

CANOE FOCUS

No. 40 Aug/Sept 1985 · PRICE 80p

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION

- ▶ Stopper Techniques
- ▶ World Championships
- ▶ Paul Vander-Molen
- ▶ Vanishing Cadets




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A section of the 47,000 crowd in Augsburg.

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Surf: Beachbreak, K.G. Smith, Ty Croes, Llanfairpwll, Anglesey LL61 5JR.

Open Canoe Touring: Canadian-Canoeist, John E. Pearton, 3 Meriden House, 33 Manor Road, Barnet, Herts EN5 2LR.

Wales: Ceufad, Roger Hayward, Pen Y Bont, Corwen, Clwyd.

Wild Water Racing: Wild Water News, D. Kay, 14 Lake View, Furners Vale, Stockport SK12 7QD.

Lifeguards: CoCLG Newsletter, Mrs. D. Wheatley, 8 Eastcote Road, Welling, Kent.

World Championships

FOX — WORLD SUPREMO

Summer 1985, and once again the British Slalom and Wild Water Racing Teams were setting out for Europe, attempting to repeat their unprecedented success at the 1983 World Championships at Merano. It was a formidable task indeed.

Wild Water Racing

The Wild Water Racing Team departed for Garmisch Partenkirchen in West Germany with grave concern over the quality of the river level, which though adequate for their needs had been fairly low when they had trained there earlier in the year. They were well aware that the level could be either much higher or

alternatively, and more worrying lower, which could have created 'boat breaker' conditions. Happily, on their arrival the water level was slightly higher than at the training camp, providing an ideal course, although it was dropping, and it was clear that should it fall below the magic 100 on the gauge, conditions would be far from ideal. Eventually competition started at just below the 100 level, providing additional complications to an already hazardous course, the first half being strewn with numerous boulders, which was followed by a Tryweryn type river to the finish. Individual performances were disappointing, the best results from British Paddlers being Dave

Kay and Ross Pearton 12th in the C2 event and Fiona Mitchell 13th in the Womens K1.

Hopes were much higher for the team events. The Mens Kayaks finished 6th, with the C1's and C2's finishing 4th. The British Womens Kayak team of Fiona Mitchell, Cynthia Berry and Corrine Helm gained a well deserved bronze medal in the Ladies K1 team event. At the halfway stage the British Girls were in 4th place behind the Canadians, but performed excellently on the second half of the race to gain third place, thus maintaining their position from Merano in 1983. The race was won by West Germany on their home territory, with France in second place.



Above — Messelhauser, West Germany — A local girl who unexpectedly won the ladies event.

Above left — Richard Fox, World K1 Slalom Champion with the Paul Farrant Trophy and Winners Cup.

Below left — A section of the 47,000 crowd who paid to watch the event in Augsburg.



Slalom — Training in Lofer

So to the Slalom Team, who had decided to do their pre-Championships training in Lofer, Austria, thus avoiding the large numbers of paddlers who would be congregating at Augsburg, and expecting to train on the limited water there. The team had held a training camp in Augsburg at Easter and in May, and it was therefore considered that all had had adequate experience of the Course.

Lofer proved to be highly successful, and can be well recommended to members interested in paddling overseas. It is primarily a ski resort, but welcomes summer visitors, who can take advantage of reasonably priced hotels (around £10.00 per day full board), which are located in close proximity to the main site. The international course has permanent slalom gates, and two further sites are available for training. Although the water level drops steadily after June, it would appear to be adequate for the majority of paddlers.

Augsburg

The Slalom team finally assembled in Augsburg for the Opening Ceremony, after a visit en route to the Wild Water Racing Individual events. It was a particular pleasure to welcome a new nation to the World Championships,

Finland, and much of the credit for the appearance of the Finnish team must go to Steve Bowles, known to many as the organiser of the Arctic Canoe Race, who has worked so hard with the team. It is extremely encouraging to see the ever growing number of nations competing in World Slalom competition, and should strengthen the case for the establishment of Canoe Slalom as an Olympic sport.

The Opening Ceremony in Augsburg, whilst long was not a burden, as excellent entertainment was included. This colourful event with break dancing, jive, folk dancing and gymnastics, was only overshadowed by the flowery Hawaiian shirts worn by the American team.

The event itself was extremely well organised, in true German style, with Albert Woods presiding for the first time as Chief Judge. Competition opened with the C1 event, which as expected was won by the American duo of Hearn and Lubgill. Hearn won the gold, and Lubgill suffering from a shoulder injury collected the silver. To the great delight of the British Team, Martyn Hedges at long last fulfilled his true potential by winning the bronze, the first ever individual medal won by a British competitor in Canadian individual events, by edging the Italian, Demonti into

fourth place.

The Ladies event was next on the programme, one for which the British had high hopes following their achievements in 1983, when they won the first two places. Sadly it was not to be, for Liz Sharman at least, who with an unfavourable draw produced a clear run, but with several mistakes on the Course which resulted in a very slow time. She was followed down by an unknown local girl, Margit Messelhauser, who was to return what finally turned out to be the winning time of 253.69 with a 45 seconds penalty. This displaced Marie Françoise Grange (France) to second place. Britain's hopes now depended upon Gail Allan, who had proved to be their fastest paddler in recent months. Again her times were to prove the fastest with 249.25, but with three five second penalties which pushed her down to third place, with Liz Sharman finishing 5th and Karen Davies in 13th place.

So to Saturday and the premier event, Mens Kayak and Richard Fox's attempt to retain his crown for an unprecedented third time. After a clear run on his first attempt, his time was eight seconds slower (223.89) than Mickeler, who with a five second penalty was in a three second lead (220.6). However, Richard expected to reduce his second run time by 15 seconds, and the Team hoped he was right. He

was right, and produced a sparkling run, creaming every gate and showing the sharpness one has come to expect from him, finishing with a clear run and the clock stopping at 210.56. However, there were still 30 paddlers to go, and anxious eyes watched the clock click over. Hilgert (Tch), Prijon (Frg), and Micheler (Frg) all went slower than Richard and the gold medal stayed with Britain. The C2 event was disappointing with Jamieson/Williams finishing 8th behind Kueppers/Klein, another local German team.

The Team events also did not fulfil expectations, with only a bronze medal being won in Ladies Kayak, with Liz Sharman having problems on both runs. Similarly Richard Fox ran into trouble at gate 3 on the first run of the Mens Kayaks, and was passed by Jayes and Jones. The Canadian classes also experienced further problems in their events.

So another World Championships were over, and after the outstanding successes of 1983, the results had been a little disappointing. Even so, the exciting victory of Richard Fox, and the bronze medals of Martyn Hedges and Gail Allan, and Ladies Kayak Team bronze medals for Slalom and Wild Water Racing, demonstrated that British paddlers are still extremely competitive in World Competition.



Alan Meikle/Colin Brown, competing in their first World Championships in a creditable 10th place.



Jimmy Jayes, Great Britain — The 1985 British Champion.



Norbert Sattler, Austria, who was unable to repeat his 1972 Olympic 2nd place.

Photos: Tony Tickle (Telephone 061 833 9622)

1985 World Wild Water Racing Championships — Results

Mens K1

1st	— M.P. Massara (Ita)	— 15.47.98
2nd	— C. Benezit (Fr)	— 15.47.06
3rd	— J. Fishburn (USA)	— 15.57.42
27th	— D. Taylor (GB)	
28th	— R. Campbell (GB)	

Mens K1 Team

1st	— West Germany	— 16.17.42
2nd	— France	— 16.21.95
3rd	— Italy	— 16.22.75

Mens C1

1st	— G. Zok (Fr)	— 17.54.10
2nd	— S. Masle (Yug)	— 18.07.4
3rd	— J.-L. Bataille (Fr)	— 18.12.04

Team C1

1st	— France	— 18.43.13
2nd	— Yugoslavia	— 18.51.89
3rd	— West Germany	— 19.04.7

Mens C2

1st	— F. Durand/J.-L. Pouchon (Fr)	— 17.01.86
2nd	— J.-L. Rigaut/G. Bernard (Fr)	— 17.21.36
3rd	— H. Proquitté/P. Gonschior (WG)	— 17.25.3
12th	— D. Kay/R. Pearton (GB)	

Mens C2 Team

1st	— France	— 17.56.69
2nd	— West Germany	— 18.07.21
3rd	— Italy	— 19.01.2

Women's K1

1st	— K. Wahl (WG)	— 17.05.22
2nd	— A. Hoetzendorfer (WG)	— 17.25.23
3rd	— M.P. Le Cann (Fr)	— 17.28.99
13th	— F. Mitchell (GB)	

Women's K1 Team

1st	— West Germany	— 17.56.71
2nd	— France	— 18.23.12
3rd	— Great Britain	— 18.46.26

1985 World Slalom Championships — Results

Mens C1

1st	— D. Hearn (USA)
2nd	— J. Lubgill (USA)
3rd	— M. Hedges (GB)
13th	— P. Bell (GB)
17th	— R. Doman (GB)
43rd	— L. Williams (GB)

Women's K1

1st	— M. Messelhauser (WG)
2nd	— M.F. Grange (F)
3rd	— G. Allan (GB)
5th	— E. Sharman (GB)
13th	— K. Davies (GB)
21st	— S. Ward (GB)

Mens C2

1st	— West Germany
2nd	— France
3rd	— West Germany
8th	— Jamieson/Williams
10th	— Nikel/Brown
20th	— Young/Monro
21st	— Arrowsmith/Brain

Mens K1

1st	— R. Fox
2nd	— Micheler (WG)
3rd	— L. Hilgert (Cz)
16th	— R. Smith (GB)

28th	— M. Jones (GB)
42nd	— J. Jayes (GB)

Mens C1 Team

1st	— USA
2nd	— West Germany
3rd	— Poland
7th	— Great Britain

Ladies K1 Team

1st	— France
2nd	— West Germany
3rd	— Great Britain

Mens K1 Team

1st	— West Germany
2nd	— France
3rd	— Yugoslavia
10th	— Great Britain

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FAR NORTH — WHERE THE PRICE IS RIGHT

SLALOM COURSE GO AHEAD

When Tenders for the construction of the Slalom Course at the Holme Pierrepont National Sports Centre, Nottingham, were opened recently, there was considerable relief when it was learned that these would not exceed the budgeted expenditure of £2.2 million. Final details of the works to be included in the Slalom Course Project have still to be agreed, but the contract will be signed in mid-August, and on-site construction will begin early in September 1985. It may be necessary to omit what have been classified as desirable though non-essential features, such as planting, road-works, paths, access and course floodlighting, but there will be no modifications to the actual course. Subject to adverse weather conditions and unforeseen technical constraints the contract should be completed within 10 months, that is by early July 1986. The Engineers will require a further month to operate the course and assess its behaviour, before hopefully handing over the facility to the Sports Council for public use, and an official opening during the weekend of 13th/14th September 1986.

THE NATIONAL CANOEING CENTRE BUILDING

As a consequence of recent discussions with Nottinghamshire County Council and the Sports Council, the Union have agreed to revise their original plans for the National Canoeing Centre Building, so that the car park will be removed from a position adjacent to the Regatta Course to a site near the start of the Slalom Course. These new arrangements will necessitate a slight re-alignment of the building, but will provide the opportunity for blending the whole complex more satisfactorily with the Country Park environment, and will remove motor vehicles from the immediate vicinity of the Course and the Centre. Unfortunately, this will almost certainly delay the planned starting date for erecting the National Canoeing Centre building, the construction of which, for technical reasons, cannot begin until the Slalom Course is completed. The building programme will therefore probably commence in August/September 1986, and depending upon the length of the contract, will be available for use early in 1987.

