford, Hunts. (Huntingdon 53527) Caravans and tents all year – No children taken.

Greens Leisure Centre, Roydon Mill, Roydon, near Harlow, Essex. (Roydon 2133) Caravans and tents March – October.

## LEEDS & LIVERPOOL CANAL

Snaygill Service Station, Bradley, Keighley, Yorks. (Skipton 3107) Caravans and tents all year.

Eshton Road Caravan Site, Eshton Road, Gargrave, Skipton, Yorks. (Gargrave 229) Caravans and tents all year.

New Brighton Caravan Site, Marton Road, Gargrave, near Skipton, Yorks. Caravans April – October.

Mount Farm Caravan Site, 92 Bescar Brow Lane, Scarisbrick, near Ormskirk, Lancs. (Scarisbrick 249) Caravans March – October.

Cringles Caravan Park, Cringles Park, Silsden, near Keighley, Yorks. (Steeon 53109) Caravans Easter – October.

Overdale Trailer Park, Skipton, Yorks. (Skipton 3480) Caravans all year.

Tarn House Caravan Park, Stirton, near Skipton, Yorks. (Skipton 3136) Caravans and tents April – October.

## MONMOUTHSHIRE & BRECON CANAL

Royal Oak Camping Site, Llangorse, Breconshire. Caravans and tents March – October 10th.

## MONTGOMERY CANAL

Bank Farm Caravan Park, Middletown, Welshpool, Mont. Caravans and tents April – October.

Cefn Coch Caravan Park, Cefn Coch, Welshpool, Mont. Caravans and tents March 15th – October.

Church Street Caravan Park, Welshpool, Mont. Caravans all year.

## RIPON CANAL

Ripon Municipal Caravan & Camping Site, Ure Bank Top, Ripon, Yorks. (Ripon 2964) Caravans and tents mid-March – October.

## Who Examines the Examiners' Examiners?

by Geoff Good

... this could be an open-ended problem. Having worked with Bob Gray on committees, and knowing of his concern for the sport, I go along with much of what he says (Canoe Focus No. 9).

Having also been involved with the policy-making machinery I know the difficulties. What might appear to be a rational solution to a problem by a given individual, is not necessarily accepted as such by a group of individuals forming a committee!

There has been a radical change of coaching qualifications within the last five years. The rumblings are only just dying down. Various national bodies have only just got around to final acceptance of the system. And a dramatic re-appraisal now would really set the cat among the pigeons!

The shortcomings which Bob highlighted – particularly the natural upgrading of the basic award which has in fact occurred – is recognised and is being dealt with. A means of qualifying candidates of lesser ability level, within the existing system, is under active consideration. This is particularly applicable to teachers and youth leaders. Simply stated, the suggestion is that such people be given the necessary authority to operate, but in a controlled environment only.

Proficiency tests have been scrutinised, and the Coaching Committee is about to publish a definitive description of the levels of performance, experience and knowledge required for each item of the syllabus. The syllabus itself has not been changed.

A new series of tests have been devised, complementary to – in no way replacing – the proficiency tests. These new tests grade levels of ability in canoe handling techniques and knowledge only, and do not require expedition experience.

Another approach to the problem of Bob's original theme – that of standardising assessments – is to so structure the coaching scheme that more people become involved in the routine work, leaving the coaches of ability and experience free to oversee the technical side more effectively.

I personally like the concept set out in the paper Bob produced.

Unfortunately it was presented at the time when the present system was being finalised. The full process of working party, tearing apart in committee, back to the drawing board, and finally the great British compromise solution, had been agonisingly pursued. To have scrapped the implementation of the present system, in favour of a whole new approach, and to go through the process again at that time was unthinkable. It would have 'rocked the canoe' with a vengeance. And we all know how easily they capsize!

So, while I go along with Bob in his anxieties and contentions, I would just say, be patient. Improvements along the lines he envisages will come. But a lot of hard work has gone into producing what we have now. The system is quite good, in spite of shortcomings. We would all like to see a BCUtopia!

And in defence of the 'system' which takes so long to produce the right answers, I would say that a lot of hard working, enthusiastic, genuine people, but with differing backgrounds and experience, do take time to find the right solution. But in this they are no different to any other such cross-sections of human beings running a canoeing discipline, or any other sport or service in the British Isles.

