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No.47 Sept/Oct 86 - Price 80p

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION







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## FRONT COVER

Jeremy West, winner of two Gold Medals at  
the World Racing Championships in Montreal  
(Photograph — Tony Tickle)

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## CONTENTS

- 2 **The Opening of the new Slalom and Wild Water Course at Holme Pierrepont by Her Royal Highness, The Princess Anne**
- 6 **Jeremy West** — Double Gold Medal Winner at Montreal — a profile
- 7 **The World Sprint Championships** — Montreal — August, 1986.  
**Notices** — AGM's — Jubilee Dinner — River Tove — A warning on the Rosanna
- 9 **Comment** — Sports Politics — Hawaii 6-0 — We are the champions
- 11 **Here and There** — A rare gesture — River Loue — Calendar Update — Computer Program Competition — Dee Tour — New Horizons — Sea Birds and Sea Canoeing
- 19 **Night Paddling** — A training feature looking at aspects of paddling at night
- 23 **Expeditions** — Awards and Approval — A Planning Symposium — A trip to France  
**The Mike Jones Rally** — details of this years event
- 24 **Book Review** — Up the Creek — A practical guide to Sea Canoeing — Foxy Cartoons
- 27 **ICF Congress** — report on the Congress of the International Canoe Federation held in Montreal in August
- 29 **Trade News** — Hawaiian Palm — Roofrack accessories — Calshot — Neoprene Boots
- 33 **Dear Focus** — Medway Canoe Marathon — Protect Sea Kayaking in the Western Isles
- 35 **Over Five Thousand Canoeists** — report of the Stoke Garden Festival canoeing project
- 36 **Competition** — World Junior Wild Water Championships — Marathon News — News for Slalom Paddlers — The Heineken Europa Cup (International Canoes)
- 40 **Focus Classified** — Classified Advertisements







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# HOLME PIERREPONT

— 13th SEPTEMBER

Dawn on Saturday and Fog! The forecast however was for a fine day, and a fine day in all aspects so it proved. After a few anxious moments concerning possible alternative arrangements, the sun broke through and we had blue sky for our big day. All was going to plan — meals were being prepared — final briefings taking place, equipment was being put out, and then the guests started to arrive. We were underway.

By 11 o'clock the focus of attention was on the new slalom and wild water course. The water was on and flowing, giving many their first sight of the truly impressive new facility at Holme Pierrepont. The helicopter of the Queen's Flight bearing Her Royal Highness



GA



HV



pions Neil Stamps and the Tordoff Brothers.

After crossing the first wooden bridge, Her Royal Highness decided to walk further down the course and watched other displays in other pools from a vantage point on one of the peninsulars. Here she was able to see the current British Slalom Polo Team from Bere Forest in action follow by a raft from the centre at Bala and a group of expedition paddlers. Mr. Donald Bean the oldest paddler to accept the challenge, at an age of 66, then followed. Bringing up the rear of the Paddle Past were the Intermediate Youth and Junior British Slalom Teams.

Returning to the bridge, Her Royal Highness rejoined her car and departed to the Centre for lunch. A number of distinguished guests from Nottingham County Council, Sports Council and the Union were privileged to be present on this occasion.

The Princess Anne, Mrs. Mark Phillips flew over and then landed in the country park. Her Royal Highness was met by the Lord Lieutenant and other officials, and was conveyed by car to the start of the course.

Her Royal Highness arrived at the control gate and duly met the dignitaries lined up across the bridge. After ascending the dais which had been erected overlooking the start of the course, she signed the visitors book and unveiled a commemorative plaque. On the invitation of Mr Norman Sarsfield, Chairman of the Holme Pierrepont Management Committee, she opened the course with a few informal and amusing comments. In pressing the button she set off a maroon, which heralded the start of the "Paddle Past". No one had briefed the resident ducks on the river, and so we were also party to an unscheduled fly-past of startled birds.

The Paddle Past was led by Jimmy Jayes the current British Slalom Champion and others from the British Senior and Youth Slalom Teams. Her Royal Highness was then invited to walk down the course, accompanied by Frank Goodman and Dr. George Parr, who explained many of the design features. Demonstrations were given in the various pools by Richard Fox, the current World Champion, Liz Sharman, the former Ladies World Champion, Martyn Hedges and Gail Allan. They were followed by veterans of the 1972 Olympic Slalom Team and medal winners from earlier times. Then came the Wild Water Racers who were represented by the Junior and Senior Great Britain teams and the current under 18 World Youth Team Cham-



LV





**N▼ M▲** After lunch, Her Royal Highness was the guest of the BCU to visit the Jubilee Water Carnival and accompanied by the Director, Mr. Ron Emes, took the opportunity of seeing at first hand some of the competitive disciplines in action and meeting canoeing personalities. Having seen the start of a sprint race, she followed another sprint race down the course, meeting some of the Union's Officers at the finishing area and also chatting to members of the sprint and marathon racing teams. To the fore was Jeremy West complete with his two gold medals which he had recently won in the World Championships in Montreal.

Then on to visit the canoe sailors — the International Canoe Class — who were waiting to launch on the side of the regatta course. Her Royal Highness asked many pertinent questions and was obviously well informed about this activity. Canoes were launched and sailed from the 1000 metre mark to the bottom of the regatta course, where by now Her Royal Highness was witnessing a canoe polo match. An informal presentation of a commemorative plaque was made by one of the visiting foreign teams who came from Haarlem in the Netherlands. Her Royal Highness also showed a great deal of interest in the Polo match going on, staying longer than had originally been intended.

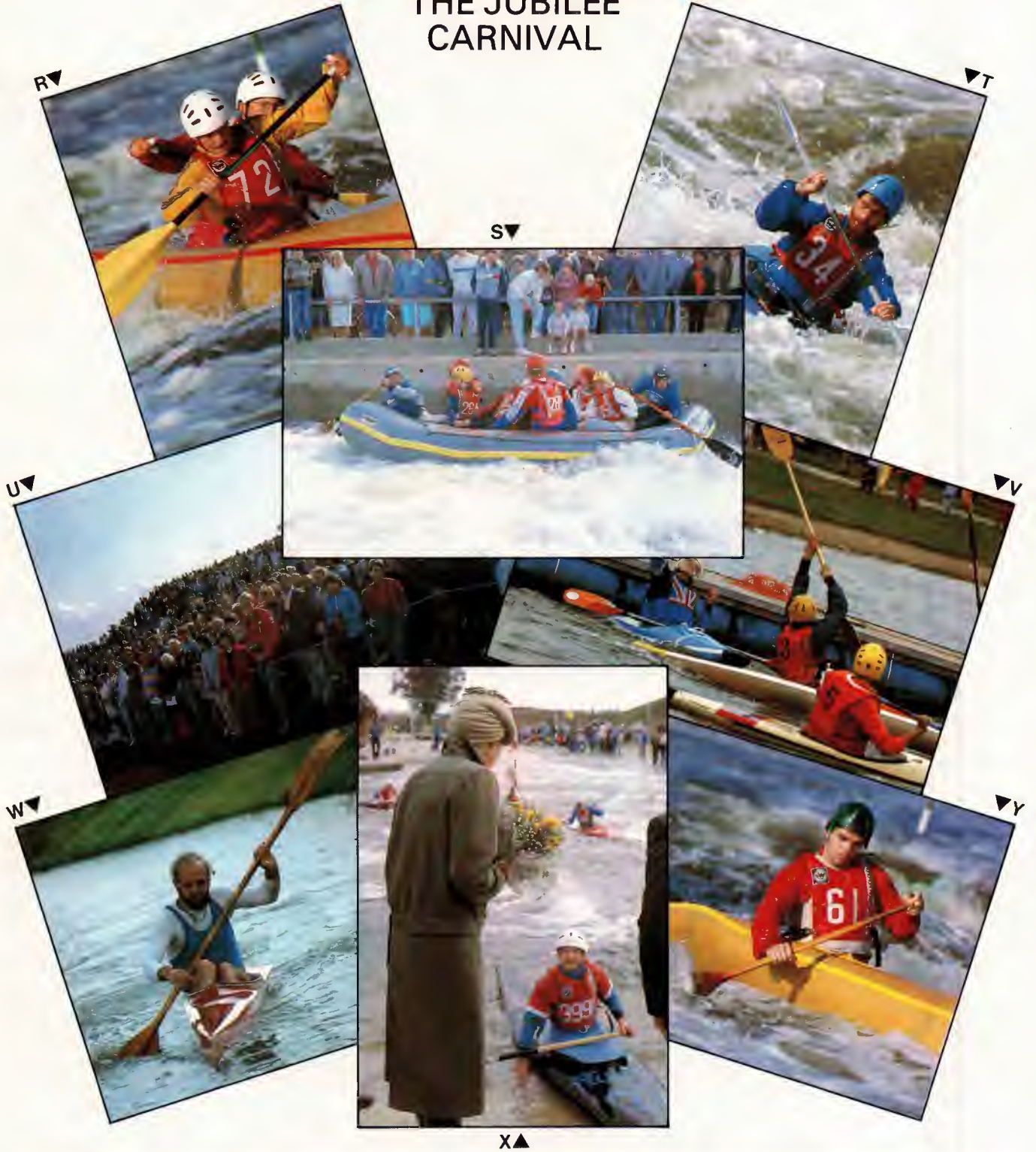
Certainly that was the tone of her visit, as Princess Anne wanted to see things and was quite prepared to over-run her schedule. So just before 3 o'clock, back to the helicopter and after farewells she was on her way. The helicopter on its flight once more passed over the new slalom and wild water course, leaving many people with the memory of Her Royal Highness waving from the side window.

**A truly memorable visit, a fitting opening to the new course and a good start to the Jubilee Carnival Weekend.**





# REFLECTIONS OF THE JUBILEE CARNIVAL



A — Her Royal Highness opens the course  
 B — Paddlers assembling in Winfield Pool  
 C — A view up the course  
 D — Don't look now!  
 E — HRH walks down the course  
 G — HRH meets Richard Fox and Liz Sharman  
 H — HRH with Norman Sarsfield  
 J — Gail Allen on the course

K — C2 in action  
 L — A good vantage point  
 M — HRH meets Stephen Train and Peter Ruskin  
 N — Jeremy West and Mike Haslam  
 O — International Sailing Canoes  
 P — Ron Vessey and Brian Porter  
 Q — Helicopter of the Queen's Flight  
 R — C2's again

S — The Bala Raft drawing attention  
 T — On the course  
 U — Some of the crowd  
 V — Polo in action  
 W — Jim Rossiter, Team Manager in the Marathon  
 X — HRH talking to Ian Green of Ribble CC  
 Y — Wild Water Racer



# JEREMY WEST

## DOUBLE WORLD CHAMPION



At this years World Championships, Jeremy West won the Individual Gold Medals in both the 1,000 metres and the 500 metres events. A unique achievement, which has only been done twice in sprint racing history, and never by an athlete from the West.

In the K1 1,000m he won convincingly by almost two seconds in front of the previous world champion Ferenc Csipes of Hungary. Csipes was favourite to win the race having been unbeaten at this distance for the past two seasons. Jeremy's winning time of 3 minutes 37.60 seconds is the fastest ever recorded in any Olympic, World or European Championship. Up to last season 3 minutes 45 seconds would have won the event. Alan Thompson of New Zealand the Olympic Champion in Los Angeles returned the same time as his Olympic vicotry and at the Worlds this year it only got him seventh place.

