

No. 13 November/December 1978

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# Canoe Focus

The official magazine of the British Canoe Union



**IN FOCUS**  
Mike Jones-Tribute  
Disabled Canoeing  
Canoe Sailing  
British Open-Results

# pyranha 79

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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.

## Editorial

DR MIKE JONES

*This issue contains a specially written tribute to Dr 'Mike' Jones whose tragic and untimely death was reported in the last issue. A special appeal, also featured in this issue, has been launched to provide a trust fund that, through its support of young people who seek adventure, will serve as a perpetual memorial to a man whose achievements have done so much to promote the sport of canoeing.*

*Last month a film of the fateful Karakoram Expedition was shown on Midlands BBC. It was an intensely human and moving experience to witness the approach of Mike and his team to what was to prove his last challenge. An effort is now being made to persuade the BBC to give this film a major national showing at a peak hour.*

### SPONSORSHIP

*As this issue arrives, a new sponsorship for the British Canoe Union will be announced. In company with The Judo Association, The Modern Pentathlon Association, The British Amateur Athletic Board, The Three Day Event Team, and the Amateur Swimming Association we are to receive an equal cash share, for the benefit of the disciplines of Racing, Wild Water, Marathon and Slalom, of a sponsorship expected, in the first year of its operation to run into thousands of pounds — the big breakthrough is the promise that the sponsorship will be ongoing.*

*The sponsors, J England & Sons, the well-known distributors of fresh vegetables, are marketing, under the name of Olympic, a new brand of pre-packed potatoes and it is their intention that the sum of 2p per ton should go to provide direct support for our promising athletes. Apart from the cash support, the marketing strategy of Englands' is being geared to promote the sports, to which they have given the sponsorship, in every city and town throughout the length and breadth of the country! This should provide useful "spin-off" publicity. Full details will be given in our next issue.*

### SPORTS AID FOUNDATION

*Canoeing was in the "league leaders" in the first batch of Sports Aid Foundation Grants awarded under the new criteria which were announced in our last issue — September/October 1978. Twenty-four applicants were successful. To the Governors and staff of the Foundation we extend our gratitude for the support they are obtaining for our paddlers. There is also news that the proposed regional scheme, for promising youngsters, is likely to be established in some areas in 1979.*

### FEDERALISATION

*The official debate has been and gone — the vote has been taken on this much debated issue and the draft proposals defeated by the margin of one vote — less than 20% of the membership exercised their right to vote on this crucial issue.*

*A report is featured in this issue together with opinions expressed in the 'letters' section.*

### NOTTINGHAM COUNTY COUNCIL — GRANT TO BCU RACING COMMITTEE

*Nottinghamshire County Council have, once again, made a substantial grant to the BCU Racing Committee. A cheque for £3,750 has been paid over in support of the BCU International Racing Regatta (£3,000) and the BCU Regatta Officials Course (£750.00). Mike Haslam, Chairman of the BCU Racing Committee, said: "Without such support we would be unable to ensure that our International Regatta remains as the premier regatta in the international calendar or to provide an adequate training scheme for the many officials who officiate, and operate the sophisticated equipment, at the Holme Pierrepont National Water Sports Centre."*

### PADDLING — SPIRITUAL AND TEMPORAL

*Recently paddling aspired to the areas of great political influence when, President 'Jimmy' Carter, a C2 Wild Water Paddler, was elected President of The United States of America.*

*Now there is a new spiritual area of "paddler power".*

*"It may have taken quite a few ballots before the Cardinals announced the name of the new Pope, but we are lucky to know his identity so soon. The last time Cardinal Wojtyla, of Poland, received a major promotion he managed to get the announcement delayed a couple of days.*

*When he was first made Archbishop of Krakow, Karol Wojtyla was on a canoeing holiday instructing young people. An envoy travelled up into the mountains to convey the momentous news that the people of Krakow were waiting for him. The envoy arrived when there were still two days of the holiday left — and the new Archbishop asked the Monsignor to let him finish the course before the official announcement. This meant that he had to return from paddling his own to paddling those of Roman Catholics all over Poland."*

Front cover pictures show the three expeditions of Mike Jones, Everest, Karakoram and Orinoco. A full tribute to Mike appears in this issue.

*We apologize to members for the delay in delivery of this issue. This was due to circumstances beyond our control.*

## BRITISH

## OPEN

## RESULTS . . . .

### Premier

1. Alan Edge (Leeds) 260.6. clear
2. Richard Fox (St. Albans) 261.6. clear
3. Eric Evans (U.S.A.) 268.2. clear
4. Roger Manering (R.A.F.CA) 270.4. clear

### First Youth

- Richard Fox (St Albans) 261.6.

### First Junior

- Keith Flanagan (Manchester) 334.2.

### Division One

1. Mick Berwick (Stafford & Stone) 285.8.
2. K. Singleton (Ribble) 286.0.
3. P. Brownbill (Manchester) 288.9.

### First Youth

- Alistair Baillie (Stafford & Stone) 291.0.

### First Junior

- P. Brownbill (Manchester) 288.9.

### Ladies

1. Liz Sharman (Bury St Edmunds) 318.7.
2. Julia Harling (Leeds) 323.0.
3. Sibille Holdener (Switzerland) 342.0.
4. Susan Small (Leeds) 342.2.

### C.1.

1. Martyn Hedges (Bath Univ.) 322.5.
2. Pete Keane (Viking) 324.
3. J. Taylor (Manchester) 361.8.

### C.2.

1. Joce/Owen (London) 394.1.
2. Banner/Holloway (Eyot) 491.2.
3. Sharp/Smith (Chalfont/Devas) 498.2.

### Premier Team

1. Godfrey/Fox/Sutherland (West Mid/Leeds Univ.) 308.7.
2. Thomas/Lovelock/Hornsey (Top Team) 309.8.
3. Edge/Kerr/Wain (Leeds 'A') 310.0.

### Division One Team

1. Stafford & Stone (Booth/Baillie/Berwick) 342.9.
2. Midland 411.2.
3. Gateshead 438.6.

### Judges

1. A. Spencer (Chester) 329.9.
2. J. Day (Midland) 341.6.
3. P. Van-der-Molan (Chalfont) 344.2.

# Grand Slam!

## Nations Cup ~ Europa Cup

This year's Tour de Gudena certainly lived up to its reputation as being the leading Canoe Marathon Race in the world. The course of a 120 kilometres for seniors and juniors, in five stages, over two days and 57 kilometres for ladies, divided into three stages, takes place on the lakes and rivers starting at Skanderborg and finishing up at Randers.

This year saw competitors from thirteen nations taking part with seven entries in the Nations Cup and a magnificent total of well over a thousand competitors in all.

### BRIT'S TO DOMINATE

The British team led by Manager, Jim Rossiter, and Coach, Colin Gray, faced their task with some trepidation. In the previous year the British team had dominated the race and there was no doubt that they were going to find it difficult to live up to the reputation they had set themselves in the previous years. In particular, there was a strong challenge from the Belgians led by Broecks and Stinkens and the well-known Jean Pierre Burny in the K1. We knew the Swedes were strong and the Danes can never be under-estimated on their own water, particularly in the K2 class. We had also been worried by continuous bad weather during the week before the race and there was every indication that this was going to be a rough Tour de Gudena. Prior to the race, the team spent hours sorting out their boats, double spray-decks, polythene down the side of the boat, taping the spray-decks on. There was a great deal of work to be done and there is no doubt that in the end it paid off. Shortly before the race started, the organisers faced the agonising position of shortening the course for the first time in its history. There was no doubt the wind would be strong and on the vast open lakes this obviously meant danger for the competitors who might well be tired or even exhausted. In the event it was decided not to alter the distance and the start, of well over 200 K1s, took place on the sheltered lake at Skanderborg with little indication of the drama that was to come. After seven miles and the first portage, all the British K2s were well up near the front and so were most of the K1s with the exception of Robin Belcher who, despite a good start, was suffering from tendonitis and was lying in 17th place. After the portage the crews paddled on to the lake and when we saw them at the other end of the lake it was obvious that the drama had started to take place. Our crews who were well up in the front had disappeared out of sight. Surprisingly, the Junior K2 of Melling and Gautier came through third, chasing the leaders and soon to catch them. All of our other K2s had sunk. By the end of this stage Gormann and Bourne had pulled up with the leaders, they were there with Broecks and Stinkens of Belgium, and Truelove and Haynes, who were certainly chasing hard, having sunk twice — at this stage Bourne, Truelove and Haynes were suffering forearm problems. Duncan and Hancock, having fared even worse, were a long way down and had no chance of catching up, but it was a good performance by the K2s sticking to their task grimly. In the K1, Cornish and Greenham had already started to lead and had broken clear from the field. The scene at the first portage was frantic; manager and coaches seemed to be everywhere at once, sorting out problems with canoes, feeding the paddlers, changing them into dry clothing and trying to raise the morale of those who had had a rough time on the lakes approaching the end of the stage. After 30 minutes stop, all the paddlers set off full of confidence again and during the second stage all the British paddlers managed to maintain or improve their position, particularly creditable was the way in which Belcher pulled up from seventeenth to be only two minutes down on Cornish and Greenham who were beginning to establish for Britain a really strong hold on the K1 race. At the end of this stage Cornish and Greenham were first and second, two minutes behind came Belcher burning off no less a person than Jean Pierre Burny, as he sprinted in for the line, and with young Jeremy West, just inches behind Bourne, the first Junior across the line, emphasising Britain's superiority in the K1 race.

### DAY TWO — DRAMA

In the K2's, Broecks and Stinkens, fourth in the World Championships 10,000 metres, just managed to beat Gorman and Bourne across the line. Truelove and Haynes, only 10 seconds down, meant that Britain was well in the lead in the Team Cup. All we had to do was to maintain our position.

The second day carried its share of drama too. At the first stage, some twenty miles long, finishing on a six-mile lake, across which the wind was gusting at force 6 and 7, water conditions that very few crews could handle comfortably — at this stage Truran retired. The conditions alone proved too much for Broecks and Stinkens to cope with. All the British K2s sank on the lake and at the end of this stage there was a great deal to be done. Even the K1s were having problems and Greenham slowed down with too much water and got wet trying to empty his boat. At the end of this stage, there were many problems for the coaches to deal with: the head wind had produced several cases of tinosinnavitis and tendonitis. Most of the paddlers were extremely cold and wet and very exhausted, their morale was low after the terrible bashing they had been through on the lake. The K2s, in particular, had to face the fact that they had now had no chance of winning, although Gorman and Bourne set resolutely about the task of chasing the leaders. In the K1 Belcher and Cornish were now well clear, but Greenham was still in third position with Jeremy West not far behind him and young Ian Garner, the other junior, was pulling through close behind West, emphasising the depth of talent that exists within this British Marathon Team. As the final two stages down the River Langa led on towards Randers, there was no doubt which nation would dominate the race. Perhaps that domination is most simply and effectively explained in terms of the principle results.