---

Canoe Posters and Slide Sets for sale. Canoe films for sale and hire, including "Colorado", "Wild Water - An Introduction", "Muota World Championships".

Send foolscap s.a.e. for lists.

Chrisfilm,  
Glasshouses Mill,  
Harrowgate,  
North Yorks. HG3 5OH  
Telephone Harrowgate 711310

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CANOE TRAINING holidays on Rivers Wye and Fowey, 7 nights £57. Brochure from YHA Adventure Holidays, Dept. CF, Trevelyan House, St. Albans, Herts.

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Avoncraft Minnow (9'6") canoe with paddle, spray-cover, small child's Quadrant buoyancy aid. Ideal 9-14 year old. £55. Phone 01-504 5639.

#### RIVER SEVERN NAVIGATION

Lickhill Manor Caravan Park, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcs. (Stourport-on-Severn 2024) Caravans all year.

#### SHEFFIELD & SOUTH YORKSHIRE NAVIGATION

Trax Camp Site, The Racecourse, Doncaster, Yorks. (Doncaster 62706) Caravans and tents on selected dates.

#### SHROPSHIRE UNION CANAL

Little Roodee, Chester. Caravans all year.

Meiklejohn Caravan Park, Pell Wall, Market Drayton, Salop. (Market Drayton 2973) Caravans and tents March - December.

Brookfield Caravan Park, Shrewbridge Road, Nantwich, Cheshire. (Nantwich 64951) Caravans and tents all year.

Elm Beds Farm, Elm Beds Road, Poynton, near Stockport, Cheshire. (Poynton 2370) Caravans and tents March - October.

Netherwood House, Caravan Site, Whitechurch Road, Rowton, near Chester. (Chester 35583) Caravans March - October.

#### STRATFORD-UPON-AVON CANAL

Dodwell Trailer Park, Evesham Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwicks. (Stratford upon Avon 4957) Caravans and tents all year.

#### TRENT AND MERSEY CANAL

Ash Tree Inn Night Halt, Armitage Road, Rugeley, Staffs. (Rugeley 3171) Caravans March - October.

Silvertrees Caravan and Chalet Park, Penkridge Bank, Rugeley, Staffs. (Rugeley 2185) Caravans April - October.

#### RIVER TRENT NAVIGATION

St. Oswald's Caravan Park, Dunham-on-Trent, Newark, Notts. (Dunham-on-Trent 270) Caravans and tents all year.

Bungalow Tea Gardens Caravan Site, Gunthorpe Bridge, Notts. (Lowdham 3240) Caravans and tents all year.

#### RIVER URE NAVIGATION

Blue Bell Caravan Site, Blue Bell Hotel, Kirby Hill, Boroughbridge, Yorks. (Boroughbridge 2380) Caravans and tents all year.

#### RIVER WEAVER NAVIGATION

Woodbine Cottage, Warrington Road, Acton Bridge, Northwich, Cheshire. (Weaverham 2319) Caravans and tents March - October.

#### WATERWAYS NOT ADMINISTERED BY THE BOARD

##### RIVER HAMBLE

Riverside Caravan Park, Satchwell Lane, Hamble, near Southampton, Hants. (Hamble 3220) Caravans and tents Easter - mid/October.

##### RIVER NENE

Keys Park, Eye Road, Peterborough, Hunts. (Peterborough 62024) Caravans all year.

##### RIVER OUSE

Moor End Farm, Acaster Malbis, York. (York 66727) Caravans and tents - Easter - September.

Mount Pleasant Caravan Village, Acaster Malbis, York. (York 67078) Caravans and tents April - October.

Post Office Caravan Park, Acaster Malbis, York. (York 66288) Caravans and tents April - October.

##### RIVER TAMAR

Honicombe Holiday Centre, near Callington, Cornwall. (Gunnislake 583) Caravans and tents April - September.

##### TAVISTOCK CANAL

Harford Bridge Park, Tavistock, Devon. (Mary Tavy 349) Caravans and tents March 25 - October 25.

##### RIVER THAMES

Benson Cruiser Station, Benson, Oxon. (Benson 304) Caravans and tents April - September.

Swiss Farm Caravan Park, Marlow Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon. (Henley-on-Thames 3205) Caravans and tents March - October.

St. John's Priory Caravans, Lechlade, Glos. (Lechlade 354) Caravans March - October.

