



# FOCUS EXTRA

## FOSTERS DRAUGHT INTERNATIONAL SLALOM, LLANGOLLEN

Each year the event seems to grow and grow, twelve nations actually competed whilst entries were submitted from 14, but Italy and Japan did not compete.

The competition started on Thursday with a three nations match between Great Britain, France and Czechoslovakia under the new rules which are to be adopted from 1986. Competitors were confronted by an interesting course on the Serpents Tail site, in which Alan Edge had designed several gates which it was obvious would be quicker in reverse. It proved that with careful design and good water it was possible to include the skill of reverse technique. The short course (20 gates) on very high water produced an absorbing spectacle including Ishbel Grant being pulled under between the last gate and the finish to lose out on her run. The new rules gave some interesting results with Richard Fox winning on this 150 second course by an amazing 15 seconds, Gail Allan beating Liz Sharman, and Martyn Hedges breaking the grip of Hearn and Lugbill to prove that he is still a world contender. Overall Britain (71 points) won the nations cup easily from France (51) and Czechoslovakia (47), in an event which will become a regular contest between these three overall top nations.



After a days rest for the competitors, while Alan Edge's team of 'course erectors' moved to the Town site, the main event commenced on the railway side of the Town site - for the first time in many years. Only Albert Woods, our ICF official could remember that side being used before. After the regional team event on Saturday morning the main event, the International individuals commenced. In the youth event England dominated the field taking the first three places (Hansell, Crosbee and Raspin) whilst in C1, Hedges, (219.52) was unable to repeat his midweek success and finished third behind Hearn (203.71) and Lugbill (206.67) giving Hearn a rare win over the World Champion.

In the Ladies event, Liz Sharman (220.02) narrowly regained her lead over Gail Allan (221.26) but after a poor first run Yuri Kasuda of the USA capped a fine USA performance by paddling 218.72 clear to take the gold medal.

In C2 the English team were strengthened by Jamieson/Williams who had been unable to compete on Thursday and they showed their class to beat Saidi/Daval (France) by 2.51 seconds and all four English C2's finished in the first seven places.

Again Fox dominated the kayak event to be unbeaten in 1984 in a time of 189.84 followed by Ivan Hilgert (191.47) of Czechoslovakia. Richard now disappears to Australia

## Compliments of the Season and a Prosperous New Year

The production schedule for Canoe Focus necessarily requires that Christmas Greetings are conveyed to readers at the end of October, a time which, until recent years has seem distinctly un-Christmasy. However, now that the lights are lit in Oxford Street in late October, and television advertising is dominated by exhortations to buy Christmas gifts immediately the summer holidays are over, it has become somewhat easier to arouse the Christmas spirit. Whether this will

remain with us until the 25th December of course, will depend upon our individual stamina and ability to maintain all that bonhomie for almost two months. Prenature or otherwise however, there can be no doubt regarding the sincerity of the good wishes and seasons greetings which the editorial board of Canoe Focus convey to their readers. Enjoy your Christmas festivities, good luck, good canoeing, and prosperity to you all in 1985.

to continue his winter build up - perhaps Australia is his secret weapon.



In the team event English Ladies (Sharman/Allan/Davies) easily beat the French World Champions whilst in a combined Canadian event, Hedges paddling with Lugbill and Hearn were unbeatable.

However in the K1 mens, it was a different story with several strong teams. Finally Czechoslovakia (Hilgert/Hilgert/Simek) 211.25 won the K1 mens event as France (215.45) and England A (220.84) (Fox/Smith/Jones) had collected 5 and 10 penalties respectively.

England Youth (Hansell/Raspin/Crosbee) were unlucky not to beat the British World Champions finishing fourth less than half a second behind them.

For the Grand Prix a large crowd packed the course and with an energetic commentary by Albert Woods and Jez Taylor, that well known C1 pair, it produced a real spectacle. Simon Green won the youth event in a time half a second faster than Fox. Whilst Lugbill, Sharman and Fox won their respective classes. In C2, eleven crews were competing and only two managed to finish this difficult course down the Town fall side.

## KWAI SEND OFF

There are two River Kwai in Thailand, the Kwai Noi, and Kwai Yai, meaning literally, 'big' and 'small'. The Kwai Noi, the same river along whose side ran the 'death railway' of World War II, has been earmarked since Christmas 1983 as the setting for a canoeing voyage of discovery.

Peter and Jane Salisbury and Peter Barton left on 4th November to carry out an expedition not

undertaken before, down the 350 miles of the river from its main source near the 'Three Pagodas Pass' by the Burmese border to its end where it flows into the Gulf of Thailand.

Peter Salisbury a founder member of the International Long River Canoeist Club, is an experienced expedition leader, and spent three years in Far Eastern jungles. The photography will be in



His Excellency Dr. Owart Suthiwart-Nareput, Thai Ambassador with the Photograph by Brin Hughes

the capable hands of Peter Barton, an experienced canoeist, who led an expedition to India in 1981 to canoe the Ganges. He is a member of a London photographic group. Jane who will be in charge of finance, has also undertaken a number of canoeing ventures, but has no jungle experience. A fourth member, Geoffrey Bladon, was to have taken part but, as a constable of the Devon Constabulary, unfortunately has commitments in the North of England preventing him from going.

Initial enquiries made to the Thai Embassy in London and the Royal Forestry Department's Conservation Division in Bangkok were favourably received and an invitation extended to the team to visit the Thai Ambassador in London and discuss their plans and aspirations before departing.

His Excellency Dr. Owart Suthiwart-Nareput and his secretariat listened with interest and were most concerned that they should be allowed help in any way possible to enable the team a smooth passage without the aggravation of any 'red tape' with customs or other authorities. They offered to prepare both an explanation of their intended expedition and lists of personal effects and equipment in Thai. The Ambassador asked if the team were aware of the crocodiles in the area and if they had something with them to frighten them away. He warned against carrying firearms as he explained that they might be mistaken for the revolutionaries who are still fighting the Burmese soldiers. The Ambassador was amazed by Jane who cheerfully told him that she had never before left England let alone paddled down a tropical river, but sincerely wished them every success with the mission.