On the following day, Jeremy repeated his outstanding performance in the 1,000m, by wining the K1 500m by a margin of 1.5 seconds from Zsolt Gyulay of Hungary and Igor Nagaev of the USSR. Last years World Champion Andreas Stahle of East Germany was placed 4th. In addition Jeremy partnered by Grayson Bourne was placed 7th in K2 500m, and narrowly missed another medal by being placed 4th in the K2 10,000m event.

Altogether a fantastic achievement by an amateur in a very professional competitive discipline and must give great hope to all those athletes and coaches in this country who struggle to compete on even terms with other European Countries.

Jeremy started canoeing with Leander Sea Scouts of Kingston on Thames, when he was 12, and soon moved across the river to The Royal Canoe Club where he started training and competing in earnest. He soon became the fastest junior in his age group, and in 1979 achieved Great Britain's best result ever at a Junior World Championships in winning the silver medal in the K1 500m event.

In 1980 came a bitter disappointment when having established himself as one of the best

mens kayak paddlers and poised to make the Olympic Team in his first year of senior competition, he contracted Hepatitis while away on a team trip to Rome, which effectively put him out of competition for a year. He came back into the team in 1981, when at the World Championships partnered by Grayson Bourne came 8th in the K2 500m. Our best result at that time in this event. In 1982 at the Worlds in Belgrade, Jeremy stroked the K4 500m and 1,000 metre events, making both finals for the first time ever for Great Britain, coming 8th in the K4 1,000m and 5th in the K4 500m. 1983 saw Jeremy again stroking both K4 events. In the K4 1,000m the crew were pushed out of the semi-final by one tenth of a second, and in the K4 500m the crew was one of the favourites to win a medal having won their semi-final and recording the 2nd fastest time in the competition. However, Jeremy was caught by the starter while aligning his boat in the final, and so the crew effectively missed the start and came last, another great disappointment!

Olympic year saw Jeremy partnered with Andy Sherriff for the K2 500m and also the stroke of the K4 1,000m crew. In the K2 500m Jeremy and Andy looked all set for Britains first Olympic canoeing medal (something we have yet to achieve) after winning both the heat and semi-final comfortably. However another poor start put paid to that and they came 8th in the final, consoling themselves with the fact that this was the first time a GB crew had ever made the Olympic Final in this event.

The K4 1,000m race saw a magnificent effort when with 250 metres to go, the crew had raced through into 2nd palce, only to fade in the last 100m and be placed 5th only fractions from a medal. Again, although another British best performance, No Medal!

1985 Worlds saw Jeremy and Andy Sherriff concentrating solely on the K2 500m event to try to rectify what they saw as a poor performance in the Olympic Final. However, with Andy now living in Norway it was not possible to train as often as was necessary — the result another 8th place in the Final.

Jeremy, now having obtained his Maths Degree from Borough Road College, decided that 1986 was going to be his final year in competition. He borrowed a large sum of money and took himself off in the winter to train for four months in New Zealand with Ian Ferguson, who had won three gold medals in the Los Angeles Olympics. Whilst there, Jeremy also changed over to the new wing paddle from Sweden which has undoubtedly contributed to his success.

On his return to England he surprised every one at the first domestic regatta by winning the K1 1,000m an event which he had never won before. His performance then went from strength to strength. At the Home International in June he broke the course record by over 6 seconds in the K1 1,000m, shattering the record set by Rudiger Helm at the World Championships in 1981. Then at the Pre Worlds Regatta in Duisberg which was attended by every country with the exception of the USSR, he pushed the World Champion Csipes of Hungary all the way to take 2nd place and also added 3rd place medals in the K1 500m, K2 500m and K2 10,000m

At the World Championships in Montreal, Jeremy proved himself to be the most outstanding athlete in sprint racing that Great Britain has ever produced, in winning what is regarded as the Blue Riband Olympic Event K1 1,000m in a record time and adding the other individual Olympic event K1 500m.

**Jeremy is still talking of retiring, and it is to be hoped that canoeing will come up with some sponsorship in order that he continues to the next Olympics.**





# XXth WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS MONTREAL

This year saw the programme spread over five days instead of the normal four, and the view of most competitors was that this was an improvement, allowing greater rest between events, and giving the 10,000 metre races greater prominence.

Wednesday morning and the heats of the Men's 1,000 metre events, and the Ladies' K4 500. Jeremy West qualified directly for the K1 semi as did the Train brothers in the C2 event. No entries were made in the Men's K2 and K4. The greatest shock of the day came in the Ladies' K4, when the defending World Champions from East Germany were disqualified for two false starts; also many of the favourites for medals in the Men's events had to qualify through the repechages. In the afternoon's repechages, Steven Train was eliminated in the C1, and as there were only three starters in their repechage, the Ladies' K4 was drawn straight to the semi-final. The next day saw the semis of the 500 metre events, with only West in the Men's K1, and partnered by Grayson Bourne in the K2, qualifying directly. In the afternoon's repechages, Eric Jamieson was eliminated in the C1, as were Janine Lawler/Anne Plant in the Ladies' K2. The Train brothers qualified in the C2, Susie Perrett in the Ladies K1, pushing out the Romanian lady in the process. The Men's K4 of Rowland Lucas/Peter Ruskin/Laslo Czillaho/Adrian Collier, also qualified.

The semi-finals all took place on the Friday. In the mornings events, Jeremy West qualified for the K1 1,000 final in 4 minutes 12 seconds. (Winner's time 4.08). The Ladies' K4 was eliminated in 1.57.00 (Winner's time 1.45). In the C2 1,000 Steven and Andrew



Train were eliminated in 4.14.00 (Winner's time 4.11).

In the 500 metre semis in the afternoon, Jeremy West won his K1 semi with the fastest time of 1.48, and partnered with Grayson Bourne also qualified for the K2 final in 1.38.30 (Winner's time 1.38.03). The Train brothers in the C2 were eliminated in 2.01.81 (Winner's time 1.48.19), and finally the Men's K4 were eliminated in 1.32.14 (Winner's time 1.28.73).

Saturday afternoon saw the first finals in the Men's 1,000 metre events and the Ladies' K4 500 metres.

The first final and the only one with any British interest was the Men's K1 1,000 with Jeremy West. West led the race from the start. The defending champion, Ferenc Csipes of Hungary made a bid to get back on terms with him at the 600 metre mark, but to no avail, and Jeremy won in the incredible time of 3.37.60 by a margin of nearly two seconds from Csipes in 3.39.39 from Harry

Nolte of East Germany, 3.40.17. A magnificent result, and Britain's first ever medal in a 1,000 metre event at a world championship.

Sunday morning, and the 500 metre finals. Again, Jeremy West was in the first final of the day, the Men's K1 race got off to a controversial start, when last year's bronze medallist, Bernard Bregeon of France, was disqualified for two false starts.

The Russian, Ignor Nagaev, led off strongly from the start, with Jeremy in second place. By the 300 metre mark, the Russian, who had started much too fast, tied up, and Jeremy took up the running, having already established a clear lead over the rest of the field, to win in 1.48.04, from the Hungarian, Zsolt Gyulay at 1.49.31, and from Nagaev 1.49.58. Again — Britain's first medal ever in this event. A double gold for Jeremy; only the third time the individual double has been done, and never before by a Western athlete. An hour later, Jeremy and Grayson Bourne came seventh in the K2 — a disappointing result — but given the euphoria from the previous race, it was understandable, and was still Britain's highest placing in this event.

The final events were the 10,000 metre races. In the K2, Jeremy and Grayson came very close to a medal when on the final 200 metres they were pushed into fourth place on the final sprint in. Paul Wells was placed seventh in the K1, and Steven and Andrew Train were seventh in the C2 — disappointing after their silver medal last year, but this was due to the very windy conditions and a poor start draw. Finally, the K4 came tenth. Britain was placed tenth overall in the points table, out of 29 countries.

## Notices

### SLALOM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the BCU Slalom Committee will take place on Saturday 29 November 1986 at the Holme Pierrepont National Water Sports Centre, Nottingham. Any motions for discussion at the AGM not originating from the Executive must be signed by two FULL members of the BCU who are members of and represent a Club entitled to vote, or who are members of and represent a National Association. These shall be lodged with the Honorary Secretary Mr. D. Morgan, not later than 30 October 1986.

### HONOUR FOR DIRECTOR OF THE UNION

At the Congress of the International Canoe Federation held in Montreal in August, Ron Emes, Director of the Union was elected to the post of second Vice President of the Federation. Ron has served on the Board of Management of the ICF for the past two years as one of the four representatives for Europe. This appointment acknowledges his tireless

efforts on behalf of world canoeing and is indeed an honour for the Union and Ron himself. Our congratulations.

### JUBILEE DINNER

The Golden Jubilee Dinner is to be held at the Bryn Howel Hotel, LLANGOLLEN, Clwyd, North Wales on the evening of Saturday 1st November, 1986. The Guest of Honour will be the Rt. Hon. Dennis Howell M.P., Shadow Minister of Sport and Chairman of the Birmingham Olympic bid. The cost of the Dinner will be £10 per head, and applications should be sent to the Press and Information Officer at BCU Headquarters.

### WARNING — ROSANNA Near LANDEK

A British canoeist was drowned this summer when his plastic kayak became wrapped around a barely visible metal stake in the middle of the River Rosanna, near LANDEK in Austria. The accident happened just above the village of Strenger in the middle of the section written up in the 'Austrian and Bavarian River Guide'. Although originally placed along the banks to help control erosion, at least one of the stakes is now in the main flow, and many other stakes pose a real threat to the canoeist as the main flow is directly upon them. Lengths of submerged wire were also spotted on the same river section. Any

paddlers intending to paddle this river should be aware of the real dangers these stakes present.

### JUBILEE 200 CLUB

The winner in the above competition for the months of August and September are Mr. M. Turek (000665) and Mr. R. Lawrence (018759) respectively.

### ACCESS TO THE RIVER TOVE

The River Tove is a stream which flows into the Great Ouse at Cosgrove near Milton Keynes. It may well have been used by the Romans to supply their base at Towcester. For this reason Local Access Officer, Colin Kempson has refused to accept that there is no right of navigation, but appreciates that the riparian owner takes the opposing view. He has agreed that members will obtain permission, without prejudice, so as to avoid conflict and be able legitimately to cross private land in order to launch or disembark. Permission should be obtained from the General Manager, Fermore Farms, Easton Neston, Towcester, Northants, NN12 7HS.

### AGM — COACHING SCHEME

The Annual General meeting of the Coaching Scheme will take place on Sunday 9th November at Holme Pierrepont commencing at 15.30hrs.



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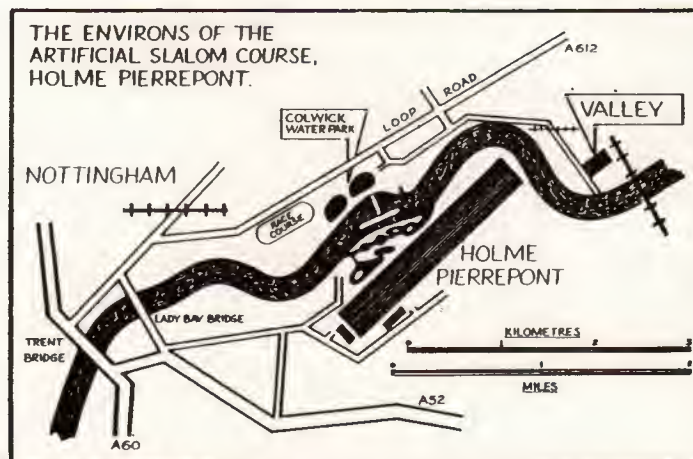
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# Comment

By RON EMES Director of the British Canoe Union

## SPORTS POLITICS

The recent opening of the Canoe Slalom and White Water Course at the Holme Pierrepont National Water Sports Centre, Nottingham, by Her Royal Highness, the Princess Anne, provided the occasion for the largest gathering of the British sporting establishment ever witnessed at a canoeing event. The majority of these, many of whom have individually or collectively directly influenced the day-to-day activities of the Union, passed unnoticed and unrecognised as they viewed the Course and those who braved its foaming rapids. Mem-



bers and Officers of the Sports Council, who have approved grants around and about £3,000,000 of tax payers' money since 1980, towards the cost of facilities for canoeists; Members and Officers of Nottinghamshire County Council, the Central Council of Physical Recreation, Government Ministers and Members of Parliament, the Sports Aid Foundation, Severn Trent Water Authority, British Waterways Board, the British Olympic Association, were all represented. Each and everyone undoubtedly asking themselves the question, 'Have we invested our money wisely?', each and everyone undoubtedly having been enormously impressed with the sheer excitement, enthusiasm, and mass enjoyment of the occasion by participants and spectators alike, not failing to respond positively.

