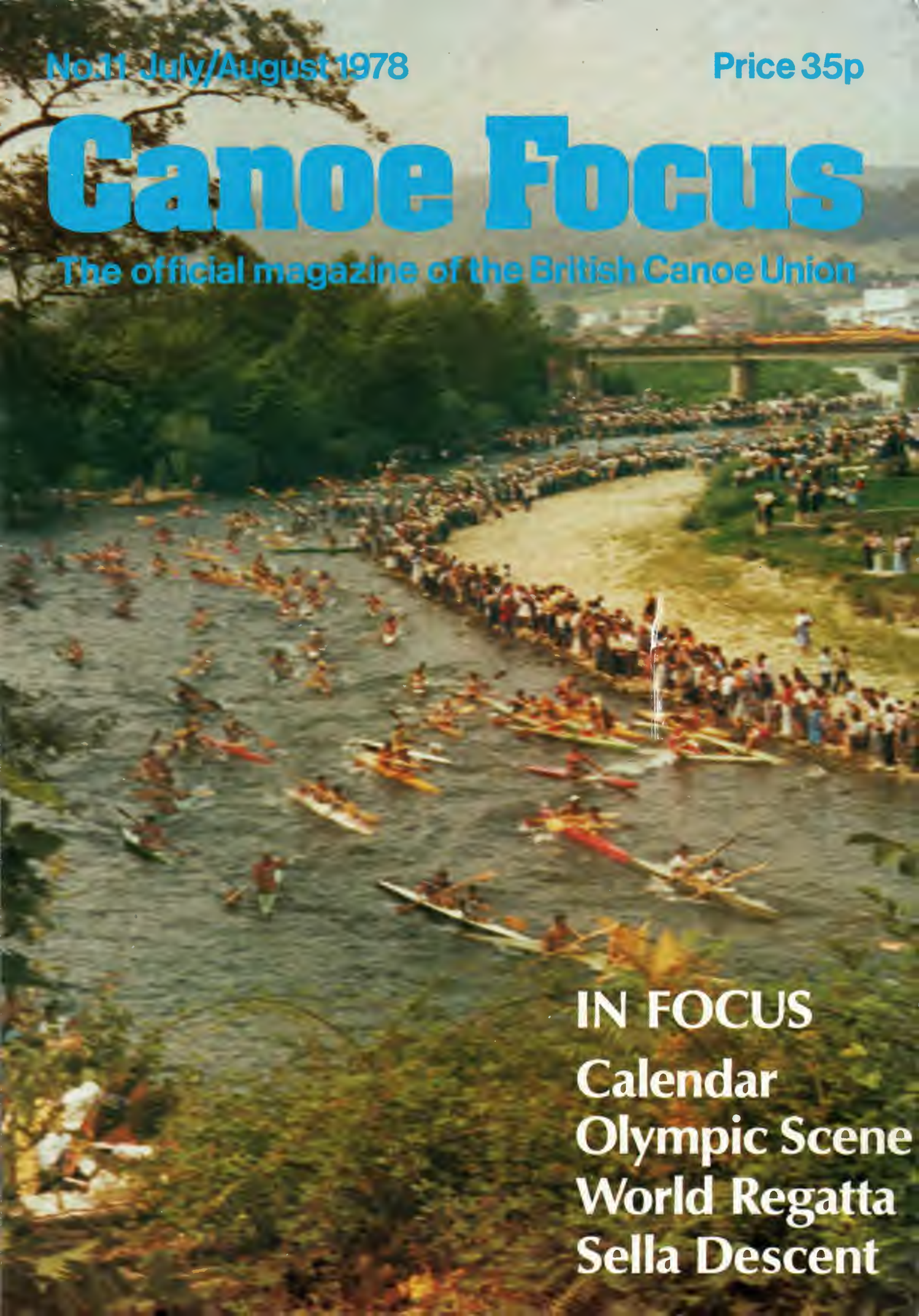


No.11 July/August 1978

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The official magazine of the British Canoe Union



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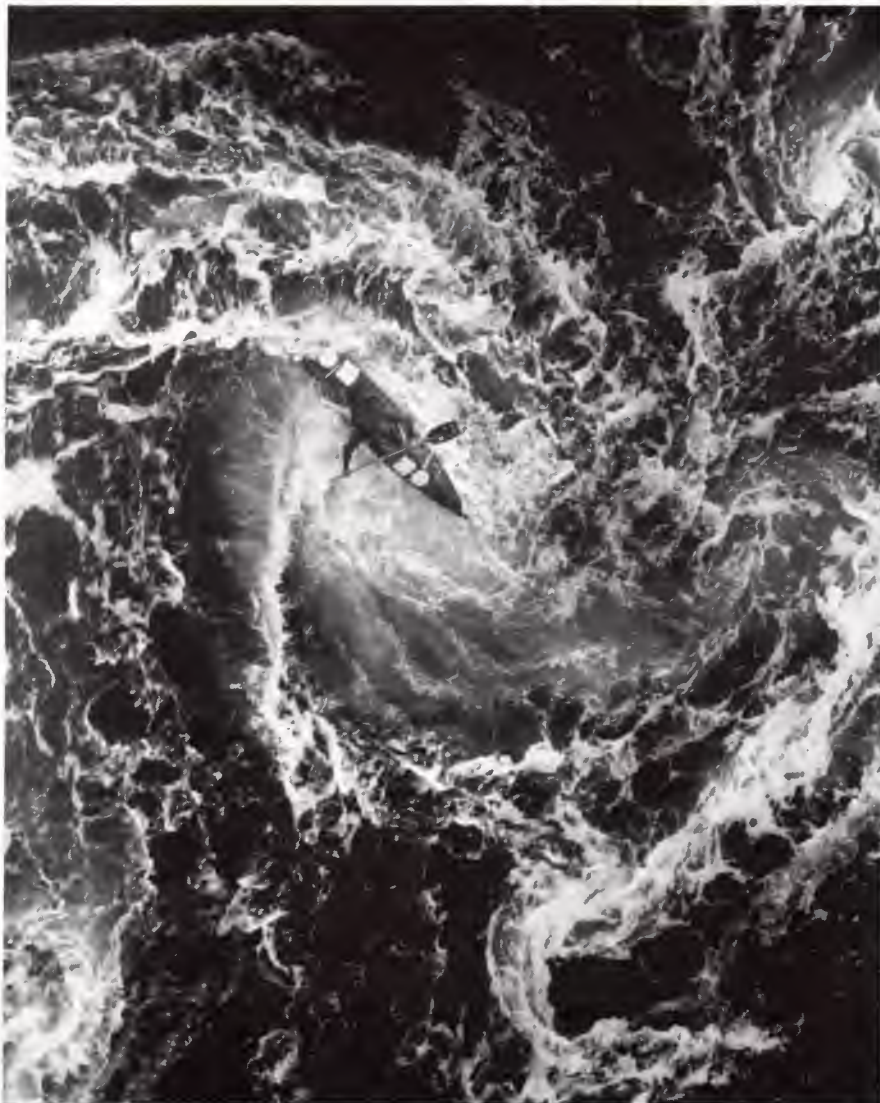
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Canoe Focus

Editorial Offices: Flexel House, 45-47 High Street, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey KT15 1JV
Editor: Gordon Richards, MBE, FPEA, ACP, Production: Colin Higgins DipEd.