### The aims of the trip are:-

- to be the first expedition to canoe the River Kwai from limit of navigation down to the sea.
- to compile a photographic record of the varied animal life that exists along the banks of this infamous river. (Peter said that they were likely to encounter bear, red wolf, black panther, tiger, 30 species of poisonous snake and two types of crocodile, river and sea)
- to study the possibility of using enlarged Satellite photographs as a sole means of navigation (conventional maps are not available owing to the river's close proximity to the Burmese border).
- to 'field test' items of equipment donated by various suppliers under arduous expedition conditions.

Apart from the esturine crocodile, 4.5 metres long and a notorious man eater, the Tropical Medicine School in Birmingham advised that the area is 'the most malarial in the world'. However the team seemed satisfied with the precautions they were taking which included flares, to ward off animals, and two types of antimalarial drug.

Financial support towards the cost of the expedition has come from a BCU Expeditions Grant of £700, The Wallis Laboratory at Luton who provided all the medical supplies and Nigel Press Associates who supplied enlarged satellite photographs for navigation. Equipment for 'field testing' has also been donated by various companies.

Here at BCU HQ we wish both Peters and Jane every success and a safe journey. We hope that they will share their experiences and adventures with us when they return on 23rd November.

## BCU AGM Notice

Members are reminded that Article 18(b) of the Union's Articles of Association requires that 'Any motion for discussion at the Annual General Meeting not originating from the Council of Management shall be signed by two full members entitled to vote and be lodged with the Secretary (Director) before the 1st January 1985.'

Article 13(c) requires that 'Nominations of candidates for election as elected members of the Council of Management are to be put forward in the form of a motion. Such nominations should be accompanied by pen portraits of the candidate.'

As a consequence of previous vacancies for elected members of the Council of Management, and the completion of their two year electoral term by sitting councillors, there are presently eight vacancies for membership of the Council.

The 1985 Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 2nd March 1985 at a venue to be arranged in Nottingham.

## ARCTIC CANOE RACE

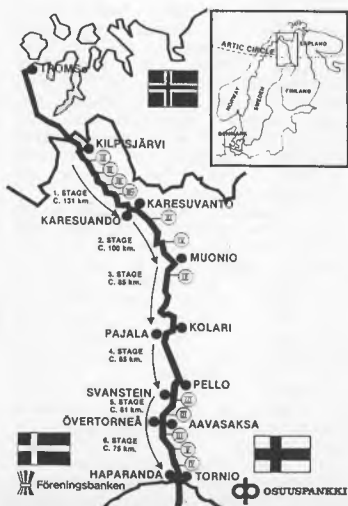
Once again the intrepid canoeist Dave Hellawell has been in action. After their success in the Devizes-Westminster Canoe Race, when they were first in the Canadian Canoe Class, he and his partner Steve Derwin went to Northern Finland for the Arctic Canoe Race. A considerable amount of organisation had to be done in a short space of time, the most important being to find space on the ferry to Gothenburg for two mini buses and 17 people consisting of wives, families and other support crew members. As it was the height of the holiday season the two buses had to travel by different ferries on different days but three days before the race was due to start we had arrived in Haparanda in Northern Sweden about 800 miles North of Gothenburg.

The next day was spent driving 300 miles North through Finland following the river Torne and looking at as many rapids as possible on the way to the race start at Kilpisjärvi. Travelling through Finland was effortless due to the sparseness of the population, at sometimes there were more reindeer on the road than cars.

The day before the race started was spent in final preparations, most of the time being used to make adjustments to a spray cover which was essential for negotiating rapids. It had been especially made for this race but was to prove disastrous due to the fact that it did not fit properly and it leaked!

The race was over 300 miles of lake, river and rapids and was completed over six days. As the first stage to Karesuvanto was 112 kilometres the start was scheduled for 3.00 am but this did not prove

### KILPISJÄRVI—TORNIO/HAPARANDA 29.7.—4.8.-84



to be difficult because at that latitude which is well into the Arctic Circle there was day light for 24 hours each day.



Our team were in the Canadian Canoe Class. At the start of the race there were 16 entrants, 11 from Finland, four from Sweden and our entry from England. Day one started well but some large rapids had to be negotiated and with an inefficient spray cover a considerable amount of water got into the canoe making its handling difficult and meant that stops had to be made to empty out the water. At the end of day one it became apparent that the canoe had been damaged on a rock and some of the support crew had to spend all night repairing it. However it was ready for 9.00 o'clock the next day. At the end of the six days Dave and Steve had completed the course with a total time of 54 hours 50 minutes and were placed fifth out of the 16 who had started. They had gained a lot of experience in entering this race and a lot of pressure derived by the support crew in watching the race particularly at the many large rapids. Several canoeists were unlucky in that they had to be rescued from the water by safety boats but luckily none were injured. Although Dave and Steve were not able to finish in the first three places, (in fact the first four places went to local crews who had knowledge of the river and had in fact canoeed parts, if not all of it before). They did however, win the Classic Series which is decided on the total times between the two races. Devizes to Westminster, and the Arctic Canoe Race.

## Development Team Appointed

During the past few weeks the Union has been busily engaged in advertising, interviewing, and appointing their development team, as a consequence of the implementation of their "Programme for Expansion".

Carel Quaipe has been appointed as National Development Officer to take over from Dave Lawrence who left last summer. Carel expects to take up his new position in the New Year.

Carel has had a long and varied canoeing career based in Birmingham and can bring a wealth of canoeing knowledge with him, as well as his commercial expertise gained in sales and stock control management. Carel became a BCU Coach in 1962, and has been involved in many aspects of development as a voluntary officer. These include developing the regional structure of the BCU, restructuring the Coaching Scheme as Chairman of the Coaching Committee, and as Chairman of the Access Committee strengthening the Access team and guiding the Statement of Intent through to its implementation.