The average canoeist, enjoying his or her sport, is quite understandably, relatively indifferent to the views and opinions of non-canoeists regarding their activity. The comp-

lexities of grant aid, the apparently unproductive consequences of sports politics, the interminable debates regarding what proportion of the nation's resources should be allocated for sport and recreation, are of no real interest to them. They, the silent majority, have sought escape from such serious considerations by engaging in the thrills and the tranquillity of their chosen sport. Unfortunately, like most silent majorities, if they remain silent, no one will know they are there, and what they have they will lose to those who shout loudest. This is not to propose, of course, that simply shouting is enough, although the cynic might well argue that 'he who shouts the loudest gets the most'. The lesson to be learnt by the canoeing community, clearly demonstrated at the opening of the £2.2 million Holme Pierrepont canoeing facility on the 13th September, is that a small governing body of sport, with relatively few resources, but with clear objectives, well organised, well informed, with a carefully prepared strategy that is properly orchestrated, can achieve almost anything. If the objectives and strategy are pursued with imagination and flair, unbounded enthusiasm, total commitment, a small degree of impudence, and the right amount of 'shouting', failure to realise one's purpose becomes almost impossible.



## Hawaii 6-0

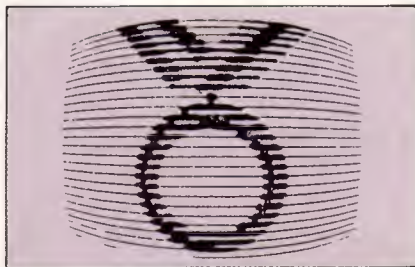
The truly global concern of the International Canoe Federation for world canoeing and kayaking activity, was practically demonstrated at the recent World Racing Championships held in Montreal, when Pacific Island Outrigger Canoes were raced down the Regatta Course by Hawaiians, Tahitians, and Americans, in singles, pairs and sixes. With the increase in popularity amongst the non-indigenous population, of the Dragon Boats, raced in Hong Kong, Singapore, China, and South East Asia, and the recognition by the

Federation of classes of boat that may be raced internationally, in addition to the European and North American versions of native craft, perhaps we may look forward to a whole variety of international competition in future years that will provide opportunities for canoeists who practise their skills in boats other than those originally developed by Red Indians and Eskimos, and refined by Europeans. To emphasise the point, an invitation has been received at British Canoe Union Headquarters, seeking British entries in the BANKOH MOLOKA'I HOE Canoe race next year; a 41 mile race from the island of MOLO-

KA'I to the island of O'AHU, Hawaii, in six man (nine man crew) Hawaiian outriggers. Any volunteers?



## We are the Champions



If this editorial page conveys the impression that the Union is indulging itself with self-congratulatory platitudes, that is because it is. How is it possible for the writer to refer, other than in the most glowing terms, to the suc-

cesses of our international athletes. The results of Jeremy West, Richard Fox, Liz Sherman, and many others, really do confirm the outstanding quality of British canoeists in 1986. In particular, the incomparable performance of Jeremy West in beating the world in the Blue Riband Olympic events of K1 500 metres and K1 1000 metres at Montreal with such style and flair, and by such margins, was almost unbelievable. Those who witnessed his feat were reminded of the last, and only, occasion 26 years previously, that Britain won a medal in the Olympic sprint distances, Ron Rhodes' bronze medal K1 1000 European Championships, Duisburg, 1959. He also had no past form, indeed he had never competed internationally before. Jeremy, on the other hand, whilst not having achieved any major results in senior competitions, was the winner

of the silver medal in the K1 500 metre event at the World Junior Championships in 1979, and first competed as a Junior at the Championships two years before that. Richard and Liz, both of whom seem to have made the European and World Slalom Championships their own property, continue to demonstrate the outstanding qualities that have made them worthy champions for so many years. It is impossible in the limited space available here, to comment on all the other results achieved by our international athletes abroad during 1986, but the fine performances witnessed in the World Cup Marathon event in Hardenberg, Holland, the Junior Slalom and Wild Water Racing Championships in Spittal, Austria, and a variety of other international competitions all promise well for the future of British canoeing.



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# Here and There

## A RARE GESTURE

Most paddlers would expect to be decidedly unwelcome if they found themselves at an Angling Club Dinner — a most unlikely situation anyway, unless the paddlers were themselves on the menu.



On Thursday 20 March Bill Fraser, Mark Markham and Dave Kay responded to their invitation to the Burnsall & Barden Anglers Annual Dinner with understandable caution ('Trepidation' in Bill's words).

What a surprise to be genuinely treated as guests on honour and to take part in some mutually good humoured jibes in the after-dinner speeches. Bill did very well — but was still outclassed by the Very Reverend Provost of Bradford! Indeed we found that we genuinely had a lot in common with our hosts: a love of the outdoors and the countryside, an interest in both the sport and the technology, the ability to sink quite a few beers, a desire to control the 'lunatic fringe' in both our sports, and much more.

Equally important, amidst the expression of good feelings there was discussion of the immediate possibility of a 'Spate Agreement' for the Upper Wharfe Burnsall — Barden racecourse section with a generous definition of spate conditions. Additionally the new water bailiff expressed his willingness to provide a local point of contact (telephone etc) to make it possible for paddlers to take full advantage of high water.

Our sincere thanks go to the Anglers' President, Mr Bottomley, and to Richard Whittington, the Liaison Officer, along with all those present for their interest and fine hospitality.

A final word: Beware... any pirate paddler on the Wharfe should be fearful of meeting the legendary Joe, retired bailiff and scourge of poachers and paddlers alike. We could do with a few characters like him to look after the interests of our sport.

Reproduced by courtesy of WHITE WATER NEWS

## CHURCHILL TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS

Each year the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust offers opportunities for UK Citizens to travel overseas to undertake study projects related to their trade, profession or interests. They thus make contacts abroad and bring back knowledge and experience to this country for the benefit of the community.

Particular categories are encouraged each year and amongst those being considered in 1987 are "New developments in physical education — to motivate people to participate in sport and health leisure activities", "The Film Industry", "River and Waterway Conservation and Regeneration", "Diet and Health", and an open category where a limited number

of awards are made for outstanding projects not covered in the 1987 list.

Many people are unaware that these Travelling Fellowships are available to applicants from all walks of life, irrespective of academic or professional qualifications. Others are diffident to ask unless they are encouraged.

Further information can be obtained from the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, 15 Queens Gate Terrace, London, SW7 4PR (Telephone 01.584.9315)

## RIVER LOUE — ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS

The Federation Francaise de Canoe Kayak (FFCK) has notified the BCU of changes in the Access Regulations governing boating on a length of about 38 km on the upper part of the river Loue, between Mouthiers and the bridge near Rurey. The new regulations have effect for an experimental period of two years. The aim of the prescribed control scheme is to enable riparians, canoeists and anglers to co-exist in a popular scenic holiday and tourist area in which both water sports and angling are regarded by the local people as important. Under French law this part of the river is private; i.e. the river-bed is not vested in the State but belongs to the riparians; the fishing

rights belong to private owners, clubs or the local communities.

The main provisions are as follows:

1. Rafts, makeshift craft, craft made from floatable materials such as inner tubes, oil drums etc., subaqua and small powered craft are prohibited.
2. During the fishing season (roughly March-September inclusive) canoeing is prohibited on Tuesdays and allowed on the other days of the week only between 10 and 6 o'clock, except for certain prescribed days, viz. (a) the first Saturday and Sunday of the trout and grayling seasons respectively, and (b) days when angling or canoeing events are being held. On these days canoeing is prohibited during the events except for the participants. The dates for the fishing seasons referred to in (a) are prescribed annually by the Prefecture for the Department of Doubs. The dates of the events referred to in (b) are to be agreed annually prior to the tourist seasons between the angling and canoeing organisations. The angling and canoeing organisations are responsible for promulgating the annual calendar of permitted canoeing days.
3. Eleven obligatory launching/landing points are prescribed — at Mouthiers, Lods, Vuillafans, Montgesoye (2) Ornans (3) Scey and Cleron (2). These are to be signposted.

Precise details can be obtained from the Federation Francaise de Canoe Kayak, 17 Route de Vienne, 69007 Lyon, France. (Telephone 78.61.32.74)

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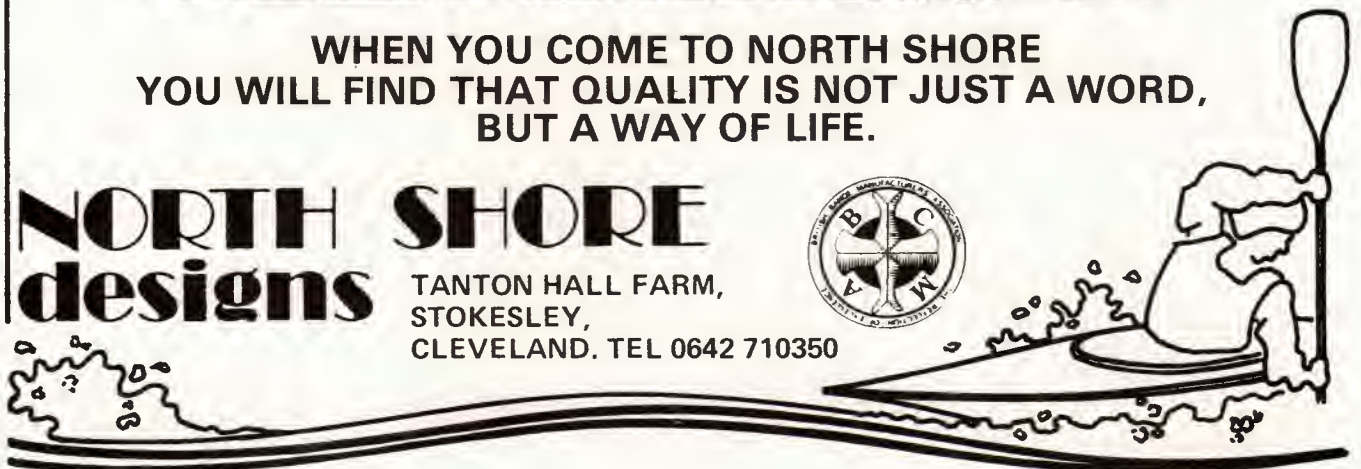
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Sir Raymond Lygo (Centre) presents a cheque from British Aerospace for £5,000 to Mr. Denis Thatcher for the Sports Aid Foundation. The presentation was made at the Pall Mall Headquarters of British Aerospace in the presence of Sue Shotton, the World Trampoline Champion (on the left) and Suzannah Perrett and Angela Dawson of Canoe Sprint Racing (on the right).