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"Get out of that" Picture by Richard Jackson

Editorial

BCU MOVES ON!

In keeping with our overall expansion and re-organization the offices of the BCU have moved from the expensive Brompton Road offices to:
Flexel House
45-47 High Street
Addlestone
Weybridge
Surrey KT15 1JV
to which correspondence should be addressed.

COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHS

F/Cover: Spanish Fiesta by Mrs Montoto of the Federacion Espanola de Piraguismo

C/Spread: 'Greenland' by Eric Totty (an article on this expedition will appear in the next issue of Focus)

GENERAL ASSISTANT REQUIRED

Duties include variety of tasks about the centre related to general maintenance of the building, garden, services and boats. A permanent post with wages according to GLC/ILEA Grade C Agreement (Manual Worker). Some split duties and week-end work involved, basic 40 hour week.

Applicants holding a B.C.U. Senior Instructor qualification will be favourably considered.

Write to R. Hartle, Deputy Warden

Ravens Ait, Portsmouth Road
Surbiton, Surrey.

XXII Olympic Games

The XXII. Olympic Games will open on 1. July 1980; the Canoeing events are, as usual, at the end of the Games, namely, from 30. July to 2. August 1980.

The Course will be prepared on the Moscow Canal in the North West of the city, not far from the village of Krylatskoje. Regattas have been taking place there already for four years. This canal is divided by an island into two parts; the Regatta Course is in the main channel together with the Stands. The narrower channel will be used for training, but its principle purpose is to provide a route for boats to return from the Finish to the Start. The total length of the canal is 2300m, the main channel being 125m wide and the side channel 76m. The island has a width of 75m.

The Stands will seat 21,000 spectators and there are, in addition 1200 places opposite the Finishing Line for competitors.

Adjacent to the Stand is the Regatta Building with the necessary provision of rooms for the Organisation, the International Federations, Judges, Press Centre, Conference Rooms and so on.

Covered accommodation will be provided for boats and space will be allocated to the countries in the same way as in the last Olympic Games. In the building along with Changing Rooms will be massage and shower rooms, sanitary facilities, a sauna and other facilities for competitors.

The necessary provisions for doping control and for carrying on the work of other control commissions have already been made. Cycle tracks for the trainers will be laid on the canal bank. There will, of course, be a boat repair workshop with the appropriate equipment.

For canoeing training a special stretch will be equipped on the River

Moskva in the immediate neighbourhood of the Grebnoi-Canal, where it will be possible to train during the Rowing events. The Grebnoi Canal is 11 km from the Olympic Village.

The Olympic Village

The Olympic Village will cover an area of about 107 hectares about 15 minutes travelling time from the Main Sports Centre of Moscow, the Lenin Central Stadium.

In accordance with the rules of the IOC competitors and team officials will be accommodated in the Olympic Village, in which 130 to 140 national delegations with, in all, about 12,000 competitors will live in 16 storied blocks of flats. These will provide 2 or 3 room apartments with kitchen, toilet, bath and so on. In each room 2 competitors will be accommodated; that is, in a 2 roomed apartment 4 competitors and in a 3 roomed apartment 6 competitors.

On the ground floor of the flats are administration and storage rooms, and so on.

For meals the Olympic Village will have dining rooms with provision of 4000 places, and special attention will be given to the provision of national cuisines. There will also be shops selling sports goods and souvenirs, bank, post office etc.

There will be a special sports complex in the Olympic Village sports facilities, swimming pool, sauna, and so on, and also cultural provision with cinema, concert hall, games rooms etc. Situated in the Olympic Village will be a specially equipped polyclinic available to the residents.

After the Olympic Games the Village will be used for housing.

Members of the IOC, important officers of the

federations, Guests of Honour, Judges and others will be accommodated in hotels in the city.

CANOE SLALOM

Change of date for Spindlerov Mlyn

For technical reasons the Organisers of the Europa-Cup competition in Spindlerov Mlyn has had to change the date. Please make your entries immediately: The new dates are as follows:— Team entry by 20 April 1978. Individual Entry 12 May 1978, Draw for Start 13 May 1978.

Entries to this address: Ceskoslovensky svaz kanoistiky, Na porici c. 12, 115 30 Praha 1 — CSSR, Telex 122 650 Sportsvaz Preha Kanu, Telegram: Sportsvaz Praha-Kanu, Telephone: Prague 249 541/ Klappe 262

On 25. May 1978 there will be an examination for Judges, and from 8.00 — 12.00 hrs on the 26. May, measuring of boats. At 10.00 hrs on 26 May there will be the Team Managers meeting.

Examination for International Judges

During the Continental Cup Competitions in Europe and America 1978, examinations will be held for Judges (ISSW).

Applications to sit these examinations must be submitted to the ICF General Secretary not later than two months before the date of the examination. Candidates must be well prepared and bring with them a passport type photograph. The examination sub-committee has been appointed by the Executive Committee on a proposal of the SWC.

Jonquiere 1978

Great interest has been shown by the European federations in taking part in the competition in Jonquiere this year, but transportation problems have not been completely solved, particularly for the boats from Montreal or Toronto to Jonquiere. The Organizing Committee has a new address:— Organizing Committee of the World Championships of Canoe-Kayak 1979 Inc. 555, Route 170, Mail 170, Jonquiere, Quebec (G7S 4L1) Tel. (418) 548-2138

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

Access

River Tyne – Hexham to Riding Mill

Riparian owners will be willing to allow access to, egress from and usage of the River Tyne for canoeing subject to the following conditions:—

1. That it is understood that access and egress at the agreed points, and the usage of the River Tyne is allowed by the agreement of the individual Riparian.
2. That no Club, Association or individual canoeist founds any claim of right on the access, egress and usage hereby allowed.
3. That, since the access, egress and usage is by the agreement of the Riparian Owner, the Owner may at any time withdraw the agreement hereby given.
4. That the agreement referred to is given only to the canoeists operating under the British Canoe Union Registration Scheme.
5. That the British Canoe Union affiliates to the Tyne Fishery District Riparian Owners & Occupiers Association and pays an agreed subscription before any canoeist uses the River.
6. That access, egress and usage will be allowed at the following times:—
 7. That the River is open to canoeing in spate conditions except when the White Mark at Hexham Bridge is visible, whether it be above or below the water level. Canoeists are responsible for checking these levels before embarking. If the Mark is visible the River is fishable and accordingly canoeing is not permitted except on a canoeing day. That access and egress points will be at:—
 - (i) Tyne Green, Hexham downstream of Hexham Bridge.
 - (ii) The road bridge at Corbridge — north bank. upstream of bridge, south bank up and down stream of bridge.
 - (iii) At Riding Mill, on the south bank.
8. That canoeing parties must have a nominated leader, be limited to 12, and follow in line past fishermen. All members of the party must be B.C.U. Members who have joined the Registration Scheme, or be members of a Group also registered under the same scheme and under the leadership of a B.C.U. Member.
9. That the B.C.U. will undertake to provide adequate and proper insurance cover for public liability as part of the Registration Scheme.
10. It is also expected that the B.C.U. Canoeists will assist Riparian Owners, Angling Clubs and Owners' Employees to keep unofficial 'cowboy' canoeists off the river and to report any trespassers to the Northern Sports Council.