### The

#### The Senior K1

Cornish	First
Greenham	Second
Belcher	Third

#### The Junior K1

West	First
Garner	Second

West finished in a magnificent sixth overall in the final placings among the seniors.

#### The Junior K2

First

#### The Ladies K1

Christine Haynes Third

#### The Ladies K2

Richmond Club Entry of Frances Wetherall and Lucy Perrett just managed to beat the official British entry of Kath Nadal and Imogen Lamb.

It was one of those few occasions when one feels proud to be British when Jim Rossiter's Nations Cup Team mounted on the podium, with the Swedes in second and the Danes in third, as Tim Cornish collected the Nations Cup on behalf of his team for the second year running.

### CANOE RACING YEAR BOOK 1979

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# Super Slalom

## Pyranha sponsor British Open

During the weekend of October 7 & 8 the town of Llangollen, North Wales hosted the Pyranha British Open Canoe Slalom Championships 1978. With World class paddlers from 10 countries competing.

The Open Championships was won by Alan Edge of Leeds with Richard Fox of St Albans coming a close second, Eric Evans the U.S.A. National Champion was third.

The Ladies Div. 1 event also hosting International class paddlers was won by Liz Sharman of Bury St Edmunds the new British Ladies Slalom Champion, Julia Harling, Leeds Polytechnic the defeated champion came in second, Sibbel Holdener from Switzerland was third.

In the Mens' C1 event Martin Hedges of Bath the '77 C1 Champion won the event, Pete Keane of Vikings and the new 1978 Mens' C1 Champion second, Jaz Taylor from Manchester third.

The new National C2 Champions Joyce/Owen won the event in a time of 394.1.

On the Sunday afternoon came the climax of the whole weekend with the top 30 paddlers from the Open Event being invited into the Pyranha Grand Prix. A shortened course with the new rule of no penalties given if gates are hit, however if a gate is missed this is automatic disqualification for the paddlers.

With over 1,000 people packing the bridge and banks of the River Dee the Grand Prix event started in the glow of late afternoon with each paddler giving it all they could, canoes planning their way along the Dee waters. With the cataracts under the bridge the crowd and commentator were on their tip toes, this excitement never before experienced by a British crowd they were totally enthralled. The final results were not announced until the prize giving on the railway station. Nicki Wain the new British Slalom Champion for '78 won the event and becomes the first British Grand Prix Champion.

The results were as follows:—

1. Nicki Wain, Leeds Polytechnic (G.B.)
2. Stefan Trach, West Germany.
3. Shaun Kelly, Ireland.
4. Eric Evans, U.S.A.
5. J Jayes, Hammersmith.
6. Lietz Sebel, West Germany.



*Peter Keane*

*Photo: Val Smith*



*Peter Nardelli, Llangollen Town, Pyranha Open Championships 7/8 October 1978  
PHOTO: Val Smith*

*Nicky Wain, Llangollen Town, Pyranha Open Championships 7/8 October 1978  
PHOTO: Val Smith*



# Editor's Post Bag

Dear Sir

re Mr Paul Woods letter published in the July/August issue

I am disappointed that you see fit to print such letters as Mr Woods without giving the persons or organisations being criticised the opportunity to answer such criticisms in the same issue. As we constantly tell each other and the rest of the sporting world, we are an amateur sport depending on the success of our event organisation to finance the activities of our clubs etc and therefore the promotion of canoeing, one of the Unions principle aims. This type of undefending criticism can cause potential entrants to an event not to bother to go there as, they have read, the event is not up to the standards that they expect. Worse still, it may cause the volunteer workers in the event organisation to give up. The next event will then be short handed and the downhill slide has begun.

I hope to be able to put the record straight regarding Symonds Yat Slalom, Mr Wood finds Symonds Yat "Geographically Difficult", yet upstream of the slalom site there is a road on each bank not more than 300 yards away. A well maintained track/footpath runs along each bank from the roads past the slalom and along the river bank through the campsite, approximately 10 to 15 minutes walk away. At the campsite there is a footbridge across the river whilst just above the slalom site there are two ferries.

Regarding the production of membership cards, as Mr Woods points out the organisers were unable to persuade the forestry commission to allow caravans onto the campsite and, unfortunately, did not have sufficient time to get a new site that could cater for them in time to issue details to possible caravaners. Together with this and the fact that some competitors travel daily and others take Bed and Breakfast accommodation, the inspection of cards at the campsite becomes impractical. The inspection of these cards is not a task that organisers want, however as it is deemed necessary it must be done. This leaves two choices for organisers:-

1. No card! No result! per Mr Wood suggestion. This unfortunately causes more work for the organiser when he comes to calculate the percentages for the next result lists.
2. No card! No run! By 'no run' I mean no first or second run. I am sure that Mr Wood would concede that the intermediate solution employed at Symonds Yat is preferable to these alternatives.

It is certainly not beyond the wit of organisers or starters to allow competitors to run out of order. I have on several occasions witnessed competitors, who have to travel long distances, arrange with organisers to take their runs earlier than scheduled. I wonder if it is beyond the wit of Mr Wood to see what would happen if start lists were abandoned and competitors turned up when they felt like it.

In common with other canoe clubs and at least one monarch we are unable to control the natural variations in the levels of water. We, therefore, have to live with the fact that, at times, there will be a gate or gates in the water and that all we can do is to rectify the fault as quickly as possible. Mr Ian D Pendleton, who was the official observer for the slalom committee executive and chairman of the jury also commented about this in his report. Mr Pendleton has been well known in slalom circles for many years now, both for his ability to criticise and the constructiveness of the criticisms offered. Indeed at this event he made certain observations upon which we are acting to improve future events. In his report to the slalom committee executive (copy attached) Mr Pendleton said:-

"Throughout Sunday the river was rising . . . . . this did not effect the course . . . . . this made gate adjustment a continuing process . . . . . I received no complaint (about poles in the water) officially . . . . . My impression was that Gloucester Canoe Club

did rather more than could be expected to keep the course constant". Mr Pendleton's final comment was "Gloucester produced a very good event".

I am sure you will agree this is not the impression given by the letter published in the July/August magazine.

Yours faithfully  
N EDWARDS  
Gloucester Canoe Club

Dear Sir,

Last Sunday I attended to the bitter end the BCU Special General Meeting where the proposed formation of the English Canoe Association and Federalisation of the BCU were defeated by one vote! Although I am still against certain aspects of the proposal I did vote for it because I feel that the present BCU is too English where it should be British.

The vociferous opposition amazed me. Too much time was wasted on unimportant points or order. These were obviously delaying tactics, unconstructive, and a constant source of annoyance to those of us who wished to discuss the matter fully before voting. The disrupters were best described by the member from Northern Ireland when he expressed his astonishment at the insularity of the English and pleaded for a swift return to sanity.

Well sir, that's past. Where do we go from here? The BCU must be brought closer to the canoeist, and the canoeist must be involved in the BCU. The Regionalisation programme is the best and obvious answer. For a start, tell us all about the Regions. Most of us have never heard of them. What is their object? What are they doing? How are they doing it? What can they do for us? How do we get in touch with them? The answers must be well and truly publicised. I also suggest reports from each Region in every issue of CANOE FOCUS.

After the meeting I got talking to David Stanley, chairman of Yorkshire and Humberside Region, and was delighted to learn of the progress made by that Region on our most serious problem, ACCESS. I came away determined to contact my local Region, to offer my help on Access.

And that brings me to my next point. If Regionalisation is going to benefit the canoeist then the canoeist must be prepared to help. I suggest that each club have one or more working members in its Regional organisation. After all, we get out of life only what we put into it! We canoeists really are a miserly, penny-pinching, do-it-the-cheapest-way lot. Fishermen think nothing of spending £5 to £10 for a day's fishing but most canoeists begrudge £5 for a full year's BCU subscription and magazine. It isn't always money that is needed. Sometimes it's time and effort. If we want the BCU to solve our canoeing problems then every canoeist must be prepared to help his local BCU Region.

Yours sincerely  
PETER DAVIES

*Many thanks for your letter, you are absolutely right — more help = more Access! Ed.*

At a recent trainee instructors course I was on at Raven's Ait on the Thames, us trainees were all assembled around a damaged canoe demonstrating repairs when I commented on the olymp cockpit rims especially the 4's and Junior's. "Once I was doing a T-X rescue on an olymp when my finger got stuck in the cockpit rim, the pain was killing me and it wouldn't come out." Any way this story gave the others a great laugh and got me a reputation as a joker, no one believed me or took the story seriously. As the day went on we started some deep water rescues and to his surprise one of the trainees got his finger stuck in the cockpit rim, this was the in joke for the day and it gave me a sense of satisfaction, until the next day when another trainee got his finger stuck. All the canoes involved were olymps and the reason for it is the deck has two cups in it each side and in front of the cockpit for access to the spray cover. The only advice I can give you is to keep the speed up in a rescue but be careful around the cockpit. If you do get your finger stuck (don't laugh) keep your paddle and use it as a lever to break the rim, then slide your finger out and give it a big kiss.

Yours proudly proven  
Dave Ruse

154 Salisbury Walk  
Magdale Avenue  
Islington, London N.19

# Don't Look Back

As I made my way to the University College, London, on Saturday 30th September to attend my first meeting of the Union, I must be honest — my thoughts were far more on the outside, doing something active.

However, I felt my duty (perhaps an old fashioned virtue) lay in being involved in what appeared to me as a very important issue for the future and of concern to all paddlers. My first impression on entering the auditorium was a feeling of tension. I am a relatively new member, did not know many others, but it was very obvious that this was not going to be a straightforward meeting.

How soon my fears were confirmed. As I had read it, the Council had a clear directive from the recent AGM to put forward proposals for federalisation; but did seem that there were some present who were not even prepared to allow the proposals to be presented, let alone considered. After inexcusable delays, which later held up the opportunity for serious debate, these proposals were presented for consideration as one package.

When open debate was eventually reached, some of the members who spoke showed obvious knowledge of the accepted rules of procedure, produced a high level of debate and many relevant points were put forward. Others, hopping up and down, were obviously trying to talk the motion out of time. Overall many of the speakers made very telling points.