Photographs courtesy of ROSTRUM, the newsletter of the Sports Aid Foundation.

## CALENDAR UPDATE

A Senior Instructor (Inland) Training/Assessment will be held between 21-23 November on the River Usk. The Course Organiser is now: Mrs Greenfield, Education Department, Mercury House, Mercury Gardens, ROMFORD, Essex. RM1 3DR.

## GOING FOR THE BIG DROP

Following the first descent of Swallow Falls, shown on video at Crystal Palace in February, Shaun Baker is planning further exploits in 'free-fall' canoeing. A team of six paddlers and six supporters is to attempt rivers in South Wales, early in the New Year.

The rivers provide five major falls of about 100 feet, and a one-third mile underground stretch of river with falls and rapids up to Grade IV-V. Much of the second is in a gorge with no vehicular access. The team is supported with sponsorship from Pyranha and Gul Wetsuits. It is hoped that a video of the attempt will be available at the 1987 Canoe Exhibition.

## SHOULDER DISLOCATION — HELP NEEDED

Following a previous study, Clive Atkins is now conducting a major piece of research into shoulder dislocation amongst canoeists. If you have dislocated your shoulder whilst canoeing, or know of anyone else that has, and have not yet responded to Clive, please send your/their name and address to 8 St. Albans Road, WOODFORD GREEN, Essex, IG8 9EQ, as soon as possible. A questionnaire will then be sent. The study will, it is hoped, enable our Medical Advisory Panel to make recommendations which will help to reduce the likelihood of this injury occurring to paddlers.

## FRIENDSHIP FUND FROM USA

The United States Olympic Committee has placed at the disposal of the National Olympic Committees which participated in the Los Angeles Games the sum of one million dollars in 1984. Great Britain's share of this 'Games surplus' will be in proportion to team size in Los Angeles. A further 3.2 million dollars will be made available in 1987 onwards for specific purposes yet to be identified.

Reproduced from *Olympic News*, the official Newsletter of the British Olympic Association.

## MARATHON RACE ORGANISATION Computer Program Competition

The BCU Marathon Committee is aware that several clubs have started to use computers to assist in the organisation of marathon races. Significant benefits can be obtained, particularly when compiling start sheets, working out results, and printing results sheets. The committee wishes to encourage this trend, and is therefore sponsoring a competition for the best program submitted. A prize of £50 is available.

Apart from the competition itself, the committee considers that it is desirable for all such programs to generate data in a standard format. This will simplify the work of the Race Records Officer and the Secretary of the Marathon Racing Scheme. Accordingly, programmers are encouraged to work to the standard specification even if they do not intend to enter the competition.

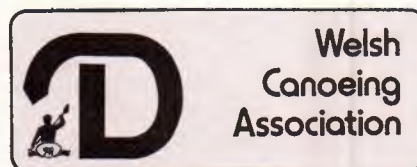
Finally, the specification contains guidelines on how to organise the paperwork of marathon races in a manner which has been proven by experience. Race organisers may find the document beneficial for this reason alone.

Details of the competition and a copy of the specification may be obtained by sending a stamped, self-addressed 9" x 6" envelope to:

Peter D. Finch, 30 Mayflower Drive, Yateley, CAMBERLEY, Surrey, GU17 7RR. The closing date for entries will be 1st March 1987.

## GREETINGS FROM CHILE

CANOE FOCUS is sent to many other Organisations and Federations around the World, and it is always good to hear from other Countries. Recently we received greetings from the Canoe Federation of Chile, with some very kind comments. Included was the invitation to any UK paddler, contemplating a visit to Chile, to make contact with them. Chile abounds in wonderful lakes and rivers, which their 18 active clubs would be pleased to show to any visitor. Their address is Federación Chilena de Canotaje, Casilla 154, SANTIAGO de Chile.



## DEE TOUR

15/16 NOVEMBER 1986

The river will be open from Cynwyd to Llangollen on both days. All paddlers must register with the Organiser and have Dee Tour stickers visible on their boats.

Stickers and information available from the Organiser.

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Individual members    | £ 2.50 |
| Non members           | £ 5.00 |
| Affiliated Groups     | £ 5.00 |
| Non affiliated Groups | £10.00 |

Camping free on two sites — Corwen & Llangollen. Cheques payable to WCA, membership numbers for reduced rates, s.a.e. with all correspondence please. Welsh Canoeing Association, Pen Y Bont, Corwen, Clwyd LL21 0EL.



# SEA KAYAKS

'THE FJORD' by Derek Hutchinson

The Fjord was designed as a manoeuvrable Kayak by removing the hard stern skeg from the Icefloe making it suitable for inshore coastal paddling. For open sea paddling the retractable skeg is lowered with a sliding control knob adjacent to the cockpit to give excellent straight running qualities.



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The Centre is situated in the North Yorkshire Moors six miles north of Pickering and offers a wide range of outdoor activities.

The Centre specialises in personal and social development programmes and operates for fifty weeks of the year catering for 39 visitors on mid-week and weekend courses. The courses cater for primary schools, secondary schools, youth organisations, Y.T.S. and Management Courses.

Applicants must be experienced in Outdoor Education and hold a **Teaching or Youth Service Qualification**, together with appropriate qualifications in Outdoor Activities.

Application forms and further details from:  
T.I. Williams, Heads of Centre,  
Middle Head Outdoor Pursuits Centre,  
Stape, Pickering,  
North Yorkshire. YO18 8QL.

*Closing date for return of applications:  
20th October, 1986.*

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## SEABIRDS AND SEA CANOEISTS



To watch birds successfully, one must be in the right place at the right time. Canoeists have long been getting to the right places at the right time and seeing the birds. Nowhere is this more true than on the sea.

The seabird enthusiast has a particular problem — he gazes out to sea, at distant islands and attempts to watch cliff nesting birds by peering perilously over the cliff tops. At best he may organise a local boatman to improve his access to our wealth of seabirds. Landings can be difficult however, cliffs dangerous to approach and for those fascinating seabirds, the shearwaters and petrels, which only come ashore by night, he really is on a loser.

Now consider the sea canoeist — delighting in open crossings and coastal touring. Our encounters with sea birds are very much a part of the spirit of sea canoeing. When it comes to islands we gain access to the small, remote and difficult to land upon. Not only do we get there but we often stay the night watching the comings and goings of seabirds and witness their nocturnal calling. It is no surprise therefore that canoeists experience a privileged view of seabirds that the non-canoeist craves for.

A summary of seabird knowledge is contained in *The Seabirds of Britain and Ireland* by Cramp, Bourne and Saunders, published by Collins in 1974. When you sift through the details there are numerous references to islands and island groups with no up to date information, some having been last surveyed in 1939. The Seabird Group was formed several years ago to co-ordinate seabird studies. Teams are currently involved in census, ringing and study programmes on particular islands e.g. the Shiant, Sanda (Kintyre), Scares (Galloway). Notable sites like Farnes, Bass Rock and Isle of May are obviously well worked. Membership of the Seabird Group costs £5 and while there are no glossy publications it does offer a network of enthusiasts to which sea paddlers would be welcomed.

The present Seabird Group project, to register seabird sites, would welcome details of seabird nesting sites in 1986 and the project is continuing into 1987. If you know of seabird colonies, large or small, not covered in the seabird book then contact Clare Lloyd, or Mike Mills. If you are planning sea trips for next year do get details of the information required from Clare before you go. June is the peak month for activity at colonies and grants are being made available by Nature Conservancy Council for this work. Mike Mills is aiming to get a team together for June 1987 "paddling among the seabirds" off the West Coast of Scotland. Sea Proficiency will be required as minimum standard. If you are interested please contact Mike for details.

### ADDRESSES

Seabird Group membership — Tim Stowe, Seabird Group, c/o Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Lodge, Sandy, Beds. SG19 2DL.

Seabird Site Register Information — Dr. Clare Lloyd, Nature Conservancy Council, North East Scotland Region, Wynne-Edwards House, 17 Rubislaw Terrace, Aberdeen, AB1 1XE.

Mike Mills, Low Gillerthwaite Field Centre, Ennerdale, Cleator, Cumbria, CA23 3AX.

## NEW HORIZONS

### Countryside Commission

A change in the pattern of agriculture is inevitable due to the grain, beef and milk surpluses. The Countryside Commission has set up a Review Panel so that thought and planning can avoid the long term consequences of ill considered or isolated action.

The Review Panel seek to recommend a positive way forward for agriculture, forestry, the environment, rural communities, tourism and informal recreation. Specifically the tasks of the panel are to answer the following questions:

- What are the likely trends and developments in national and EEC agricultural policies?
- What are the opportunities for enhancing conservation, recreation and access in the countryside which might form part of new land use policies?
- What are the social and economic implications of new policies for the countryside?
- Which public policies need to be reshaped to respond to and create new opportunities for future development of the countryside and have as a prime aim the maintenance of a reasonably profitable agriculture?

The BCU has responded to the initial consultative document underlining the importance of ongoing consultation which safeguards for less powerful user groups and stating its belief in dialogue and goodwill as an effective way forward. The BCU has compared waterways for canoeists to footpaths for ramblers and has emphasised the need for legal or permissive access over land to be able to launch or come ashore. By the end of 1986 the panel's findings will be passed to the Countryside Commission, who will publish their report in January 1987 as their advice to government.

### WATERWAY EXPLORERS

Owners of small powered and unpowered boats can now take advantage of one day "Waterway Explorer" licences to navigate most of the waterways controlled by British Waterways Board. A one day licence for a powered boat not exceeding 15 feet in length without the use of locks costs £2.00. For an unpowered boat (rowing boats and dinghies under 20 feet in length and canoes of any length) without the use of locks the cost is

£1.00. British Waterways Board are confident that the "Waterway Explorer" licence will encourage non BCU canoeists to sample their waterways throughout England, Scotland and Wales. For safety reasons these small boats are not permitted to use some tunnels on the following commercial waterways; Aire and Calder Navigation, Gloucester and Sharpness Canal, New Junction Canal and Sheffield & South Yorkshire Navigation.



### THE HIGHEST SEAL LAUNCH?

The highest reported seal launch to date? (Editor — *I'm glad I was not in the kayak*) Blown from a roofrack of a car while crossing the Severn Bridge at about 6.30 on Friday 27 June, a snipe with blue deck and clear hull fitted as an instructor boat with BCU sticker SC000121 on deck. If anybody knows of whereabouts please could they telephone Les Porter on Tadley 3758.

### REPAIRS TO DUDLEY CANAL

The British Waterways Board have announced that repairs to the embankment on the Dudley Canal at Level Street, Brierley Hill have commenced. This follows the conclusion of an agreement by the Board with Richardson Developments Limited, who are developing land alongside the canal at the point where settlement occurred. Work to repair the embankment, which necessitated the closure of the canal to navigation for reasons of public safety in November 1985, is expected to be completed early in 1987. This will enable the canal to be re-opened for navigation.

### YOUTH AFLOAT

Poole Harbour was again the setting for the Youth Afloat Festival at the end of June. Thanks to a team of over 30 Instructors from the area, organised by Murray Hodgson, the BCU's local coaching organiser, and Kevin Dennis, about 600 people were put into kayaks for a 'taster' session during the two-day event. Other activities on offer ranged from water skiing to angling.



Leaders help their youngsters to 'kit out' whilst waiting to go afloat. Photo: Karen Arnold, SW Sports Council.



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## WHITEWATER - PRODUCTS FOR THE PERFECTIONIST.



Nimbus Chehalis (left) and Capilano Whitewater paddles are priced at £33.95 and £54.95 respectively. Both are clad in kevlar and epoxy and heat-bonded for overall strength. Tips are additionally reinforced with urethane and graphite. Other designs and jointed paddles also available.