Harleyford Estate, Henley Road, Marlow, Bucks. (Marlow 6521) Caravans April – September.

Temple Farm Country Club, Sandford-on-Thames, Oxford, Oxon. (Oxford 79359) Caravans and tents March – November.

Willows Caravan Park, Maidenhead Road, Windsor, Berks. (Windsor 61785) Caravans all year.

Not all these sites are canalside or riverside; some may be quite a distance away. Check with individual sites before you book. Full details in 'Britain: Caravan & Camping Sites' published by the British Tourist Authority, from which all these addresses are taken.

# BCU Racing Committee

Reclassifications 1977 – Effective 1st January 1978

## PROMOTIONS

### (a) To Senior A – Men Kayaks

Racing No.	Name	Club
027	D. Phillips	NOT
+NR	M. Fegent	RIC
150	S. Jackson	ROY
006	D. Smith	HAR
068	M. Harvey	ROY
+NR	C. Ballard	LIC
003	R. Grimes	RIC
039	K. Owen	BOA
157	A. Duncan	RIC
070	R. Belcher	ROY
043	B. Greenaway	ROY
+NR	I. Ferguson	ROY

### (b) To Senior A – Men Canoes

Racing No.	Name	Club
111	A. Hall	HAR
201	R. Glover	WIN
116	G. Parkinson	RAF
164	M. Brown	WOR

### (c) To Senior A – Women Kayaks

Racing No.	Name	Club
136	S. Lucas	GAI
053	I. Lamb	RLP
190	J. Harding	NOT
188	A. Crawley	HAR
+NR	K. Money	NOT

### (d) To Novice (From Junior) Men Kayaks

Racing No.	Name	Club
051	A. Walker	HULL
149	A. Wootton	LIC
161	P. Foster	NEW
174	R. Fletcher	LIC
209	M. Flanagan	LIC
210	G. Stringer	LIC

### (e) To Senior B (From Novice) Men Kayaks

Racing No.	Name	Club
220	* S. Roberts	HAR
047	* P. Harrison	HAR
002	* F. Wetherall	RIC
221	* J. Rosling	BOA
057	J. Blake	RIC
214	C. Waghorn	RNKA
+NR	D. Collins	RIC
218	G. Kennedy	NEW
119	G. Spiers	IRV
080	J. Nixon	WAV
219	J. Giles	NEW
130	* C. Dunlop	IRV
+NR	R. Lang	PORT G.

### (f) To Senior B (From Junior) Men Kayaks

Racing No.	Name	Club
131	S. Missen	BOA
030	G.S. Holmes	WEY
087	J. Wingfield	MIL
144	G. Burgess	MAR
+NR	J. Ball	NOT
+NR	A. Crowley	NEW

## DEMOTIONS (At Paddlers' request)

### (g) To Senior B – Men Kayaks

Racing No.	Name	Club
138	R. Storey	RSIG
+NR	P. Lawler	RIC

## RE-CLASSIFIED (on age from Senior B)

### (h) To Junior Men Kayaks

Racing No.	Name	Club
+NR	J. West	ROY

## NOTES:-

- \* Promoted during the Season +NR = not registered (as a racing competitor).
- The Racing Committee have decided not to introduce a Senior C Class for at least one more season. Therefore those Junior paddlers whose 18th birthday falls on or before the 1st January 1978 and who have not already been promoted to a higher Senior Class will be required to paddle Novice Class during 1978. THIS APPLIES TO ALL NON-REGISTERED PADDLERS AS WELL AS THE REGISTERED COMPETITORS LISTED ABOVE AT (d).

## RACING COMMITTEE – NATIONAL OLYMPIC TRAINING SQUAD

The Racing Committee have established a National Olympic Training Squad to provide for the coaching and training needs of potential olympic performers at senior and youth levels. This Squad is composed of 76 athletes and 10 officials.

Membership of the Squad is available, on application, to those performers who are of a sufficiently high standard, as determined in the following paragraph, and who are prepared to undertake the sustained training, and preparation required.