	Times	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
July	10-4	23		4		13		
Aug	10-4		7		16			26
Sept	10-4			5		1		
Oct	10-4	1	2		11		27	

Espada Change

ESPADA REGISTRATION OFFICER has now changed to:—

John A. Squire
124 Gough Street
Willenhall
West Midlands
WV13 1HE
Tel: Ashmore Lake 2202

Only registered Espadas are allowed in competition. Register now and avoid disappointment in disqualification. Spot checks will be carried out in competition events.

Southampton Boat Show

September 19-20 1978 is the date for the return of the successful boat building conference organized jointly by the Plastics and Rubber Institute and the Ship & Boat Builders National Federation. It is six years since the last conference was held and much has occurred in both terms of materials and design technology.

The boat building industry has grown, and the boats and vessels have also grown — both in terms of size and numbers.

Coinciding with the Southampton Boat Show and being held in the Boulderwood Hall of Southampton University, the conference will seek to emphasize the strength and wealth of boat building technology which is available today. Resins, reinforcements and other boat building materials have all progressed in the intervening years and the conference will highlight what these are and also explain the theory behind some of today's design practices.

National Surf

Since they were first introduced the National Canoe Surfing Championships have been most ably run by the Cornish Canoe Association but in the last 12 months a BCU Surf Committee has been formed and, from this year, this committee will be running the Nationals.

There is no intention to make any changes in the way the competition is run and, for this year at least, the location will remain the same, Bude. It is, however, hoped to broaden the appeal of the event from a canoeing spectacle by organising a disco and possibly a film show on the Saturday night.

The Nationals this year this year will be held over the weekend 9/10 September and enquiries should be sent, with a stamped addressed envelope, to: Tim Rule, Officers Mess, RAF Rheindahlen, BFPO 40.

In an effort to improve the distribution of publicity on canoe surfing competitions a mailing list is being prepared of all clubs who have members that surf regularly or who run surfing competitions. The secretaries of any such clubs who wish to be included in this mailing list should write to Tim Rule at the above address.



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Calendar

August 19/20

AWE 2,3,J. Edinburgh W.W.C. Mrs. C. Linn, 50 Kings Rd., Edinburgh.

August 26/27 Bank Holiday (England & Wales)

Linton Invitation Slalom (Sunday only)

(Div I – Yorks paddlers) Entries on the day, before 10 a.m.

Leeds C.C. A. Edge, 28 Hyde Park Terrace, Leeds 6.

September 2/3

MARPLE 4,J. Manchester C.C. M. Scott, 27 Tatton Drive, Sandbach, Ches.

GLASSHOUSES II N,J. Leeds C.C. N. Smalley, 9 Belmont Gardens, Bramley, Leeds 13.

September 9/10

WHORLTON 3,4. Tees K.C. R.W. Agar, Tanton Hall Farm, Stokesley, Middlesborough, Cleveland.

BINGLEY CASTLEFIELDS 4,N,J. Bradford & Airedale C.C. Miss H. Butterfield, 209A Cutler Lane, Bradford.

HAMBLEDON WEIR N. Chalfont Park C.C. T.J. Cronin, 38 Hillside, Slough, Berks.

TEVIOT BRIDGE 4,N,J. Roxburgh C.C. K. Fraser, 2 Mansfield Square, Hawick, Roxburghshire.

September 16/17

MATLOCK 3. Sheffield C.C. H.L. Pashley, 10 Crawshaw Grove, Sheffield.

HOWSHAM 4,N,J. York C.C. P. Stephenson, 74 Newlands Park Dr., Hull Rd., York.

DUCK MILL, BEDFORD N,J. Viking K.C. M.J. Carter, 5 Clarendon St., Bedford.

September 23/24

SERPENTS TAIL 1,J. Manchester C.C. A. Hardisty, 8 Muirfield Close, Prestwich, Manchester.

WEST TANFIELD 4,N. W. Yorks C.C. D. Nash, 151 Penistone Rd., Waterloo, Huddersfield.

September 30/October 1

SHEPPERTON 4. Shepperton C.C. N. Unwin, 5 Pine Walk, Surbiton, Surrey.

PONTRILAS N,O. Wydean C.C. G. Rogers, 68 Swift Rd., Gloucester.

CAIRNTON 2,3,J. G. Hatfield, 3 Straik Rd., Skene, Aberdeenshire. (S.C.A. Can.)

Leven Wild Water Test

October 7/8

LLANGOLLEN TOWN 1,J. & British Open. Mrs. P. Goodwin, Woodendale Ctge. Baldwins Gate, Newcastle, Staffs.

October 14/15

BUILTH WELLS 2,J. Worcester C.C. Hylton Rd., Worcester.

CARLISLE 4,N. Carlisle C.C. A.J. Yates, 2 Liddle Close, Lowry Hill, Carlisle.

DURNGATE MILL, WINCHESTER N,O,J. Worthies S.S.C. 42 Springvale Rd., Kingsworthy, Winchester.

PORTARCH 4,N,J. Aberdeen University C.C. T.J. Liddon, c/o Butchart Recreation Centre, University Rd., Old Aberdeen. (S.C.A. Can.)

October 21/22

LLANOYSUL 2. Bristol C.C./Bristol Univ. C.C. Socy.Univ. C.C., Students Union, Queens Rd., Bristol.

DARLEY ABBEY 4,J. Midland C.C. J.A. Nelson, 30 Weifield Rd., Darley Abbey, Derby.

COMRIE 4,N,J. Glasgow Univ. C.C. G.U.C.C., Stevenson Building, 77 Oakfield Ave., Glasgow.

November 4/5

LUDLOE 3,J. Birmingham C.C. A.R. Gouling, 6 Ferndale Park, Pedmore, Stourbridge, W. Midlands.

November 11/12

DEVERON N,J. Keith Grammar School C.C. J. Gilchrist, Keith Grammar School, Keith, Banffshire.

November 25/26

B.C.U. SLALOM COMMITTEE A.G.M.

Scots Corner

by Bill McKinlay

I am convinced that the most important facet of the total activity in any National Association is the involvement and endeavours of Clubs and Club Officials.

I think all will concede this point. Right then – are we going to continue to allow the present situation to exist?

At the moment, we have a situation whereby any individual who so chooses, can compete in any event they wish, can be selected for Scottish and/or British International Teams, have a great deal of money spent on them, through the outlay of S.C.A. + B.C.U. and various sponsors and Grant Aiding bodies, and yet play no part whatever in the most important part of our total activity, the essential, fundamental, back-bone of our organisation, the local Clubs.

Surely it is time we took steps to ensure that anyone wishing to take part in any of our organised activities, was first of all a Club Member.

This would make Clubs stronger, a little wealthier, and would ensure that everyone involved in

Competition attended a minimum of, say, four Club Meetings in each year, to assist, in some degree, with the running of same.