Romer R41 Olympia — Available in three sizes, the Olympia has been developed especially for heavy white water grades III to V. Retail price is £32.95  
Other helmets in the Romer range are priced from £13.45 to £43.95.

# Whitewater

Shepperton Marina, Felix Lane, Shepperton,  
Middlesex. 0932 247978.



# 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.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

CANOEING INSTRUCTOR required, preferably with climbing skills, from April-September 1987, at The Ranch (Christian centre for youth and handicapped groups), Llanbedr, Gwynedd, LL45 2HU, North Wales. Tel: 034 123 358.

## TRADE

CHILTERN CANOES have available from stock and for hire the full Perception range of kayaks and C1. Also a comprehensive choice of GRP boats, equipment and materials. We welcome orders by phone on Access/Visa. Northend nr. Henley, Oxon. Tel: 049 163 767.

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KENT WATER SPORTS for all canoes and accessories Slalom — GP Boats top brand names for all canoe equipment. Club discounts available — Mail Order Service, Phone, write or call our showrooms at 15 High Street, Strood, Rochester, Kent, Telephone 0634 724403.

ISOKINETIC TRAINING — Fast speed, high intensity exercise. Simple and safe way to develop specific strength for canoeing. Used by 7 National teams. Write/phone for details: Richard Fox, Isosport (CF) 59 Trent Boulevard, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5BB. (0602) 813222.

FOR CLARITY and convenience have your address and tel. no. printed on your notepaper. The good value package is only £8.90 for 80 A5 sheets printed, 50 plain and 80 envelopes. Quick service and satisfaction is assured. C.W.O. to R. & P. Hicks, Rockwell, La Planque, St Peter Port, Guernsey.

## WANTED

SECOND-HAND surf shoe/ski for around £25, from seller in the North West. Alex Loader, 13 Vale Road, Hartford, Northwich, Cheshire (Northwich 0606 75660).

FOR CLUB just starting to enter competitions — secondhand Marathon K1's, K2's and Slalom K1's, C1's. Please contact Dave Halsall, Leicester Outdoor Pursuits Club, Loughborough Road, Leicester or Tel: 0533 774207.

## PUBLICATIONS

NEW! NEW! NEW! NEW! 'THE BLACK HOLE', the latest canoeing cartoon book by Foxy. £2.95 plus 35p p&pp from A.F. Fox, 127 Waveney Grove Hill, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP2 6DJ. also available: Cosmic Kayak Tours £1.50 inc. p&pp.

A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO SEA CANOEING by Howard Jeffs. The most up-to-date manual on the subject, covering sea kayaks, equipment, touring, tides, navigation, night paddling, weather, emergency procedures. Available direct from the Author, Hyfridle, Capel Curig, Gwynedd LL24 0EU. £5.69 inc. p&pp. Trade enquiries welcome.

## MAIL ORDER

FIBRE PILE SUIT Wear under cag for paddling, coaching, camping or just loafing around. Navy, 1 or 2 piece, 3 sizes £26.00. SAE for details, QED, P.O. Box 55, Banbury, OX17 2LB. Telephone (0295) 710840 (24 hrs).

## HOLIDAYS

HEADING NORTH? Why not break your journey in Abington Village. 60 miles north of Carlisle, adjacent to A74. Comfortable accommodation and early start. B&B £8.50. Tel: Vicki Gallagher (086 42) 310.

## 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.

SPRINTPARK Activity Holidays — River Wye 'Hell Hole'. New Outdoor Pursuits Centre situated in the village of Erwood on the banks of the River Wye, just above Llanstephan — Hell Hole. Every facility available for the canoeist who wishes to try the Upper Wye. Tuition and Equipment provided if required. Toilets Showers, Drying Room, TV Lounge, Caravan and Camping, B&B Bar and Bar Snacks. Full Board or Self Catering. For full details please contact: Tim and Lynne Walton, Orchard Cottage, Erwood, Powys. LD2 3EZ. Tel: 09823 600.

## EVENTS

BRITISH CANOE UNION WEST MIDLANDS REGION. PADDLERS DAY SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23rd. 1986. An exhibition including trade stands, films, lectures, seminars, swimming pool activities and competitions, club stands and much, much more. At the Dudley Campus of Wolverhampton Polytechnic. Admission is £1. (Discount for group bookings in advance). For tickets or further information, s.a.e. to Ann Gillespie, 13 Spring Hill, Worcester, WR5 1BL 0905 24590.

## FOR SALE

PACER K2, built 1984 by Kirton, light blue, with paddles and spraydecks. £190 for quick sale. Tel: (Farnborough) 0252 513509.

GAYBO REFLECTOR K1 — Competition Kevlar Carbon construction. Red/Silver deck. Very good condition. £180 ono. Tel: (0793) 872918.

PALM CRUSADER 2.35 Surf ski, hardly used, suit paddler up to 13.5 stone, extras. £150 ono. Phone Coventry. (0203) 473513. Delivery possible.

BARON STILETTO K2. Kevlar deck, kevlar sandwich hull. U/Stern rudder + two seats. £300. Tel: Bedford (0234) 67358.

1986 COLEMAN 15' Open Canadian used on lake twice only. As new £250. Tel: Kidderminster 747188.

GAYBO slipper combi: excellent condition. Used few times £120. For full details phone 237 0197 or 232 1691 and ask for Lesley/Elizabeth.

PREMIER I. Kevlar hull, glitter deck, well used but sound £65. WWR Renegade. Excellent condition, bargain at £75. Can be viewed in Shropshire or Buckinghamshire. Phone: Wendover (0296) 622995.

NORDKAPP HM. Yellow GRP. Fully fitted, pumps, hatches, spare blades, neoprene spraydeck. £300. Tel: (0442) 214296 (Herts).

KW7 KAYAK — Fibre glass, blue deck with white hull. Good condition £50 (this includes spray deck & paddle). View London E17. Tel: 01 527 2058.

14 HELLY HANSEN buoyancy aids. £2 each or £20 the lot. Tiger mould £20. Four bats £5 each. Bowles Outdoor Centre. Crowborough 4127.

ACE EUROPA W.W. specification. Yellow. Only one year old. Excellent condition. £140 ono. Leeds 689143.

6 BERTH TRAILER TENT £600 2 Berth caravan £700 1 Wombat £50 all in excellent condition SAE for manufacturers details. P.O. Box 55, Banbury, OX17 2LB. Telephone (0295) 710840.

SNIPER Red, GRP, with reinforced deck and hull. Only 18 months old and used 10 times, still in excellent condition, ideal for sea work and surfing. Bargain at £95 ono. Telephone (04252) 5089.

## FOUND

ON THE RIVER VRYNWY one plastic canoe in folded and damaged condition, but repairable. Contact Mike Callow, Telford 52782 with details, including whether the canoe has been written off as an insurance claim.

AT THE BCU TRYWERYN TOUR in September, one red throw-bag found. Would the owner please write, stating the initials on the bag, to M. Wood, 5 Mill Hill Drive, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 0PW.

## INSURANCE

CANOE INSURANCE — Special low rates for BCU members. Contact Weller & Co, 16c Main Ridge West, Boston, Lincs, Telephone: 0205 65505.

CANOE INSURANCE — send sae for full details to Joan Baker, JB Insurance, Field Cottage, High Street, Madingley, Cambridge, ALSO SAILBOARD INSURANCE.

## COURSES

WHITEWATER Canoeing Weekends (River Dart and River Tamar) — introductory to Advanced. Training and assessment for Advanced Proficiency. Surf/Whitewater combination weekends also available. Contact: Outdoor Adventure (028885) 312.

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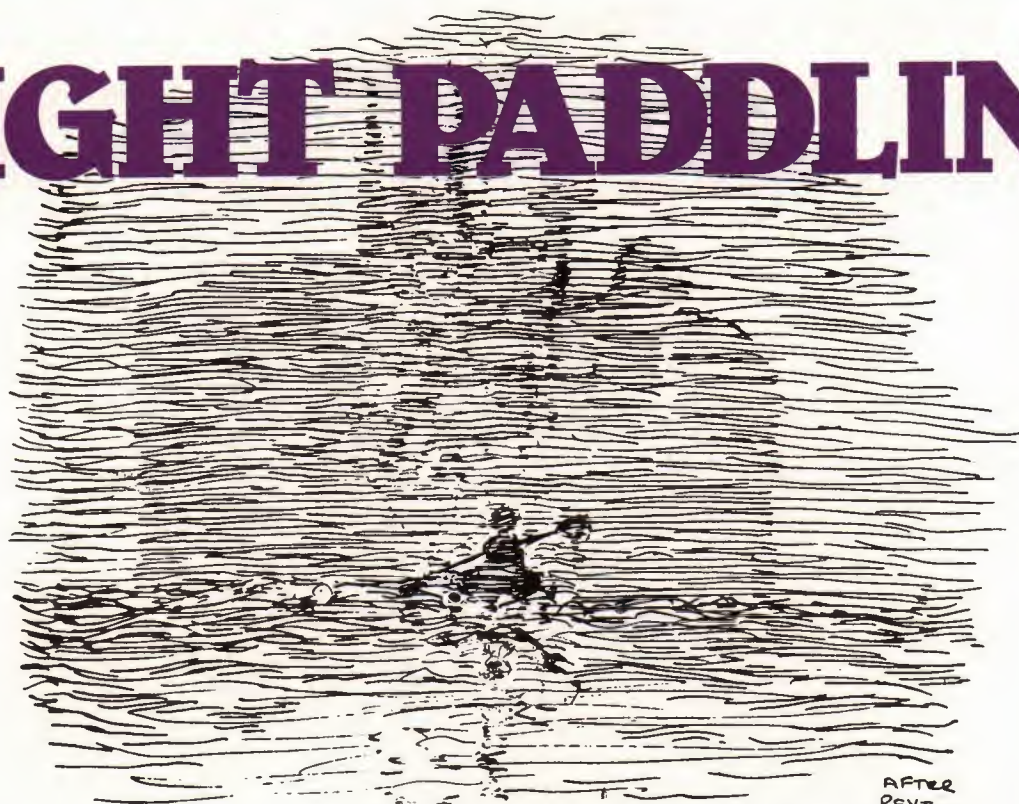
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# NIGHT PADDLING



AFTER  
PEYTON

by Howard Jeffs

As the saying goes "Time and tide wait for no man", which means that if the tide is going in your direction, the conditions are favourable and you have to reach a certain destination, then into the darkness you must go.

To most people, their first taste of night paddling is arriving back late from a day trip somewhere, but to the dedicated sea kayaker night paddling can be a richly rewarding experience if all goes well. If not, the chances of you surviving the night out in cold, dark water even in the height of summer would be very small! You must, therefore, be well prepared if you are to cope with any eventualities that may crop up during the hours of darkness while you are at sea.

## LIGHTING

To get ourselves out of the darkness we must look at the subject of lighting in great detail. Any failure here will make life very difficult.

By law we are a vessel under seven metres long and cannot exceed a speed of seven knots. For this type of vessel all that has to be provided is an all round white light, or an occasional light. An all round white light is impractical to a canoeist, so an occasional light is the best compromise, and this consists basically of a torch by which we signal! As we shall see this is not really enough.

Any lighting must be completely waterproof and reliable in case of capsize and a swim. There are many supposedly waterproof torches on the market that just do not do the job. The old anecdote "You only get what you

pay for" applies here. Good torches can be bought, which will not break the bank and give years of trouble free service, or else you can make your own quite cheaply.