The Squad functions from the 1st January to the 30th September each year. Members are selected annually, in December, by the British Canoe Union Racing Selection Committee, by reference to performances during the previous season and the recommendations of Training Squad Coaches based upon monitored training commitments in October, November and December. Additionally, Youth Membership of the Training Squad is restricted to those in the following age categories:-

For 1978/79 – those born in 1961/62/63  
For 1980/81 – those born in 1963/64/65

The number of members of the Training Squad falling within the various competition categories, i.e. kayaks, canoes, men, women, boys, girls, is subject to the circumstances prevailing at the time of Training Squad selection within the overall approved limitations:-

Seniors – 44 ) 76 Total  
Youths – 32 )

To ensure that the concept of a unified, national, preparation training programme is maintained, the National Olympic Training Squad is administered as one unit, with management and coaching personnel available to perform their duties as from time to time required, for an on behalf of the various competition categories within the Training Squad.

The primary objective of the British Canoe Union olympic preparation training programme for the period 1977/80 is to develop national standards of performance to a level sufficient to ensure British representation in:-

- All the 1980 Olympic mens and womens kayak finals, i.e. K.1, K.2, K.4, 500m and 1000m events.
- All the 1980 Olympic mens canoe semi-finals, i.e. C.1, C.2, 500m and 1000m events.
- The first six places of the K.1, K.2 and K.4 10,000m events, at the 1978 and 1979 World Championships.
- The first twelve places of the C.1 and C.2 10,000m events, at the 1978 and 1979 World Championships.

- All the 1979 Junior European Championships mens and womens kayak finals, i.e. K.1, K.2, and K.4 500m and 1000m events.
- All the 1979 Junior European Championships mens canoe semi-finals, i.e. C.1 and C.2 500m and 1000m events.



# Letters to the Editor    Members Views

C.E. Quaife  
70 Coopers Road  
Birmingham, B20 2JX

To the Editor, CANOE FOCUS

## COACHING AND FEDERALISATION

The proposals brought by the BCU Council to the last AGM stated that the administration and development of coaching throughout the UK including establishment, review and maintenance of uniform standards for coaching awards should be a federal matter. At their March meeting the National Coaching and Development Committee had a lengthy discussion on the subject. A minute was recorded which endorsed the BCU Council approach. The effect of this should be to dispel any worries that federalisation might mean that a Welsh Senior Instructor would not have his qualification recognised in say Northern Ireland. The NCDC has set up a working party to consider the details and the structure that will be required to implement federal policy and to back this up Oliver Cock, the Director of Coaching, will be visiting all countries of the UK to discuss the matter and record ideas and opinions. It is intended that this will all be thrashed out by September of this year so that the proposals can be circulated for discussion before the October NCDC meeting. Not only members of the Coaching Scheme, but also any members of the BCU or customers of the Coaching Scheme are invited to send comment and suggestions on the subject to Oliver Cock at BCU Headquarters. The more contributions that the working party has from you all the greater is the chance that we shall come up with a satisfactory answer.

Carel Quaife  
Chairman NCDC

Dear Sir,

I have just joined the BCU. My prime interest not being in competitive sport, I agree with the idea of a two tier membership as suggested in the Guest Editorial. Had this been so, I most probably would have joined before now and taken a more active part in canoeing.

M.J. Thomasson

Holbeton,  
Plymouth,  
Devon.

17 Salisbury Road,  
Harpenden,  
Herts.

17.3.78

I have just received Canoe Focus and though I have searched through it can find no mention of the BCU A.G.M. — I attended the A.G.M. but had to leave at 6 pm so only heard the results of the council elections and the first motion, and should like to know which of the other motions were carried.

I should also have been interested in other details of the meeting such as awards of honour, national champions etc. I am sure there are many people who live much too far away to come to the A.G.M. and would like to hear a report of the meeting — especially the results of the important motion on federalisation. If members are to feel part of the BCU and to take an active interest in the running of the BCU, surely they should not have to wait until the summer (if then?) to hear the results of the meeting held in January?

Margaret R. Bellord

3 April 1978

*Thank you for your card with reference to the BCU A.G.M. Unfortunately, because of a hold-up in the postal service due to adverse weather conditions in the West Country, the report on the A.G.M., written by Ron Emes, did not arrive before print deadline. As you know, I was not present at the A.G.M. because of illness and was therefore unable to supervise final copy.*

5 Fabyc House,  
Cumberland Road,  
Kew, Richmond,  
Surrey TW9 3HH

13th March 1978

Dear Sir,

I have just read the BCU 'Access Statement' in issue no. 9 of 'Canoe Focus', and the letter in the same issue from C.D. Warren complaining of the BCU attitude over access. Mr. Warren appears to base his case on the success of a 'gentleman's agreement' reached with 'the fishermen' on the Upper Wye above Rhayader.