LATE NEWS

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION RATES

The new rates applicable from 1st August 1985 to 31st July 1986 are as follows:-

Life Member	£250.00
Full Member	£15.50
Basic Member	£6.00
Introductory Member	£9.00
Family Member	£8.50
Youth Member	£9.00
Cadet Member	£4.00

All the above categories include a BWB licence.

Senior Clubs

£30.00 plus capitation fee of 32p for each member in excess of 75 members (no capitation on first 75 members).

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Club categories include 3 BWB licences for use on club boats. Further licences can be purchased for club boats at £6.00 each.

Associate Organisations by negotiation.



Augsburg, West Germany, The first artificial Olympic Slalom Course — built in 1972

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

If your membership expires at the end of August or at the end of September your renewal form is included with this issue of CANOE FOCUS. It is printed on the back of the address sheet. Each issue will include a renewal form for the members, whose membership expires during the two months covered by the magazine.

GO RECRUIT A MEMBER!

More members means more benefits or lower subscriptions. More members means more influence to secure the development of canoeing. YOU the members are the best recruiters that canoeing has got, so PLEASE DO YOUR BIT! Those of you, who are not due to renew this issue, will find a new member application form on the back of the address sheet. PLEASE MAKE GOOD USE OF IT.

PADDLES UP

The 1985 series of Paddles Up will be shown on BBC1 on the four consecutive evenings Tuesday 20th August to Friday 23rd August at 5.35pm. The series is filmed on the River Tryweryn. The competition features all the top British slalom paddlers including Richard Fox, most of the Augsburg World Championship medal winners and also a number of Commonwealth paddlers. Put these dates in your diary before you forget.

TRY TRYWERYN 7-8 SEP

Touring and coaching weekend. Enjoy the white water and/or improve your technique. B Ward, 46 Cosford Close, Birchwood, Lincoln.

TWO GREAT WAYS TO WIN MONEY

Win yourself a cash prize in two ways by simply solving two time and distance problems, one on land and one on water!

As part of the National Canoeing Centre Appeal, Mike Haslam, the Appeal Fund Organiser will be paddling the 2,000 miles of British Waterways Board waterways licensed through British Canoe Union membership. In addition Mike will also be entering the 1986 London Marathon and aiming for a good time.

Your task is to estimate the time he will take to cover both these distances in two different Appeal Fund competitions. Two separate chances then to win yourself a cash prize and generate money for both your Club and the Ap-

peal Fund, for of the total monies raised in this way, 10% of each scheme will go to the person or persons with or nearest to the correct time, 7% will go to the runner up in each competition, and 3% for the 3rd placed. In addition the Club, committee or organisation selling the most tickets will receive 5% of the total. The remainder will go to the Appeal Fund.

Full details of both competition, tickets, closing date and further Appeal Fund ideas will be published in following editions of Focus.

The Fund Raising starts here, join in and support your sport.

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COMPETITION

CARDINGTON ARTIFICIAL SLALOM COURSE

Since opening in 1982 the Artificial Slalom Course has become steadily more popular. Long term plans will look towards simplifying and improving the conversion from flood relief channel to canoe slalom course. A 'stock' set of course designs is now available. An Information sheet for first time users and a more comprehensive package for would be organisers is now available.

Bookings: CASC, C/O 4 Alesia Road, Luton, LU3 3QH or phone Keith Heaume Luton (0582) 576518 (6-9pm).

Technical Enquiries: Paul West (CASC) 28 Julius Gardens, Luton, Beds. LU3 3SQ. 0582.584.769. 4-10pm.

CANOE POLO RULES

There appears to be some confusion among Canoe Polo players and officials with the rule changes which were introduced at Crystal Palace in February. The rule which is causing the most problems concerns buoyancy aids. Rule 11, was changed in an attempt to prevent injury, mainly because of the introduction of low volume boats and the changing styles of buoyancy aids. The Canoe Polo Committee were of the opinion that buoyancy aids should provide protection all round the body, and not just at the front and back. It was also felt that the correct fit of a buoyancy aid is a most important factor in paddler safety. Referees will therefore be looking at buoyancy aids which have large gaps between the buoyancy panels, large gaps underneath the arms and between the buoyancy and the spraycover, and ill fitting buoyancy aids which can move on the paddlers body. Referees will accept buoyancy aids which have extra padding inserted under the arms specifically for canoe polo events provided that it is attached securely.

Another rule change which has also caused some confusion concerns the penalty throw, Rule 21(C). There is now a definite distinction between "a direct free throw" and a "penalty

throw". Time is only added on at the end of a game for a penalty throw to be taken, this does not happen for a direct free throw.

YOUTH WILD WATER RACING TRAINING SQUAD. MONSCHAU, W. GERMANY.

In conditions best suited to training for the 'Arctic Canoe Race' the GB Youth Training Squad produced an encouraging set of results in all the classes they represented. For some of the nineteen-strong group it was their first taste of International competition and for others, another chance to negotiate the numerous man-made shoots, notorious on this relatively narrow dam-fed river.

Comparatively high entries in all events, from the 'Junioren', our 16-18 age group, down to the 'Schuler' class, the under 14 and under 12 age groups, reflect an obviously well-structured system corroborated by traditionally impeccable German organization. The result sheets for this race in fact, came out before the last man finished!

Since it was decided to put Neil Stamps in the Youth class, this left the way clear for J.P. Burny to take the Senior title unopposed! Despite this, Neil took the under 18 event with a comfortable margin with Andrew Tomlinson in third place. With an even greater margin, Matthew Febrey paddled to an under 14 victory. A more tightly-grouped under 16 pack produced a third place for Peter Kelly, a recent development from the Gateshead camp.

Even in view of criticism regarding lack of water time for practice, the weekend served as valuable experience for the Youth Training Squad and an insight into some of the European opposition against whom some of the Squad will be paddling later in the year on their respective team trips.

*Peter Kelly (Gateshead C.C.) — 3rd place
Inset — Alan Tordoff (Accrington Canoeists)
at the last weir.*

XXI WORLD RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS — DUISBURG, 1987

The XXI World Championships in Canoe Racing 1987 will be held on the course at Duisburg from 18th/23rd August 1987. In 1979 Duisburg held the XV World Championships in Canoe Racing, at which time 31 nations participated.

Due to the steady spread of canoe racing all over the world, we expect that in 1987 about 40 National Federations will participate in the World Championships at Duisburg.

GOLDEN JUBILEE 1986

Special Event

On 13/14 September 1986, the BCU will be running a special event at Holme Pierrepont to celebrate their Golden Jubilee. This will include the first major slalom on the new international course, a Rapid River Race, Canoe Polo, a Marathon championships, a Sprint Regatta and a Canoe Sailing Regatta in addition to non-competitive events, tours, fun events and an exhibition. The events will be designed to allow the maximum number of the Union's members to compete in at least one activity.

Make a note in your diary now.

CANOE POLO NATIONAL KNOCK OUT COMPETITION 1985/6

Entries are invited for the area eliminating rounds for the above tournament. The dates are 2 November, 9 November, 30 November or 7 December. Please write for entry form and rules to A. Rackham, 73 Dunlin Road, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope. The closing date for receipt of completed entry forms is 1 October 1985.

CALENDAR

Additions and Amendments

HOW TO ENTER WILD WATER RACING

Obtain a race entry card from Miss A Gillespie, 13 Spring Hill, Worcester, WR5 1BL. Send a SAE minimum size 11cm x 16cm (up to 15 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&rp) from BCU Supplies for others.

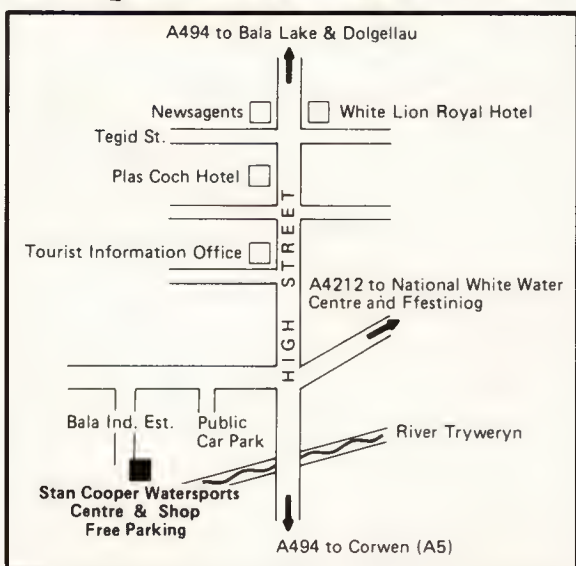
Sep 21	Thames I	C/O	1
Sep 22	Thames II	C/O	1
Sep 28	Wey I	C/O	2
Sep 29	Wey II	C/O	2
Oct 5	Aire Classic Stage II	C/O	3
Oct 6	Aire Classic Stage III	C/O	3
Oct 6	Taff I	C/O	4
Oct 12	Wear I	C/O	5
Oct 13	South Tyne	C/O	6
Oct 13	Ironbridge	C/O U16/U14	7
Oct 19	Washburn I	B/O/T	8
Oct 20	Washburn II	C/O/T	9
Oct 27	Teifi I	B/C/O/T	4
Oct 26-27	Aire	C/O/U16/14	10
Nov 2	Washburn III	B/O/T U14/U16	11
Nov 3	Upper Wharfe I	C/O U14/U16	11
Nov 3	Wye	C/O	12
Nov 3	Royal Dee	B/C/O	13
Nov 9-10	Dee I	A/O/T	14
Nov 16-17	Dart	A/O/T	15
Nov 16	North Tyne	B/C/O	16
Nov 16-17	Swale	C/T	17
Nov 17	Eden	B/C/O	18
Nov 24	Upper Wye	B/C/O/T	41
Nov 24	Thistlebrig	C/O/T	19
Nov 23-24	Tees I	A/O/T	20
Nov 30	Teme I	B/O	21
Nov 31	Teme II	C/O	21
Nov 31	Afon OGWR I	C/O/T	22



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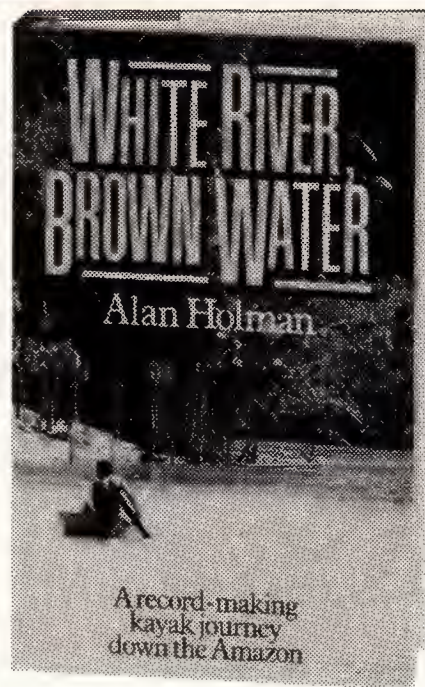


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Dec 8	Thames IV	C/O	1
Dec 7-8	Usk I	B/O/T	23
Dec 7-8	Tees	B/O/T	24
Dec 14-15	Dee II	B/O(A)/T	25
(Youth Team Training Squad Selection)			
Dec 15	Clyde I	C/O/T	26

1. J. Handyside 16 Oakley Close, Isleworth, Middlesex.
2. A. Bayliss Old Dean Youth Ctr. Kingston Road, Camberley, Surrey.
3. D. Kay 14 Lake View, Furness Vale, Stockport, Chesh.
4. N. Dallimore 3 Gillian Road, Llandaff, Cardiff.
5. R. Marshall 12 Forest Drive, Rickleton, Tyne and Wear.
6. E. Palmer 28 Highbury, Jesmond, Newcastle Upon Tyne.
7. T. Gafford Paddlers Rest, 28 Portobello Close, The Rock Telford.
8. C. Smith 40 Markbrook Drive, High Green, Sheffield.
9. G. Atkinson 11 Jumb Beck Close, Burley in Wharfedale, Ilkley LS29 7RG.
10. T. Benton 326 Bradford Road, Otley, West Yorkshire.
11. W. Fraser 27 Marshall Terrace, Crossgates, Leeds.
12. Gloucester CC 21 Southcourt Close, Leckhampton, Cheltenham.
13. Aberdeen Univ. CC Kings College Pavillion, University Road, Aberdeen.
14. D. Phillips 48 Langdale Road, Victoria Park, Manchester.
15. Bristol Univ. CC University Union, Queens Road, Clifton, Bristol.