## TYPES OF LIGHTING

### *Cyclumes*

These are chemical light sticks that give off a greenish glow. They are activated by bending the plastic tube breaking a small file inside and mixing two chemicals together. The light lasts for over seven hours; as a good marker light, which is more than adequate for a night trip. They do have a shelf life of about three years, so be careful where you purchase them and for how long you store them.

For night paddling I think they are very important. If attached to the coat hook loop on your buoyancy aid at the back by a short length of cord and activated as you set off, they provide a very good marker light for each person. If someone does take a swim the light stick floats on the surface marking the position of the victim very accurately. If you need a head count during the night because you think you have lost someone, then people can just hold them up making this job a lot easier than shouting and asking names.

### *Head Torches*

Head torches are essential as they leave the hands free to paddle or to do work. A lot of people use the Petzel mountaineering type of head torch which are very good but not waterproof; caving head torches are also very good as they give high and low power lights

and are waterproof, but are very heavy and expensive.

The cheapest option is to make one as follows: It consists of an Achle Wonderlamp plastic head unit sealed with silicone sealant and a small gasket, a 2 oz tobacco tin with a waterproof switch and a flat 4.5 volt battery, or a Petzel part No. E06 round cell adaptor using three penlite batteries held in place by silicone sealant. The lid is then sealed with a smear of silicone grease and insulation tape, then kept in the top pocket of an expedition buoyancy aid; this packet is cheap, light and waterproof even when fully immersed. Two bulbs can be used, either a 3.5 volt 2 amp bulb which gives good general light and long battery life; or a halogen bulb 4 volt, 0.5 amp, which gives a very good light but at the cost of reduction in battery life.

Some form of filter over the light, preferably red, is useful as this does not disturb your night vision when used, but still allows you to see in the dark! A small piece of red cloth or cellophane can be put over the light and held in place with an elastic band but easily removed if full light was needed.

### *Commercial Hand Torches*

Some form of powerful hand lamp can be very useful, either for spotting people in the water for landings, or for warning shipping that may be bearing down on you. A visit to a diving shop will show an array of waterproof and reliable torches, but at a variety of prices. Telna Lites of California make a very comprehensive range of lights from small pen lites to larger; they are virtually indestructable, very reliable and run on pen light batteries, but are not cheap. Other makes are available that are



similar and cheaper, but use different batteries. Rubber torches are OK but I have found that in the long run they are not very reliable.

A system that uses pen light batteries can be very useful as many small electrical devices use this size, eg transistor radios, VHF radios, torches etc., and are therefore easily transferable from one unit to another. If battery power is short, rechargeable batteries also have a place here if you are to use a system like this and can save you money in the long run. Remember to check before you use the torch — does it float or sink?

### Other Lights

As we know we do not have to show any form of lights and one of the great things of night paddling is that we can go unnoticed, but this also can be a problem. Having nearly been run down at night on a few occasions, I had to think of something that would warn other water users of our presence. It does not matter if it is a small fishing boat or a large bulk carrier, it can be very frightening, or terminal, if we can't get out of the way or warn this vessel.

A small strobe white light fitted to the rear

deck of the back man is the most effective means I have found; the light is shielded from the rest of the group so therefore it does not affect night vision, but can be seen by any vessel from a long way off if it is steaming up from behind you. It will not know what the light is for, as it will not be marked on the chart or have a phase that would be understood, but will probably treat it with caution.

The only other way of informing a boat of your presence is by white illuminating flares.

There are three types:

Mini Flares (white)

Pinpoint (white)

Parachute (white)

Flares cannot be dealt with in great detail here, but the white mini flare could be used to attract the vessel's attention. If this did not work then the pinpoint white would give your position away very accurately. As a last resort I would put up the parachute flare. This is very powerful and turns night into day; if the Captain of a vessel did not take evasive action after this then I suggest you paddle fast!

The other use for the white parachute flare is to illuminate the area around you. If you have lost someone or had a capsiz and/or lost equipment then this is your last and only chance to get the situation under control. The flare only burns for about 40 to 60 seconds which is not very long; tell individuals in the group to look in certain directions so time is not lost, then warn them just before you launch the flare.

### Compass Lights

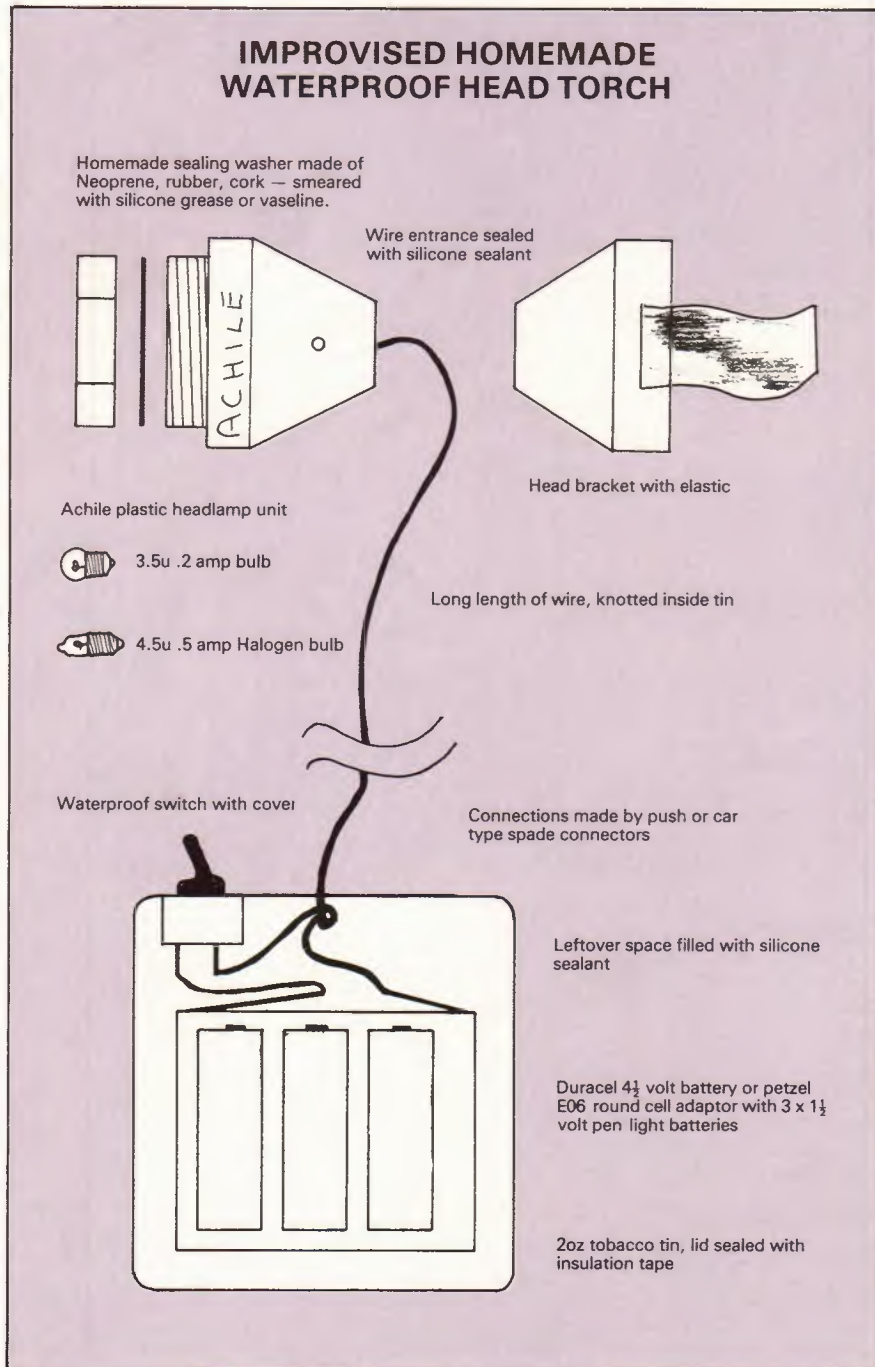
Travel by night may involve navigation by compass, eg an open crossing, so some form of lighting is essential. The small Silva mountaineering type compasses, if used, are luminous and by shining the torch directly on to the bezel housing, will "charge up" the luminous parts of the compass for a short while.

Other larger marine compasses used by sea canoeists will have to be illuminated by a small light. The system used by Valley Canoes consists of a small U2 size battery in a waterproof container, a short length of lead attached to a small light; the compass and light are then enclosed in a small plastic cover held in place by a deck elastic. This system does work quite well, though the pin type switching system does corrode after a while and must be washed off in fresh water regularly then greased to lengthen its life. Other systems can be made at home in a similar way to the tobacco tin system used for the head torch.

Salt water activated batteries are available through chandlers; they are operated by removing small plugs in the casing allowing salt water to enter and corrode a set of small metal plates. This corroding action creates a lower power electrical current which in turn powers a low wattage bulb. These are usually very effective and reliable but work out expensive in the long run.

### Illuminating Equipment

To make equipment "stand out" at night then a variety of methods can be used. Luminous paint can be bought in car/bicycle/craft type shops, and equipment just used at night can





be painted in this. The other and far more effective method is to use a retroreflective material — this is seen in every day use in road signs, cones, number plates, etc, and is fitted to Department of Trade approved life-jackets as it give a very high chance of finding a person who has gone overboard at night from a large ship. It comes in various forms and colours — white, red, yellow and green being the most common, and in self adhesive rolls 1" wide, or sheets. It also comes in a flexible cloth form for sewing onto garments. The sheet form can be bought from most car shops in the form of self adhesive number plate backing then cut to size yourself. It is not cheap, but worth every penny, a small piece on all items of canoeing equipment, even camping gear, and some patches on your boat and paddles will help night paddling run far more smoothly than without. After some persuasion Wild Water are now supplying all their sea canoeing equipment, expedition buoyancy aids, sea cags and spray decks with a retroreflective tape night paddling option at extra cost — well worth the consideration if you are about to buy new gear!

### Navigation at Night

Usually night paddling is done in reasonable weather, so there is probably a high chance of stars being visible. Individual stars can be followed for short periods of time, say 30 minutes, and periodically checked by the compass; this will alleviate the strain and boredom of watching the compass continuously and ward off seasickness, which is common when concentrating on compass work. Changing the lead man also helps here as people do not get bored and therefore stay on course if they only have to work/concentrate for a short period of time.

The silhouette of the distant coastline or an object on the top of the land (check your chart) may stand out in certain conditions. The glow of street lamps on clouds above towns stand out very well from a long way off, or lit navigational markers (consult chart for individual sequences) are very useful, but skill is sometimes needed if these are back lit by street, house lights etc. Lighthouses are always useful; the loom (the glow of the beam) as it sweeps is usually seen first, and this can give an approximate distance off if you know the height of the light (consult the chart) when it first comes into view.

If there are a couple of lighthouses together, you will have to find their individual sequence so they can be told apart.

Make sure you have done *all* your chart-work and have it set out in front of you before you set off to save fiddling about in the dark, eg

All lights and phases you may need to use.

Useful lit transits, eg large chimney tops (red)

When will such and such a light come into view (distance off)

What shipping may I have to contend with

What sound signals might I hear

What escape routes do I have, eg what parts of the coast are safe to land on

Is there any rough water we may have to contend with, eg overfalls or tide races

Before you set off remember that it will probably be colder at night, so wear more clothing or have it at hand to put on during the evening. Make up a flask and keep this handy also; the knee tube is ideal for this. You will probably be paddling during the hours of a shipping forecast — don't bury the transistor in the bowels of the boat, keep it in a Tupperware box behind the seat. While paddling you may come across phosphorescence. This is a

green glow in the water when it is disturbed by the paddles or the bow. It is caused by small particles of plankton and in good conditions can be a very impressive sight. Something else that stands out is sound; waves breaking over rocks or rolling up a beach sound very much louder, and landing, even in small surf, can be very entertaining, so approach your landing site with caution.