Eventually time ran out, and after a short extension the vote was taken in a most efficient manner. The results were announced and then the proxy votes came into play. The motion was lost by one vote. Not that five or ten votes, the other way, would have enabled the President to accept the result as giving a clear

mandate from the membership.

**So some will say that the plans to change our organisation are dead — that we saw the death throes — I do not believe so — what I saw were the birth pains!**

**There were several aspects that came over strongly to me and I would highlight three of those areas:**

**Regionalization — There was a cry for stronger regional organisation in England. Surely the time has come to harness the great strength there is in the various areas of the country by strengthening the regions and giving them the opportunity of electing their own representatives to Council. Thus there is a two-way flow. Suggestions from Clubs and members in a common locality can be fed into Council. In turn the Council would be responsible to its regions and information would be fed back. The other three Countries (i.e. Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) could then be like any other region and their local organisations could be established to suit the needs of that area. This may well require a fresh appraisal of the make up of Council and the election of our representatives upon it.**

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**Coach Inland Training & Assessment  
November 17/18/19  
commencing 7.30 p.m.  
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**Senior Instructor Inland  
Training & Assessment  
December 1/2/3 commencing  
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venue to be decided (North  
Wales)**

**for further details contact  
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Gwynedd.**

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**Specialisation —** Whilst it was appreciated that certain members at the meeting had a responsibility to represent their committees and their special interests; I had a distinct impression that many views were insular, concerned with how it would effect "the sport" and not "the activity". I may be wrong but I believe that at a meeting like this we should all have the interests of canoeing as a whole at the back of our minds.

**A need to act with a sense of responsibility —** I heard from more than one source that "representatives" nominated to a Committee do not attend meetings because of distance, time and specifically as there was nothing on an Agenda that interested him (her). Surely if any-one accepts a national responsibility then individual interests should be cast aside and the mantle of responsibility for the future development of the activity, or the specialisation, rests on his shoulders as well as his colleagues. This points to the manner in which the Union con-

siders how its specialisations work as Sub-Committees of the Council. These Committees must be made up of those who have ability and are prepared to put time and effort into the development of their responsibility, but see this interest in the overall pattern of canoeing as a whole.

After all this, you may wonder what is my particular interest in canoeing and why I am entering the fray. I am an individual member who took up the sport late in life — I just enjoy paddling. I also work on behalf of many youngsters who enjoy canoeing as an activity. Many of these may not have heard of the Union, they may not go far within the sport, but are introduced to canoeing as a worthwhile outdoor activity. If for no other reason, it is on their behalf that we must get ourselves sorted out. **Hence my belief that at the Special General Meeting we did not see the death of a brain child, but some of the growing up pains of an adolescent.**

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# Mike Jones

M.L. JONES MB, CHB.

Dr Michael Leslie Jones died on 23 August 1978 while leading the British Karakoram Canoe Expedition in Northern Pakistan. He was 26.

Mike Jones was born on 6 September 1951 in Keighley, Yorkshire and attended Keighley Secondary Technical School and Keighley Oakbank Grammar School. His schoolday achievements included County Championship Swimming and Rugby and school honours at Judo; he also sang in a Gilbert and Sullivan opera and played the Tuba but his musical aspirations were cut short when the Tuba fell beneath the wheels of the school bus.

Mike then attended Birmingham University and in 1975 qualified as a Doctor of Medicine after which he worked at Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham and later at Airdale General Hospital and Bradford Royal Infirmary. Latterly he spent 5 months in Australia as a member of the Flying Doctor Service.

Mike took up canoeing in 1965 when he was 14 years old, his interest being in slalom, he put in many hours of practice both at events and on the local rivers of Yorkshire and rapidly gained promotion to the First Division where he remained for 10 years, never winning a first class event but always producing a satisfactory result. Mike's interest in slalom flourished while he was at university and he gained many honours at university events. He was manager of the British Universities Canoe Slalom Team from 1972-75 and was British Slalom and Wild Water Racing General Team Manager in 1974.

Mike's achievements as a canoeist of world renown are well documented and include the following exploits. In 1969 he successfully shot 80 miles of rapids on the River Inn in Switzerland, a feat which has never been repeated as the Hydro Electric System opened in 1971 has diverted the water from the upper gorges of the river; the descent was described by Chris Bonington as equivalent to climbing the north face of the Eiger. In 1971 he was a member of the first British Grand Canyon Expedition on the Colorado River. He was awarded a Churchill Scholarship in 1972 and organised and led an expedition along 220 miles of the Blue Nile and on his return to Birmingham was given the Sir Raymond Priestly expedition award. In 1974 Mike decided to take a holiday in North America where he canoed a number of wild rivers and came second in an all American slalom held on the Arkansas river in Salida, Colorado. After qualifying as a doctor, he organised and in 1976 led the British Everest Canoe Expedition which descended the River Dudh Kasi from its source at Everest Base camp to its confluence with the Sun Kasi River. The film record of this achievement has been shown on television and a book written by Mike, entitled *Canoeing Down Everest*, is to be published early in 1979. In 1977 he organised and led an expedition to the Orinoco River where, again a film was made and a photographic report was published in the Sunday Telegraph Magazine. His final expedition was to the Beraldn River on the flanks of K2 in the Karakoram Region of Pakistan. During a training exercise on the river one of the party got into difficulties. While attempting a rescue Mike was engulfed by a giant wave. He was not seen again although his smashed canoe was recovered some two miles downstream.

Though nicknamed the 'Mad Doctor' by some newspapers, there was nothing irresponsible or careless about him. He was quiet, self-contained, quick to smile, but rarely shaken by laughter. He was an essentially likeable man whose death has cast an unusually large shadow. Unless asked he never spoke of his exploits and he was never heard to boast about his achievements.

Mike regarded himself primarily as a doctor and not an adventurer, but realised the advantages for his future of these two assets. His death has deprived the world of its finest wild-water canoeist and one of its most likeable characters.

A fund has been established in his memory — The Mike Jones Youth Fund — which aims to help youthful adventurers — a fitting tribute to a man whose exploits are a reminder of the human spirit's ability to explore, conquer and inspire others and in whose frame these abilities were found in full measure.

Details of the Mike Jones Youth Fund are available from: —  
J. A. S. Liddell or M. J. Markham  
15 Dordon Close or 22 Wrenbury Crescent  
Shirley Leeds  
West Midlands

Our picture, right, shows Mike Jones and the Karakoram expedition team. Back row, John Gosling, Rob Hastings, Roger Huyton and Mick Hopkinson. Centre, Shoab Haneed (liaison officer). Front row: Dave Manby, John Liddell, Pete Midwood and Dr Mike Jones.

MIKE JONES MEMORIAL FUND Appeal

Dr Mike Jones (age 26) the famous British white water canoeist was drowned on August 23rd 1978 whilst trying to rescue another paddler during a kayak expedition to the Himalayas. They were descending a fierce river flowing off K2 when the accident occurred. Mike's home town was Keighley, Yorkshire, but he went on to study medicine at Birmingham.

He gave frequent lectures and film shows of his incredible expeditions and was an inspiration and warm friend to canoeists everywhere.

We mourn the loss of one of the World's greatest white water paddlers and offer his family our deepest sympathy.

#### Main Expeditions

**1969 River Inn (Austria).** The first descent. Chris Bonington, who photographed the expedition, described it as, 'The equivalent of the North Face of the Eiger'. Mike was virtually a novice at the time but his boat was hardly scratched during the expedition.

**1971 Colorado (America).** The first British descent through the huge rapids of the Grand Canyon.

**1972 Blue Nile (Africa).** Mike was the leader of this and the following expeditions.

Mike and his close friend Mike Hopkins were forced to canoe 60 miles of unexplored Strid-like rapids without any support. They also had to fight against crocodiles, tropical disease and bandits with rifles. It seemed a miracle that they survived.

**1976 Everest.** The descent of the Dudh Kosi from 13,000 ft. was another first. The ensuing film, which was widely shown, did a great deal to bring to the public the incredible skill and daring of Mike and his friends.

**1977 Orinoco (S. America).** With virtually no money, a successful expedition was made to the enormous Maipure Rapids, illustrating his extraordinary powers of leadership and improvisation.

**1978 K2 (N. Pakistan).** The last expedition led by Chris Bonington. Unfortunately one of the climbing team was swept away by an avalanche and the ascent was abandoned. Perhaps the canoeists should have realised that the hand of fate was against them, but they went bravely ahead, with tragic result.

Mr and Mrs Jones have given permission for a Memorial Fund to be set up, possibly to help young canoeists planning white water expeditions.

This is your opportunity to show appreciation of the unique achievements of Mike Jones.

#### DONATIONS TO:

via M.J. Markham, 22 Wrenbury Crescent,  
Leeds LS16 7EG. Tel: 0532-675235.

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# Club News

Last year the Birmingham Canoe Club Committee decided it would like a trophy in memory of John Brown, who was such an outstanding club member.

John Brown died in February 1977, he had been a very active member since 1959 and his natural talent for leadership and the ability to put as much into canoeing as he got out of it, meant that he became one of our most prominent members. He set a very high standard for himself in canoeing, but never tired of imparting his skill and knowledge to others.

There must be countless canoeists throughout the country, who have benefitted from his wide knowledge of our sport and from his patient teaching at both club level and through coaching with the B.C.U.

Despite taking up slalom in his late thirties he competed in Divisions up to Div. 2.

All types of water gave him pleasure, from canals to wild water rivers and the sea. He organised trips and coached at weekends and holidays. At the age of 55, he still enjoyed his W.W. canoeing and took active part in W.W. racing.

With all this in mind it was decided that we would like to present a National Trophy to the B.C.U. W.W. Committee to be awarded annually, in memory of this exceptional man, who contributed so much to canoeing.

The Trophy, which was designed and made by John Edwards, a club member, is mounted on a wooden base and depicts a white-water racing kayak with the "Birmingham Man" paddling.

It was presented at Bala on the 14th of May by Albert Kerr to Bob Campbell of Viking Canoe Club, who is this years Men's Open W.W. Champion.



Your club affiliation is due on the 1st November, 1978. This year sees a change in the qualifications for affiliation. Clubs and Centres are to be divided into two distinct sections; Clubs who have a regular membership and who operate as a members club will be separated from centres etcetera, who have a floating group of users and will now be classed and known as Associate members.

The fees for 1978/79 are:

Affiliated Clubs £6.00 plus 5p for each member over a total of 120

Associate members £8.00.

An application form is enclosed. Please ensure that you fill it in correctly showing whether you are an Affiliated Club or an Associate Member.