16. D. Taylor 12 Maltby Close, Moorside, Sunderland.
17. WOJ CS Richmond 3 Maypole Green Road, Colchester, Essex.
18. J. Stilling 11 Carlindale, Burneside, Kendal, Cumbria.
19. I. Macadie 52 The Bryony, Tullibody, Alloa, FK10 2KB.
20. A. Barber 31 Tranmoor Lane, Armthorpe, Doncaster.
21. P. Jones, 14 Chaddesley Road, Halesowen, West Midlands.
22. J. Whitworth 2 The Woodlands, Brackla, Bridgend.
23. D. Roland 40 Froghall Drive, Wokingham, Berks.
24. West Yorks CC 31 Tranmoor Lane, Armthorpe, Doncaster.
25. T. Cannon 30 Elmwood, Sale, Cheshire.
26. S. Rennie Athletic Union, 90 John Street, Glasgow.
41. D. Williams Llygdad yr Haul, Maes Mawr, Rhayader, Powys.

THE LOWENBRAU 500 RAPID RACING CHAMPIONSHIP

OPEN TO ALL CANOEISTS (except the point scoring men in the 1985 Rapid Racing Championships)

14 Sep	1500	River Derwent, Matlock, Derbyshire
5 Oct	1500	River Thames, Hambledon, Buckinghamshire
19 Oct	1100	River Washburn, Blubberhouses, N Yorkshire
9 Nov	1100	River Dee (Serpents Tail) Llangollen
16 Nov	1100	River Dart. Ashburton, Devon

Send sae to BCU HQ for full details. All times and dates may be subject to alteration. Please check answerphone before you travel (48 hours before race day) 0276 66225.

MARATHON RACING

- 31 Aug Bradford on Avon (in conjunction with Kennet and Avon Canal Trust*)
- 22 Sep Elbridge Marathon
(Selection race for Venice Marathon sponsored by Abbey Life)
Secretary, Elbridge CC, 42 School Rd, East Molesey, Surrey
- 6 Oct Avon Fun Marathon (non ranking) R. Scullard, 1 Poplar Ave, Stoke Bishop, Bristol BS29 2BE

Change of date

- 1 Sep Bath to Bradford — (was 9 June)
Race Organiser, 5 Shelley Gdns, Melksham, Wilts.*
- 15 Sep Pangbourne (from 1 September in BCU Yearbook)
Organiser: D. Looker, 146 Henley Road, Caversham, Reading, Berks.

Change of organiser

- 3 Nov Avon Descent Mercia CC, 77 Aiderminster Rd, Coventry, CV5 7JT. (0203 462272)

REGATTA

- 31 Aug Bewl Bridge, Sussex
Secretary, Elbridge CC, 42 School Rd, East Molesey, Surrey

SURF TRAINER (the Award for Surf Party Leaders)

- 14-15 September Cornwall
J. Hermes, The Cottages, Tregrehan Mills, Tregrehan, St Austell, Cornwall.

BCU WEST MIDLANDS PADDLERS DAY

- Nov 2 (Pool events, Trade stands, Discussions)
T. Crocker, The Polytechnic, Castleview, Dudley, W. Mids.
Please enclose a sae with all enquiries for events or courses.

1985 INTERNATIONAL REGATTA

Once again Nottingham International Regatta was proud to welcome some of the best teams in the World. Teams from ten countries including the Soviet Union, Hungary, New Zealand and the USA, took part in the two day programme at the NWSC on June 15/16th.

The mens kayak events were closely contested between Hungary, the Soviet Union and Great Britain. GB team included several members of last years Olympic Team, Grayson Bourne, Kevin Smith and Jeremy West, who

between them claimed 2 gold 1 silver and 2 bronze medals. Steven and Andrew Train, also part of last years team, claimed a very creditable third place in the C2 1000m.

The Soviet Union proved superiority in the K4 events in no uncertain terms. The only close competition came from the Hungarians and Britain were left trailing.

Our senior women were very much up against it with three Russian girls entered in the K1 500m, almost inevitably they took the first three places, 3rd and 4th went to the USA and Britain were 6th.

The Junior Competition was mainly between Australia and Great Britain but with a

small Canadian team challenging bravely. Generally the Australians had the upper hand, taking first place in most of the mens events. Our Junior Women however did take over on the K2 500 where they took both first and second places.

Due to the unseasonal weather and the lack of sponsorship there was not the atmosphere of a big occasion that we have on past occasions experienced at this event. It is due only to the support of Nottinghamshire County Council that the Regatta continues to run at all. There is now a vast choice of events in Europe and for most teams the journey to Britain is prohibitively expensive.

BOOKS

RIVER RAFTING AND CANOEING EXPEDITIONS: A PLANNING GUIDE

By Peter Knowles, Expeditions Advisory Centre. Available from BCU Supplies at £1.50 inc p&p. (members); £1.80 non-members.

Peter Knowles (alias 'Green Slime') has created a well planned, easy to follow expeditions guide, aimed at people with little previous experience of river canoeing or rafting. It will also serve as a useful check list for the more seasoned expedition paddler who has lost all those scraps of paper, backs of envelopes and cigarette packets on which he kept his own planning notes.

The guide starts by giving the advantages and limitations of river travel, offering some good catch phrases that may be useful for those begging sponsorship letters. 'Slime' gives a definition of the grading system that takes into account all the variables.

He covers choice of boat in some detail by looking at the types of canoes and kayaks; open, folding, rigid, and inflatable, their advantages and disadvantages. The size, weight and general cost of each craft are given, carrying capacity (very useful), ease of paddling, types of water for which they are suitable, the effects of wind, and the necessary skill required to paddle them. This section also covers

the use of rubber rafts, either as the main form of travel or as support to kayaks. From the canoeists point of view it is always useful to know the raft's limitations!

More space could have been devoted to choice of equipment, particularly as Pete always has some interesting ideas tucked up his sleeve. He does emphasize the importance of good strong gear and of planning for the worst. 'Go to Canada for example, and the rivers are ten times bigger, the rapids ten times rougher, the mosquitoes ten times bigger, the walk out ten times further and if things go wrong, your problems are ten times worse'.

The guide suggests sources where information on rivers can be obtained, together with ways of calculating degrees of difficulty according to gradient, volume and topography of the valley.

Some of the likely practical problems are identified, and stress made that planning in advance will alleviate these. For example, the necessary precautions taken to establish a meeting place, so that both parties know exactly where it is.

Useful tips and ideas are given on access, support, portages, contingencies, size and choice of party, how long it will take, and sponsorship.

Some practical ideas on transporting kayaks, and a section on safety, again aimed at improving safety at the planning stage, are included, plus lists of organisations, courses,

books and equipment suppliers.

The guide comes from one of the most experienced expedition planners in the country and I know that there will be many who will be grateful to Pete Knowles for having taken the time to provide this guide.

Guy Baker

CANOEING FOR DISABLED PERSONS

70p members; £1 non-members
From BCU Supplies BCU, Flexel House, 45/47 High Street, Addlestone, Surrey KT14 1JV.

Ron Moore was asked by his friend, Physiotherapist Flok de Rijke, to help her to teach canoeing to a group of people suffering from haemophilia. That was some ten years ago.

Since then he has developed a practical expertise and knowledge through teaching canoeing to numerous people with all manner of disabilities. Courses for the training of instructors and helpers have also been run.

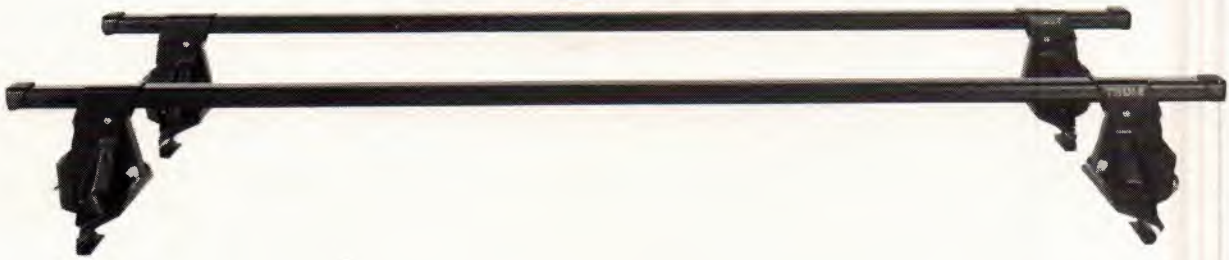
Ron, who is the Regional Coaching organiser for the BCU for Devon and Cornwall, has become the National Coaching Committee's advisor on canoeing for disabled persons.

Outlined in this inexpensive, concise but comprehensive booklet, are the practical problems which can be encountered and overcome, a teaching progression, advice on the training of instructors and helpers, and reference to the philosophy and policy of the BCU in this area.

Recommended for all who have an involvement or interest in helping disabled persons to obtain enjoyment from canoeing.



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P.O. Box 62, Chester, England. Tel: (0244) 311711.

Andy Hall reviews:

RUNNING REPAIRS

A recently introduced roof repair substance called Isoflex which also purports to be effective in boat repairs has drawn my attention to a need to review what was on offer for repairing kayaks and canoes. There are two different areas to be looked at. Firstly there are those repairs carried out from the shore, using the repair kit from the canoe. Secondly, there are those repairs which can be carried out "back at base" under workshop conditions.

Mobile Repair Kits

These need to be: Small, light and quick working — Effective on wet surfaces (or have some workable method of drying the boat — they must not fall off in 5 minutes of paddling) — Able to cope with a 'clean' hole, as opposed to a crack.

Materials which I have found people commonly using are listed, with a star rating (out of 5).

Sylglas or Denzotape

This is a plumber's tape which consists of a cloth tape covered in mastic. As such it sticks on anything, including wet boat hulls and decks. It has no rigidity for patching holes though, and requires prodding, smearing and smushing into cracks. Unfortunately it smushes all over your hands as well, and consequently on your paddle, best gag, up your nose — if you've got nasty habits. So you need to carry petrol to get it off your paws!
Price: £1.80 for 8m x 30mm

Flashband or Sylglas Aluminium Tape

A bitumen-backed alloy tape. It has rigidity and can be used on larger holes. Unfortunately it needs a stove (equipment to make a hot drink — BCU Proficiency syllabus) to heat the bitumen into place on the canoe. Even when you finally find your stove you've got to rough the surface around the aberration to make the

stuff stick on. Then it is fingers crossed for longer than five minutes.