Remember, also, to tell the Coastguard — I believe that this is even more important than in the day — strange lights moving about on the water are bound to set people wondering.

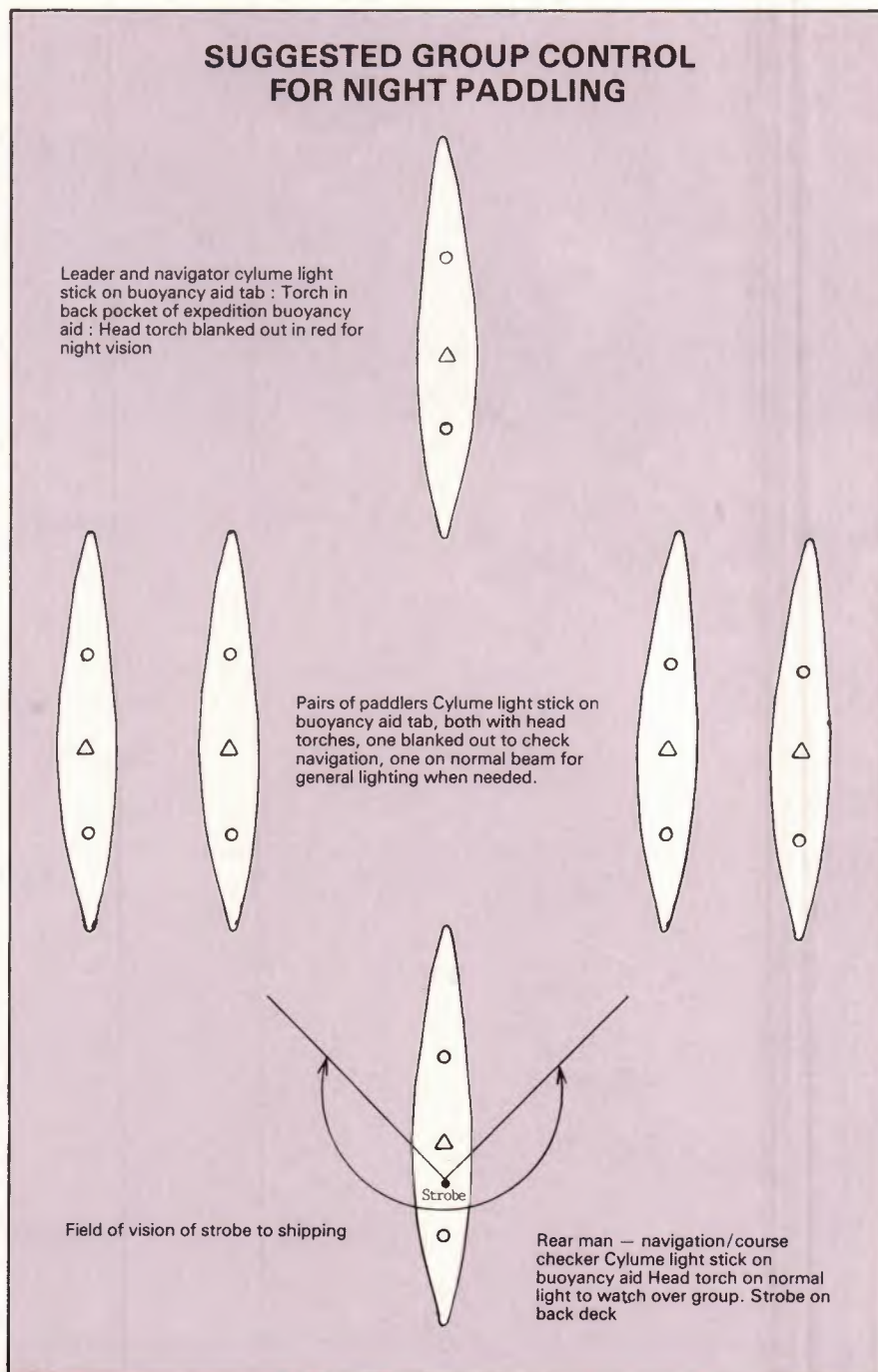
## SUGGESTED GROUP CONTROL FOR NIGHT PADDLING

Leader and navigator Cylume light stick on buoyancy aid tab : Torch in back pocket of expedition buoyancy aid : Head torch blanked out in red for night vision

Pairs of paddlers Cylume light stick on buoyancy aid tab, both with head torches, one blanked out to check navigation, one on normal beam for general lighting when needed.

Field of vision of strobe to shipping

Rear man — navigation/course checker Cylume light stick on buoyancy aid Head torch on normal light to watch over group. Strobe on back deck







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# Expeditions

## AWARDS AND APPROVAL

Last year saw a record number of expeditions leave Great Britain for foreign destinations. It is hoped that this trend will continue and therefore the procedure for recognition, and grant aid is reproduced for general information.

### BCU Approval

The Union supports challenging expeditions, which are either first descents, committed wilderness trips or exceptional sea expeditions. Approval is also given to suitable youth trips with the same criteria. Approval may be sought at any time of the year. Application forms can be obtained from the BCU Headquarters (mark your request — EXPEDITIONS). Should approval be given, it will enable the organisers of the expedition to seek grant aid, either through the BCU or other organisations. It will also enable an expedition to take advantage of the £1000 worth of equipment generously donated by The Wild Water Centre.

### Grant Aid

Applications for grant aid must reach the BCU Headquarters by 10th January. Again there are special forms which should be used.

### Advice

The Expeditions Committee is only too pleased to advise potential expeditions and their organisers on their planning. If you require this advice please contact Guy Baker, c/o BCU Headquarters.

### Mike Jones Award 1987

This award for £2,000 is being administered by the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust. Last year there were only half a dozen applications put forward for consideration. Therefore any expedition attempting a first descent or sea paddle stands a good chance of being considered. Application forms can be obtained from the Trust at 15, Queen's Gate Terrace, London, SW7 5PR. Interviews for those short listed will be held in January.

## EXPEDITION PLANNERS' SYMPOSIUM

This annual seminar, organised by the Expedition Advisory Centre (of the Royal Geographical Society and Young Explorers Trust) is

specifically designed for those planning a small scientific or adventurous expedition overseas. The Seminar will be held at the Royal Geographical Society over the weekend 7-9 November 1986. Of special interest will be the Adventure Panel on Canoeing which will be headed by Peter Knowles of the BCU. Further details can be obtained direct from the Expeditions Advisory Centre, 1 Kensington Gore, London, SW7 2AR.



## A TRIP TO FRANCE

This article has been prepared as a result of Edinburgh University Canoe Club's trip to France in June/July this year. The author hopes that others will find their trips as enjoyable as they did.

### The Rivers

Most of the rivers we canoed were in the Briarçon region. We were deeply indebted to Terry Storry's Alpine White Water Guide, but a number of changes have occurred in the rivers since the guide was written. Gyr and the Onde are both extremely shallow rivers and might best be shot in plastic boats. The Onde has been subject to major tree felling this year which has created some unprecedented hazards.

Guil Aiguilles — Chateau Queyras. The section of the river entering a small gorge above Chateau Queyras is no longer a Grade III, due to the inclusion of extra boulders in the stream bed from roadworks. An easy Grade IV but definitely not for beginners. In addition there is a nasty stopper which is at the end of a concrete wall on the right hand side. The wall begins shortly after the Grade IV section. Otherwise a good paddle.

Gyronda — The weir in the Gyronda is not shootable any longer. The section from the campsite at Les Vigneaux down to Argentiere has however some very good Grade IV, with plenty of space to recover between the Grade IV and the weir. The weir can be located from the river some distance after the last bridge below the campsite (a road). A rock wall drops straight into the river from the left and the first shingle bank appears on the right. Portage on right. (One can also use the ridge, where the road leaves the river, as a land-

mark. The weir is opposite the rubbish dump!) Claree — The Grade IV section on the Claree proved to be very challenging with a boulder the size of a car parked in the middle. One had to approach left, brake out behind the boulder, then exit right. As this can be seen from the road it is easily inspected or photographed. However other groups had some very nasty swims on this rapid so great care is needed.

Guisane — a spectacularly scenic river as promised by the guide. On paddling the Grade II section through the town care should be taken of a sluice gate on the left and an overhanging tree on the right. Stay in the middle.

### Tree Hazard etc

As many of the paddlers were not experienced and tree hazards were a problem, we found that one way to cope with unexpected problems was to put a group of better paddlers at the front to scout ahead. If they encountered difficulty they would land and, if necessary, rig throwlines. They would then be relieved by the next group coming down, and so on. In addition to providing mobility combined with safety it also allowed the better paddlers a time of freedom away from looking after others.

### Equipment

Of all our equipment the items we used most were throwlines and split paddles, the latter proving essential.

### Vichy — Artificial Course

Much is written about Augsburg which we have found to be a place of great adventure. However for less epic expeditions, as ours certainly was, Vichy may well prove an ideal starting place. The top half to two thirds of the course consists of Grade II with swift water, moving but friendly eddies, and a large pool to collect one's pieces and thoughts. The bottom part of the course consists of Grade III starting with a good stopper which will not loop one and will let you out — eventually. It was felt by all the group that our two days of training at Vichy were invaluable before proceeding to the Briarçon region.

### Thanks

Lastly a word of thanks must go to the Sports Union, the lads from the Northern Ireland Mountain Centre, the London mob, the camp bar-staff, Juggy and our sponsorship from Sealink and TS3, who all helped, along with the group, to make a wonderful trip.

*Duncan Henderson*

# MIKE JONES RALLY 1986 - LLANGOLLEN

## 6 & 7 DECEMBER

Dr Mike Jones was Britain's leading expedition canoeist, famous for his 'canoeing down Everest' film and book. In 1978 he led an expedition to paddle the Braldu river in the Karakorum range but was drowned whilst rescuing a friend.

Mike Jones was a charismatic figure whose warmth, friendship and enthusiasm for life infected everyone around him. He spent many happy weekends at Llangollen canoeing on the Dee. After his death a group of friends created the Mike Jones Rally to foster canoeing for fun and charity. The aim is an informal, friendly event — a chance to paddle good water, with minimum hassles and open to all recreational canoeists.

This is the ninth year Llangollen has hosted the Mike Jones Rally and it has become one of the most popular and largest events of its kind anywhere in the world. On offer is some of the best white water in Britain, guided tours on the upper Dee — one of Wales most scenic stretches of grade 1 - 2, lectures, large screen videos, fireworks and torchlit descent of the town falls etc.

The arrangements for this year's rally will be very similar to last year's and the price of stickers will again be £2.50 per person for the weekend fully inclusive of camping, entertainments etc. The free shuttle bus service for drivers that proved so popular last year will be repeated. The silly race on the Saturday will be a 'chariot race' through the Serpents Tail — two boats with a rider standing on the back. We hope that Whit Deschner from the

States will be this year's guest speaker.

It is unlikely that there will be a water release on the Tryweryn as these are generally made Monday to Friday during the winter months. This does mean however that you can be almost certain that the Tryweryn will be open for canoeing on the Friday and the Monday — you might like to consider the idea of a long weekend? (Bargain prices have been agreed for holders of Mike Jones Rally stickers — £1 per person per day for the 5th and 8th of December only — also special rafting prices!)

Full details and stickers will be available from the 1st to the 30th of November — please send a DL (9" x 4") stamped addressed envelope to: Mike Jones Rally, 18 Temple Street, Padfield, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 7EX.