Canoe Access — National Survey

For the past two or three years the Water Space Community Commission and many others have been concerned about the problems of access for canoe touring. There is also concern at the lack of knowledge and information about those rivers where facilities are available to canoeists.

A recent survey throughout the regional water authorities in England and Wales and the regional Councils for sport and recreation was disappointing. The Commission, therefore, plans to produce a map with brief descriptions of all sites where canoe access is available. It is to be a review of England and Wales and clubs are asked to submit as much information as possible as to the extent of their access to local waters (or further afield), with full details of restrictions or limitations which may be imposed.

Please help us to help you and send your replies to B.C.U. headquarters.

## Youth Team

The 1978 Youth Slalom Team took on Austria this summer to compete at Spittal and Lofer where there were special youth events taking place. The team also spent some time training at Augsburg in West Germany and toured down some Alpine rivers to familiarise themselves with the speed and intensity of rough water in the Alps.

At Spittal the results were good; Susan Small and Jane Roderick came in 3rd and 4th behind two Swiss girls and then paddled with Helena Nuvoloni (Italy) to win the Team Event. In the men's K1 class Dario Ferrazi (Italy) won, closely followed by Pete Godfrey and Richard Fox. Allistair Baillie — his first time in the Alps — made 8th place. Great Britain came in first and second in the team event.

Lofer was not quite as successful. Susan Small came 5th, Richard Fox made 4th place with Pete Godfrey and John Rennocks taking 10th and 11th placings. Paddling in the senior team event the lads made 5th position.

Our youth need experience abroad and thanks go to the BCU Slalom Committee for providing the necessary sponsorship.

## Eastern A.G.M.

The first A.G.M. of the BCU Eastern Region will be held at the Teachers Centre, Hospital Road, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk on Saturday 17th March 1979 at 2.30 p.m. All individual BCU members in the region are invited to be present; no further notification of this meeting will be made except to affiliated clubs. Motions for inclusion on the agenda to be submitted by 1st March 1979 to the Regional Secretary, "Squirrels", Cornard Tye, Sudbury, Suffolk.

## BRITISH CANOE UNION WEST MIDLANDS COACHING PANEL

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# Disabled Canoeists

A friend of mine recently came to me bubbling over with joy. He had been on holiday in Wales and had accidentally come across a party of blind canoeists learning how to surf.

Wales and had accidentally come across a party of blind canoeists learning how to surf. He was so enthralled that he immediately joined in and helped as best he could, which wasn't very much, he spent most of his time helping them empty their canoes after they had swum ashore, letting them get in again and pushing them out again — just like any other group of canoeists beginning to surf. The result on him was a wild enthusiasm and an urge to tell people all about it.

Perhaps something of a similar feeling is what affects me and makes me want to join in and help whenever I see a group of people less fortunate than myself learning how to canoe. When I got an invitation to join a group of girls from the Florence Treloar School at Alton, a school for physically handicapped girls, who were hoping to canoe on an exciting river in France, I leapt at the chance and began to find out a good friend who lives at Villeneuve d'Allier, on the northern edge of the Massif Central, to whom I immediately wrote suggesting the Ardeche, the Tarn or the Dordogne. He quickly wrote back to say not the Ardeche, it was far too crowded; not the Dordogne because it was pretty crowded also; and not the Tarn because it could be too dry in the summer. What about his own river, the Allier? I looked it up and found the book said it was grade 11-1V and wrote back to say it was too difficult for these girls as the only wild water practice they had had was an afternoon under Hambleton weir. He replied — "Rubbish!" His bit of the Allier was a good grade 1, with plenty of escape routes and a run which would nicely last us our four days if we used the first day practicing in real rapids (as opposed to under weirs). In the event even the Allier lacked water and we had to do one bit two days running to make up for it.

Well, after a night crossing from Southampton to Le Havre, we had a trouble-free run to Villeneuve, stopping at the Youth Hostel at Bourges for one night on the way. The Transist van did well despite a rickety roof rack, a missing cylinder and a hole in the exhaust. Brian had arranged for us to have canoes and paddles from the U.C.P.A. which is approximately the French equivalent of our C.C.P.R., only more so. Thus we were not life jackets, spray decks and cantered up with more than five jackets for the journey.

There were eight girls, their head of P.E., a house mother, Brian Barton, a Senator instructor and their canoeing instructor, and myself, Oliver.

Brian Barton is a good canoeist, Marie, the house mother is good, and I'm alright on my rescue drills I think. On arrival at Villeneuve we dug out Brian Smith from a workshop steeped in gunge as he is the third biggest manufacturer of canoes in France. He showed us our canoes already loaded onto a trailer (Soar Valley 11 for the most part) and we hid ourselves down to the town camp site, restaurant and toilet facilities. Why don't English canoeists, Marie, the house mother is good, and I'm alright on my rescue drills I think. On arrival at Villeneuve we dug out Brian Smith from a workshop steeped in gunge as he is the third biggest manufacturer of canoes in France. He showed us our canoes already loaded onto a trailer (Soar Valley 11 for the most part) and we hid ourselves down to the town camp site, restaurant and toilet facilities. Why don't English

Canadian just above the rapid. He floated down to us and duly stopped to help. I explained that poor Janet could not walk, to which he rather bafflingly replied that he knew already which only goes to show that even French rivers have excellent bush telegraph systems. Anyway, we got Janet in and they went on down while I scrambled down as best I could (to be unimpeded I had let my kayak go on down when I got out to help Janet) to get in again and carry on down with the group.

The second day's run, the bit we did twice, was perhaps the more beautiful section. It only had one difficult drop, which was a broken weir at Villeneuve itself. Here you had to start in the right place and then swing right to go down. If you started too far to the left you didn't swing right and came to a grinding halt on some rocks below. Quite a number did this and had to be shoved and lifted until they were once more going in the right direction. One girl overdid my request to turn right and went too far, jamming firmly up against a rock and capsizing upstream. The worst possible way to fall over in the circumstances. She stuck in her canoe and I arrived up in the three inches of water with one arm and one

But what of the run on the river? Well, the idea was to start at a tiny place called St. Julien; but the river was so empty and the gravel riffles so dry we decided the scrape wasn't worth it. So we started at Langeac and ran to Lavoute-Chilhac, a distance of about 8 miles, with two weirs one of which had to be portaged. Fortunately this only meant sliding on our bottoms down the dry concrete face of the weir, so we could all cope

easily with Brian Barton (B. in future) and myself carrying the canoes over. The second weir had water and lots of algae on it so we just tipped the canoes over and gave them a push. I must confess I did wonder whether the Canadian with an adult and two girls in it would crack in half in the sea-saw position but all went well. One or two capsizes I am happy to say; but only one got me worried when I found a girl with brittle bones hugging a rock. I got Janet to scratch my rock and began to scratch my head as to how to get her across the rapid from the middle of the river to the bank, when I noticed someone getting into a hand on the bottom. Not difficult to sort out though she did have to wait while I emptied her canoe before she could go on again.

Oh, I've forgotten a high-light. I said that our first day on the river was spent playing about on a rapid, learning how to handle the water. This was at our camp site and, the weather being good, we had a gay time as well as canoeing on it. We noticed a rather more noisy group of canoeists, also English, also playing around just there. We made rapid contact (sorry about the pun!) and found that it was a group from Millfield School, Somerset. I invited one



And so to our journey home. We took an extra day over this, which was just as well because the roof rack packed it in and had to be held on by string. We stopped at Bourges Y.H. again, and at the one at Chartres. This was quite the worst Youth Hostel I've ever stayed at. Delapidation wasn't in it. But the warden was very helpful when it was discovered that Mr. Bell's case had accidentally been packed onto a coach at Bourges and had gone on to Loupds instead. I hope she got it back eventually. We stopped at Chartres for a little education so we went to see the Cathedral. Some of us did it in ten minutes flat a little slower and really enjoyed the wonders of it. Souvenir hunting was found to be difficult but there was a Carrefour just outside the town, where everything could be got and we could even have our last meal in France — of sausages and chips.

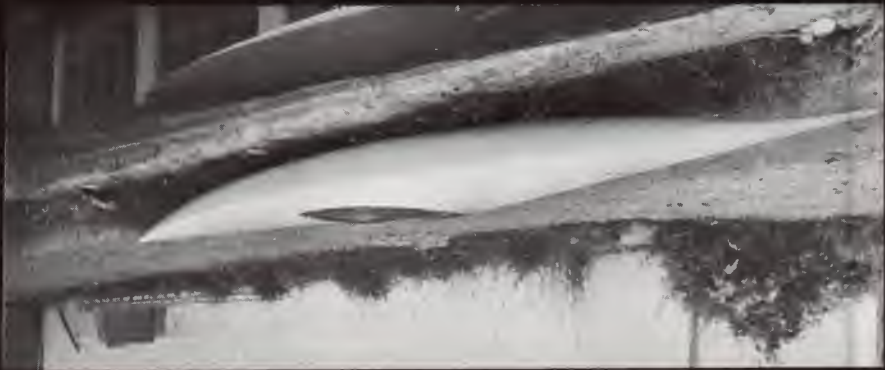
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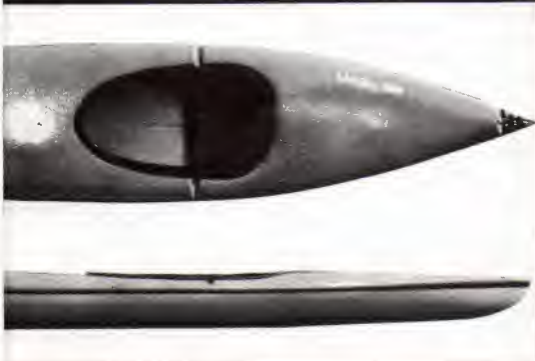


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# Hazard!