Guy Baker takes on the new regional appointment of London and South East Regional Development Officer with effect from 29 October. Guy has been canoeing for 6 years and is a Senior Instructor living in Greenwich. He has been actively involved in instructing canoeing in the dock area of London and Lewisham.

He has organised and led the London Youth Himalayan Canoe Expedition to N. India this year.

Guy has a degree in Communication Studies with Sociology and has recently completed a Diploma in Recreation Management Studies.

Ann Gillespie from Worcester has taken on the new appointment of Midlands Regional Development Officer to cover the East and West Midlands Regions with effect

from 1st November. Ann has been canoeing for 17 years and has been a competitor in all disciplines since 1971, having represented Britain in Wild Water Racing on several occasions. She has also been involved in the Coaching Scheme and obtained the Coach and Competition Coach awards this year. She produces the Wild Water Racing Yearbook and has been the West Midlands regional secretary for the past year.

Ann has a B.A. in Recreation Management and Physical Education with sports science and has recently been working with Worcester City Leisure Services Department in community based leisure. The Union extends a very warm welcome to all, and look forward to many interesting and exciting new initiatives within canoeing during the next few years.

## Rt. Hon Olympic Reception



Eric Jamieson, seventh with Stephen Train, in the final of the C2 500m event, at the XXIIIrd Olympic Games, Los Angeles, pictured here shaking hands with Mrs. Thatcher. The occasion being celebrated was the return of the British Olympic Team from Los Angeles, marked by a reception at Lancaster House in their honour, hosted by the Prime Minister and Mr. Dennis Thatcher.

## ROUND BRITAIN CANOE EXPEDITION

On Sunday 15th April 1984 three instructors from Outward Bound Wales, namely:- Jon Moore, his wife Dawn, and a friend Maggie Annat set off from the Mumber Bridge in Yorkshire to canoe around mainland Britain. They returned on Wednesday 3rd October 1984. They managed to gain sponsorship in the form of goods from twenty five firms. Whilst undertaking the trip for pleasure they also raised money for the RNLI and the Outward Bound Trust.

The three canoeists were totally self sufficient for the entire trip, having no land back up. The Outward Bound School served as the expedition's headquarters with the canoeists phoning in as often as possible to receive messages and in return notify the HQ of their progress.

Throughout the trip the group liaised closely with the Coastguard, using a VHF radio in a waterproof case.

The expedition took 172 days in all, 40 of those were spent off the water. 2430 nautical miles were paddled in 670 hours giving an average speed of 3 1/2 knots. Their successful circumnavigation means that Jon and Dawn became the first married couple to complete the trip. Apparently a German lady canoed around the British Coastline in 1935 (it is rumoured that she went through the Calendonian Canal). Dawn and Maggie are the first British women to complete the trip.

All being well Dawn Jon and Maggie will be on the ILRCC stand at the Canoe Exhibition in February.

### YEARBOOK UPDATE

Please delete the following entry from the Coaching Organisers list which appears on page 39.

Ol J C Whitworth, 2 The Woodlands, Brackla, Bridgend, Mid Glam.

## STOP PRESS

### SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Those members whose membership expired at the end of October 1984 should note that it is now overdue for renewal. This will be the last communication you will receive from us until your renewal is received. A renewal form was enclosed with the last copy of Canoe Focus and another copy is enclosed for those members who have not renewed.

At present we are not able to accept membership on the Direct Debit system but computer software is expected during the month to enable us to commence this operation. However it will not be possible to pay your fees, on this system, in retrospect. Members who have registered an interest in this method of payment should pay for 1985 by cheque and the appropriate forms for next year will be forwarded as soon as the system has been set in operation.

### WANT TO FORM A CLUB? - FUNDS AND BOATS PROVIDED

There are a few canoe clubs in the above area but with the expansion of interest in canoeing, it could be that you find your nearest club not quite near enough? Or perhaps not offering the activities that you personally would like?

Funds exist on deposit, awaiting the enthusiasts who would like to form their own club at the well known centre, Ravens Ait on the Thames at Surbiton. The Centre's own canoes and kayaks are available for use at a moderate charge but some funds await the founders of a club for the purpose of initial liabilities such as postage and photocopying, to get the club afloat.

For further information write to The Warden, K. Hartle, Ravens Ait, Portsmouth Road, Surbiton, Surrey. KT6 4HN.

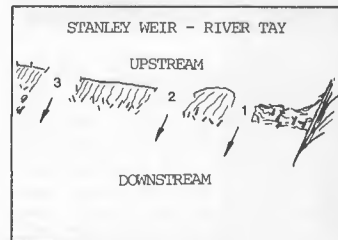
### GONE MISSING - CAN YOU HELP?

An all white Meran Slalom kayak went missing at the Tail Slalom. The Meran was brand new and still in its bag.

If anyone can help in its recovery please contact: Pyranha Watersports Centre, Marina Village, Preston Brook, Runcoo, Cheshire.

### SAFETY 'ST AT STANLEY

As the water at the weir at Stanley has been so low this year it has been possible to have a good look at the spikes there. Mary Conacher, Tay River Advisor, Dundee forwarded the sketch below as a guide to canoeists who intend to use the weir.



Sketch to show approximate position of spikes on weir, Chute I is the safest route.

### FROM A FLOOD TO A TRICKLE ON THE TRYWERYN

In the last Focus Extra we announced that weekday releases would be made during the winter to generate electricity. However it has been cancelled due to the summer drought and no releases are expected on the river until the end of January.

### THE RIVER RATS

River Rats was formed to promote the descent of rivers throughout the world by kayak, canoe, or raft by providing a place for the exchange of information and ideas. We extend a warm welcome to visitors to London. Whilst the club itself does not organise any trips or compete, we have a membership of about 100, most of whom are active WW paddlers and we can probably put you in touch with a local club or group.