It would be no problem, or should be no problem, for any Club Secretary or Treasurer, to forward to H.Q. a list of those desiring SCA/BCU Membership, with a cheque to cover the total and to distribute Membership cards when they came through.

If the foregoing excites some comment, causes others to take a fresh look at our conduct of affairs, and even put pen to paper, I shall be well pleased.

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Army Round-up

Sergeant Champs

Services canoe championship honours have been secured by West Germany based Army Staff Sergeant Roger Ivey from Plymouth crewing the modern version of the original hunting craft used by Canadian Indians on turbulent river waters.

Staff Sergeant Roger Ivey (31), Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and a Scottish partner have won both the Army and Inter-Services two-man Canadian Canoe white water Championships, held recently at Richmond, Yorkshire.

Roger, whose parents Major and Mrs. Doug Ivey live at Knapps Close, Elburton, Plymouth, is pictured on a West German waterway during a pause in recent training.

He and his partner, REME Staff Sergeant Stan Richmond, will be competing in May as members of a West German Club team in an international canoe competition.

"Our main objective is the 1981 World Canoe Championships in the United Kingdom" says Roger, who puts in many hours of practice after duties

each day and at weekends. They give up a lot of their annual leave to take part in the sport which Roger says is "growing in the Army".

Their 15 feet long fibreglass canoe withstands the buffeting of fast moving waterways in Europe as the pair race over distances of up to eight kilometres, kneeling Indian style, with a paddle each. Unlike the Indians they have to conform with waterway regulations and wear crash helmets.

Roger, whose father formerly served with the Army in Plymouth, has a brother serving in the Army at Osnerbruck.

Married with a 7½ year old son, Roger is serving with a Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers Workshop at Willich, Western Germany, where he is a management services controller.

He is a former member of an Army Youth Team, based at Plymouth. During his tour with the team he was involved in outward-bound school and local canoe association activities.



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Tel: Wollaston 275.

VALLEY CANOE PRODUCTS LTD., Private Road,

4 Colwick Est., Nottingham. Tel: 0602 249371.

WILD WATER CENTRE, Glasshouses Mill, Harrogate,

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Spanish Fiesta

by Juan Manuel Feliz
Photographs Federacion Espanola

The varied relief and climatic diversity of the different Spanish regions make it possible for canoeing and nautical tourism to be practised in all its specialities if the person knows how to find the right place at the right time. From this point of view Spain can be said to be a privileged country, crossed by rivers which permit canoeing and which run down to three seas (the Atlantic, the Bay of Biscay and the Mediterranean) and with many lakes, and artificial reservoirs where canoeing can be practised in still waters.

These conditions have made it possible for this sport to be practised in all the regions of Spain, and in the last few years it has become extremely popular as shown by the large number of members of the federation, the crowded competition fixture (many of which competitions are international) and the successes of the Spanish team in the last Olympic Games and World Championships.

Parallel to competitive canoeing nautical tourism has developed, helped no doubt by the local manufacture of adequate types of boats. However, given the attractions of our country with its clean rivers and beautiful scenery, we feel that nautical tourism in Spain is only just beginning.

In order to analyse Spain's canoeing possibilities we have divided the country into four areas:

1. The Cantabrian region.
2. The Pyrenean region.
3. The central plateau.
4. The Mediterranean region.

1. The Cantabrian Region

This area includes the provinces which border the Bay of Biscay (Guipuzcoa, Vizcaya, Santander, Asturias and Lugo), the rest of the Galician provinces (La Coruña, Orense and Pontevedra) and some inland provinces whose rivers start in the Cantabrian mountain range (León, Palencia, Burgos).

This is the area where most of the canoeing is done, as is shown in the number of members of the provincial federation, clubs and competitions. The canoeing centre of the region is Asturias.

The rivers which start in the Cantabrian mountains and flow out into the Bay of Biscay, are rapid but short. White water canoeing can be practised in the higher regions and for the last 25 to 30 kilometres river descents with first and second class rapids. These Cantabrian rivers end in wide estuaries where still water canoeing can be practised when the tide is high.

The most famous Spanish river descents take place in this area:

- The International Sella Descent is held on the first Saturday in August, and is run between Arriondas and Ribadesella (20 kilometres). Every year it attracts more than 200,000 spectators and 500 canoes from over 15 countries. This event, founded by Dionisio de la Huerta, is the oldest in the Spanish competition fixture and in 1978 will celebrate its 42nd edition.
- The International Ason Descent, between Ramales and Ampuero (Santander) is another of the classic river descent events. It is more difficult than the Sella Descent and is very appropriate for RR. It is held in the middle of August.
- The International Cares-Deva Descent (25 kilometres) between Mier and Unquera is held the week after the Sella one. The river's transparent waters run rapidly between deep gorges.

Other rivers which can be run in this region are: the Piloña, the Saja, the Bidasoa, the Narcea and the Nalon.

Still water competitions are held on the Bilbao, Limpias, Ribadesella, Villaviciosa (an important international regatta

14 kilometres long and one of the oldest in the fixture), and Navia rivers, etc.

The famous Mino Descent in Lugo is held in Galicia. This river is navigable in its whole course, and competitions are also held in Orense and Tuy.

Other Galician rivers on which competitions are held are the Eume and the Sil.

In this area we should also consider the rivers which start in the Cantabrian mountains and flow into the Atlantic (the Orbigo, the Esla, the Carrion, and the Pisuerga) or into the Mediterranean (the Ebro).

White water canoeing in this area is practised on the rivers Sella, Cares, Ason, Saja and Ebro. The most appropriate season is spring due to the thaw as in summer, unless there is abundant rainfall, the volume is too small to practise this speciality.

2. The Pyrenean Region

The rivers in this region are the best in Spain for white water canoeing. They are mountain rivers, with a rapid and voluminous flow, which remain strong even in summer.

The most important are the Noguera Pallaresa, the Noguera Ribagorzana, the Valira, the Segre and the Esera. These rivers are becoming more and more popular with white water canoeists, both Spanish and foreign.

The traditional International Noguera Pallaresa Week is held every year in July in Sort (Lérida). During this week there are descents, slaloms, kayak rolls, and touristic events. The towns where these specialities are most practised in this region are Graus, Sort, and Seo de Urgel.

These rivers flow into the Ebro which ends in a wide delta at the Mediterranean. This is the most voluminous river in Spain and is very appropriate for nautical tourism, as is navigable from its source in the Cantabrian mountains to its mouth. Competitions are held both in the high part (Polientes) and where it passes through the large city of Zaragoza.



Crowded banks and crowded river Spanish Style

Continued...

3. The Central Plateau

The Castilian plateau is crossed by several rivers, many of which are voluminous, and flow mainly down to the Atlantic in gentle meanders. Three of them are important because of their length: the Duero, the Tagus and the Jucar. The first two flow through Portugal to the sea and are ideal for nautical tourism in stages, although we should point out that there are long stretches of still water due to the number of artificial lakes.

The Jucar, which flows out into the Mediterranean is also navigable almost from its source in the Province of Cuenca where it crosses the countryside of the area known as "Serrania de Cuenca".