Price £1.68 for 75mm x 1m

Carpet tape, bookbinding tape, canoe tape, Duct tape

You know what I mean anyway — it comes expensive (£3+ for a large roll) in large or small rolls. Sticky-backed cloth tape coated in plastic. It won't stick on wet boats easily, so you have to carry something to dry it: Stove — Meths — just pour on and light — dodgy — Lighter fuel — Lighter — Towel.

Several layers have to be applied to give any rigidity, but it is handy stuff to have in your kit anyway — it repairs tents, paddles, and holes in oneself pretty well. A good way to get around the problem of rigidity is to carry a cut-up strip of plastic from a "Squeezy" type bottle, and this can be taped over any offending hole.

Plastic Tape

Less effective than the above, because it is difficult to get the edges to stick down. It is different, because it is basically a broader and thicker insulating tape with no cloth. The boat will need to be really, really dry to get any success with this tape and it always rains when the rivers are up — say no more.

Ultra-Violet Sensitive Fibre Glass Patches

Frank Goodman used to sell this at VCP, having imported it from 3M in the States. All you did was peel open the package, slap the impregnated glass on the boat and wait a while. Frank tells the story of how he looped a Surf-yak in the sand, bust the end off and used this glass to stick it back on, and it actually set solid while he was paddling it! Unfortunately multinational 3M wanted VCP to take a massive import quota of it, which he could not afford. I think he had visions of piles of patches

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all going off slowly in his warehouse. Shame we can't get it now though.

"Back at base" repairs

Isoflex

This is a liquid rubber paint which looks rather like tar. It does seem pretty effective for a short time — it is painted onto the crack with a brush and left to set. It stretches elastically like a membrane, but will withstand only the slightest of knocks. It also takes 12-20 hours to dry and is black — not very nice on fibreglass or plastic. 1kg tin is £5.95.

Glass Resin Repair (on glass boats)

Done well a glass + resin repair will be almost as good as new. The area to be patched has to be very carefully prepared, and after the patch has set, it needs sanding back progressively using finer grade papers, wet and dry and T-cut. This has all been written up elsewhere, though by much more knowledgeable experts. 1 kg. lay-up resin is £5. Expensive on time.

Plastic Boat Repairs

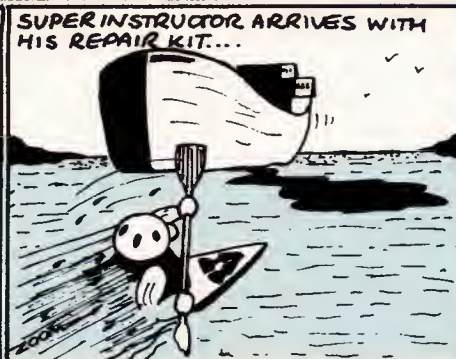
This is done at present by applying plastic from a specialist hot air gun and extruding it into the split. Or repairs can be made by use of Eva adhesive. This is a hot melt adhesive, dispensed from a hot glue gun. Some people, I'm told, have used soldering irons and even hot knives with a greater or lesser degree of success. I'm also interested in using P-Tex ski repair plastic.

With all the above I'm presenting a totally biased opinion, open to criticism please. I'm sure I've missed out several of your favourite repair tips. Don't be shy — share them with *Focus*. But we've got to start somewhere.

It does seem that manufacturers have yet to come up with a really effective repair kit for paddlers, which in today's technological age is hard to understand. The first manufacturer that manages it will surely make a market killing. Is it not worth some R + D?

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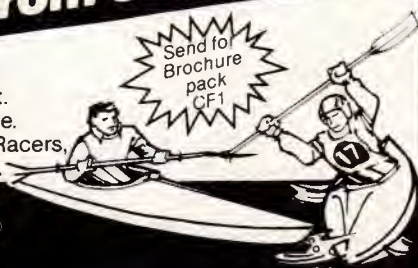
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Action on access

'IT'S A FACT'

The Water Authorities Regional Recreation and Conservation Consultative Committees are working for you. Less than one year after their inauguration our regional representatives on the R.R.C.C.C.'s are reporting significant gains for canoeists. Perhaps the most surprising of these reports came from Chris Hawkesworth representing 'strife torn' Yorkshire and Humberside. Chris has achieved major breakthroughs gaining the support and respect of both the Water Authority and the riparian representatives. It seems that only the anglers have yet to be convinced that commonsense and equitable agreements are the only course of action to be adopted if a total free for all, resulting in disruption and chaos is not to ensue.

Footnote — A delegates conference is planned for the Autumn to enable our representatives on R.R.C.C.C.'s to compare regional

activities and procedures. We feel sure that this will consolidate and provide a significant increase in access to water for all canoeists.

'THE DEBATE CONTINUES'

Dear Sir,

I can only add weight to Irate of Herefords' letter in Canoe Focus No. 39. Let's call a spade a spade, this access committee have done for canoeing what drinking cider does for piles. Living in the S. Wales area, with some of the finest W/W close at hand, I find the agreement for the Usk a joke. Canoeists have been using that stretch of water without a 'Statement of Intent' since Moses was a boy.

It galls me to the point of mutiny to pay well over £10 (a mini-bus full of youngsters) a day to take a group on the Symonds Yat rapid, because that is what it will cost. Last year it was £2. per bus, now it is 50p per person and 50p per bus. When will it be £1?

Having lived and worked as a canoeing instructor in Scotland, I realise yes we are being conned, both by the access committee and the fishermen. So lets go canoeing with goodwill I agree, but stop signing bits of paper.

Alan Giles SI (I) SI (S)

Comment I had expected the flood gates to open up on this issue, yet only two anti letters to date since Gordon's pop at the establishment! We must therefore be getting it right at last. Anybody wish to support this claim?

'ACCESS MATLOCK'

With the recognition of Matlock as a nationally important slalom training site, the East Midlands group have advised us of the continuing delicate negotiations for access. They request that all groups or individuals should ensure that they are aware of the current arrangements prior to canoeing at Matlock. Furthermore it is in the best interest of our sport and continued use of this venue, that members and clubs obey all **instructions** regarding access and egress points, parking etc. Comprehensive information and a map is available on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope to Stella C. Spratley, Woodcote Cottage, Walesby, Newark, Notts.

EXPEDITIONS — BRITISH CANOE UNION GRANT AID AND PATRONAGE

Members of the British Canoe Union organising International Expeditions next year, are invited to note the conditions that the Expeditions Committee have established for the disbursement of grant aid and the provision of patronage to those seeking support from the Union for Expeditions to be organised in 1986.

GRANT AID Normally recommended only for expeditions going abroad and attempting outstanding first time challenges and/or unusual and important scientific studies as part of the journey objectives. In all cases considerable relevant canoeing experience is regarded as essential, and previous expedition experience would be considered almost as a pre-requisite. Applications for grants for 1986 will only be considered if they are received by 1 October 1985 by the Director of the BCU. All applications should contain as much detailed information as possible especially:- journey details (including any previous attempts by other groups); relevant experience of party members; equipment; budget details including personal contributions and all forms of financial support applications; insurance.

PATRONAGE Normally restricted to expeditions attempting 'first time' journeys on sea or river abroad. These expeditions will normally include people of proven experience in hazardous environments. In the case of young people patronage may be recommended for certain 'expeditions' within the UK.

NOTE Decisions on grant aid and patronage are taken by the BCU Expeditions Committee, and are subject to ratification by BCU Council. Applicants are advised to send full details as the grant awards are small in comparison to the increasing number of applications.

SPONSORSHIP All BCU approved expeditions will have the chance to share in £1,000 worth of equipment at retail value from the Wild Water Centre.



HAVE LICENCE WILL TRAVEL

By the time you receive this issue of CANOE FOCUS the BCU/BWB licence scheme will be in operation and the official launch at Little Venice on 1st August will have taken place. Already many members have given an enthusiastic welcome to this new benefit of membership.

As members must abide by the BWB Byelaws, an explanatory leaflet is being sent to all new and renewing members from 1st August. Fill in your membership number on your BCU sticker and display it on your canoe. This will prove to BWB staff that you are a BCU member and entitled to paddle on BWB canals and rivers.

Each affiliated club will receive three stickers for use on club owned boats. These stickers will be sent out with the next issue of CLUB FOCUS. As some clubs may need more than three, extra stickers can be obtained from BCU HQ at £6 each. Named leaders in Junior Clubs will receive personal stickers.

CANOLFAN TRYWERYN WEEKEND WATER RELEASES

Welsh Water Authority, has agreed to make weekend water releases until mid-September (except 24/5 August) from 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. Water will not be released outside these times and these releases will be subject to the normal flooding restrictions. Midweek water releases

are likely to be reduced and you should use the normal answerphone service (0678 520826) to establish if water is being released. The message is updated on a regular basis. To meet the increased costs of obtaining weekend water releases the charges have been revised as follows:-

Adults	— Midweek	— £2.50 per day
	— Weekends	— £3.00 per day
Under 18's	— Any time	— £2.00 per day
Non members	— Any time	— £5.00 per day

'TOMBSTONES'

The 'Tombstones Weir' hazard on the River Dee above Llangollen has long been recognised by canoeists as a death trap. Due to its hidden approach with two vertical tombstones at an angle to the current with hidden spikes to ensnare the unwary or inexperienced paddler, it has an unenviable accident record with one fatality, several near misses and many injuries being recorded each year. The organisers of the Mike Jones Rally have very kindly offered to provide funds, subject to approval from riparian interests, to assist in the removal or the making safe of this hazard. Accordingly we would be pleased to receive any contributions from clubs and or members to assist in this project. All cheques to be made payable to the British Canoe Union and addressed to the National Access Officer marked 'Tombstones'.

RIVER INFORMATION — FRANCE

French River Notes available from BCU Supplies @ 50p (members 30p) have been updated with more information on the Ardeche, Tarn and Lot. Further information on these and other French rivers is available from Colin Kempson of Milton Keynes Canoe Club who have just returned from a most successful trip. Send SAE to Colin Kempson, 108 East Street, Olney, Bucks. MK46 4DJ.

RECREATION

STOPPER TECHNIQUE

USING THE DIAGONAL RUN AND ITS VARIATIONS IN A STOPPER By Robert Cunnington

Conventional skills for a paddler controlling a kayak in a stopper may be identified as:

- Sculling for support — on the downstream side of the kayak and stopper.
- A low or high brace — again on the downstream side.
- A sculling cum drawing action — to draw the kayak in a supported position, either forwards or backwards along the stopper, until a suitable exit point is reached. Once again being performed on the downstream side.

May I suggest a technique which I have found very useful, that is, using the 'diagonal run' (from surfing) in a stopper. Sounds unusual, at first!

In terms of surfing, a stern rudder is applied on the down-wave side. The paddler leans away from the paddle blade in order to lift the downwave gunnel out of the water, so that the upwave gunnel may be 'edged' into the wave and so assist with steering.

In terms of using the diagonal run in a stopper wave, it is exactly the same principle. In Fig 1, the paddler is leaning downstream while using a stern rudder on the upstream side of the kayak. The paddler using this technique

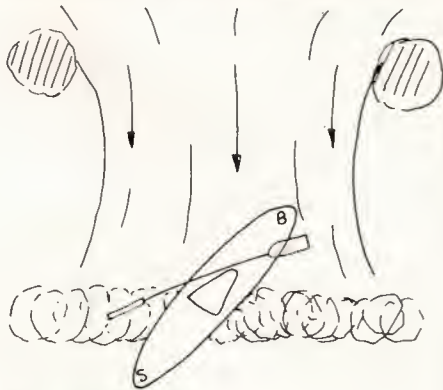


Fig 1 Diagonal run in a stopper

needs to have good balance and confidence — ie to be able to sit comfortably in a stopper without relying on a downstream support (because there is none in this context).