Earlier this year British Canoe Polo teams were invited to Caen, France for an International tournament. 3 English and 1 Welsh Team accepted the invitation competing against 3 French, 1 German, 2 Dutch and 2 Belgium teams. Bere Forest, Luton Tigers "B" and Meridian were the English Teams and Dragon (a new team), the Welsh.

The venue was delightful. An open air heated swimming pool, the likes of which we just don't have in this country. We were accommodated in a nearby sports hall and fed (Saturday evening and Sunday morning) in a local cafeteria. It

just shows what can be done with the right facilities. (Both of which the Canoe Polo Committee is lacking in this country).

On Saturday the qualifying matches were run in 4 pools of 3 teams. Bere Forest and Tigers "B" won their matches easily. Bere Forest scoring 12 and conceding none, Tigers "B" scoring a grand total of 17 and conceding none. An up and coming Meridian team with an imported French player were unlucky to loose both their qualifying matches against French teams. Dragon won one and lost one, therefore coming 2nd in their league. Bere Forest and Tigers "B" won all their 2nd round matches. Dragon unfortunately were drawn against both these on form English teams and lost.

A foggy Sunday morning saw some teams suffering from the previous nights indulgence. The 4 players from Meridian who the previous evening had been making fun of Tigers "B" because they were 1st game on the water, had the tables turned on them when the games were reversed. These 4 brave lads from the London Dock area, looking the worse for wear with headaches and bags under their eyes, took to the water. They started well scoring 2 goals but an improving Dutch team gradually overhauled them to eventually win 4-2. Determined not to go home without a win, Meridian beat Bruges 4-0 to come 11th overall.

Full marks to a team who are new at Canoe Polo and are prepared to travel, even to another country in order to gain experience. Dragon, improving all the time, beat Flanders 4-3 for the 7th/8th play off. This newly formed team who managed to get to Caen in one piece despite Ian Williams' driving, got the prize for the team having most players sent off.

It was now semi-final time with two French teams and two English teams in a straight K.O. The French organisers wanted Bere Forest and Tigers "B" to play each other as they were looking the best two teams, and wanting a French team in the final. After protesting, Bere Forest drew Normandy and Tigers "B" drew Brittany. Tigers "B" had a hard game, had most of the possession but none of the breaks and were unlucky to loose 2-1. Bere Forest also had a hard game, but with rallying support from all the British contingent, eventually won 5-1.

With the games lengthened to 15 mins each way, Tigers "B" managed to get Greg Smale out of the doledrums and win the 3rd/4th play off by 8-5. Bere Forest had another hard game but won the final 4-2, much to the delight of all the British supporters.

Some beautiful silver cups were presented to all teams up to 8th place plus a bag of goodies (glasses, posters, cocktail shakers etc).

With so many countries present, the opportunity was taken to discuss the formation of International rules. It was felt that the ICF would welcome this initiative being taken by the players. After a 2 hour discussion in several languages, a basic set of International rules were agreed which will be implemented by those present for the next two years. All rules agreed to are similar to the British rules with the exception of the goals which will be water polo type goals.

Ten out of ten to our hosts whose organisation was very good and who looked after us well.

## Final Placings Caen International 1984

- 1) Bere Forest
- 2) Brittany 'A'
- 3) Luton Tigers 'B'
- 4) Normandy
- 5) Hamburg
- 6) Brittany 'B'
- 7) Dragon
- 8) Flanders Artois
- 9) Trekvogels
- 10) Sloterplass
- 11) Meridian
- 12) Bruges

### VERITY BARFOOT

## GB YOUTH WW RACING SUMMER TOUR

Manager : Philip Dean

Coach : Duncan Eglin

Assistant: Paul Slaney

During the Summer twelve 'A' team paddlers visited various venues in Austria for a duration of just over two weeks. The main objectives for the all male group of 10 K1's and 1 C2 pair were firstly to experience waters not normally available in the U.K. and secondly to take part in an international competition. For this purpose the group travelled to Landeck, where rivers such as the Upper Inn, Lower Inn, Sanna and Trisanna were easily accessible. Several days were spent there, paddling, swimming and rafting, the latter serving as a break from the canoeing when the group seized the opportunity of being put into the hands of super grin himself, the notorious lady-killer, Klammer Jez Taylor, of CI fame! JT's new venture of rafting down the Inn proved a memorable experience though not a good example in routes for the young river racers! However, if paddlers do venture into the area a good time is guaranteed.

Rivers were particularly high possibly as a result of bad weather in previous months. Only days before our arrival did the sun have an impact on the glaciated slopes of the mountains. It sent familiar silver/grey alluvium-coloured waters surging down the valleys, peaking in late afternoon. The rivers claimed several swimmers but fortunately no loss or damage to either equipment or people. Lofer, several days later, a stark contrast to the bouncy waters of the Inn but was a convenient mid-point to Spittal. Also in contrast, the group was treated to four days continuous bad weather. So there was little opposition when a decision was made to move on to the final destination, Spittal, for the 7th International European Youth Championships. This was intended to be the climax of the tour, but instead the team was subjected to an abysmal example of organization and communication. The level of the river Moll was as indecisive as the timekeepers themselves and unfortunately the irregularities in the timing and positions, especially in the mens U18 class, cast an air of caution amongst some of the paddlers.

In fact, on the results sheet, a certain Stefan Greier of the G.B. Youth team, finished in first - who is he?!? Splits showed the final positions were undoubtedly incorrect, but with lack of strong evidence and other protesting nations, the positions stood. However, despite all this our Youth team - Stamps, Tomlinson and Marshall - for the second year running claimed the Gold Medal and the title of European Team Champions. To confirm the depth of our Youth river racing, the second team, Bell, Lang and Febrey achieved a bronze medal, and 6th position for Davies, J. Slater and Curtis out of 19 teams.