A new series of articles giving information regarding potential hazards in this issue

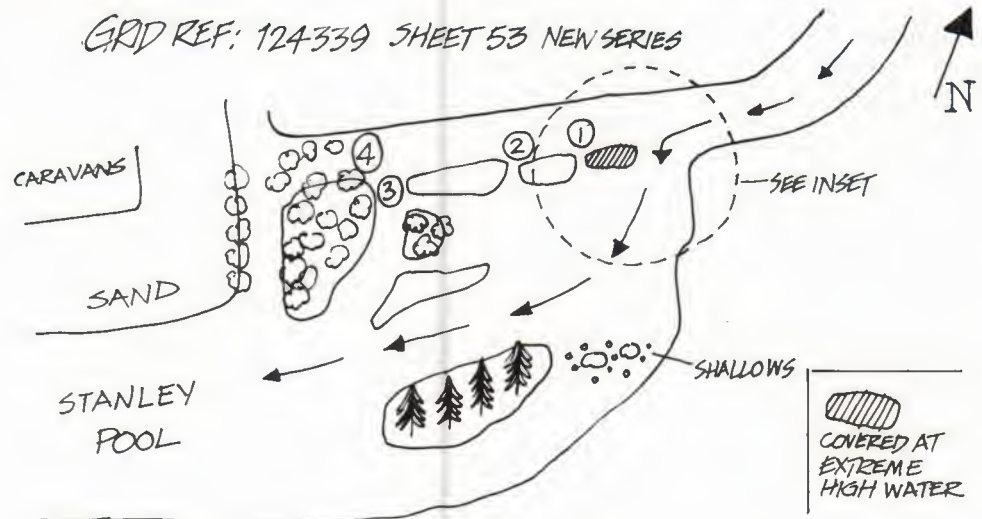
Campsie Linn on the River Tay

Following the deal of an Army K2 paddler at Campsie Linn on the Tay on the 15th September, it would be worthwhile describing in detail the falls and the conditions a canoeist can expect at various water levels.

Many summer canoeists find it difficult to believe that this part of the river can be dangerous, and in fact many cannot recall passing the Linn because it can be such an unmemorable event in terms of rough water. There is no standing wave and I would grade the river as 2 as it is quite easy to paddle a K1 or River Racer straight up the fall without a spray deck.

## FRIGHTENING

However, many Scottish paddlers will agree that to see Campsie Linn at full spate is frightening. A large wave crosses almost the whole width of the fall and behind are a series of whirlpools, far larger than any I have seen in Britain or the Continent. At the time of the accident the river was not in spate, but could be described as being very high compared to normal September levels. The wave across the river covered about half the width and below were a fair number of whirlpools. The whirlpools need careful description as many myths surround them. Reading the statements by those eyewitnesses of the accident, one would imagine that the whirlpools are permanent, and this is not so. They appear and disappear quite quickly and move downstream all the time at about 10mph, dissipating as they go. What is a permanent feature of the Linn is a very strong back eddy at the right hand side of the fall.



An unaided swimmer could quite easily find himself permanently in this eddy, unable to swim out of it in any direction, and each time he or she is drawn back into the main current, it would be at the point where the largest whirlpools appear. The whirlpools last only for ten to twenty seconds at the most, but appear very quickly and are extremely powerful. Their size is directly proportional to the volume of water flowing down the river. At low levels one can paddle any Kayak through them with no difficulty, but, as the river rises, fewer paddlers are capable of keeping their boat upright, until at very high levels I have seen even the hardest first division Slalomists refuse to paddle into them. At winter levels it is easy to have one's deck completely awash while being turned full circle.

"Pop outs", better named "Pop ins" are not uncommon. Because of the power of the whirlpools paddlers are better to stay inside their kayaks even if upsidown, until clear of the main whirlpools. They can then roll up or come out! Even with a buoyancy aid or life-jacket, swimmers have been drawn under for a number of seconds and have not appeared until further downstream. Ian Whyte was drawn under and never seen again until some days later. He may well have been trapped in some unusual rock formation, but I have no knowledge of the underwater topography. Certainly one cannot see the bottom at even the lowest summer levels, and some say the water is more than 50 feet deep.

At high water then, most paddlers should either slip down the left of the fall, not

easy because of the strong flow to the right, or take one of the alternative routes marked on the map. By keeping to the right of the river, there is absolutely no danger of being drawn down the main fall.

1. Possible but inadvisable
2. Possible but rocky
3. The best of the three falls
4. Easy at very high levels, because there is no fall as such. There are however, many bushes and trees to avoid!

Those not wishing to take the above advice will find the falls and the whirlpools in winter a unique experience!

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# Racing News

Following another successful season of sprint racing with good results from both senior and junior paddlers at the highest levels of international competition, and the steady increase in the numbers at the domestic events in both senior and junior/novice classes, now is the time to look at the many ways in which the sport of the single blade is progressing outside the immediate area of sprint events at Nottingham.

## Beginners

For those who are interested in trying out this division of our sport there are three centres where coaches are prepared to make equipment available and give basic instruction in C1 technique, these are:

For the South of England at Richmond — Ken Pereira Phone Byfleet (09323) 47695. West Midlands at Worcester — Ben Edam Phone Worcester (0905) 24801.

East Midlands at Nottingham — Colin Gray Phone Nottingham (0602) 812814.

Clubs should note that if there is sufficient interest in one area it may be possible for a one day introductory course to be run at their own premises, and they should contact the writer who will try to arrange this.

## Training squads

For those who are already competent to some extent training weekends, within the regional training squad structure, are being run in some areas and you should contact your local squad organiser for information. The first two in the London and South East area will be run at Richmond on the 12th November and 17th December under Ken Pereira (the dates for the first part of 1979 will be published shortly).

## Sprint C2s

One of the problems in promoting C2 racing has been the shortage of boats, and some very funny and hysterical sights have been seen as paddlers try to race with two in a C1 or kneeling up in a K2. This situation may be eased as a major manufacturer has made available a sprint C2 mould for hire, and three boats have been made at this time, two for the use of clubs. They are costing £130 each, this includes the fee for use of the mould in return for which, the manufacturers registration certificate is provided to be glassed into the boat. For further information contact the author.

## Marathon (1d)

The concept of C1 marathon racing has received a boost in the last year with some nine boats at the national championships and, following the end of the sprint season, an average of ten boats at Longridge, Wey, Pangbourn LDs.

The Marathon racing committee have agreed to the nomination of eight events to count towards the Haslar team trophy starting with Wey Kayak Club's race on the 1st of October 1978. In the south of England, at Wey, Thames, Pangbourn, and Reading. In the Midlands Nottingham, Leamington, Lincoln, and Fladbury. The committee has also nominated two races for C2s these are Bradford on Avon and the Richmond K2 marathon.

It is hoped that other clubs will provide events at their races for C1s and of course both C1 and C2 events will be included in the National Marathon Championships in 1979.

As a guide to race organisers the recommended course for senior events is nine miles with, at the most, three portages. Should there be enough entries for a junior event this should be run over six miles (organisers may think this latter a short course but I would point out that many of the younger competitors are eligible, on age, for the espada classes where, in some cases, the course is limited to three miles).

As there is difficulty on turns especially on narrow rivers and canals it is recommended that the turn be optional, clockwise or anti-clockwise so as to eliminate advantage to either the lefthand or righthand paddler as the case may be.

Finally, for those who wish to race through the winter Wey Kayak Club are once again running their very successful "hare and hounds" time trial series, these will include C1s. The dates are October 29th, November 26th, December 31st, January 21st and either the 4th or 11th of February. For details contact Jim Rossiter, 6 Birch Avenue, Caterham, Surrey.

## Additional info.

For any assistance or information on canoe racing please contact Ken Pereira at 42 Cobs Way, New Haw, Weybridge, Surrey.

## Nominations

Nominations for election to the BCU Touring Executive Committee at the 1979 Touring Section A.G.M., and any Motions for discussion at that meeting must be signed by two full Members of the Union and be lodged with the Committee Secretary, Mrs. Janet Hales, 9 Strode Street, Egham, Surrey, by November 20th 1978.

R.F. Tyas, Chairman.

## Spanish Connection

*Improved organisation, shortened River Race course, a more fluent slalom course and even, for the first time, nightly managers' meetings corroborated rumours of the presence of the presence of I.C.F. officials considering the Rio Noguera Pallaresa as a possible Europa Cup venue!*

*The competition was used this year for the Spanish Championships and held over the week of July 23rd-30th; the 'XV Rallye Turistico Deportivo Internacional de Canoe Kayak' managed to maintain the traditional balance of a social and competitive atmosphere.*

*The British Junior River Race Training Squad participated extremely successfully in this event. Members of the group were Keith Flanagan, Peter Brownbill and Rod Stubley (A team), Stephen Dent, Colin Llewellyn and Nigel Vickers (B team).*

*Classified as 'Cadets', impressive results may be slightly misleading owing to lack of serious competition in this 15-16 year-old age group. However, maximum effort all round gained both teams the first two places with exactly the same times and the six paddlers occupying the first seven places in the individual event.*

*Prior to this trip, the squad was involved in flat and rough water training weekends and several days on the Durance in the French Alps en route in preparation for the Spanish water, guaranteed continuous III-IV.*

## Brian's Specials — Information Booklets

A semi-professional approach to the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race 75p  
 "To live or let die" — a Beach Safety Report 35p  
 Australian Lifesaving equipment review 35p  
 Beach Safety Code 20p  
 Expedition First Aid 45p  
 Prices include p & p  
 Brian Sheen, 92 Par Green PAR, Cornwall.

## Smalls

FOR SALE: ONE MACHETE WHITE-WATER RACER. Immaculate boat, only raced a couple of times last season. Standard light-weight diolen construction, built to the high standard of all Baron boats. Translucent red deck, black seat etc.  
 CONTACT: A.M. Ashby, Flat 15a Birkbeck Court, 105 Cathedral St., Glasgow.

15' touring mould u.g.c. £50  
 13' Slalom canoe paddles etc. £60. tel. Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset 02782071.

## LONG-JOHN-WET SUITS

		Chest Size	Price
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4mm Shark Skin	Long Johns	32"	£17.00
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Front zips vest and trousers add £8 ex

These suits are ready made, all seams are glued stitched and taped, money back if not satisfied, call in our shop or write for brochure. For every size post 80p per suit. Please quote Canoe Focus in all correspondence.

Vancleeve, 120 Brayards Rd, Peckham, London SE15.  
 01-639-8218. Hours of opening Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, closed Thurs.

# Midwood First

The year after sea canoeists rounded Cape Horn, another first is being claimed. On June 1st and 2nd Peter Midwood, a student from I.M. Marsh College, Liverpool completed a solo crossing of 56 miles from Holyhead to Dublin, without any form of support. This advanced trip, with its high commitment factor, has been done many times before by groups of advanced sea canoeists in various conditions, but the solo factor increases the commitment infinitely. The thought of being sea sick or a capsize followed by a failure to roll in the middle of the Irish Sea, 28 miles from land, without any form of assistance, is a terrifying thought. This is believed to be another canoeing first, but if anyone knows of anyone who has already done this trip solo, Peter would like to hear from him.