White water canoeing is practised in this region in some of the rivers in the mountainous zones like the river Alberche which flows down from the Gredos Mountains in the Province of Avila.



Spanish fiesta, drawing great crowds in the sunshine. Canoeing has emerged as a considerable spectator sport in the last few years.

4. The Mediterranean Region

Apart from the Ebro and Jucar rivers, about which we have already spoken, the Guadalquivir river is also included in this region although it flows into the Atlantic.

The Guadalquivir river is navigable up to Seville. There used to be an important canoe ascent from its mouth in Sanlucar de Barrameda to Seville, which was famous because it was the longest in Spain, but unfortunately it has not been organized in the last few years.

For those who would like to canoe on Spanish rivers we consider they would find the following of interest:

- The Spanish Canoeing Federation (Miguel Angel, 18 Madred) provides free the fixture of national and international competitions.
- There may be problems for canoeing in the Cantabrian salmon rivers from 1st March until 18th July when the salmon fishing season ends.
- ICONA (The Institute for Nature Conservation) is the body which authorises navigating on the rivers and artificial lakes, although with the exception of the salmon rivers, there are not usually any problems.
- Apart from the Tagus near the Madrid area, and some rivers in the Basque region, there are no serious problems of water pollution.

North Wales Canoe Club

by Mike Scott

The Club has been in existence just over two years and now has a membership of over sixty. It serves a wide area, including Anglesy, Gwynedd and Clwyd as well as several members coming from well outside these areas.

Meets are held regularly during the year, these include surf, river, sea, canoe rolling and skateboarding. The meets that draw the largest amount of canoeists are the Beaver Pool slalom held near Bettws-y-Coed, the Dysynni slalom held near Tywyn, Merioneth, and the surf championships held at Abersoch.

Committee meetings are held every two months after which a newsletter is published. The Club officials are: Chairman: Ian Usher, the Goat Hotel, Maerdy, Nr. Corwen, Clwyd. Hon Sec: Viv Cox, Victoria House, Corwen Road, Treuddyn, Clwyd and Treasurer: Mike Scott, Croeso, 64 Belgrave Road, Fairbourne, Gwynedd.

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World Sailing

The 1978 World Championships to be held in Fiskeboda/SWE were the main point of discussion at the April meeting of the ICF Sailing Committee. Full details have been supplied to the participating federations and the programme will be as follows:-

- 17. and 18. August - Measuring
- 18. August - Opening Ceremony
- 19. August - 2 races
- 20. August - 2 races
- 21. August - 1 race. afternoon reserved.
- 22. August - 2 races
- 23. August - Reserve day and Closing Ceremony

Final date for entries is 15. July 1978. All participating federations must nominate by the closing date a member to serve on the Jury. John Granberg will be responsible for boat measuring.

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Letters

Exhibition 79

The Exhibition Committee is very keen to get some new and exciting demonstrations of canoeing, at any level, put on at their exhibition on the 25th/26th February next year. All demonstrations are carefully scrutinised well beforehand so that adequate time is given for rehearsal before the actual day.

If you think you can put on a really lively demonstration, to last about 15 minutes, please write to OLIVER COCK, B.C.U., FLEXEL HOUSE, 45-47 HIGH STREET, ADDLESTONE, WEYBRIDGE, SURREY.

ARTHUR THOMAS

I have just returned from the sad duty of representing the BCU at the funeral of ARTHUR THOMAS, the Llangollen Water Bailiff.

He was a friend to canoeists and took a genuine interest in their affairs. Even if he had to say no to a request to paddle, he often accompanied the refusal with an enormous whisky.

He was much loved in his home town. I have never seen the Parish Church so packed.

Canoeing has lost a very good friend who proved time and time again the saying that: "There is no argument between a courteous angler and a courteous canoeist".

David Cook

M. Horton, Esq.,
President,
Cambridge University Boat Club,
Downing College,
Cambridge.

Newnham College,
Cambridge.

23rd April, 1978

Dear Sir,

It was with deep regret that we observed the unfortunate events of 25th March.

We feel that the skills of our club should be used to prevent a repetition of this in future years. We would therefore like to take this opportunity to offer you qualified instruction in the art of Eskimo Rolling.

While you may feel that the naval architecture of your craft precludes the application of these skills to the theory and practice of rowing, let me hasten to add that we feel this is not so. Minor technical modifications and rigid application of crew discipline could result in the first Self-Righting Eight.

We would be pleased to have further discussion with you on the implementation of these proposals.

Yours faithfully.

R.H. Holmes (Miss)

Commodore

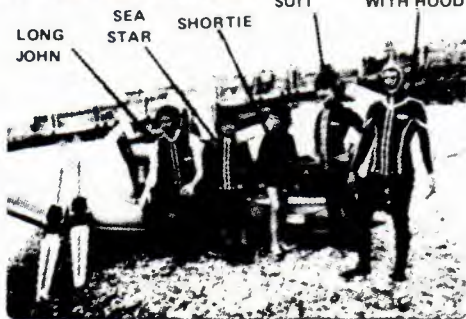
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XIV World Championships

The Organizing Committee has issued further information from which we publish the most interesting details:

1. The Regatta Course

For this year's Championships on Lake Sava at Ada Ciganlija a new regatta course has been prepared using the Albano System of buoys which meets all the requirements of the ICF regulations.

The lake shore will be surfaced with pebbles and sand and the shingle bank will be dredged away to remove problems which have up to now affected the long distance races.

Starting boxes will be constructed at 500m and 1,000m and there will be special pontoons for replacement paddles and service points for the motor-boats which accompany the races.

The course will be ready at midday on the 5 August, and anyone who remembers the last minute preparations for the first world Championships in Belgrade will appreciate this.

The individual teams will be informed in writing of their training times on arrival in Belgrade. The use of motor-boats during training will not be allowed, except for electrically driven ones.

2. Board and Lodging

As on previous occasions, for these third World Championships all officials and competitors will be accommodated in the Hotel Jugoslavija. The date of arrival for ICF Board Members is 5. August, for the Congress delegates 6. August and for teams and officials the 7. and 8. August, 1978. All necessary office and administrative services will be available through the Organizing Committee in the hotel.

The reduced price for board and lodging during the Championships is not yet known, but will relate to the period 5. — 15. August 1978 and will relate

exclusively to the participants in the World Championships together with accredited journalists and Congress delegates. Meals will be taken in the rooms on the 1. Floor, where tables will be reserved and designated for each country, to remain the same throughout the whole period of the Championships. A menu will be produced each day in the three official languages. The team Managers will be able to agree their team meal times one day ahead and so arrange their timetable.

3. Transport

From 5. — 15. August a regular bus service will operate between the hotel and Ada Ciganlija. Departure times will be published and strictly observed. The official buses will go direct to the Regatta Course, but all other vehicles will be directed to a parking place near the entrance of Ada Ciganlija (about 600m. from the Finishing Tower).

4. Accommodation for boats

Boat housing of the approved type will be provided, and there will be adequate boat-racks for all countries. A reserved space will be allotted to each team and guards will be on duty day and night.