On a cautious note, with the absence of the French and main German paddlers coupled with the unsatisfactory handling of the race itself, it endorses the fact that the Austrian instigators of the race have yet to prove their organising ability before the European Youth Championships can be made official.

Finally, a word of thanks to Chris Hawkesworth's Wild Water Centre for producing the distinctive red, white and blue cags, now a standard hallmark of the Youth Team.

## Mens K1 Team

- 1 Stamps-Tomlinson-Marshall  
GBR I 29.49.01



- 2 Poik-Peison-Peisunl  
Austria I 30.09.62
- 3 Bell-Lang-Febrey  
GBR II 30.15.29
- 6 Curtis-Slater-Davies  
GBR III 30.52.36

## Mens K1 U16

- 1 Neil Stamps  
Birmingham 30.46.01
- 2 Thomas Higler  
BRD 30.52.01
- 3 Andrew Curtis  
Herts 31.12.01
- 5 Nick Slater  
Accrington 32.19.01

## Ladies Team

- 1 CC Verone  
Italy 32.47.05
- 2 Stapleford-Campbell-  
Stolton 32.56.73

## C2

- 1 Stercl-Stercl  
TCH 33.24.08
- 2 Nicholas-Farr  
Lowestoft 34.53.03

## Mens K1 U14

- 1 Matthew Febrey  
Herts 22.31.09
- 2 Herbert Rirsch  
AUT 22.34.04

PHILIP DEAN, TEAM MANAGER

## DUNCAN EGLIN

Duncan, coach to the National Youth Wild Water Racing Team, met an untimely death in a climbing accident in the same range of mountains where, shortly before, he had been coaching the youth team while on their Summer tour in Austria. He will be sadly missed.

## LUDLOW SLALOM

### - RANKING CLARIFICATION

I would like to inform slalomists who took part in this event, and who don't already know, of the drastically misleading nature of the results published afterwards. Anyone unfortunate enough to believe those results would incorrectly assume a percentage good enough to ensure end of season promotion.

The results sent to paddlers showed mens and ladies percentages based on one and a half x average and not corrected as supplied to the Ranking Compiler.

This means that the mens published results of 56.9 - 95.0% are in fact 85.6 - 143.0%.

To obtain an approximate percentage for the mens or ladies event multiply the published result by 3/2 and add .5 for rounding error.

Thus the correct percentage =  
published best total x 100  
published average

Mrs P Scaife  
Division 3 Ranking Compiler

## THE EXE DESCENT

Over the years the Descent has grown from a modest local affair to a major national event, attracting almost 600 competitors from all parts of the country.

The size and nature of the event presents a variety of problems. As organisers, we are concerned for the safety and well being of all competitors. We therefore wish to bring to the notice of all entrants, through their group leader/organiser where necessary, the following points:

1. Crash Helmets and Buoyancy Aids: Whilst it is normal practice for WW Racers and slalomists to wear these, for other groups it may not be part of the accepted pattern. All paddlers MUST wear buoyancy aids or life jackets. We recommend that helmets are worn. Even in flood

conditions the River is very shallow in places - there are rocks and metal spikes in the river bed, low bridges, overhanging branches; to say nothing of the other canoes and paddles flying around.

2. Minimum Age: The minimum age is 16 on the 1st January preceding the Race. However, over the years younger paddlers have taken part. Letters of consent are required from all juniors under 18 on the 1st January. These letters should indicate the paddler's date of birth. Under age entries will be returned.

3. Level of Ability: The Descent is a serious undertaking. Flood conditions are the norm, and the difficulties become more serious as the race progresses. All entrants should be experienced paddlers capable to at least 3 star or inland proficiency standard. Do not be misled by the abnormally low conditions of 1983. Do not allow yourself to be lulled into security by the presence of teams and rescuers. Entrants still need a high level of personal skills.

4. Clothing: The event is held in the middle of November. The weather is often cold; the water is certainly cold. A T/Shirt and shorts are insufficient clothing particularly for those facing up to 4 hours in a canoe including a potential swim. Please dress accordingly.

These notes are issued to emphasise to all potential entrants the hazards and likely difficulties. Entrants should not be misled by the low water of '83 and the teams of rescuers into attempting something which is beyond their capabilities. Leaders of groups of juniors are urged to pay particular attention to the level of skill of their members and to ensure that all entrants are properly briefed.

Entrants are once again reminded that the Descent is a RACE and not an organised tour. Those wishing to tour should make their own arrangements through the River Adviser/Local Access Officer, Jeff Felton, 33 Widescombe Way, Exeter. Members of Exeter Canoe Club are available to act as River Guides if required. Dennis Walls, Secretary, Exeter Canoe Club, 3 Endfield Close, Exeter.

## FAIRBAIRN MARATHON

The Fairbairn-Fiat Marathon sponsored by Harry Fairbairn Ltd., and well organised by Irvine Canoe Club was very enjoyable, thanks to the weather, the location, and having been given access to the new Maritime Museum premises.

We had direct access to the new slipway for launching and landing as well as a wide clean area for cars and picnics.

In the midst of holidays, the field of 32 paddlers was lower than usual but sufficient to put on a good show on the water for the many spectators on the jetty above the start and finish line.

A new course was used due to low water and may be adopted with some modifications as it allows much better spectator enjoyment.

Div. 1 saw a good battle between Gary Young and the evergreen Andy Morton, and in K2 Neil West and John O'Donovan from Aberdeen University were able to hold Kenny Fraser and John Anderson and pull away to a clear lead.

Prizes were up to standard with a TV for the overall winner and personal radios, cassette players, Parker pens, water-proof watches, sweatshirts and spray-decks for others.

From Irvine Canoe Club

## YORKSHIRE & HUMBERSIDE

Notice is hereby given of the Yorkshire and Humberside Region's A.G.M. to be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 10 January 1985, at the Sports Council Office, Coronet House, Queen Street, Leeds.