The depth the blade of the stern rudder is placed into the water needs consideration. And the paddler needs to find the difference between placing the blade in the froth of the stopper (x) and the green water (y) and a combination of both (z) — because this radically influences the effectiveness of the diagonal run technique in a stopper situation.

The paddler also needs to be able to control the force which is exerted by the water on the non-drive face side of the blade, and use this effectively in order to keep the kayak at the required angle in the stopper (as in the surf wave). In total, the paddler has to co-ordinate the raised upstream gunnel, the upright and balanced stance adopted by the body, and the force exerted on the stern rudder (see Fig 3).

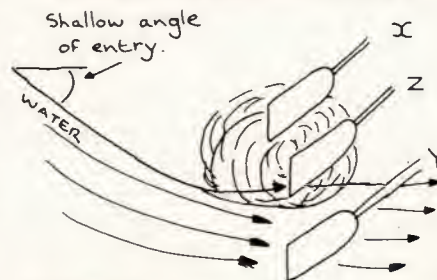


Fig 2 Blade Position

As in surfing, the blade may be raised or sunk into the water to gain the required power necessary to effect the stern rudder.

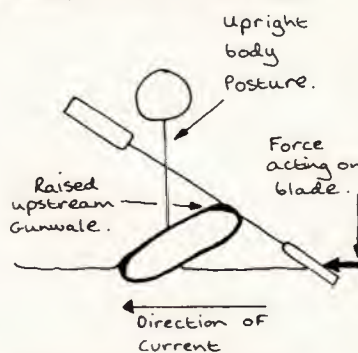


Fig 3 Components of the technique — boat/body/blade

Using the diagonal run, and variations of it, the paddler may (1) sit in a stopper in a stationary position — Photo 1; (2) by allowing the kayak to adopt an angle of 15°-20° from the stopper, to travel along the stopper wave, as in a diagonal run — Photo 2; (3) by thrusting the blade down and forwards deep into the green water below the stopper, presenting the non-drive face at 90° to the oncoming current, to exit from the stopper in a reverse position. From even an original broadside position in the stopper — Photo 3; and (4) using (3) to merely change the direction of travel along the stopper, but without using a reverse thrust.

I have personally found this technique useful in small stoppers which do not have a steep angle of entry. I might speculate here, by saying that with more practice this technique may be used in bigger stoppers — if the paddler is able to reach down to the green water flowing out of the stopper (refer to Fig 2) — who knows!

The four applications of the technique are either the diagonal run or variations of it. It must be remembered that in a white water context it is very much an advanced technique, which requires a high degree of balance, and the ability to use the stern rudder effectively without being capsized upstream or allowing the blade to be swept under the kayak.

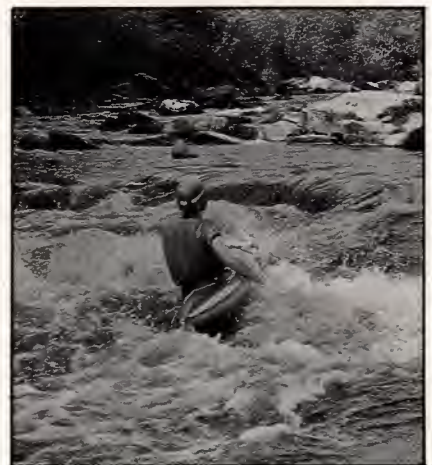




Photo 1 The diagonal run — stationary position

Photo 2 The diagonal run — dynamic position



Photo 3 Reverse thrust and exit from stopper — in a reverse position

Photo 4 Change of direction of travel for the diagonal run



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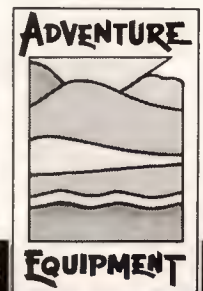
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ADVENTURE EQUIPMENT

SOUTH AFRICA



By **RON EMES**
Director of the British Canoe Union

Those brave enough to debate publicly perhaps the most controversial and sensitive sporting issue since the 1936 Berlin Olympic Games — the suspension of South Africa from the Olympic Movement, will inevitably discover that emotions are aroused and opinions sharply divided. Since the South African Canoe Federation was suspended from membership of the International Canoe Federation by the Congress in 1970, as a consequence of similar action by the International Olympic Committee, doubt has existed regarding the precise meaning of this suspension, and the practical effects thereof upon the British Canoe Union, its Committees, Clubs, and members. For a variety of reasons, neither the International Canoe Federation, nor the National Federations, including the British Canoe Union, have during the past 15 years, sought to clarify the exact nature of South Africa's suspension, although it has always been accepted that neither the Federation nor its individual members can participate in Olympic Games, World Championships or the Bi-annual Congress.

Recent developments in Britain and South Africa, have however, necessitated a much clearer definition by the International Canoe Federation of their own rules. In particular the South African Canoe Federation have indicated that despite suspension, their members have continued to gain entry to international events, some in Britain, and to achieve considerable success. Members of the British Canoe Union have competed in South Africa, and, in so doing, have endangered the status of British Teams participating at International Canoe Federation events. The South African Canoe Federation has sought to re-open the debate with the International Canoe Federation regarding its suspension. In addition, the British Canoe Union has, since 1970 been lobbied, harangued, and urged to support or oppose particular expressions of opinion regarding sport in South Africa, and has been invited to undertake particular courses of action. Accordingly the Board of Management of the International Canoe Federation, were requested at their meeting held in May this year at Antwerp, to advise regarding the precise status of the South African Canoe Federation within the international canoeing community. Their definition of South Africa's suspension could hardly be clearer, and is as follows —

"The International Canoe Federation wishes to reiterate its policy towards the suspension of South Africa established at Copenhagen in 1970.

The South African Canoe Federation was suspended from membership of the International Canoe Federation at the 1970 ICF Congress. Suspension bars individual members of National Federations or the Federation itself of all 'rights and prerogatives' until the suspension is lifted (Article 33 Statutes).

'Suspension of rights and prerogatives' is interpreted by the ICF Board of Management to mean —

- (a) *Non-participation in the Olympic Games.*
- (b) *Non-participation in World Championships and other competitions organised directly by the ICF or on its behalf.*
- (c) *Non-participation in the Congress.*
- (d) *Non-participation by the South African Canoe Federation; its clubs or individual members in competitions arranged by ICF affiliated organisations (That is, National Associations or their clubs).*
- (e) *Non-participation in competitions arranged by the South African Canoe Federation or its clubs by ICF affiliated organisations. (That is, National Associations or their Clubs, or individual members).*

The Council of Management considered at their June meeting, the statement of the Board of Management, and noted the very precise and detailed interpretation of Article 33 of the International

Canoe Federation Statutes, and agreed —

1. **That neither the South African Canoe Federation, nor its Clubs or its individual members, may participate in competitions organised by the British Canoe Union or its Clubs.**
2. **That neither the British Canoe Union, nor its Clubs or its individual members may participate in competitions organised by the South African Canoe Federation or its Clubs.**
3. **That breach of the foregoing statements of policy, shall be regarded as a contravention of Article 9 of the British Canoe Union's Articles of Association, in that any refusal or neglect by any member to comply therewith will be regarded as contrary to the general interests of the Union and will render the member concerned liable to suspension or expulsion from the Union on the passing of a resolution to that effect by the Council.**

It is particularly important for members to understand that in undertaking the foregoing action, the Council of Management have *NOT* expressed any views whatsoever regarding the politics of the South African sports situation. They have responded in entirely pragmatic terms to the instructions of the International Canoe Federation. The only alternative course available to the Council, which was not considered, would have been to ignore the Board's edict, and risk the consequences.

The Council has not, even if it had the authority so to do, sought to restrain its members from visiting South Africa for the purposes of general non-competitive canoeing activity, including training, and has certainly not discussed the justice, or injustice of South Africa's continued suspension from the International Canoe Federation. What they have done, following the clarification of their own rules by the International Canoe Federation, is to make quite clear, that as from the 29th June 1985, that is the date that the Council of Management agreed their policy, no British canoeist may compete in South Africa, and no South African canoeist may compete in Britain, thus finally dispelling the uncertainty that has existed for the past 15 years.

WHERE ARE THE CADET MEMBERS?



The good news is that just two-thirds of the way into the 1985 membership year there are 7% more adult members than there were in the whole of 1984, 15% more adult members than there were in the whole of 1983, and a remarkable 26% more than there were in the whole of 1982. Most of this increase is in Full membership, and confirms that the benefits now available are too good for the active canoeist to miss.

The bad news is that for the same period there were 10% less cadet members than there were in 1984, 20% less cadet members than there were in 1983, and 44% less than there were in 1982. This very worrying



trend seems to be totally inexplicable, when all the indications are that the interest displayed by young people in canoeing continues to expand at a phenomenal rate. Some will of course agree, that a membership subscription of £3.50 for Cadets is far too high, but this cannot be the only explanation. Is there a different problem to that being experienced by other organisations, suffering a decline in the number of young people becoming members, or is it the same problem. We are obviously seeking an objective response to this question, but opinions are welcome.



XXV
OLYMPIAD
LONDON
1992



OLYMPIC SLALOM

As these pages go to press, there is news that three English cities have submitted bids to host the 1992 XXV Olympic Games. Interestingly enough only one city from the whole world bid for the 1984 Olympiad, this being Los Angeles, and in the absence of other contenders, the bid was of course successful. For canoeing the news is all good, Birmingham, London, and Manchester have each agreed to include Slalom on their Games programmes in addition to Racing Canoeing, and this will mean that should any of these receive the support of the British Olympic Association, and subsequently persuade the International Olympic Committee to approve their bids, Slalom will re-appear as an Olympic sport for the first time since 1972.

Birmingham, London, and Manchester are not the only applicants for the XXV Olympic Games of course. Belgrade, Brisbane, Barcelona, Delhi, Paris, and Amsterdam all aspire to act as hosts for the World's greatest sports jamboree. The acknowledged front runners, Barcelona, and Paris, have both indicated that they also favour slalom, and will provide special facilities to accommodate the rough water programme.

It is therefore, reasonably probable that the endeavours of the International Canoe Federation and the British Canoe Union to re-instate Slalom Canoeing as part of the Olympic programme may be successful in 1992. There is even a remote possibility, that canoeing enthusiasts in Britain will be provided with the opportunity of witnessing Olympic canoeing on both the Holme Pierrepont Courses in 7 years time, and what an achievement for British canoeing that would be!

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Trade News

WHITewater — ROCKING BRIGHTON

Brighton Aquatic became Alan Jones' second windsurfing shop in April. The 42 year old retailer, who already owns and runs 'Whitewater' in Middlesex, is delighted by his latest acquisition.

The shop, now known as Whitewater at Brighton Aquatic, is situated in a prime spot on Brighton promenade.

A large range of canoes and surf skis are available to order, and there is a wide selection

ADVENTURE SPORT PICTURE LIBRARY

A new picture library is being established specialising in all the adventure sports from hang gliding to an expedition to the South

VETEKa MINI FLARE KIT

The Veteka mini flare pack comprises of a water resistant capsule, containing 3 red projectile flares, a hand launcher and full instructions.