The BCU Access Statement seems to me to be, if anything, very mild, and more to reflect a search for 'gentleman's agreements' than a hard line over the scandalous denial of right of navigation on rivers to which access depends mainly on the good will of those who happen to own river banks, and accruing fishing and other amenity rights.

I belong to the BCU as an individual member (I also belong to a club) because, as an adult recreational canoeist, I wish to be represented, at a centralized, informed and funded level, by a body which will act vigorously about the access problem using every legal means. Since I first canoed 25 years ago, the increase in pressure on every sort of water for recreation has made it only too obvious that canoeists, as often the least wealthy (and amongst the least polluting) of leisure boat-users, are likely to be the hardest hit in the scramble for limited facilities. We can only protect ourselves, in my view, by vigorous campaigns to inform the wider public of our reasonable claims; and eventually, by getting the law changed in our favour, involving long-term pressure on M.P.'s.

In my view, this must be the basic concern of a British Canoe Union; for by comparison, say, with other European canoeists, it is we in Britain who are most outrageously restricted in our access to our own rivers. I do not object at all to competitive canoeing, or to its energetic support by our responsible national body. My point is that, without wholehearted attention to the access question, involving a lot of money, BCU expenditure on competitive canoeing may be seen, in a few years time, as the expensive gilt on an ever duller gingerbread.

Yours sincerely,  
Ray Evans.

# Canoe Polo

The National Canoe Polo Championships were held at Crystal Palace on Sunday, 26th February. Many thousands packed round the swimming pool at the Palace to see if the top polo teams of Bere Forest and Luton could make the Championship a completely one-sided event.

The event started at 10.45 with the defending champions, Bere Forest, taking on Aberdeen University. The Forest team won convincingly and indeed, all the other quarter-finals were one-sided. The victory by Northampton over Birmingham 'A' was, we believe, the first time Northampton have been successful over this very talented Birmingham 'A' team. The match itself was the closest contested game out of the four quarter-finals.



The semi-finals got under way, and for many people the match of the day was between Bere Forest 'A' and Luton. Luton starting a little slow, soon found themselves defending their goal frantically for the first two or three minutes, but having survived this early pressure, Luton opened their game and remainder of the match was exciting end-to-end stuff, keeping the capacity crowd on the edge of their seats. Bere Forest emerged the winners by three goals to one, and although the score line looks convincing, Luton can look back on this match and count their missed chances, for with perhaps a little more luck, they could have run out easy winners.

The second semi-final between Northampton and Bere Forest 'B' looked as though it could have been another evenly contested game, but eventually Northampton were completely over-shadowed by Bere Forest and at the final whistle, the Bere Forest 'B' team went into the finals having beaten Northampton four goals to one.

The final game between the two Forest teams was won predictably by the 'A' team who have now held the title for four consecutive years.

Looking back over the whole competition it was all too easy to see which clubs have given total dedication to the game of Canoe Polo. Those clubs not only train regularly, but they have sets of boats all the same, their own paddles and accessories, and approach every competition in a thoroughly professional and organised manner. If other teams are to compete even in the same pool as these top teams, then some serious thinking should be done by all Canoe Polo Competitors.

## RESULTS

Youth Bat Polo	Walsall	4	St. Albans	3
Senior Bat Polo	Bere Forest (A)	4	Bere Forest (B)	0
Canoe Slalom	1st Nicky Wain (Chester)		1 min 12.0 secs	
	2nd Richard Fox (St. Albans)		1 min 13.4 secs	
	3rd Alan Edge (Leeds)		1 min 14.6 secs	

# Surrey Coaching

The Surrey Coaching Panel is running a series of Inland Kayak Courses in the Surrey Area. Various locations will be used and the courses for Senior Instructor Awards will be fully residential.

All courses will be staffed by British Canoe Union Senior Instructors under the direction of either: Bob Gray BCU Senior Coach, Gordon Ray, Senior Instructor and Area Coaching Organiser and Phil Hawtin, Senior Instructor.