Peter paddled out of Holyhead harbour at 10.00 a.m. on June 1st. The weather conditions were perfect — the sun was shining and the sea was like glass. However the weather forecast was not good. Heavy fog was forecasted along with force 3 or 4 south east winds. After 30 minutes paddling he passed North Stack to port and paddled off on his bearing of 270° — due west. At 11.30 he lost sight of land as he disappeared into thick fog, not to see land again for over 20 hours.

"Canoeing at sea, alone, can be very boring and soul destroying," Pete said. "So to help ease the boredom I took a transistor radio with me. Where did I put it? Easy! I stuck it on top of my canoeing helmet with canoe tape of course."

Pete had chosen the new 'Eskimo' sea kayak made by Pyranha Mouldings of Warrington for this trip. The canoe is a new design, only just released. It proved to be very suitable although the seat became rather uncomfortable after 25½ hours sitting in it.

Pete paddled on through the fog, till at 3.00 p.m. it cleared, only stopping every now and again for a quick Mars Bar of Opal Fruit. "You mustn't drink or eat too much," Pete commented "as you can't just get out to answer the calls of nature!!"

All was going well. At about 6.00 p.m. Pete felt the first twinges of "Teno-synovitis" in his right wrist. This is caused by the repetitive twisting of the wrists resulting in the tendons in the forearm becoming swollen and very sore. It was to give him more trouble and pain later on. From here on there was no turning back. No help near at hand.

Navigation at sea is much more difficult than that on land. Maps are no use if you can't see (pun!) any features. Navigation on crossings is done by calculating a compass course allowing for drift due to both tides and wind. Pete had firmly fixed a Sestrel compass onto the foredeck of his canoe and experienced no problems following it until it got dark at 11.00 p.m. Then it became more difficult.

There are five main methods of navigation in open sea at night. Select a star in the direction you want to go and aim for it. This works well if it is a clear night, but for Peter it became cloudy at 11.30 p.m. So a second method had to be used. During the summer months, even in cloudy conditions, when far out to sea, away from civilisation the "Northern Lights" can be clearly seen. So when heading west, keep the northern lights to your starboard side. This works well unless it becomes foggy . . . . and at 12.00 midnight . . . . heavy fog came down again!! So on to the third method. Which direction is the wind coming from? South. So keep the wind on the left hand side of your face and you are heading west. Easy as long as the wind keeps up. But at 1.15 a.m. on Friday . . . . the wind dropped completely!! The same method can be applied if there is a constant regular swell coming from one direction. But usually the swell drops or becomes confused as the wind drops, which is what inevitably happened to Pete. So there was only one method left. Set your head-torch pointing down at your compass, put your head down, pray that the bulb doesn't blow or the batteries don't fail or get wet and just keep paddling. Unfortunately this can have the same effect that many people experience when reading a map or book in a moving car; they become sick. At 2.00 a.m. Peter felt so sea sick he had to stop. The next problem was to stay awake. To fall asleep and capsize would have disastrous results, especially being on your own. And there is nobody to raft up with for stability. Radio Luxembourg provided enough entertainment to stay awake until at 3.45 . . . . it closes down. With dawn at about 5.00 a.m. Pete, unable to navigate, spent an hour paddling round and round in circles to keep himself awake. At 5.00 he was able to continue through the fog. At 7.00 things began to pick up as the fog cleared and Peter found a Dublin radio station on his radio. At 7.30 he was passed by a Holyhead/Dublin car ferry. A four foot swell and blue sky at 8.30 along with a glimpse of land ahead. At 10.00 he could pick out a lighthouse, so he headed straight for it — not knowing if he was north or south of Dublin. At 11.30 he made landfall at the lighthouse. "It took me about half an hour to get out of my canoe and lift it out of the water," explained Peter. "After 25½ hours sitting in a canoe, its very difficult to walk." After an hours sleep next to the canoe he climbed up to the lighthouse. "They all thought I was drunk" Pete said, "as I still couldn't walk properly." The lighthouse turned out to be the Bailey, being four miles north of Dublin. Not too bad after 56 miles open sea — only 7% error.

After contacting the coastguards in Holyhead to confirm his arrival, Pete chatted to the lighthouse men and drank tea for a couple of hours. Finally he set off on the last 4 miles to Dublin. He arrived at 6.00 p.m. to be met by Kiaran Byrne, who carried his boat up the beach for him, took him up to Clontarf Yacht and Boat Club, sat him at the bar in his wet canoeing gear and bought him a pint of best Dublin Guinness. "It's true," sighed Pete "Dublin Guinness is much, much better than English Guinness. But next time I fancy a pint, I think I'll take the easy route — the car ferry!!"

Pete can be contacted at the I.M. MARSH COLLEGE, BARKHILL ROAD, LIVERPOOL L17 6BD.



## Sausage Pursued

Thanks to the grand hospitality of the Lee-on-Solent Sailing Club, several international canoes were able to race for the Solent Stein trophy during the Club's annual regatta weekend of the 2nd and 3rd September.

Saturday's race was sailed in a force 2 North Westerly. Chris Doughty quickly worked up an impressive lead, finishing several minutes ahead of the next boat.

Sunday brought light and variable winds mainly from the East. For the first race of the day an olympic type course was set. Chris Doughty took the lead on the "Sausage" and approached the final mark against the force of the tide, searching for more wind. He was pursued by Brian Mace and Peter Herbert who fought for their positions along the slacker water close to the shore. They both headed for the final mark taking the lead from Chris Doughty, who sought the shallows to gain ground lost by the tide. It was some time and several tacks before the wind helped Brian Mace against the tide and round the mark first.

Sunday's second race was, of necessity, much shorter. Brian Mace took an early lead which he held despite challenges from Chris Doughty and Peter Herbert.

### OVERALL RESULTS

- 1st K115 Flame (B. Mace  
LOSSC)
- 2nd K147 Honky Tonk  
(C. Doughty LOSSC)
- 3rd K148 Daddy Long Arms  
(P. Herbert SSC)
- 4th K157 (Brook White  
LOSSC)



# Information Smalls

The inaugural meeting of the Meridian C.C. was held at Eaglesfield School on the 2nd of November, the club, to be based in S.E. London (Greenwich & Bealey) offers a full range of facilities catering for all standards, beginners are most welcome.

Further details from:  
Miss D. Meague  
41 Footscray Road  
Eltham SE9 2ST  
Tel: (01) 859-3799.

BCU Advanced Inland Kayak Assessment Course and White Water Training Course to be held November 10th-12th '78 on The Dart & Exe. Send S.A.E. for details to:-  
Pete Wood  
BCU ACO Wessex  
7 Sunnybank  
Wick  
Bristol BS15 5PL

— CANOE POLO —  
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS  
1979.

SEMI-FINALS & FINALS FOR THE YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIPS WILL BE HELD AT CRYSTAL PALACE EXHIBITION ON THE SATURDAY.

QUARTER FINALS — SEMI FINALS AND FINALS WILL BE HELD ON THE SUNDAY, FOR THE SENIOR TEAMS. ALL ENTRIES TO BE SENT TO NIGEL MIDGLEY, 41 WHITE-DIRT LANE, CATHERINGTON, NR. PORTSMOUTH, HANTS, BY 14th DECEMBER 1978

The A.G.M. of the Sea Touring Committee will be on the same date and at the same venue as the B.C.U. A.G.M.

## HAVE YOU RENEWED?

YOUR MEMBERSHIP WAS DUE ON 1ST NOVEMBER 1978. A FORM WAS SENT WITH YOUR LAST COPY OF THIS MAGAZINE. SUPPLIES OF FORMS HAVE ALSO BEEN SENT TO ALL AFFILIATED CLUBS.  
PLEASE RENEW EARLY.

INTERESTED IN CANOEING? SEA, INLAND, COMPETITIVE? DO YOU WANT TO PADDLE WITH OTHER LIKE MINDED PERSONS FROM THIS AREA?  
DO YOU LIVE IN THIS AREA?  
MEET NEW PEOPLE, SHARE TRAVELLING. B.C.U. COACHING COURSES ARRANGED.

CONTACT: MR. D.M. HART  
FLAT 2  
OXLEY PARKER SCHOOL  
MILL ROAD  
COLCHESTER, ESSEX  
TEL: COLCHESTER 41950

FRI (Evening) SAT, SUN, 9, 10, 11 FEB B.C.U. Sea Towing Committee and A.S.K.C. SEA CANOEING WEEKEND.  
NORTH CORNWALL.  
Camping or B & B

FRI (Evening) SAT, SUN, 11, 12, 13 MAY COACHING SCHEME S.I. SEA TRAINING/ ASSESSMENT. ADVANCED PROFICIENCY TRAINING  
POLZEATH, CORNWALL.  
RESIDENTIAL.

Details from J.C. Kuyser  
St. Austell Canoe Club,  
Kozee Kott, Menear Road,  
St. Austell, Cornwall.  
PL25 3DG.  
Telephone 61472 (St. Austell)

THE THIRD NATIONAL SEA CANOEING SYMPOSIUM  
DECEMBER 9 AND 10th 1978  
AT THE UNITARIAN HOLIDAY CENTRE, GT. HUCKLOW,  
BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.

SPONSORED BY THE ADVANCED SEA KAYAK CLUB ATTENDANCE FOR THIS RESIDENTIAL WEEK-END IS OPEN TO ALL ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS AND WILL COST £15.00 PER HEAD.

APPLICATIONS TO  
J.J. RAMWELL  
32 GLEBE ROAD,  
WEST PERRY,  
HUNTINGDON,  
CAMBS.  
PE18 0DG.

News has just reached us that Graham Macereth of Pyranha Mouldings is only accepting telephone calls between 3.00 and 4.00 p.m. Ed:- He should be so lucky. He says it is the only way he can complete his other work. People wishing to call him should ring (0925) 31484.

The a/m club has been organised by myself and a few friends have agreed to form a management committee, the constitution of the club was drafted and accepted at a public meeting held in January of this year (1978).

They are affiliated to the B.C.U. and have applied (rather late I'm afraid) to the Marathon Racing Committee to organise a TIER 4 canal race for 1979, date to be arranged later.

They also intend to hold a canoe rally sometime during

1979 inviting all small canoeing groups to join them and bring to their notice the benefits of joining the British Canoe Union. Would it be possible to give a little publicity to this club and also add their name to the Calendar.

I myself will be coaching and supervising and would like all correspondence to be addressed to me: John A. Squire  
124 Gough Street  
Willenhall, West Midlands  
WV13 1HE

The Sea Touring Committee of the B.C.U. have established a Coastal Advisory Service. Here is a list of regional coastal advisors.