Above these boat houses will be changing rooms, team rooms and showers. Team Managers will be provided with a key for their rooms, on payment of a deposit, when they register.

A boat repair workshop will be available to all teams. Work will be carried out under the direction of a highly qualified boat builder without charge to team participants.

5. Sanitary arrangements

In addition to the previous sanitary facilities there will be new ones with hot showers for all participants.

6. Medical facilities

From 5. — 15. August facilities will be provided at Ada Ciganlija, where doctors, ambulances and necessary auxiliary personnel for first aid will be available. A vehicle will be available at all times for transportation to a clinic.

In accordance with the anti-doping regulations of the ICF and IOC doping control will be carried out under the direction of the Chairman of the ICF Medical Committee, Dr Horst Burger and the Yugoslav member of that Committee Dr Tomislav Janjatovic.

7. Boat and Start Numbers

Boat numbers will be issued before the races at designated pontoons and must be handed back there after the races.

Starting numbers of competitors will be handed to the Team Managers at the first meeting of the Team Managers, which will take place on 9. August at 9.00 hrs. at Ada Ciganlija. The wearing of the numbers is obligatory during the whole of the competition. Afterwards the competitors may retain their numbers as souvenirs.

8. Starting Lists and Results

Starting and Results Lists will be issued regularly to Team Managers and to other officials. At the end of the Championships each national team will receive a complete set of results.

The firm of Longines will be responsible for all timing equipment.

9. Presentation of Medals

The presentation of medals to the victors will follow immediately after the race in accordance with ICF protocol, on a platform in front of the Stand. The Organizing Committee will arrange a place where Team Managers must stand ready with tracksuits, sports shoes of medal winners, since all Finals and Presentation Ceremonies will be trans-

mitted live on television.

Team Managers are hereby informed that the intervals between Finals will be 20 minutes.

10. Opening and Closing Ceremonies

A special programme is contemplated for the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the World Championships, details of which will be published later.

After the ending of the competition and the presentation of medals to the victors of the last races of the XIV World Championships, the ICF flag will be handed over ceremonally on the platform in front of the Stand, to the President of the Deutscher Kanu-Verbandes Peter Maassen and the Mayor of the town of Duisburg Josef Krings, responsible for the XV. World Championships 1979, by the President of the Yugoslav Organizing Committee Milan Rajacic. This ceremony will also be transmitted live on television.

11. Official Badges

All participants will be issued with a special badge of a distinctive colour, and, in addition, the active sportsman will receive an identity card with photograph. These articles must be carried at all times.

In addition other badges and emblems will be obtainable as souvenirs from kiosks.

12. The most important dates for the Organizing Committee

- a) Preliminary Entry 25.6.78
- b) Final Entry with Names 26.7.78
- c) Nomination of established officials 26.7.78
- d) Nomination of Congress Delegates (for accommodation) 26.7.78

Westel C.C.

Convoy 10·4

by Geoff Simmons

The Westel CC think of themselves as a fast touring rather than a racing club and when they were approached by the Surrey and Hampshire Canal Society with the request to run an event to publicise the Basingstoke Canal, although a Marathon was the first thought and a sponsored club run the second it was decided the Marathon would have too limited an appeal at the moment and a club run just would not have enough excitement or spectacle value.

It was the two ex racing cyclists in their midst who provided the answer, why not a reliability trial?

In ten days the trial committee (which meant the whole club) had decided on distances and times, printed information and entry forms and designed and executed posters to adorn the Basingstoke Canal Society stand at the Canoe Exhibition. Its title had become a Canoe Tourist Trial and the distances involved were 6, 12 and 20 miles and three times were allowed at each distance for solos and slightly faster ones for doubles. It was thought that an entry of 150 to 200 could be expected. By the closing date there were 288 entries and by the time the last late entries were received there were 386 names on the sheets.

Certificates and ceramic medallions are being awarded to all finishers.

For sheer spectacle the start of the 6 miles 2 hour group had to be seen with 72 paddlers in the canal some 50 yards upstream of the bridge. There were 60 starters in the 6 mile 3 hour class, 65 in the 12 mile 3 hour and 43 in 12 mile 4 hours. Obviously at this stage many of the entrants

had no idea of their capabilities and in fact the 6 mile 3 hour class could have been virtually deleted and a 1½ hour class introduced.

The 2 seater (and the fastest) classes were not quite so full and the total entry for the 20 mile distance was 60.

It would appear from these results that the

canoeing world has been waiting for this type of event and it was a pity that the BCU exhibition stand had other commitments, there must have been hundreds of unattached canoeists around.

A comment heard from one paddler "You didn't need a map to find Fleet you just got on the M3 at Sunbury and joined the convoy".

The Westel are already working on next years event bearing in mind some constructive criticisms and also, following many requests looking at the possibilities of a Marathon later in the year.

Sea Touring

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Canoe Sailing

Hello Sailor

by Jeff Stamps



PWLLHELI OPEN EVENT April 29/30 May 1st

Dick Marks kindly gave his permission for the West Country Trophy to be sailed for at this event. The weather provided a beautiful day on Saturday, but cold. The start was delayed as the locals thought that wind would fill in — and it did. Alas the windward mark drifted and the race was abandoned and restarted somewhat later, by which time numbers had dwindled, mainly due to the temperature.

Tony Marston had a clear minute lead over the line, the nearest opposition being upside down, no names, the second nearest travelling in the opposite direction, his chronostop having stopped instead of chrono-ing. But all this glory rushed to Marstons head and he fell off on the gybe, not once or twice but five times; Mike Hartley swept past and thus secured the trophy.

The wind increased and the temperature fell and that was that for the weekend. Well at least we got one race in.

KNOWLS BOWL R.C.C. May 6/7

This event suffered a worse fate than Pwllheli. The heavy rains of the week preceding the event caused a 6Kn stream, and the wind not being of sufficient strength, that put paid to that event.

However, that's the bad news; the good news is that club racing has got off to a good start. The Stone brigade have been mustering consistently good turn-outs and threaten to chase all the opposition out of sight at their forthcoming Open Event 27–28th May. If you have missed out on entry forms for any reason, contact:

Peter Herbert, Marlborough Close, Upminster, Essex.

Three ICs were out on the Dee estuary the weekend before the Pwllheli Open, and Mike Hartley regularly visits that fine sailing water for tune-up sessions with Tony Marston, shortly to be joined by Richard Hampson, Colin Brown and Ian Stewart, a Fireball sailor of some repute. Ian has a Swedish chine canoe which he has rebuilt and will, no doubt, travel horribly fast. So watch out Southerners, the Northerners are on the Warpath.

Ian Smith has been out with his new rig at Brightlingsea. This 3 sq. m. jib and aft tacking system has thrown him a bit, a brief respite for the rest of the fleet.

Colin Brown, Ed Compton and Brook White have completed their new glass Canoes and we hope that no news is good news from Chris Eyres and Chris Edwards. On the subject of new Canoes — don't forget to get them MEASURED — and it's best to get it done before you start sailing. Contact . . . Peter Herbert, 19 Marlborough Close, Upminster, Essex.

Please give him plenty of notice and don't expect him to drop everything at an Open Event to measure your IC without prior notice.