# CALENDAR 1985

Events and courses occurring before May 1985 are notified below. The full calendar for the year commencing 1 April 1985 will be published on 11 February.

In all cases please send sae to organiser for full details. Evening and one-day courses, are also available in most localities. Please send sae to your Regional Secretary for a calendar of events in your area.

## Inland - Kayak

BEGINNERS (1 STAR)	
By arr Oxford	19
Mar 16-17 N.Wales	59
Mar 30-6 N.Wales	59
Apr 1 Leicester	54
Apr 3 Leicester	54
Apr 5-7 Bideford	66
Apr 5-7 Richmond	65
Apr 5-7 Devon	34
Apr 6 Kent	67
Apr 6-7 N.Wales	59
Apr 13 Kent	67
Apr 13 Cornwall	32
Apr 13-20 N.Wales	59
Apr 15 Leicester	54
Apr 20 Kent	67
Apr 26-28 Monmouth	27
Apr 27 Kent	67
Apr 27-04 N.Wales	59
Apr-OCT Exeter	35

IMPROVERS (2 STAR)	
By arr.mid Oxford	19
Apr 5-7 Bideford	66
Apr 05-07 Devon	34
Apr 09 Leicester	54
Apr 13 Cornwall	32
Apr 26-28 Monmouth	27
Apr-Oct (evns) Exeter	35

INTERMEDIATE (3 STAR)	
By arr/org Leicester	54
By arr.mid Oxford	19
Mar 15-17 Ramsey Sound	29
Apr 05-07 Devon	66
Apr 05-07 Devon	34
Apr 13 Cornwall	32
Apr 20-21 Burton on Trent	72
Apr 26-28 Monmouth	27

PROFICIENCY TRAINING	
By arr/org Norfolk Broads	68
Mar 15-17 Ramsey Sound	29
Mar 16-17 Exeter (Non-Res)	35
Mar 16-17 Bristol	08
Mar 29-31 Irthingborough	31
Apr 01 Leicester	54
Apr 05-07 Bideford	66
Apr 05-07 Devon	34
Apr 05-07 Windermere	15
Apr 05-07 YMCA Lakeside	14
Apr 13 Leamington	71
Apr 13 Cornwall	32
Apr 15 Leicester	54
Apr 20 Leicester	54
Apr 20-21 Burton on Trent	72
Apr 26-28 Monmouth	27
Apr 27 Leicester	54
Apr 27-28 Ludlow	69
Apr 29 Leicester	54

TESTING	
By Arr/Org Norfolk Broads	68
Mar 15-17 Ramsey Sound	29
Mar 16-17 Exeter (Non-Res)	35
Mar 16-17 Bristol	08
Mar 31 Thurso	57
Apr 05-07 Bideford	66
Apr 05-07 Devon	34
Apr 05-07 Windermere	15
Apr 05-07 Cumbria	14
Apr 20 Cornwall	32
Apr 26-28 Monmouth	27
Apr 27-28 Ludlow	69

EXPEDITIONING	
By Arr/Org Norfolk Broads	68
Apr 13 Leamington	71
Apr 20 Leicester	54
Apr 20 Cornwall	32
Apr 27 Leicester	54

ADVANCED INTRODUCTION TO WHITE WATER	
Jan 11-13 S.Wales	24
Jan 12 Leicester	54
Feb 08-10 Lakeside	14
Feb 10 Leicester	54
Feb 18-22 Wales	11
Mar 03 Leicester	54
Mar 02-03 N.Yorks	11
Mar 15-17 Ramsey Sound	29
Apr 20 Leicester	54
Apr 27 Leicester	54
Apr 27-28 Ludlow	69

ADVANCED PROFICIENCY TRAINING	
Jan 18-20 Leicester	54
Feb 8-10 Cumbria	14
Feb 15-17 Leicester	54
Apr 20 Cornwall	32

ADVANCED PROFICIENCY TESTING	
Feb 15-17 Leicester	54
Mar 02-03 Lake District	50
Apr 20 Cornwall	32

EXPEDITIONING	
Feb 15-17 Leicester	54
Apr 20 Cornwall	32

SENIOR INSTRUCTOR TRAINING	
Dec 6-8,84 N.Devon	38
Feb 01-03 S.Wales	24
Feb 08-10 Sheffield	60

Feb 22-24 Sheffield	60
Mar 02-03 Cheltenham	02
Mar 07-09 Chester	53
Mar 08-10 Leamington	71
Mar 08-10 Irthingborough	31
Mar 08-10 Southampton	22
Mar 15-17 Windermere	15
Mar 15-17 Monmouth	27
Mar 16-17 Exeter (Non-Res)	35
Mar 22-24 Whitby	01
Apr 06-07 Cornwall	32
Apr 12-14 N.Wales	59
Apr 26-27 Monmouth	27

INSTRUCTOR ASSESSMENT	
JAN LL-L3 S.WALES	24
By Arr/Org Norfolk Broads	68
On applicat Weymouth	07
Mar 08-10 Southampton	22
Mar 15-17 Windermere	15
Apr 26-28 Monmouth	27

SENIOR INSTRUCTOR ASSESSMENT	
Dec 6-8,84 N.Devon	38
Feb 01-03 S.Wales	24
Feb 08-10 Sheffield	60
Feb 21-23 Chester	53
Feb 22-24 Sheffield	60
Mar 08-10 Leamington	71
Mar 08-10 Southampton	22
Mar 15-17 Windermere	15
Mar 15-17 R.Wye	11
Mar 15-17 Monmouth R.Wye	06
Mar 16-17 Exeter (Non Res)	35
Mar 22-24 Whitby	01
Apr 06-07 Cornwall	32
Apr 26-28 Monmouth	27
Apr 27-28 N.Yorks	45