Date	Course	Venue
July 15/16	Proficiency Training	Guildford
Sept 17	Proficiency Testing	Guildford
Oct 7/9	Senior Instructor Training and Assessment	Ravens Ait, Surbiton
Nov 4/5	Slalom Appreciation Course for Senior Instructors	To be arranged
Dec 8/10	Advanced Inland Training and Assessment	Wales

For further details of any course, please send a stamped and addressed envelope to Mrs. J.M. Gray, 11 Prairie Road, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey.

Please state the courses you are interested in.

## Letters (cont).

2 Queensborough Gardens,  
Hyndland,  
Glasgow, G12 9PW  
26th March 1978

Dear Editor,

I am currently researching the history, design and sailing of the old "C" Class canoes. I am also trying to trace the whereabouts of my late father's canoe with a view to restoring it to sailing condition.

If your members could send me any information, I would be most grateful and would defray any expenses.

Yours faithfully,  
Graeme J.W. Smith.

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# Racing

## THE RACING REGISTRATION SCHEME

### Introduction

The Racing Committee has been concerned for some time over the lack of an efficient communication system between the Committee, competitors, officials and regatta organisers and its inability to ensure that only B.C.U. members compete at regattas. The Committee feels that these shortcomings will be overcome by the introduction of the Racing Registration Scheme which will also enable it to establish exactly how many active racing canoeists there are in the country, at any one time, and more importantly, be able to contact them, individually, whenever the need arises.

### Initial Registration

All racing canoeists, including Espada Paddlers, are requested to register with the Racing Committee. This should be done at the first National Water Sports Centre Regatta attended during the season.

Registration will only be carried out on production of a current BCU membership card when the details of the competitor (name, address, Club, racing status, BCU number etc.) will be entered into the Racing Register and a racing number entered onto the competitors BCU membership card.

### Renewal of Registration

Registered competitors will remain on the Register and retain their racing number until such time as they are no longer actively competing or their BCU membership lapses.

Competitors will not be required to confirm their registration whilst a BCU member.

### Advantages of Registration

Registered competitors will be entitled to purchase the Canoe Racing Year Book and other racing publications that may be produced at a reduced price. In addition, those who subscribe to the Racing Technical Journal will receive their copies post free, on publication of each Journal, and will, of course, be fully up-dated on Olympic Selection policies, team training days etc. Finally, from the 1979 racing season only registered competitors, with the exception of first time attenders, will be allowed to compete in racing regattas held at the N.W.S.C. and in National Championship events.

## BRITISH CANOE UNION INTERNATIONAL REGATTA PROGRAMME 1978

Date	Event and Place	Selection Events	Competitors Crews Per Event
1st/2nd April	Hungary -v- Great Britain Match, Budapest, Hungary	1977 results and availability	SENIORS 2
20th/21st May	Bratislava International Regatta, Czechoslovakia	Committee Regatta 6th/7th May	SENIORS 2
	Ghent International Regatta, Belgium	Committee Regatta 6th/7th May	JUNIORS 2
17th/18th June	Home International Regatta, Nottingham	Spring Regatta 27th/28th May	SENIORS 2
24th/25th June	Four Nations Match, Boulogne, France (Belgium/Holland/France)	Home International 17th/18th June	SENIORS 2 JUNIORS 2
15th/16th July	Poznan International Regatta, Poland	National Championships 8th/9th July	SENIORS 1
22nd/23rd July	Holstebro International Regatta, Denmark	National Championships 8th/9th July	JUNIORS 2
9th/13th	World Racing Championships, Belgrade, Yugoslavia	National Championships 8th/9th July	SENIORS 1
9th/10th September	Four Nations Match Nottingham (Belgium, Holland, France)	National Championships 8th/9th July	SENIORS 2 JUNIORS 2
	OR Rome Regatta, Italy	Committee Regatta 12th/13th August	JUNIORS 2

### STOP PRESS:

K1. 10,000m

10,000m SELECTION EVENTS for 1978 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

From results gained in the Senior International K1.10,000m event to be held at the Dewars International Regatta on 17/18 June 1978.

K2 & K4. 10,000m

Both the K2 and K4 crews will be selected on results gained in the Open K.2 10,000m event to be held on Sunday 9 July 1978 during the National Championships Regatta.

More Racing — see opposite.