AREA	NAME	ADDRESS
1	Brian West	Orchard End, Snandfield Lane, Sedgberrow, Nr. Evesham, Worcs.
2	John Kuyser	Kozee Kott, Menear Rd., St. Austell, Cornwall, PL25 3DG.
3	Brian Sheen	92 Par Green, Par, Cornwall.
4	Mike Fennessy	66 Lulworth Drive, Roborough, Plymouth, PL6 7DU
5		
6	John Drew	35 Wraysbury Park Drive, Emsworth, Hants, PD10 7UU.
7	Andrew Pilch	High Quarry, Froghole, Crockham Hill, Edinbridge, Kent, TN8 6TD.
8	Damon Guy	60 Wandsworth Common West Side, London SW18 2ED.
9	Tony Mullinger	128 Westminster Drive, Westcliffe on Sea, Essex, SS0 9SF.
10	Christine Dean	23 Meadow Rd., Heacham, Norfolk.
11		
12	Dave Stanley	1 Firstgate, Harrogate, Yorks.
13		
14	Ian Wall	6 Edinbore, Ambleside, Cumbria, LA22 9EW.
15	David Rushfirth	44 Bleasdale Ave., Staining, Nr. Blackpool, Lancs, FY3 0DW.

Those requiring any information are asked to include a stamped and self addressed envelope.

Each of these Regional Coastal Advisors has several other advisors to assist him in his area. The total sum of advisors is about 35. A complete list can be obtained from the Secretary of the Sea Touring Committee.

Wild Water Race Division 3 and Open.  
River Wye (Rhayader)  
17th & 18th Feb. '79  
Run to BCU Rules.  
Send S.A.E. for details to:-  
Pete Wood  
BCU ACO Wessex  
7 Sunnybank  
Wick,  
Bristol BS15 5PL

David Howie has been appointed as the new Secretary for the Racing Committee. He takes over from Stan Cooper who has stood down from the job because of his fuller commitments towards the 1981 World Wild Water Championships.

Any correspondence for David should be addressed to:  
DAVID HOWIE  
7 CARLYLE SQUARE  
LONDON SW 3  
Tel: 01 352 1716

# Surf

Sunday 1st October saw the Canoe Surfing Championships organised by the Northern Coaching Panel. After a week during which the North Sea was calm as a millpond it was feared that the event would have to be postponed. However the annual miracle happened and Sunday morning saw mountainous seas pounding in on South Shields beach. So big were they that organisers and competitors relocated to Seaburn where the waves were marginally more manageable.

This year judging was based on the recent recommendations of the BCU Surf Committee. Although the event was principally supported by local entrants there was encouraging support from the South. It is hoped that in future years it will be organised as a two day event and that it will become part of a national calendar of surf competitions.

Competition was keen in the slalom canoe handling and first position was decided in the final by taking the marks of the heats into account with local lads Alan Wearmouth and Mick Gibb in first and second places. D. Rosenberg from London was third.

This is the first year that specialist surf canoes have outnumbered slalom boats. Rick Knight from Chichester and Phil Dean from Accrington managed to take first and second places away from last year's winner — Gordon Henderson of South Shields.

In the junior class surf canoes were also well represented but it was David Jackson of Hexham in a Norseman kayak whose survival technique impressed the judges most. Mike Yarrow of Marsden Corps of Canoe Lifeguards was second and Keith Barron of Stakeford was third.

Thanks go to the following sponsors for providing prizes. Northern Kayaks Ltd, Rothbury The Wild Water Centre, Harrogate

McNulty Seaglass, Washington  
The Diving Centre, Newcastle

from: Phil Walton  
11 Mount View Terrace  
Stocksfield  
Northumberland NE43 7HL  
Tel: Stocksfield 3864  
(office hrs. Cramlington 713421)

BCU L.C.O. Tynedale area.

## *New B.C.U. Surf Committee 1978/9*

### *Chairman:*

*J. Hermes  
The Cottages  
Tregreham  
St. Austell  
Cornwall*

### *Secretary:*

*Tl Rule  
11 Hazel Avenue  
Acland Park  
Braunton  
North Devon*

### *Treasurer:*

*R. Graham  
3 The Hill  
Bickingham  
Barnstaple  
North Devon*

### *B.C.U. Council Representative:*

*L. Reed  
23 Warnham  
Sidmouth Street  
London WC1*

### *Publicity Secretary:*

*G. Jones  
Officers Mess  
R.A.F. West Drayton  
Middlesex*

### *Exhibition Representative:*

*D. Rowat  
2 Merryhills Close  
Biggin Hill  
Kent*

### *Members*

*R. Twitty  
110 Draycott Road  
Draycott  
Derby*

*I. Downie  
16 Guy Street  
Warwick*

*D. Young  
28 Meldrum Court  
Temple Herdwyke  
Leamington Spa  
Warwickshire*

*S. Beeson  
14 King Edwards Close  
Whitchurch, Bristol*

*V. Cox  
Victoria House  
Corwen Road  
Treuddyn  
Mold  
Clwyd  
North Wales*

*D. Hales  
Clock House  
Main Street  
Thorpe Satchville  
Melton Mowbray  
Leicestershire*

*J.G. Mould  
The Shed  
Milnefield Avenue  
Elgin  
Morayshire*

*J. Kent  
73 Stanford Road  
Ashchurch  
Tewksbury  
Glos.*

*M. Gibbs  
Tehidy Hospital (staff  
accommodation)  
Cambourne  
Cornwall*

*M. Stone  
8 Laura Drive  
Boscoppa  
St. Austell  
Cornwall*

*P. Rawlings-Jackson  
2 Staff House  
Rossiee School  
Montrose  
Scotland*

*P. Dean  
156 Dill Hall Lane  
Accrington  
Lancs.*

*A. Knight  
296 Sturminster Road  
Stockwood  
Bristol*

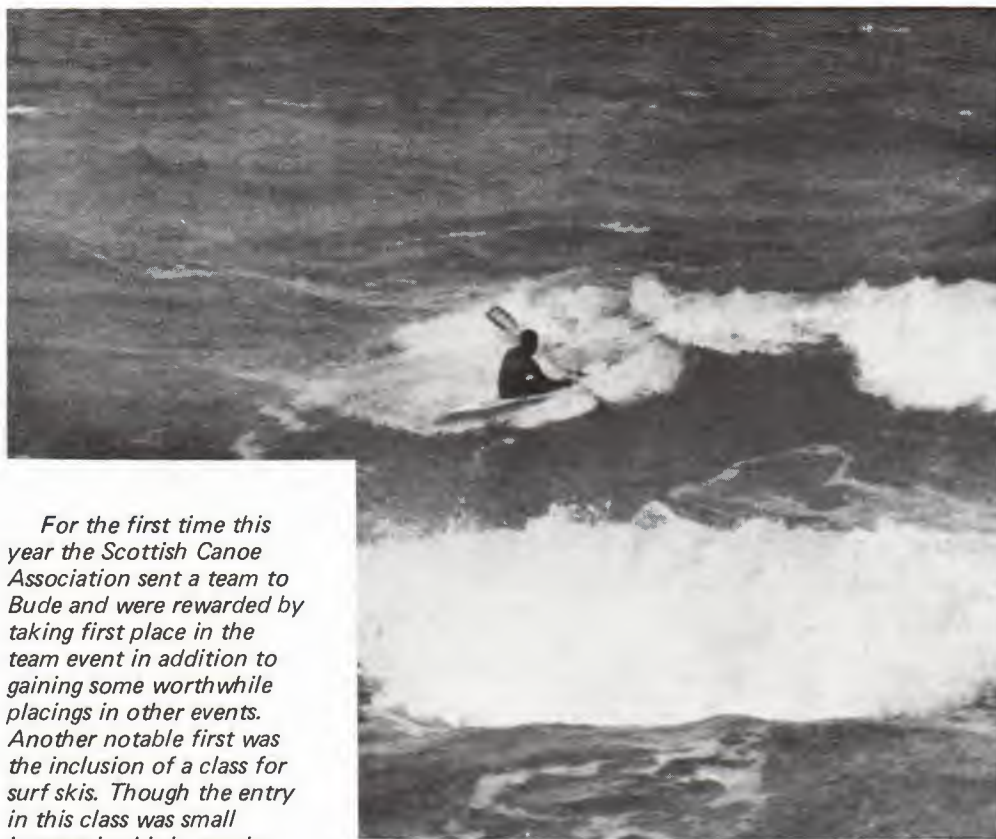


# Blow out at Bude...

The weekend of 9th/10th September saw the nations top surf canoeists gathered at Bude for the annual National Canoe Surfing Championships. With a record entry of over 130 individual entries and the prospect of a very tight programme it was hoped that this year would see favourable sea conditions for a change. Alas this was not to be and, though the weather was dry, the wind blew steadily from the south west all weekend, never dropping below Force 6.

In these conditions Bude surf is not at it's best and the sea state was so poor on Crooklets beach, where the competition is normally held, that the venue had to be hastily moved to Summer-lease beach in the hope of getting some shelter from the breakwater. Conditions there were still poor but it did prove possible to surf the top half of the tide; though a hasty adjustment of the programme was necessary to get every event in and only the brave few were able to get to the outside of the break.

The growing interest in surfing as a specialised form of competitive canoeing was reflected in the high standard of surfing displayed by all the competitors in such poor conditions. Several paddlers who were expected to do well were eliminated at an early stage but the highlight of the weekend was saved for the very last event. In very heavy conditions in the final of the open surf canoe handling Phil Dean battled his way outside the break and pulled off a ride that earned him 7½ points out of a maximum possible 10, a feat virtually unheard of in such conditions. In the slalom canoe handling Simon Beeson again came out on top to continue a domination of the event that has lasted for more than 5 years now.



For the first time this year the Scottish Canoe Association sent a team to Bude and were rewarded by taking first place in the team event in addition to gaining some worthwhile placings in other events. Another notable first was the inclusion of a class for surf skis. Though the entry in this class was small interest in skis is growing fast and the class will remain for future years.

This is the last year that the Nationals will take their present format and the weekend normally reserved for them in early September will be used to hold a new English Canoe Surfing Championships with the British National Canoe Surfing Championships taking place later in the year, probably in November.