Canoe Symposium

See the Sea Canoeing Symposium report available from

John J. Ramwell
32 Glebe Road
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Cambs. PE18 0DG

at a cost of 35 pence.

Dual Role

"Most canals could easily be adapted to preserve their value for nature conservation and at the same time meet the growing demands for water based recreation" said David Wain, Chairman of IWAAC and President of the BCU. He was commenting on the continuing discussion between IWAAC and the Nature Conservancy Council on ways of preserving the habit valued by naturalists on canals.

A relatively straight forward method would be to construct areas off the main channel which would be subject to the same water flow but which would be safeguarded from the immediate effects of constant boat passage. Disused turning points, or widened areas could also be suitable. The Council

agreed to explore further with the British Waterways Board the possibilities of this method, and to discuss its application throughout the country with interested parties.

IWAAC, in their visits to the Press branch, near Shrewsbury, and the Montgomery Branch in Wales were able to see at first hand the effects on the natural habitat of the various levels of boat usage.

The Council also examined the two mile Guilsfield arm and learned from the naturalists that the lack of a constant water supply had greatly diminished the arm's value as a natural habitat. They therefore agreed that they had no evidence before them which would favour restoration of the arm for conservation or recreation.

Slalom Problems by Paul Wood

I write to air some grievances that slalomists feel against the B.C.U. Slalom Committee and slalom organisers.

1. Some slaloms are geographically difficult (i.e. Symonds Yat). Many entrants have to make an unnecessary journey to show their B.C.U. cards (i.e. visits to the slalom site are by canoe only in full kit and there is nowhere to keep a B.C.U. card dry). Why couldn't someone see the B.C.U. cards when camping fees are collected? The greatest anger was felt when entrants were refused second runs. Why can't the deadline be at the very end of the slalom before prize-giving? Those who leave the slalom without showing their B.C.U. cards are not ranked!
2. Is it beyond the wit of man (organisers and starters included) to allow entrants to compete in the event out of start order (within reason and each case on its merits). At Appletreewick this year the weather was appalling and the slalom ran half an hour behind time yet entrants were still expected to be at the start in start order (2 places late and no run!)
3. After spending £1 entry and travelling perhaps over 100 miles I expect to find the slalom fairly run. It is grossly unjust (Symonds Yat) when gates are allowed to drag and bounce in the waves for half of the entrants as the water level rises.
4. The growing feeling by organisers is that all entrants are 'second class' and a necessary evil. At Symonds Yat, caravanners are told to make their own arrangements. No help is offered in the form of telephone numbers of near sites, yet many people receive the details the Friday before the event, making it a little late to make site bookings. Overall slaloms are becoming disgraceful in organisation and 'direction' from the B.C.U. Slalom Committee.
5. Have organisers never heard of Portaloo (loos on wheels)? An extra camping levy could pay for these. Could some slaloms try a survey to see if canoeists would like them and be willing to pay for them?

National Surf

9/10 Sept.

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Sea Touring

By Peter Hewitt,

The Committee

The Sea Touring Committee is now a Technical Committee of the BCU. Its members are a mix of elected members, representatives of each BCU region, and ex-official members from such organisations as the Scots, Welsh, and Northern Ireland canoe associations and the CCLG.

At present, where regional representatives have not yet been appointed, we have co-opted people in order to get things moving, but we hope to have properly nominated representatives from each region soon.

Meetings

The next Committee meeting will be held after the afternoon session of the Advanced Sea Kayak Club Sea Symposium in December.

Coastal Grading

One task we are tackling is the provision of advisory information for our coasts, similar to that we have long been used to having for inland waters.

We are defining six grades of water, equating to the inland grades, where sea-novices would normally stick to grade 1 and 2, proficient paddlers grade 2/3, and advanced paddlers grade 4/5. At sea, no grading can take account of actual weather conditions, and correct use of tidal data can avoid fast tidal streams and overfalls. (Similarly, inland grading is based on average conditions and takes no account of flash floods or drought.) The scheme classifies coastal waters on basis of features such as exposure to winds, speed and severity of spring tidal streams, distance to available landings — not just distance off shore — and proximity to other dangers.

We aim by mid 1978 to have a chart at ten miles to the inch showing approximate gradings of all the English coast, and will then set about more accurate grading of the more advanced areas.

Later, we will endeavour to provide, for those that want it, written information about our coasts giving those details valuable to touring canoeists that cannot accurately be obtained from available documentation. Is there an eddy close inshore to permit working up along the coast against the main stream? At what time of tide can a canoe go past a headland against the tide?

All this information is being collected from our regional reps, and collated by the central committee. Eventually it will be available from the Secretary, John Ramwell, whose address is now 32 Glebe Road, West Perry, Grafham Water, Huntingdon.

Sea Canoeing Touring Meet

The Committee is planning a meet at Anglesey 26/27/28 August, open to all paddlers interested in advanced touring. Applicants please contact Keith Maslen, The Hall Bungalow, White Edge Drive, Baslow, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, or the Secretary.

I.W.A.A.C. News

IWAAC are to consult further on the Government White Paper * proposals for the waterways in the light of the statements made to them at their dinner at the House of Commons on the 19th January by the Minister of State, and the recommendations and re-

actions to the House of Commons Select Committee on Nationalised Industries Fourth Report on the British Waterways Board.

The Council will be issuing a consultation document at the request of the Department of the Environment to all those organisations directly concer-

Ascot

An open letter from

F.R. Goodman,

Chairman, B.C.U. Water Develop. Comm.

Dear Canoeist,

The Artificial Slalom Course proposed for the National Water Sport Centre at Holme Pierrepont way back in 1970 is by no means dead. Much hard work has been done over the last year to round off the design of the whole scheme to a point where only the money is needed. (More of this later.) The only thing that has died is the B.C.U. Committee that designed and nurtured the scheme . . . The ASCOT Committee (Artificial Slalom Course on Trent).

Actually this committee has been reborn as the Water Development Committee, and as its title suggests, it has been given a much wider brief by the B.C.U. Council. Although it will still concern itself very much with the proposed slalom course at H.P. it will extend its brief to look at ALL developments that affect the water canoeists paddle on. Thus new dams, new weirs, proposed sprint courses and designs of anything that may affect the canoeist will be looked at by this committee to make sure that plans will take canoeists into consideration.

In the past the Committee has, in practice, looked at various schemes for building other artificial slalom courses and altering existing weirs for the canoeists' benefit. Unfortunately we have often arrived on the scene too late, simply because we didn't know about local council's plans, or River Authority's schemes until they were beyond the point where slight changes of design to help the canoeist could be incorporated.

If you get wind of any proposal that might be turned to the canoeists' advantage, such as an alteration to a weir or a new channel being dredged out, please let the Water Development Committee know about it. If we can offer technical advice at an early stage, before money has been spent, we may be able to make more water suitable for our sport.