## WILTSHIRE OFFICER

The recently elected Local Coaching Organiser for Wiltshire is Mr. Richard Martin, 4 Spring Gardens, Stradbrook, Bratton, Nr. Westbury, Wilts.

# Water Wanted

The Wild Water Racing Committee are in the process of grading their paddlers into Divisions, it is anticipated that there will be three classes for Mens K1 as well as Under 18, 16, 14 age categories.

What is needed is: Suitable rivers and clubs willing to run races on them. Under the terms of its constitution, the Wild Water Racing Committee is allowed to control racing on all grades of water, i.e. 0 to 5, so if there is a reasonable stretch of moving water near your Club put in an offer to the committee.

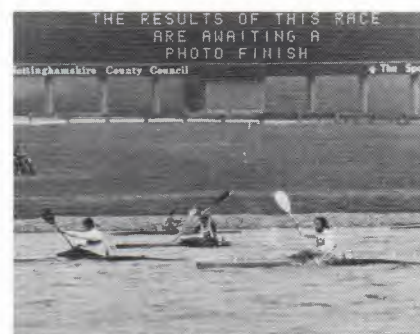
The more races we have, the better our standards will become.

For further details write to:  
John Handyside, Marston,  
40 Parkside, Cricklewood,  
London NW2 6RJ

# Racing



# Flashback



The basic programme of Squad preparation training activity for the period 1977/1980 is:-

Month	Group	Place/Date 1978
January	Training Squad	H.P. 14/15th January, 1978
February	Training Squad	H.P. 11/12th February, 1978
March	Training Squad	H.P. 11/12th March, 1978
Easter	Training Squad	Broads 25.3/1 April, 1978 Hungary 27.3/7 April, 1978
Spring	Training Squad	Broads 29.5/3 June, 1978
July	National Team (Senior)	H.P. 24.7/4 August, 1978
August	National Team (Youth)	Broads 20.8/2 September, 1978

The programme will be adapted in accordance with national and international regatta programmes, and the availability of further training opportunities arising from additional Sports Council support and sponsorship. (e.g. Olympic year).

The emphasis of all Training Squad activity is placed on crew and team training and firm direction is provided regarding the formation of national crews. Improved arrangements for the provision of personal coaching in the local training environment will be introduced, and help will be given to all those members of the Training Squad who receive no coaching support, by the use of Training Squad Coaching personnel.

#### THE WELSH CANOEING ASSOCIATION

The Council of the Welsh Canoeing Association wishes to develop all forms of canoeing within the principality and the Honorary Coach for Racing and Marathon Racing would be keen to hear of any paddler with a Welsh qualification who would like to be considered for selection for such Home International Regattas or Marathons as may be held during 1978. Selection would be based on the form of the paddler during 1978 but the Honorary Coach would be pleased to hear of results obtained during 1977. Juniors and Seniors should write to:

David R. Cook,  
Bryntysilio,  
Llangollen,  
Clwyd. LL20 8BS



#### RACING COMMITTEE - INTERNATIONAL SELECTION POLICY - 1978

In establishing the 1978 International Selection Policy, the Racing Committee have had regard to the need to provide the maximum opportunity for all racing paddlers to obtain selection in one of the nominated racing classes during the 1978 competitive season. At the same time, the considerable training demands imposed upon athletes seeking to achieve high level performances at international events, and particularly the World Championships is acknowledged and therefore the necessity to reduce the number of selection events to the minimum. The primary concern of the Committee will be to identify teams that will be the strongest available to the Selectors.

Subject to the achievement of satisfactory standards, consideration will be given by the Selectors to the entry of individuals and crews in the following events at international competition during 1978:-

Senior Men K.2, K.4, C.1, C.2 500m, 1000m, 10,000m	Senior Women K.1, K.2, K.4, 500m
Junior Men K.2, K.4, C.1, C.2, 500m, 1000m	Junior Women K.1, K.2, K.4, 500m

Individual paddlers and crews considered for entry in the international events referred to, will be expected to be capable of achieving standards of performance, which indicate a reasonable possibility in all kayak events of a final placing in 500m and 1000m races, and a place in the first six in 10,000m races, and in all canoe events, a semi-final placing in 500m and 1000m races, and a place in the first ten in 10,000m races.