The pack, though suitable for many applications, is sure to find favour with windsurfers, canoeists and other water sports enthusiasts, for whom a compact easily used unit is a must.

It contains 3 red projectile flares, launcher and full instructions. Flares project to a height of approximately 83 metres. Illumination time is 6 seconds at 14,500 candella. Retail price £9.95 including VAT. No firearms certificates is required. The pack floats when sealed. Available from Marine and Watersports dealers throughout the United Kingdom.

Further Information

The above pack is in addition to our already successful Komet Flare Pack, containing 6 red

of accessories. Canoe hire and demo facilities are both available.

An annual club membership of £20.00 includes shop discounts, and use of changing rooms, showers and toilets. Canoe storage is available and there is a licensed bar on hand.

Everyone who visits the premises throughout August will receive a free stick of Brighton rock — custom made with Whitewater running through the centre — as long as stocks last.

Whitewater at Brighton Aquatic opens seven days a week from 1030 until 1800. (0273 778202).

Pole. A ramble in the English Lake District to sub aqua swimming in the Far East.

Anyone may submit to the library from amateur to professional photographer. Send large SAE for full details to Adventure Sports Picture Library, PO Box 43, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 6AA.

and 3 white flares, watertight to at least 45 metres and the survival flare kit.

Spare flares, launchers and capsules are all available.



WILD WATER 'EXPLORER'

Equipment alone is no substitute for experience and it cannot be overstressed that speedy rescues can be perfected by practising with the equipment that you are carrying until you are completely familiar with its advantages and its limitations. Necessity and improvisation are the parents of invention, and in these lie the skill of the rescuer whose quick thinking action can make all the difference when faced with a potentially dangerous situation.

The 'Explorer' white water buoyancy aid incorporates a nylon belay sling, or 'Cow's tail' and an anodised Karabiner which is attached to the rear of the integral harness systems. The harness has a quick release buckle at the front of the jacket enabling the wearer to extricate himself quickly and simply from the system when necessary. When not in use the cow's tail is attached to a 'D' ring at the front of the jacket ready for instant use.

Suggested Uses

1. It can be used by the rescuer to attach himself quickly to a belay or strong point via the cow's tail. The user should familiarise himself with the following basic knots which will facilitate this: Figure of eight knot, bowline. An additional sling and karabiner which can quickly be passed around a tree to act as a belay point will prove invaluable for this purpose. In the event of this extra equipment not being available then the knots recommended above can be used in conjunction with a throw line.

2. Can be used by a person being rescued:

- i) Swimmer — can use his cow's tail to clip into a throw line.
- ii) Trapped canoeist — can be used as a point of attachment if a rope can be got to him.
- iii) Stranded Canoeist — can be used to help get him back to the safety of the river bank.

3. Can be attached to a tow line for canoeist to swimmer and canoeist to deserted canoe rescues.

NON-SNAG BOOTS

ALTERNATIVE SURF are currently offering a totally flexible boot, ideal for slalom and surf ski paddling. The boots, constructed of 5mm D/L neoprene are rubber dipped to form a sole with no edge. This greatly reduces the problem of stuck feet on capsizes and enables the surf ski paddler to maintain maximum hold on foot loops. Obtainable from ALTERNATIVE SURF, HONITON, (0404) 41295 for only £14.95 inc. Director Michel Bewsey said "We offer an efficient and fast mail order service throughout the UK. All equipment is on a seven day money back guarantee. Phone for price list."

TRYLON 'DESIGN TROPHY'

Trylon Ltd. of Wollaston, Northants, promoters of the Trylon Engineering Plastics Design Competition 1984/5, have awarded the 1st Prize to Sara Evans of the Mirfield High School, West Yorkshire.

Sara designed a commemorative trophy which will be presented to the British woman gaining the best result in the World Championship canoe slalom at Augsburg, West Germany. The trophy has been named The Liz Sharman Trylon Trophy in recognition of Liz's supreme achievements in World canoeing events.



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C.F.

Paul Vander-Molen 1956-1985

A tribute by Ron Moore

The death of Paul Vander-Molen at the age of 28 in May this year was a tragic loss to the canoeing world. Paul was widely known as the dynamic leader of kayak expeditions in Alaska and Iceland but he also did some valuable work with disabled people.

He was born in London in 1956, and showed early promise as a canoeist. One of his early exploits in a Scout competition involved crossing a flooded bomb-crater in a home-built craft, and he won first prize, which was a trip to Helsinki!

In his teens he started to compete in canoe slalom and reached Div 1 in his early twenties.

His first widely known expedition was down the river Alsek in Alaska, which resulted in the spectacular film "Valley of Ice" which must be

familiar to almost all canoeists.

The following year 1982, was the Year of the Disabled, and Paul led a group including some French and English disabled canoeists down the French rivers Dordogne and Ariege. This was when I first met him; he came to the West Country to learn at high speed all he could about disabled people and we saw at first hand his tremendous drive and enthusiasm.

One of the members of the expedition was Mike Riches from Cornwall, who has the use of only one arm, and it was for him that Paul invented his quick-release one-armed paddle.

In 1983 his next major expedition took place. This was "Iceland Breakthrough" where kayaks and micro-lights were combined to create a new kind of exploration, and again the canoeing world was thrilled with the film showing spectacular shots of kayaks abseiling into

ice-caves, and flying over colossal water-falls.

It was later in 1983 that Paul first contracted leukemia. A year of hard treatment seemed to have cured him and he was busy with the preliminary planning for his next expedition to Iceland "Breakthrough Disability", but after a brief respite, the leukemia returned in a very aggressive form early this year, and further treatment was not enough. He went to his final rest on Wednesday 15 May 1985 aged 28 years.

There seems no better way to finish than to quote Paul and his father.

Paul, on learning that he had leukemia, soon after "Iceland Breakthrough", wrote these words in a hospital corridor. "I had achieved something and completed it, but I had a strong feeling about life since returning, as if I knew it would not be as I planned...."

And his father, Jack Vander-Molen writes, "He departed as he had always lived - leaving the brightest of flames with those who knew and loved him."

Paul Vander-Molen's father, Jack, writes: *Among his many activities during the last few months of his life, Paul was engaged in the preliminary planning of an expedition very dear*

to his heart. It is the hope of his family and indeed of many of his friends that "Breakthrough Disability" should go forward in his memory during the year 1986. If you wish

to be associated with this expedition (in any way) please let me know so that we can enter into further talks.

Following the success of the "Kayak France '82" expedition where an integrated team of physically handicapped and 'able-bodied' kayakers paddled white water rapids of the River Ariège, the organisers are now planning a more challenging eighteen day expedition to take place in Iceland in 1986.

The team will be an integrated group of six people from Britain and Iceland who have varying disabilities and ten more people from Britain and Iceland who have a wide range of experience in outdoor pursuits and exploration.

Some of the challenges will be of mobility, communication and social integration in physically hostile environments where the team will kayak and embark upon exploration.

The team will carry out an investigation into glacier and volcanic activity in the region to be explored.

A photographer will be covering the expedition for international publication. Arrangements are being made for a film crew to cover part of the expedition for television.

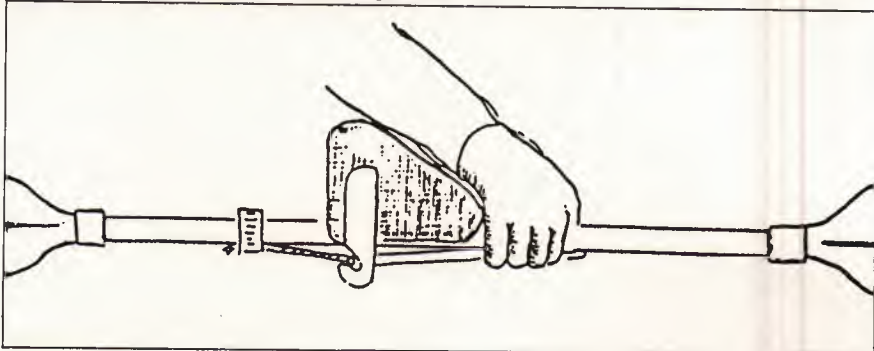
Apart from the physical conquests that will be made, the expedition will generate an invaluable working and social experience for all concerned but most importantly, for the disabled members of the team.

The expedition will break down the social and physical barriers between disabled and 'able-bodied'. Through publication, it is hoped that the expedition will pave the way for further integrated groups in outdoor pursuits and other activities.

EXPEDITION PROPOSAL



Paul Vander-Molen's one-armed paddling device.



ONE-ARMED PADDLING DEVICE

This piece of equipment, which was designed by Paul Vander-Molen, enables a one armed person to paddle a kayak. It has been used to good effect. Ron Moore is now having it produced. It is available at cost on application to him at Mill Ford School, Ernsettle, Plymouth.

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Dear Focus...

THE ARMCHAIR CANOEIST

Dear Focus,

This being the first time that I have ever written a public grouse, I wish to grouse at the grousers.

I get heartily sick and tired of hearing the same words: 'What do I get from the BCU?' and 'What is the BCU doing for me?' The answer is 'one heck of a lot'. The problem is that although there is a vast range of benefits from membership of the BCU they are not rammed down your throat. Instead you have to write, phone or enquire to get a number of them. This does not go down well with the armchair canoeist who prefers to sit and have everything laid at his/her feet.

Then we have the competitor who bemoans BCU membership as a competition prerequisite. He blithely ignores the many persons who spend hour after hour sitting planning events, calendars, coaching etc. etc. All of this without fame (the winning competitor gets this) or pay and often out of pocket expenses (inadequate even for those who do claim them).

If the armchair grouse had to pay the full cost of all that is done for them, they would blanch in horror at the fees asked.

Lets have an end to grousers. As far as I can see the grouser is the one who is at fault. If a criticism is to be made then it should be accompanied by a sensible solution that will help the sport.

Finally, the BCU ... Who is the BCU? ... You are! There is only a tiny HQ staff to run the day to day affairs but all the major organisation and running is done by voluntary members in their spare time. In other words, 'We' the ordinary members are the BCU and not this fictional body that people believe runs the sport. So what do we do? Well you get out of your armchair and you start looking for solutions to the faults that you see. After all you are a voluntary part of the BCU yourself and you surely didn't join a voluntary organisation in order to do nothing. The BCU is the elite organisation of canoeing in this country. Be proud of your membership and for goodness sake stop grousing!

An Anti-grouse.

Name and address supplied.

TRUST IN LEADERSHIP

Dear Focus,

I have just read the letter by Paul Kavanagh on Page 17 of the Summer edition of Canoe Focus and am pleased that attention has been drawn to the dangers. I was one of the three people who rescued the girl just below horseshoe falls, I was at first quite shaken at having handled a body that was blue with anoxia, and then

very annoyed when I found out she was a novice whose incompetent leader had told her the Falls were safe — I remember when I was beginning canoeing I trusted my leaders implicitly and would follow them down anything.

With reference to large parties being on the water there was one group in particular consisting of about 15 yellow Dancers and one leader who came down Town Falls in an upside down chaos. At least half of them swam, pushing the rescue services to their limits. Such an action is irresponsible and sooner or later some novice is going to smash their face in on the rock-face, perhaps people's attention should be brought to the possibility of getting out on the right-hand bank above the top weir and portaging down to the bridge?

Anyway thanks very much to Dave Manby, John Gosling, Peter Knowles and Peter Midwood — I enjoyed the Mike Jones weekend very much, I hope the Tryweryn is available as well this year.