Back to the Artificial Course for H.P. If we are to get this Slalom Course it is going to cost between £1.5 and £2.25 MILLION! Obviously, we can expect help with finding this money, but it looks as though we shall really have to make an effort to help ourselves. We shall be coming back to the canoeist again and again in the near future for help in fund-raising for Ascot, but in the meantime we'd like you to start thinking how you or your club could tackle fund-raising so that we can build, at last, the best artificial course in the world, certainly the best White Water in the country, and a stretch of water that the slalom canoeist can call his own.

ned with the recreational use of the waterways, setting out clearly the aspects of the Government's White Paper proposals which are continuing to be a source of controversy.

IWAAC's Chairman, David Wain said "the uncertainty created by successive Government proposals has done great harm to waterway investment in the past few years. Now both the Minister and the Select

Committee have endorsed IWAAC's key recommendation that a stable source of finance is vital to a secure future for the waterways. We are hoping that all waterway users will help us to ascertain the general reaction to what has been proposed and discussed over the past few months".

* "The Water Industry in England and Wales . . . the next steps" July 1977.

Published on behalf of the British Canoe Union by Eric Buston & Associates, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol.

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.

Bits & Pieces

Wye Canoeing

by Noel McNaught

Our annual 'camp fire' cruise took place on Sunday, 2nd April. The 'fleet' consisting of one single and three double canoes left Holme Lacy Bridge at 11.30 a.m. on a swollen River Wye. The current ran swiftly with the discoloured water full of debris and drift-wood.

We paddled past Fownhope (old stocks to be seen here) and steep Capler Hill (an ancient camp) until six miles had been covered and we came abreast of midstream islands near Carey village. After landing upon the biggest island possessing ivy-strangled poplar trees, we lit a

fire with dry faggots we carried. Sausages were soon cooked and eaten.

That afternoon we needed two hours to reach Hole-in-the-Wall. Usually we stop at Hoarwithy Bridge but this year we decided to lengthen the distance to make it fifteen miles for the first trip of the season.

With no head wind to hinder us along the wide and straight parts of the river, we all enjoyed those few hours afloat. Next month we shall meet again on the Wye for our 'dawn chorus' run which starts at 4 a.m.

DEDHAM SLALOM, BCU slalom executive have agreed that the event scheduled for March 18th 19th at Dedham can now be held on October 28th 29th 1978 at Dedham, this will be a Novice and 4th division ranking event, entries to R N Castle, 1 Leicester Close, IPSWICH, Suffolk. Organised by S.W.S.A.

The second Welsh Canoeing Association's **WELSH SURF CHAMPIONSHIPS**, to be held once again at Aberavon, West Glamorgan, on weekend of 2/3rd September. Organiser - Mr. Joe Parcell,

119 Cockett Rd., Swansea, West Glam.

The second **WELSH SLALOM**, to be held once again in Llandysul, Dyfed, on the weekend of 28/29th October. Entries and enquiries to Mr. D.A. Hughes, Geography Dept., U.C.W., Aberystwyth, Dyfed. The event is to be non-ranking, with the following classes - Novice (paddlers who have competed in five or fewer slaloms) and Open Teams, C1 and C2, Junior Novice Cndn.K1, Open indiv.K1, Novice indi.K1.

10 SQ METRE CLASS

James Grogono has kindly sent a batch of particulars about the 10 sq. m. Class which the IYRU originated some years ago.

There is an open event planned for Saturday 30th Sept. and Sunday 1st Oct. at Castle Cove S.C. to be held in Portland Harbour. Please send SAE if you are interested, to: Hon Secretary, Colin Dove, 15 Kings Road, Great Totham, Maldon, Essex.

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LONG JOHN ZIP FRONT	4 mm	21.50
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" " " " " "	SUPER	45.00

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ASK FOR MR. ANDERSON

AGENTS REQUIRED.

Smalls

Members 5p per word

Non Members 10p



**Wessex Coaching Panel:—
Coach (Inland) Training Course.**
To be held at Bath Canoe Club,
weekend Oct 27-29, 1978.
Send S.A.E. for full details to
Pete Wood, 7 Sunnybank, Wick,
Bristol. Current Senior Instructors
with Inland Advanced
(either Kayak or Canadian) are
invited to apply.

Whitewater Sports are now at 22 Guildford Road, Woking. Tel: Woking 72426. We have the largest range of canoes and equipment in Surrey and at lowest prices. Diolen Snipe Slalom £75, Weever Surf Kayak £67.50 plus canoes by Cosmic, Tyne, Shepperton Design, Fi-Bo etc. We have in stock the Lindisfarne Sea Kayak, a superb boat at sensible prices (£100 to £115). All prices include VAT. We are sole approved manufacturers of the Corps of Canoe Lifeguard Rescue Canoe - an ideal instructors canoe. We will buy or part exchange your unwanted canoes to maintain our stock of secondhand boats. Plus we have a large range of paddles, wetsuits, thermal wear, buoyancy aids, spray-covers, cags, flares, glass fibre, roof racks etc. In fact everything for the canoeist's needs. We also sell surfing and skateboard equipment and operate a canoe and surfboard hire service.

We are closed on Weds and Sunday only.

Saracen C2 Slalom, Diolen Hull, £105. Freeblade Canadian Slalom Paddles £14. Fi-Bo Zephyr river racer £105. All new including VAT. Phone Whitewater Sports: Woking 72426

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Proficiency Testing 9-10 September 1978, R. Wye, Biblins on Wye, Monmouthshire S.A.E. for details, R. Martin, L.C.O. Wilts, C/O Innox Hall, Innox Road, Trowbridge, Wilts.

WANTED - Slalom C1/Spray-deck/Paddle in reasonable condition (£50-£60)

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ABERDEEN KAYAK CLUB
CAIRNTON SLALOM
River Dee (Aberdeenshire)
30th September/1st October
Ranking Div. 2&3 (Canadian A & B). Judges event.
Entries to:
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Skene (424)
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MOVE AGAINST POVERTY

MAP is a national campaign to link the action of people in this country to the action amongst the world's poorest people overseas.

Already throughout the poor continents great humanitarians are moving against poverty, bringing relief to hungry children, to mothers who are worn and sick and to men who despair of life itself. But their work alone is not enough. They urgently need your help.

At the same time there are many poor communities which have the ability and determination to help themselves.

They are learning new ways to grow food, to dig wells and to improve their health. But they lack the small amounts of money and technical know-how to start them on their way.

Anybody can help in the Move Against Poverty. A group or club could organise a Bring and Buy sale, a sponsored event, a coffee morning. Or an individual could simply make a collection amongst his friends.

Oxfam will send you details of the projects that need your support. And help you organise your event any time between now and early October, when MAP buses will be stopping at towns and cities all over the country to collect your support.

On the final day of the campaign there will be a big public event in Liverpool where messages will hurry your help overseas.

Please make your first Move Against Poverty now by writing for full details to Bill Yates at Room OXFAM, 274 Banbury Road, Oxford.



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A short story to reflect on.

Once upon a time, some people who should perhaps have known better, believed that all whiskies were more or less the same.

But as their palates and experience developed, they discovered a curious thing: not all whiskies were the same.

Some were definitely harsher than others. And some were infinitely smoother.

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."

In it, you should find a perfect reflection of your own good taste.

**Dewar's,
blended for smoothness-
it never varies.**