Crews will be considered as crews, and the Selectors will not interfere with the composition thereof, unless they believe that their performances are not of a sufficiently high standard to merit selection.

Team arrangements for participation in international regattas will be made on behalf of the British Canoe Union Racing Committee by the officials appointed by the Committee.

The British Canoe Union Racing Committee will undertake to meet a proportion of the reasonable travelling expenses and accommodation charges of all selected competitors and officials participating in the 1978 International Regatta programme, from the funds to which they have access.

The British Canoe Union Racing Selection Committee will be responsible to the Racing Committee for the selection of all international teams participating in the 1978 International Regatta programme.

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Jackson, 218 Dale Road, Matlock,  
Bath. S.A.E.

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**SKERRY GEAR:** Specialist waterproof neoprene nylon stowage bags in various sizes, and waist bags for canoeists. Further details: S.A.E. to Old Fisherbeck, Old Lake Road, Ambleside, Cumbria LA22 0DH

North Wales Kayak Expedition to North West Greenland - Expedition reports at 75 pence post paid from - John Bull, ATW ASPT, Ripon, Yorks.

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*countryside. Ideal canoeing. Sleeps 4.*  
*(Except July/August).*  
*St. Dominick 50284 weekends*

# Instructors

by R.N. Castle

I have been involved in various ways with canoeing since 1963, entering the Coaching Scheme in 1967, gradually progressing from Instructor, Senior Instructor to Coach and to Honorary Slalom Coach. I have had a varied amount of experience in Slalom and White Water and sea canoeing. For a short while I was L.C.O. for Suffolk and have since taken over as A.C.O. in the Eastern Region. Throughout my canoeing career I have been involved with many training and assessment courses in various parts of the country.

What makes for a competent Instructor?

I feel that there are three major factors in deciding someone's competence.

- (a) The ability to teach a small group.
- (b) The ability to lead and look after a small group safely.
- (c) The ability to react quickly and well in incidents and situations that arise.

Of course the acid test is the question, "Would YOU let your son/daughter canoe with that instructor?"

An Instructor has to make judgements — and decisions as a result of these judgements. Possibly the hardest decision the Instructor has to make is that the conditions are too severe for the ability of the group. It may well be that the group has travelled many hundreds of miles to either go sea canoeing or to undertake a trip down a white water river. The Instructor is then placed in the unenviable position of saying to his group, "Well, I'm sorry friends, but it's not possible to do what we came to do." I would advise anybody when taking a group any distance to canoe, that it could well be that they may have to abort their expedition.

Within the last six months, in Suffolk, there have been two incidents where, despite fairly lengthy journeys, no canoeing has taken place; one of these being a visit to the River Dee and another being a course scheduled for Felixstowe for Senior Instructors Assessment and Training, where the Instructors considered that it was too hazardous to lay on training or assessment courses — for Senior Instructors. I should like to stress that it is very easy for Instructors to arrive at a river or beside the sea and just look and get changed and go afloat. It is much harder for an instructor to look at the situation, weigh up the ability of the group and then make a decision not to venture forth.

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AGENTS REQUIRED.

# Wildwater Racing

Team Selections for 1978

EUROPA CUP

Mens K1

Jeremy Hibble  
Melvyn Swallow  
Bob Campbell  
Dave Taylor  
Iain Freestone  
Chris Ballard

Res. Neil Robson

Ladies K1

Hilary Peacock  
Susan Hornby  
Sarah Swallow  
Anne Plant  
Jill Adams  
For Bala only:  
Annette Ramage

Mens C1

Martyn Hedges  
Bob Evans  
Chris Horrod  
Graham Goldsmith

For Bala only:  
Richard Glover  
Nick Pink

Mens C2

Cooper/Parr  
Perry/Philip  
Spencer/Stage  
Henson/Hodgson  
For Bala only:  
Haynes/Nutt  
Huback/Hunt

Manager: Patrick Cheney;  
Coaches: Martin Boshier;  
John Handyside

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Whilst this magazine is the official publication of the B.C.U. the views expressed are not necessarily the views of the Council of the B.C.U.

# Dewar's

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And as the years went by, they discovered the smoothest whisky of all, the one with unchanged and unchanging blend, had the name of Dewar's on the label.

The moral of this story is that, if you want a truly smooth whisky and wish to avoid the rigours of experimentation, then look for the Dewar's "White Label."

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