# ICF News

The ICF Slalom and Wildwater Racing Committee has prepared a provisional calendar as given below:—

<b>March</b>				
21./22	Reggio Emilia/ITA	WW	—	
<b>April</b>	Passau/Ilz (BRD)	WW	—	C
<b>May</b>	Zwickau/DDR	—	SL	
	Bourg St. Maurice/FRA	WW	SL	Junior
	Bala/GBR	—	SL	
24./27.	Neup/Erft (BRD)	Abf.	—	C
	Torino/ITA	WW	—	
	Varallo Sesia/Vercelli/ITA	WW	—	
<b>June</b>	Liptovsky/Mikilas/TCH	—	SL	
	Gourvois/FRA	—	SL	
	Muotathal/Sui	WW	SL	
	Merano/ITA	WW	SL	
	Tacen-Bovec/YUG	WW	SL	
	Savage River/USA	WW	SL	
30./6.	Jonquiere, Quebec/CAN	WW	SL	
8./7.	World Championships			
<b>July</b>	Sort/ESP	WW	SL	
	Seu d/Urgell/ESP	WW	SL	
<b>August</b>	Nowy Sacz/POL	—	SL	
	Lofer/AUT	WW	SL	
	Spittal/AUT	WW	SL	
	Skopje/YUG	—	SL	Junior
<b>September</b>	Cerveny/Klastor/TCH	—	SL	
	Augsburg/BRD	—	SL	
	Bamberg/BRD	—	SL	

The definite calendar will be agreed on November 1, 1978

## SPORT MEDICINE

Water quality specified for Canoeing events

The ICF Committee for Sport Medicine has been concerning itself with the minimum quality requirements for water which is to be used for canoeing activities, and it has now published the following definitions:

- "For the practice of canoe sports water should meet the following minimum conditions:
- water is in general to be regarded as suitable if it meets the requirements for swimming in running water, so that, for instance, fish can thrive in it.
  - the bacteriological content of enterococci and faecal streptococci does not exceed 250/100 ml water and the content of heat stable coliform bacteria 1000/100 ml water.
  - the water must, in addition, not possess a disagreeable odour or appear unpleasant. It must not contain chemicals or algae in a concentration that would endanger the human organism.

If the above minimum conditions are not fulfilled the water must be regarded as unsuitable for canoe sport, and a serious risk to the health of a competitor must be reckoned with.

Dr. Burger  
Chairman of the ICF  
Sport Medicine Committee

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Svenska Kanotforbundet will have from 1.11.1978 a new address:

Svenska Kanotforbundet, Idrottens Hus, S-123 87 Farsta  
Tel: 93 05 00

The same address applies to Arthur Neveling, Chairman of the ICF Sailing Committee and to the Svenska Kanotseglarforbundet.

## OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES 1984

In the ICF News there was an unfortunate error, for in the election of the host city of the Olympic Winter Games 1984 between the cities Sarajevo/Yugoslavia and Sapporo/Japan, 39 votes were given to Sarajevo and 36 for Sapporo. Consequently the IOC has awarded the Olympic Winter Games 1984 to Sarajevo/Yugoslavia. We apologise for the incorrect information.

## CANOE SLALOM AND WILDWATER RACING

Europa Cup 1978

Following their first and second competitions at Spindlerov Mlyn/TCH and Augsburg/BRD, the slalomists met for their third event on 22/23 July at Bourg St. Maurice/FRA. The wildwater racers also met at Bourg St. Maurice for their final competition following earlier events in Spindlerov Mlyn/TCH and Bala/GBR.

Here, where the World Championships in Canoe Slalom and Wildwater Racing were held as long ago as 1969, on the Upper Isere, the best competitors from 16 nations entered the Final. In all there were 406 participants of both sexes on the starting list, of whom 186 were entered for the Wildwater events, and 220 for the Slalom events.

The water level on the Isere varied on the days preceding the competitions so that it was possible, during training, to have different water speeds morning, afternoon and evening.

The Wildwater Races were taken first, the four events being won by competitors from four different countries, Belgium, Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland and France. We would stress the broad distribution of participants showing the increasing interest in Wildwater Racing in many federations.

Similarly with the Canoe Slalom. Here the course, with 30 gates, including 8 reverse gates, was, without doubt, one of the most difficult in the world. The Austrians won one of the events whilst the other three went to the German Democratic Republic. The latter has not participated in the Wildwater Racing Events for some years.

The results from Bourg St. Maurice and the computation for the Europa Cup for Slalom and Wildwater Racing together with the presentation of the Continental Trophy are given on pages 6-11. The Europa Cup for Canoe Slalom was won by the German Democratic Republic with the General Republic of Germany and Czechoslovakia second and third respectively. The Europa Cup for Wildwater Racing was won by France with the Federal Republic of Germany second and Great Britain third. In the overall results, The Federal Republic of Germany took the Continental Trophy with France and Great Britain second and third.

## North American Cup 1978

As in Europe, it is possible to stage Continental Cup competitions in the other continents. This year, in America, the three events were carried through in Buena Vista, Colorado/USA, Leavenworth, Washington/USA and Whistler, British Columbia/Can. We have the results from Buena Vista 1./2. July and Leavenworth 8./9 July, as well as a list of total points for the North America Cup.

As the entries are not by national teams as in Europe, (there would only be USA and Canada), but by Divisions of National Associations, we publish them in the form received. The results will be found on pages 12-15.

## Other International Results

On pages 15-16 we publish the most important results from the international slalom at Lofer together with the main results from the international slalom in Jonquiere, Quebec/Can. In the results from Wildwater Racing, the countries of the competitors were not given, so we publish only the winners, the majority of the participants being unknown in Europe.

## A new film available

The Australian Film Commission offers a new canoeing film with the title "C'NOE", showing an expedition by canoe and kayak on the River Murrumbidgee. The film runs for 13½ minutes and shows scenes varying from calm water to the wildest parts of this river. Available in 16mm copies, it is a sound film but without speech so it can be shown in all countries. Enquirers should approach the Australian Embassy in their own country, or write to:—

Mr Ray Atkinson, Australian Film Commission Representative, Australian High Commission, Canberra House, 10-16 Maltravers Street, London WC2R 3EH, England.

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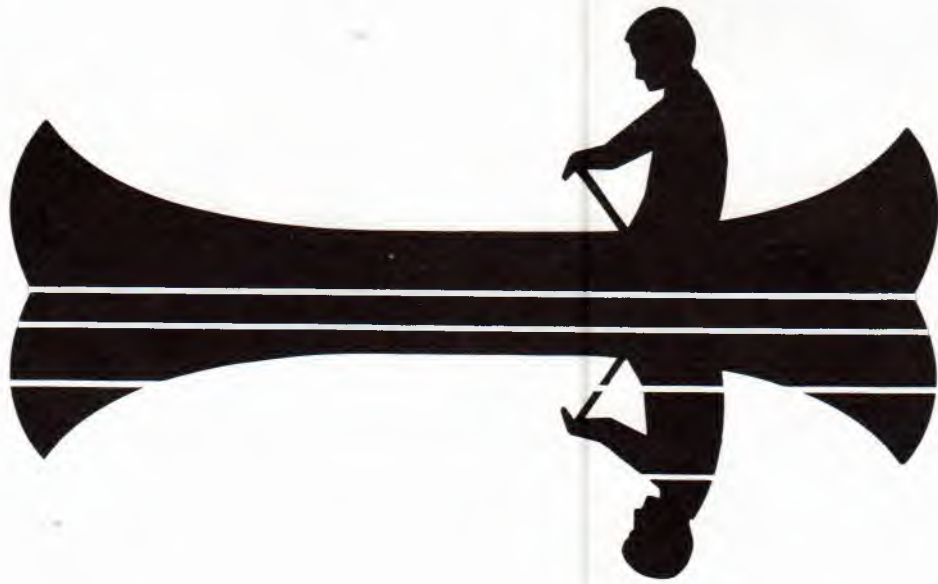


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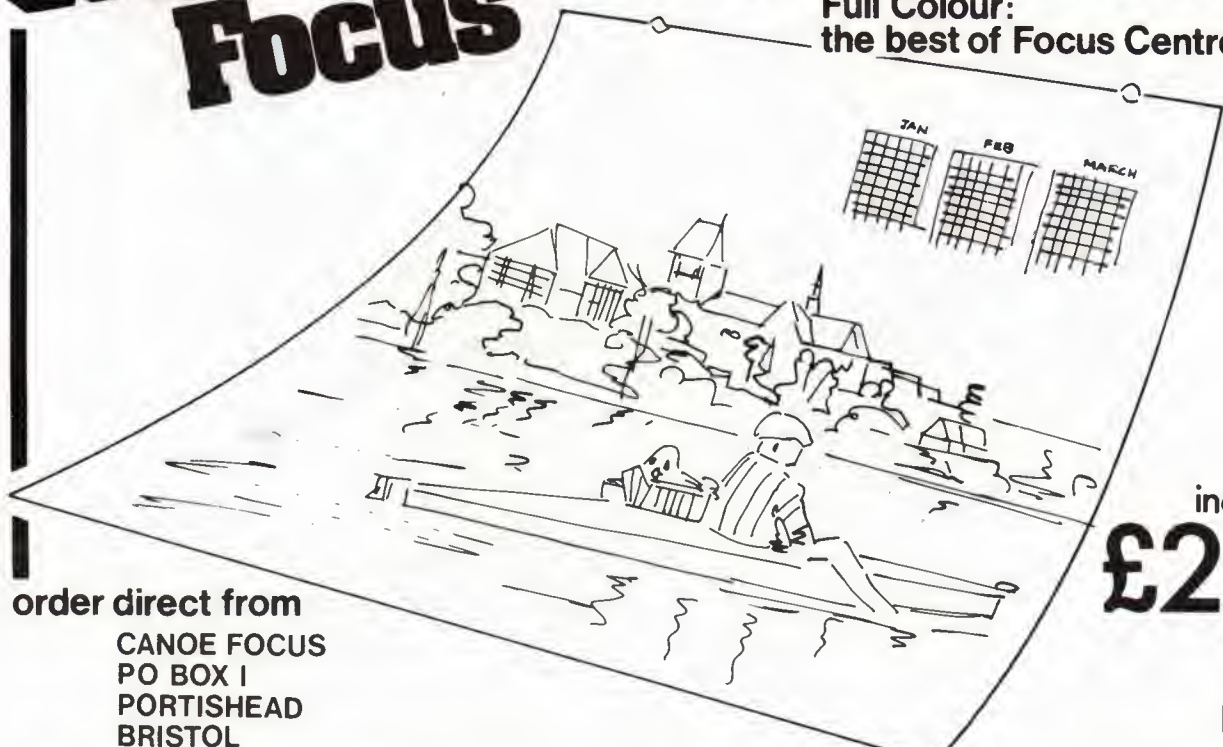
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## A short story to reflect on.

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