Adrian Greenwood, Treasurer
Durham University Canoe Club

SUPERSTARS

Dear Focus,

Whenever I watch the B.B.C. programme "Superstars" my feelings are a mixture of embarrassment and annoyance when it comes to the canoeing event. Has the B.C.U. been approached by the B.B.C. for advice on what equipment to use for a canoeing event? If it has, why are they using such ridiculous boats and paddles for canoe racing? It is similar to having the cycling event on B.M.X. bikes; something I'm sure the cycling world would be up in arms about. If the B.C.U. hasn't been approached then it should get in touch with the B.B.C. and advise them, and tell them there is such a thing as bad publicity, and that they are making canoeing the laughing stock of the sporting world.

Kevin Coleman, Sevenoaks

Fair comment! We are seldom approached by the media for advice and then often as an afterthought.

THANK YOU TOURING COMMITTEE

Dear Focus,

I am writing on behalf of myself and the Hereford Colleges Kayak Club. We came up for the Tryweryn Tour on the 11th-12th May and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves, despite a few damaged boats and paddles. We found the friendship and atmosphere generated by the week-end really good. We look forward to paddling on the Tryweryn again, so keep up the good work.

David Grant, Hereford

BRAZILIAN EXPERIENCE

Dear Focus,

Canoeing in Brazil as the guest of the Associacao Carioca De Canoagem has been a great experience for me for three months. They are real enthusiasts. They must be to drive 600 kms over rough and hilly roads, washed out by tropical cloudbursts, each way, for a weekend event. The most common type of 'kayak' is a surf shoe. Far up mighty rivers, 500 kms from the sea, they favour planing type hulls. The reason is mundane, it is the least expensive form of small craft available. Mind you they do have some super-stoppers, but it would take a hero or a fool to try it on some of those.

A W/W racing event on the Rio Claro was over 18 kms and 30 competitors set off in pairs for safety's sake. The team of two finished when the second paddler crossed the line. There were some grade 3 to 4 rapids and some nasty deep holes and boat crunching bits, and it was not possible to set up safety teams on every huge rock or cascade. They all finished. One chap in an event at Lumiar, a 5 km rather hairy descent, parked his touring kayak, reminiscent of a KW7, beside some canes. He leaped into his kayak, did the usual seal launch off a high bank, got to the finish, and a spider about a handspan across scuttled out after him!

Canoeing in Brazil will expand vigorously. It already has — almost zero to 30,000 in four years. I was there in 1979 and now again in 1984-5. The Brazilian people are naturally athletic, and keen on competition. It is like time-travel, seeing their enthusiasm and lack of resources now, and comparing that with the way things were for us in the North East around 1960. I've seen it all before. One thing is sure, skilled paddlers are always welcome there. Correspond with Uwe Peter Kohnen, Ave Grand Canal 285, Barra Da Tijuca, 22600, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. Letters in English, Portuguese and German readily answered.

Alan Bye, Middleton-in-Teesdale
Brazilian Wild Water Racers



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LATE NIGHT ROWDIES

Dear Focus,

Is it possible to air a real problem in your columns? Over three seasons, without exception, my son and I have enjoyed slalom canoeing and camping weekends. Novice and Division 4 — no problems. Division 3 this season, a hell of a shock! Apparently behaviour, courtesy, consideration and camping quietness descend in inverse ratio to the rise to Division 2 to Premier! Has it something to do with the fact that from Division 3 the age range appears to rise to 25-35 and moronic behaviour is an inbuilt factor at that age range?

I have believed, up to now, that slalom canoeists keep a fine balance of sport professionalism and good camping behaviour. Fear-nilee (April 13/14: Edinburgh University organisers) and Richmond, Easby Abbey (May 18/19: Manchester Canoe Club) both contained a high proportion of higher education students and, again, a proportionate descent in behaviour patterns. It might be pointed out to such people, somehow, that neighbours, farmers and landowners, river rights organisations, more courteous fellow campers and town/country residents will not look with any enthusiasm at being on the reception end of slalom events if the late night behaviour of the two events is par for the course. We were regaled on both Friday and Saturday late nights (defined as between 12.00 p.m. and 1.00 a.m.) with noise, conversation, singing and general loud behaviour which would not have been acceptable in Manchester, Piccadilly or Edinburgh, Princess Street, let alone two rural sites.

It leads me to make a suggestion (for the offenders at Easby Abbey turned out actually to be judges of the event and therefore actually involved in the organisation!): why not do what the Camping and Caravan Club of Great Britain do and ask for a deposit of the BCU members card at the beginning of the event, returnable at the end of the weekend for good behaviour kept and returned to BCU, with a report on bad behaviour and not issuable again for the current season? Such people do not respond to courteous requests for silence — it feeds only to inflame their alcoholic induced machoism — for such behaviour as we have experienced must only be the result of alcoholic intake wedded to an incapacity to cope with its effects.

Ronald McGraw, Peterlee

Roger Fox, Secretary of the BCU Slalom Committee comments:

Certainly there are some problems at some slaloms, but this is neither universal nor widespread. A major point in an organiser's brief is to pay particular attention to maintaining very good relations with the local community, whose goodwill is so important to our sport. The jury reports from the two events in question will be scrutinised. All participants at slaloms are required to observe the code of conduct in the yearbook and disciplinary procedures can be invoked against offenders proved guilty. There is also a complaints procedure given in detail in last year's yearbook. This involves writing to me with full details of the complaint with the evidence to back it up.

WHAT ABOUT BEGINNERS?

Dear Focus,

I joined the BCU in February at the National Canoe Exhibition. I have been canoeing for about eighteen months now and I am seeking something more from my sport. I am writing not to complain but to help others like me. As I

hadn't been canoeing long I joined the BCU because I thought I would be able to gain advice and support. I found much to my disappointment that I gained neither: instead I had to learn as I had before by trial and error. Your magazine should have more for the less experienced, but who want to learn and understand the canoeing world.

Maria Knights, Sandown

Dear Focus,

Since our club has been accepted by the BCU it has been interesting to read through Canoe Focus along with other members of the club. We find it all very informative but also that it is pitched at an already informed and adult membership. Our club consists entirely of youngsters and whereas they can always conjure ambitions based on the achievement of experts and their peers I do feel that a special page or a pull out supplement aimed at young canoers would be a definite advantage. The feature could contain cartoon type instructional information to cover the various water conditions to be encountered, paragraphs on Junior events past and future, equipment and canoe types for youngsters, Junior competition news and Junior correspondence. You can probably add to the list, but I hope you'll agree that to capture young imaginations and to let them see that they exist and are important would be something worth "focussing" on.

Aubrey Brazin, Treasurer, Draycott Canoeing Club

Thank you both for your letters. Our aim is to give fair coverage over a twelve month period to all aspects and all levels of canoeing. You have hit on areas yet to receive their fair share. As to information there is a range of free leaflets available from HQ and a range of more comprehensive books and booklets can be obtained at a discount from BCU Supplies — their price list is enclosed with this issue of CANOE FOCUS. The Canoeing Handbook is strongly recommended. Now a call to members of the BCU Coaching Scheme — how about setting about writing these articles for which there is a clear demand?

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION

Dear Focus,

I must first of all declare my interest as one half of Goldsmith/Evans C2 Crew, who recently took part in the selection races at Garmisch for a place in the National Team to compete at the World Championships.

I have been losing and winning races, gracefully I think, at the highest level of White Water Racing in Britain and Abroad for the last 10 years, so I hope no-one can accuse me of being a bad loser. However, I do feel I have the right to question the events that happened at Garmisch.

My partner and I have, what in other countries would be considered a good record for racing and finishing under adverse conditions.

Until the selection races:-

- We had never failed to finish a race.
- We had the best British result at the Pre-Worlds last year (9th). Plus 9th at Bourg St. Maurice, 2nd at Monshau, 3rd at Silberschild.
- We have never dropped below 2nd in any Div. 'A' race and are currently 2nd in the Ranking List.
- We were part of the C2 team which achieved some of the best results ever in Europe.

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e) We won the Div. 'A' only 3 weeks prior to selection.

During the selection races (which were held on a river that did not conform to the B.C.U.'s rules on navigable passage) we, along with Kaye/Pearton (Britain's No 1 crew) failed to finish due to lack of water (or to excess of rocks). In the second race we were 4th, not a brilliant result, I'm the first to admit but using the M.S. points system which allows for the disparity in the two courses, our results were comfortably closer to the winners than the 4th C1 or the 4th Lady. In other words although the selection policy does say that 4th place is at the discretion of the selectors, we do meet the necessary criteria and the benefit of the doubt would normally fall on the paddler's side.

The reasons are not financial as the grant is supplied by the Sports Council and airline tickets had already been purchased and although I'm obviously biased I don't think level of standards applies either. Perhaps if all the selectors voted against a 4th C2 I could believe that all was purity and light in our sport but when the Team Manager and the C2 Class Coach (who is resigning over the matter) and the Canadian Singles Coach are over-ruled by Kayak orientated people, with whom we have had very strong differences of opinion over Canadian policy on many occasions. AM I WRONG TO ASK "WHY"?

Up to this point, no reason is forthcoming other than "it was a committee decision".

I would like to finish with a Thank-you to Dave Kaye, Ross Pearton and Denis Cooper especially but also to the other members of the C2 Team who stood up for us and lobbied from a viewpoint of knowledge that no-one else in the country can better and a standpoint of honour that many could learn from. If I believed, for one moment, that there were not more people like them in our sport I would not compete in future seasons.

Robert Evans, Twickenham

DEAR FOCUS...

Canoe Focus encourages letters to the editor but reserves the right to edit and condense to fill the space available. All letters will be treated as having been submitted for publication and must include a name and address for verification. Please send all correspondence to:- "Letters", Canoe Focus, British Canoe Union, 45-47 High Street, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15 1JV

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SURFACE

This month we are crawling to ACE (we reckon they should pay for this Add). Is it not time that the B.C.U. started a surf comp class for Dancers? (Not the flash variety). So! as our add does not refer to Submarines and to swell the ranks of Surf Desenters . . . (Da Da Trumpets etc.) Junes Cheapo is a maximum of 25 Red A.C.E. Perception Dancers at £194.50. Note only 25 so ORDER QUICK! (Gasps of Amazement)

For all those tight fisted ***** who do not buy "Canoeist".

SURF EIT?

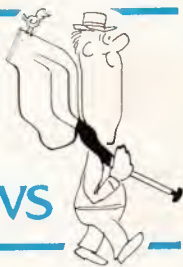
Pardon the pun. It's to do with feet. £1 Cheapo for May. All the above 5mm D.L. Boots with total flexibility. The edges are made in rubber (they look like stropen socks). The steel boot for creasing up on your mother-in-laws (great gift or for Blahm-iss or Surf Saver). Total cost: £12.65. See mail order slide. By the way send us £1.00 on order £35.00 worth of gear and you will know what the sea canoeist gives us. A slight hint for Junes Cheapo in Focus. What's sold at parties and is not knackers? Finally if anybody has got any good ideas for products that there would be a demand for in canoeing circles let us know. Alternative Surf, Gittisham Service Station, Honiton (0404) 41295.

See "Canoeist" for July & Aug Cheapos.
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News and Views



BCU COMMUNICATION PACKAGE FULLY OPERATIONAL

From this issue CANOE FOCUS will be bi-monthly arriving at members' addresses on the second Monday of even calendar months. The relevant REGIONAL BULLETIN is included as a stuffer.