## Canoe

INTRODUCTION TO SLALOM	
By Arr/Org Norfolk Broads	68
Mar 8-10 Hampshire	21
By Arr Leicester	54
By Arr Norfolk Broads	68

IMPROVERS (2 STAR)	
By Arr/Org Norfolk Broads	68

INTERMEDIATE (3 STAR)	
By Arr/org Leicester	54
Apr 20-21 Burton on Trent	72

PROFICIENCY TRAINING	
APR 20-21 Burton on Trent	72

EXPEDITIONING	
By Arr/Org Norfolk Broads	68

COACHING AWARDS	
SENIOR INSTRUCTOR TRAINING	
Dec 6-8 N.Devon	38
Feb 08-10 Sheffield	60
Feb 22-24 Sheffield	60
Mar 22-24 Whitby	01
Apr 26-28 Pangbourne	23
SENIOR INSTRUCTOR ASSESSMENT	
Dec 6-8 N.Devon	38
Feb 08-10 Sheffield	60
Feb 22-24 Sheffield	60
Mar 22-24 Whitby	01
Apr 26-28 Pangbourne	23

## Sea Courses

BEGINNERS (1 STAR)	
On applica Weymouth	07
Mar 30-31 S.Wales	30
Apr 05-07 Bideford	66
Apr 05-07 Devon	34
Apr 13 Cornwall	32
Apr 26-28 Calshot	21
Apr 27-28 S.Wales	30

IMPROVERS (2 STAR)	
On applica Weymouth	07
Mar 08-10 Anglesey	47
Mar 30-31 Dyfed	30
Apr 05-07 Bideford	66
Apr 05-07 Devon	34
Apr 13 Cornwall	32
Apr 26-28 Calshot	21
Apr 27-28 Dyfed	30

INTERMEDIATE (3 STAR)	
On applica Weymouth	07
Mar 30-31 Dyfed	30
Apr 05-07 Bideford	66
Apr 05-07 Devon	34
Apr 13 Cornwall	32
Apr 26-28 Hampshire	21
Apr 27-28 S.Wales	30

PROFICIENCY TRAINING	
MAR 30-6 Isle of Wight	75
On applica Weymouth	07
Apr 05-07 Devon	66
Apr 05-07 Devon	34
Apr 13 Cornwall	32
Apr 26-28 Anglesey	47
Apr 27-28 S.Wales	30

TESTING	
On applica Weymouth	07
Apr 05-07 Bideford	66
Apr 05-07 Devon	34
Apr 20 Cornwall	32
Apr 27-28 Dyfed	30

EXPEDITIONING	
On Applica Weymouth	07
Apr 20 Cornwall	32

ADVANCED	
ADVANCED PROFICIENCY TRAINING	
MAR 22-24 Isle of Wight	74
Mar 22-24 Hampshire	21
Apr 20 Cornwall	32

ADVANCED PROFICIENCY TESTING	
MAR 22-24 Isle of Wight	74
Mar 22-24 Hampshire	21
Apr 20 Cornwall	32
Apr 20-21 N.Wales	59

EXPEDITIONING	
Mar 22-24 Isle of Wight	74
Mar 22-24 Hampshire	21
Apr 20 Cornwall	32

SURFING INTRODUCTORY	
Apr 06-08 Devon	21
Apr 13 Cornwall	32
Apr 13-14 Isle of Wight	74
Apr 20 Cornwall	32

4 and 5 STAR	
Apr 06-08 Devon	21
Apr 13-14 Isle of Wight	74
Apr 20 Cornwall	32

SENIOR INSTRUCTOR ASSESSMENT	
To be advs Forest of Dean	02
Apr 06-07 Cornwall	32

ONGOING TRAINING	
Apr 13-14 Hampshire	21

## Placid Water

TESTS - ALL LEVELS	
APR 3 Leicester	54
Apr 9 Leicester	54

## Special Courses

CANOEING FOR THE OVER 50's	
Mar 22-24 Hampshire	21
Apr 6-8 Devon	21
Apr 26-28 Hampshire	21

CANOEING FOR DISABLED	
By Arr W Midlands	61
By Arr Norfolk Broads	68
Apr 26-28 Hampshire	21

## Courses for Competitors

INTRODUCTION TO SLALOM	
Apr 13 Wiltshire	11

SLALOM IMPROVERS	
Apr 14 Wiltshire	11

SAFETY AND RESCUE	
LIFE SAVING TEST TRAINING	
Mar 19-26 Dundee	18

RIVER RESCUE TECHNIQUES	
Mar 22-24 Leicester	54

ROLLING	
ALL YR Leicester	54

COACHING AWARDS (COMPETITION)	
SURF TRAINER	
Apr 13-14 Isle of Wight	74

SURF COACH	
Apr 13-14 Isle of Wight	74

## Polo

EVENTS	
Jan 26 Div 2 N Walsall	
Feb 2 Div 3 S to be decided	
Ladies Div 1 Nottingham	
Feb 9 Div 1 Nottingham	
Feb 23-24 International and National Finals	
Crystal Palace	
Mar 2 Div 2 N Halifax	
Mar 9 Ladies Div 1 Nottingham	

HOW TO ENTER ELIMINATING ROUNDS FOR 1986	
National Finals (first 2 Saturdays in Nov + last Sat in Nov and 1st in Dec).	
Send SAE to Brian Barfoot 18 The Cedars, Dunstable Beds well before 1st October asking for entry forms.	
National Leagues 1985 Send SAE to Gerry Barristers 112 Cherry Tree Avenue, Walsall, W.Midlands asking for entry forms, well before 1st March.	

**Local Tournaments** Write to your local Area representative (name and address in the Canoe Polo Handbook available from Brian Barfoot-as above). Please enclose 30p in stamps + SAE

## Racing

**HOW TO ENTER** Some regional regattas include classes for boats other than K1, K2. Fast touring K1's are also used in the lower divisions for national events. Events cater for all standards, with classes for Novices, Veterans, Ladies, Juniors, Seniors. For details of how to get started contact Mrs.Di Lawler on 0784-54772.