In addition HQ now circulates CLUB FOCUS to arrive at clubs on the second Monday of odd calendar months. The relevant REGIONAL CLUB NEWS is included as a stuffer.

REGIONAL BULLETIN and REGIONAL CLUB NEWS are designed for communication within your Region. They are compiled in your Region and then printed at HQ.

1986 INDOOR SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Angela and Russ Longrigg are now the national organisers. For details of Regional Organisers, dates and venues for the qualifying rounds send a SAE to Mrs. A. Longrigg, 16 Glenside Close, Frenchay, Bristol BS16 2QY.

RIVER LEVEN, FIFE

News is coming in of a potential new moving water training and lower division slalom site. We have been promised more information in the next issue.

RIVER LEVEN, CUMBRIA

Full information on the Leven Wild Water Test — 84/85 results and 85/86 rules and details — is obtainable from Tim Baker, 20 Low Cottages, Endmoor, Kendal Cumbria.

BCU MEMBERSHIP YEAR

We have now completed our programme for all membership categories to run for twelve months from the start of the month of first joining the BCU. Renewal subscriptions should be paid before the start of your membership year. Should you renew late, your subscription will still run for twelve months from your correct (not actual) renewal date. Remember that your insurance cover lapses at the end of your membership year if your renewal subscription has not been paid.

BCU BOAT INSURANCE

Due to the high claims record on white water use the excess is increased from £25 to £50 for boats damaged on grade 2 waters and above.

ISOKINETICS

The publishers of Slalom Magazine have recently taken over the rights to sell Sportmaster Isokinetic Machines within the canoeing world. The main feature of these compact exercise machines is that they provide the opportunity for fast speed strength and power training of the specific movements used in canoeing.

FULL TIME COMPETITION COACHES APPOINTED

Two new appointments have been made. With effect from 1 November this year, Alan Edge, from Slalom, and Brian Greenaway from Racing will be responsible for the training of coaches for competitors in marathon, wild water racing, slalom and racing.



World Champion Richard Fox, who has been assisted by the Sports Aid Foundation, seen at the recent British Sports Ball flanked by Duncan Goodhew and David Wilkie.

EUROPA CUP POLO RESULTS

Mens	England A (Bere Forest)	2 — England B (Luton Tigers)	1
Ladies	England B (Leeds Poly)	4 — England A (St. Albans)	1
Youths	England A (St. Albans)	2 — England B (Luton Tigers)	0

Nations competing — Australia, Eire, England, Holland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Sweden, Wales.



Some of the 2000 youngsters given canoeing experience at the Youth Afloat Festival at Poole on 29th-30th June. A world record is claimed for a raft of 102 kayaks.

MIKE JONES RALLY

Date 7-8 December 1985. Details from and applications for trade stand space to The Secretary, 125 Hook Rise South, Surbiton, KT6 7NA.

KEMPSTON WEIR CLAIMS A VICTIM

Michael Watkinson, a 28 year old instructor, took an extreme risk and paid for it with his life when a student for whom he was responsible became trapped at Kempston Weir on the Ouse in Bedfordshire. Kempston is considered potentially dangerous at certain levels because of the presence of anti-scour spoiler blocks. The river level was up at the time of the accident.

The full facts have still to be established, and will not be known until the inquest has been held. It would appear, however, that some of the group began to play near the weir contrary to instruction, and were drawn in by the tow-back, which was developing due to the rising level.

When Michael Watkinson arrived on the scene, some of those drawn into the stopper had been pulled out by others using paddles and similar. One student was still trapped, however, and attempts to extricate him failed. It was then that Michael dived in and pushed the student clear, but was himself held in the stopper and tow-back.

Finally, PC Habermehl, with a buoy and line on, managed to swim to Michael and pull him to the bank, where resuscitation was applied. He was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital.

Michael Watkinson was held in the highest regard by the local coaching fraternity, and by his school. He will be greatly missed, and our deepest sympathy is extended to his widow.

There is no doubt that both Michael Watkinson and PC Habermehl both demonstrated the highest levels of bravery in disregarding the consequences to their own safety whilst seeking to save others.

BRITISH CANOE UNION APPOINTMENT OF NATIONAL OFFICER

Following the resignation of the National Access Officer temporary arrangements have been agreed by the Council of Management for undertaking his duties until a replacement is appointed. The Access, Coaching and Recreation Management Committee, in close consultation with the National Access Committee and other interested Committees are examining the future role and responsibilities of any new appointment, and these recommendations will be considered by the Council of Management early in November. Details of the new post will be sent to applicants on request, when available.

NATIONS AND REGIONS ROUND-UP
Held over the next issue

Focus Classified

Trade advertisements at 15p per word (minimum £3.00) must be pre-paid, ads of a personal nature will be published free on submission of membership number.

WANTED

WWR K1 — Diolen or Kevlar. Good condition only. Phone Steve (0603) 56122 Ext.318 Office hours.

JUNIOR OLYMP, OLYMP FOUR AND OLYMP T.S. Please contact K. East — Tel: 01 894 2080.

FOR SALE

TOURER CANOE with watertight bulkheads, spare paddle. Good condition £175 ono. Crawley 882836.

GAYBO OLYMP 6, only used twice, blue deck, clear diolen hull £150, also Wye Kayaks Islander, new unused, full expedition specification, offers? Phone: Shorne (Kent) 2203.

ISOKINETIC EXERCISER — balanced pair — 6 months old — as new — child lost interest — with bench £250. Tel: Morton 658.

KAYAK — 14' 6" 2-seater. Marine-ply construction. Design registered at Lloyds. Hardly used. £100 ono. Davis, 6 Alford Road, Nottingham NG2 6EJ. Phone: 0602-231940.

GAYBO OLYMP IV. Diolen hull, gold metallic flake deck. Excellent condition — £80. Also general purpose SLALOM KAYAK — £30. Tel: (0223) 844202.

BARON SIDEWINDER — diolen, V.G.C. hardly used competition Slalom Kayak — £110 or exchange for Premier Image '85. CANOESPORT UK

JAGUAR K1 sprint or marathon kayak, V.G.C., Diolen — £200. NEW WAVE MISTRAL — asymmetrical blades — £15. Contact R. Stapley. Lowestoft (0502) 62859.

3 SEA KINGS (Tylon) sea touring kayaks. Include deck lines, f&b hatches, chimp hand pumps, foot rests, tow lines — £150 ono each. Bridgwater (0278) 423442.

K2 PUMA XP85 — absolutely as new, o/s rudder, foamed seats, handles, never raced, purchased in April. Price new is £323, accept £250. Tel: 0260-270436.

EVEREST CANOE Fibreglass, brown — Fireflake finish. Cost new £200 as new £125. Tel: Fulmer (02816) 3232.

NORDKAPP H.M. for sale. Expedition model inc. spare blades and spraydeck and compass made from Kevlar/Carbon fibre & Derokane. Price £350. Phone Blakeney Marine (0263) 740513.

NORKAY PRODUCTS — Snipe £127, Junior £79.90, Norseman £99.90. Surf skis, plastic canoes, paddles, helmets at competitive prices. 27 Chichester Close, Kingston Park, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Tel: 0670 713640.

CHILTERN CANOES A comprehensive range of canoes and equipment from stock. Sound advice from qualified staff. Main outlet for Tim Ward Canoes and J & R Footrests. Unit 2, The Common, Stokenchurch, High Wycombe, Bucks. Tel 024 026 2959. Opening hours — Mon-Sat 9.30am to 5.30pm. Late night Friday 7.30pm. Closed all day Tuesday.

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GREEN SLIME'S THROWBAGS direct from SUZY. Personal Throwbag — 15 metres 8mm polypropylene rope £13.95. Expedition Throwbag — 20 metres 10mm rope £16.75. (inc. P&P — cheque with orders). ALSO available our new Expedition/Instructor Vest with pockets to wear over standard buoyancy aids. Suzy Waist Towlines with nylon rope bag (2 or 3 metre length line), Wet Sacs, holdalls, pogies, back straps, etc. For further details or orders write to: Suzy's Sweat Shop, 34 Kelvinbrook, West Molesey, Surrey.

17" x 22" BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPH POSTER of Richard Fox winning the Worlds at Augsburg available from Tony Tickle, 40 Tanners Street, Ramsbottom, Lancs. BL0 9ES. £2.50 inc: p&p.

PUBLICATIONS

ALPINE WHITE WATER GUIDE to Southern France, available from: Terry Storry, Plas Y Brenin, Capel Curig, Nr. Betws y Coed, Gwynedd. £2.50 inc. cl. p&p.

BEACH SAFETY CODE 26p. Expedition First Aid 90p (2nd Edition) Canoeing Abroad this Year 85p. All prices include p&p. B. Sheen, 92 Par Green, Par, Cornwall.

CANOE LIFEGUARDS MANUAL. Setting up a unit, safety matters £7.90 Corps members inc. P&P £8.90 non-members inc. P&P. Conference Report April 83-90p. Orders/Enquires SAE. Garth Cottage, 65 Harwoods Lane, Rossett, Clwyd, LL12 0ED.

COSMIC KAYAK TOURS — a Cartoon Adventure by Foxy £1.75 inc. pp. from A. Fox, 375 Milkwood Road, Herne Hill, London SE24.

HOLIDAYS

DERBYSHIRE ACTION HOLIDAYS. Canoeing/Multi-activity holidays. Peak National Park B & B/Camping near Matlock Bath. Action! Brochures - Kirby House, Winster, Derbyshire. Telephone: 062988.716.

ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS & CANOEING COURSES. Canoeing, sailing, windsurfing, climbing, caving, camping, archery, assault course, fishing, riding & many other activities. Holidays for unaccompanied children, families & adults during July, Aug., Sept. Canoeing courses from Beginners to Proficiency on Sea & Inland. The Centre is a converted Manor Farm with comfortable accommodation and separate sleeping sections for adults & children. 4 acres of grounds & assault course, sports field, climbing wall, lecture rooms, gym & Coach House Bar. We provide evening talks, films bar-b-que & disco entertainment. For brochure write to:- Iain Garland, Courtlands Centre, Nr. Kingsbridge, S. Devon. TQ7 4BN. Tel. (0548) 550227

ACCOMMODATION

WORLDS END LODGE Situated 10 miles West of Hereford in the Wye Valley, this is the ideal centre for individual or group holidays. Activities include Canoeing, Climbing, Cycling, Walking, Orienteering and Pony-trekking with transport and equipment provided. Comfortable rooms, great atmosphere and good food. Residents own bar. Also full or half board accommodation only and free places for group leaders. For free brochure phone or write to — Worlds End Lodge, Staunton on wye, Hereford, HR4 7NF. (09817) 308.

'WYE VALLEY NEAR HAY-ON-WYE and The Brecon Beacons National Park. Bredwardine Lodge Residential Centre is ideally situated for canoeing on the Wye and other local water with or without Centre equipment and expert instruction. The Centre accommodates small or large groups on a self-catering, part or full board basis. In addition a cottage at Glasbury-on-Wye is available for small groups or families. Full details from Bredwardine Lodge Centre, Herefordshire HR36BT 09817 510 04974 217.

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TWO PEOPLE wanted to leisurely tour down the Dordogne from Argentat. September 13th-23rd. c.£150 inc. Phone Mark on 0628 20349 or Chris on 0628 33809.

INSURANCE

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Canoe Insurance - Send sae for details to Joan Baker, JB Insurances 17/30 High Street, Waterbeach, Cambridge. Also sailboard insurance.

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