EVENTS AT HOLME PIERREPONT	
Apr 27 28 Regatta	
May 25-26 Regatta	
Jun 15 16 International Regatta	
Jul 13 14 Regatta	
Aug 10 11 Regatta	
Sep 7 8 Regatta	

## Canoe Sailing

Apr 5 6 Rutland SC	
Open Event	
May 25 27 Stone SC	
Centenary Trophy	
Jun 8 9 Harwich Town SC	
Campkin Cup	
Jul 6 7 Hayling Island SC	
Lough Erne Trophy	
Aug 3 9 To be decided	
Canoe Week	
Aug 14 15 Eastbourne SC	
Canoes v Contenders	
Sep 14 15 Louton SC	
West of England Cup	
Sep 26 27 Oxford SC	
Training Event	
Fixtures Sec: Bob Austin, 7 Cunningham Way, Eaton Socon, Cambs.	
Information Officer: Chris Byrnes, Eastcroft, The Street, Caston, Attleborough.	



## Coaching course organisers

- R Hellowell, East Barnby OBC, Whitby, N. Yorks.
- G D Roach, Jacsara Bunga, Crossroads, Winstone, Cirencester Glos.
- P C Pendlebury, c/o Westbourne Yth.Ctr. Birch St. Swindon, Wilts.
- M T Hodgson, Yth Act.Ctr, Knightsdale Rd, Weymouth, Dorset.
- R Scullard, 1 Poplar Aven, Stoke Bishop, Bristol, BS9 2BE.
- C Millins, 47 Field View, Chippenham, Wilts, SN15 2QT.
- Howell, YMCA National Ctr. Lakeside, Ulverston, Cumbria.
- D. J. Moore, Fallbarrow Hall, Rayrigg Road, Windermere, Cumbria.
- P Rawlings-Jackson, Ancrum Activities Ctr., Ancrum Rd, Dundee.
- D Holmes, Riverside Centre, Donnington Bridge, Oxford.
- J Kuyser, Calshot Activities Ctr the Spit, Southampton, SO4 1BR.
- P Quill, Woodmill Centre, Southampton.
- T W Haynes, 32 Armour Road, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks.
- C Roberts, Dolygaer GOC, Dolygaer, Merthyr Tydfil, CF48 2UR.
- R R Batsford, 41 Llundaian Fach Felinfoel, Llanelli, Dyfed.
- C Armgier, Sealyham Mansion Act Ctr, Wolfscastle, Haverfordwest, Dyfed, SA62 5NF.
- A L Buttle, 78 Gwyther St. Pembroke Dock, Dyfed.
- M Poole, 14 Parklands Ave, Parklands, Northampton.
- J Gill, Outdoor Adventure Atlantic Court, Widenmouth Bay Bude, Cornwall.
- J Watson, Skern Lodge O C Appledore, Bideford, Devon.
- Mrs J E Bradford, Haven Banks Sailing & Canoeing Ctr, Haven Road, Exeter.
- J Hilton, Bideford Centre, The Pill, Bideford, Devon.
- C Tee, Bewerley Park Ctr, Pateley Bridge, Harrogate, N. Yorks. HG3 5JB.
- P Airey, Nelson O E C, Plas Newydd, Llanfairpwll, Anglesey
- D Hill, 85 Bury New Road, Ramsbottom, Lancs. BL0 0BZ.
- R Sheriff, 17 Haddon Ave, Orell Park, Liverpool 9.
- G Wardle, Leicester O P C, Loughborough Road, Leicester
- K Nicol, 9 Dale Road, Thurso Caithness.
- Booking Office, Plas Y Brenin, Capel Curig, Nr. Betws Y Coed, Gwynedd. LL24 0ET.
- P Reaney, Parson House Farm, OPC, Longshaw, Sheffield 11.
- G Smedley, The Acorns, 94 Jobs Lane, Tile Hill, Coventry.
- The Warden, Thames Young Mariners Ham Fields, Dukes Ave, Richmond, Sy.
- John Watson, Skern Lodge Outdoor Ctr. Watertown, Appledore, Bideford EX39 1NG.
- D Ayres, Capel Canoes Ltd, Five Oak Green, Tonbridge, Kent.
- C Gritten, The Holmfield, Smallburgh Road, Barton Turn, Norfolk NR12
- R Drummond, South View, Severn Bank, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.
- F.A. Pocock, 51 Charles Street Warwick.
- K Falconer, 48 Church Lane, Barton-u-Needwood, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs, DE13 8HX.
- R Irwin, Abingdon Lodge, 20 West Street, Ryde, IOW.
- National Sailing Centre, Arctic Road, Cowes, IOW.

## Wild Water

Please note change of organisers (The Year Book is correct)

Dec 16 Clyde 1	C.O	39
Jan 1 Thames	C.O,T	40
	U16/U14	40
39 S Rennie, Athletic Union, 90 John St, Glasgow		
40 J Handyside, 16 Oakley Close, Isleworth, Middx TW7 4HZ		

**HOW TO ENTER WILD WATER RACING** Obtain a race entry card from Miss. A. Gillespie, 13 Spring Hill, Worcester, WR5 1BL. Send an SAE minimum size 6 1/2" x 4 1/2" (up to 19 cards weigh 60g). Novices start by entering division C. Send fully completed card with BCU card photocopy, SAE and entry fee (£2.00 Div C) to the organiser. Team events £1.00 per boat, open events £2.50 per person, Youth (U18) and Juniors (U16/14) £1.50. Youths and Juniors must be below the relevant age on 1st January which falls in the middle of the appropriate British season, and must show their date of birth on entry cards. Yearbook is sent free to all paddlers who competed during the previous season. £1.50 (inc p&p) from BCU Supplies for others.



# NATIONAL COACHING FOUNDATION