# Book Review

## UP THE CREEK

### An Amazon Adventure

by John Harrison

ISBN 0-946983-04-6

Available from BCU Supplies at £6.20 (members) and £6.70 (non-members), both prices inclusive of postage and packing.

Reviewed by Peter Sailsbury, FRGS  
International Long River Canoeist Club



John Harrison is no stranger to the jungles of the Amazon, and his attempt to canoe up the Jari River and over the mountains into French Guiana, unsponsored, could not be dismissed out of hand as the whim of an inexperienced dreamer....

He was fully equipped, but the adverse conditions experienced quickly used up the supplies. Both Mark (his companion) and John went down with Malaria (although each were taking anti-Malaria pills). Life was hard as they struggled northwards up the Jari.... 'Mark almost trod on a 'bushmaster' — the most poisonous snake in Amazonia... we usually had a live-and-let-live policy towards snakes, but this one was too dangerous to have around camp.... we added it to the stew we were cooking at the time'.

After great hardships John and Mark had decision to make. Their canoe (a self-built Granta plywood canoe) was receiving a terrible battering, their progress was slowing down. 'We're in trouble' Mark said, 'We're short of food, medical supplies, and materials for mending the canoe — all fairly important items, I'm sure even you will agree. Adventure is one thing, and bloody recklessness is another. I love adventure, but I like to keep the odds on my side'. He paused, and stared glumly at the grimy bandage that covered his foot. 'Nothing has gone right on this bloody trip since we started. Hundreds of rapids, no hunting, lousy fishing, malaria, a burnt foot,

too much rain, and slow progress. I expected it to be hard, but not like this....'.

They were forced to turn back and re-supply. Mark went his separate way, and John was lucky enough to find a Swiss named Peter, who was willing to take Mark's place on the trip. They made their way back to the furthest point John had reached with Mark... 'and there, just around the bend, were all the obstacles we had been imagining... the river had narrowed and now ran through vertical-sided rocky channels falling over no less than eight drops, there was no way we could paddle, or walk the canoe up there. It meant eight separate portages over the sharp rocks, dotted with dangerous blow-holes and sculptured caves. Every day it was portaging, wading under over-hanging branches, moving rocks and driftwood from channels to deepen them, dragging the canoe through the shallows, loading and unloading the sacks, cutting bushes and sunken branches banging our scabby, infected legs and shins, getting our ankles trapped down crevices, and being whipped by thorny branches while our feet rotted away — we spent nine days like this before we finally emerged into quiet water — nine days to cover 20 kilometres at the most...'

They tried to navigate up the Cuc River, but this became impossible, so back onto the Jari and struggled to the Mapaoni. Great hardships, coupled with frequent bouts of malaria, and the river turning into a boulder-strewn trickle, finally forced them to retreat. Their final point where they left the jungle was not without incident — they were forced to bury a man who died from Malaria who had not been taken out as he did not have the means to pay.

John did not have the backing of sponsors, nor have to hand a radio where he could have called up medical help. He had to carry all his gear with him and live off the jungle, suffering deeply with malaria, rotting skin, having to dig out insect eggs from his body and endure a daily struggle just to survive, let alone strive hundreds of kilometres up a remote jungle river. We can truly say then, that John is a very impressive man, and his book is a very impressive book. I heartily recommend you read it. You may not be a jungle paddler, but sit back and read a true story of an Amazon adventure...

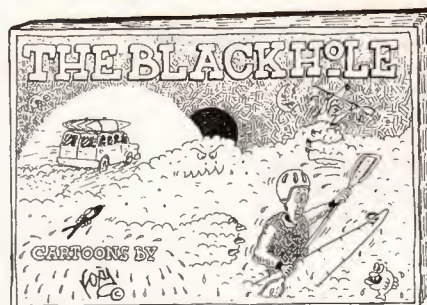
## THE BLACK HOLE

Cartoon by Foxy

Available from BCU Supplies at £3.30 (members) and £3.50 (non-members) both prices inclusive of postage and packing.

Reviewed by Guy Baker

The black Hole is the second cartoon book from "Foxy" the author of Cosmic Kayak Tours and creator of such characters as Super Instructor and Boris Surfski. Neither of these two characters appear in the book but he has plenty of new ideas inspired by his own kayaking experiences. From Yeti hunting in Nepal to crocodile wrestling in Africa, "Foxy" takes us into his bizarre world of canoeing



humour. Naturally this makes great reading for the white water paddler, most of whom are familiar with stopper monsters, ganga, crocodiles and the other joys of paddling in North Wales. It also makes interesting compulsory reading for non-paddlers, such as your girlfriends, boyfriends, parents or anyone who you may want to have a greater awareness and understanding of the reasons why we indulge in such a deviant activity.

Foxy's humour in this book is generally more sophisticated than it was in the Cosmic Kayak Tours. His idea for catching a crocodile using a) binoculars, b) tweezers, c) jam jar, or d) another crocodile is a good example of this. For the uninitiated, the secret is to hold the binoculars the wrong way around, causing the crocodile, now reduced in size, to collapse in laughter enabling you to pick him up.

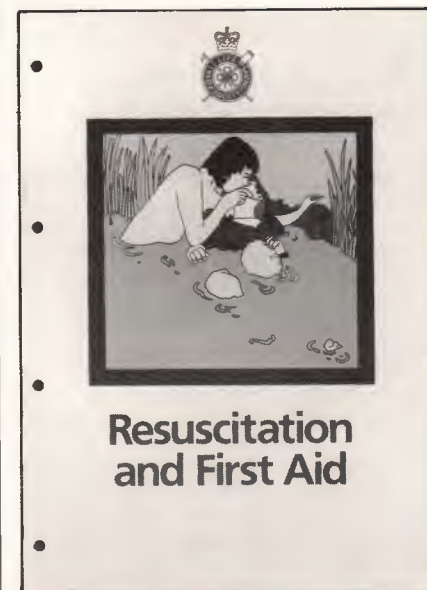
On a personal note, I hope he has a patent on his "New Spraydeck" as I am sure it will catch on.

## RESUSCITATION AND FIRST AID

Editor A J Handley MD FRCP FIST

Published by The Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS) ISBN 0 90 7082 31 9

Available from the RLSS, Mountbatten House, STUDLEY, Warks B80 7NN at £3.00 inclusive of postage and packing.





This is the fifth edition of the Royal Life Saving Society's best-selling publication which is designed to enable its readers to grasp the fundamentals of resuscitation and first aid. It is written and presented in such a way that the information it contains is accessible to almost everybody.

The most up to date medical research has been taken into account in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and the effects of cold water immersion. Colour photographs and drawings have been used, bringing greater impact and realism.

The Editor, Dr. Anthony J Handley, is a Consultant Physician. He has a keen interest in swimming and lifesaving, and is Chairman of both the RLSS Staff Tutors Panel and the National Research and Programming Committee.

## A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO SEA CANOEING

by Howard N Jeffs

Available from BCU Supplies at £5.59 (members) and £5.99 (non-members) both prices inclusive of postage and packing

Reviewed by Dave Mitchell

It is good to welcome a new sea canoeing book, particularly one which presents a wealth of very detailed and up to date information in a highly concentrated and well illustrated format. The style is clear and precise and the ideas are presented in a pleasant and personal way. Its pages are further enlivened by useful reprints of commercial specifications of equipment such as flares and hatches.

The initial chapter on sea kayaks gives excellent detail on aspects of design such as bulkhead arrangements, hatches and so forth. But the major aspects of design concerning hull shape and performance are lacking, and so the intending kayak purchaser has little real information to go on. The graph of kayak performance based simply on length to width ratios shows some rather strange conclusions. However, once you have a boat, the chapter is excellent on fitting it out.

The following chapter on equipment is very good indeed and takes the reader from initial criteria through what to use, and how and when to use it. This is right up to requirement for extended expedition work in wild areas. Towing is then given a whole chapter to itself. Towline design criteria should really emphasize the need to release a towline quickly, and not entangle the paddler, and perhaps more consideration may be given to waistbands with velcro attachments. The author wisely emphasises what works for him, together with the exhortation for the reader to try out the systems that he or she may find best.

The sections on tides and navigation are excellent. The complexities are skilfully handled by taking the reader through with questions and worked problems, clear tables, maps and examples from actual charts. There is also a very useful summary on the planning

of a day expedition in the light of tidal and navigational problems.

Night paddling is the next consideration. The use of personal lighting and group control are well dealt with, together with an emphasis on the importance of preplanning from the chart. I am not too sure of the marine legality of a rear strobe light, and an illustration of what power vessels' lights look like from different angles would be helpful.

Chapter seven deals with weather. Forecast information and particularly the interpretation of shipping forecasts is good. Direct weather interpretation is not covered but there is sensible advice to read up on meteorology!

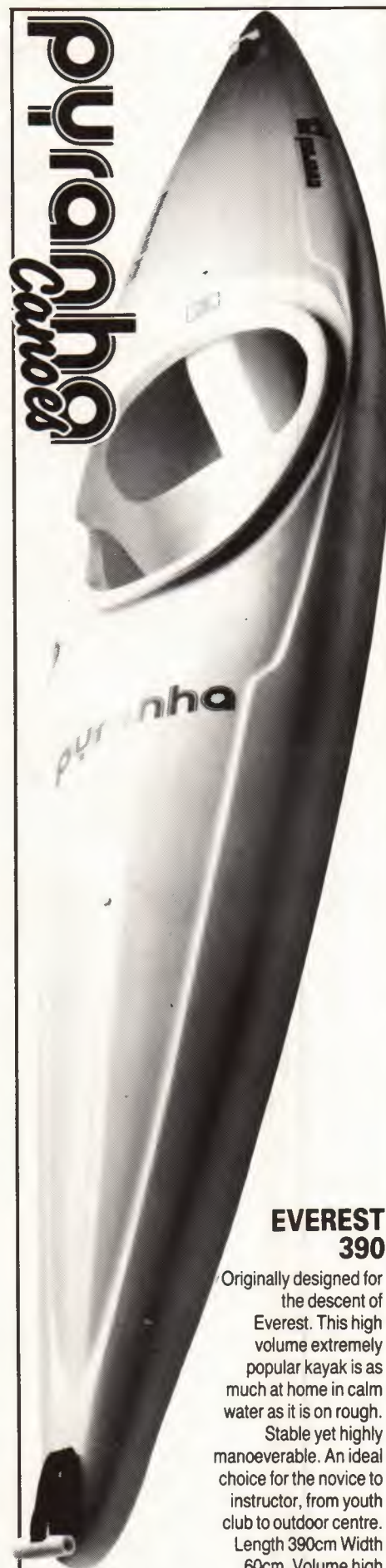
Emergencies such as illness and equipment breakage are covered in previous chapters, so the final section deals with open sea rescue. The futility of many flat-water rescue methods, and how important personal self-rescue becomes at sea is well emphasized, and illustrated with interesting comments on how new ways may be developed to provide extra stability utilising split paddles etc. It is perhaps surprising that the simplest method of all for emptying a bulkheaded boat, namely lifting the bow and flipping it upright, is not included in assisted rescues as an alternative to the 'curl'. The section on helicopter rescue procedure is very useful indeed.

There is a useful list of equipment manufacturers, but no index. There are some gaps, particularly the paddling techniques needed at sea in respect of handling breakers, headwinds, quartering seas, and most importantly, surf. Embarking or landing in surf, particularly in emergency, are vital skills in sea touring. Coastal details such as rips and the effect of big swells needs consideration. The word 'dumper' needs to come somewhere!

However, the book is certainly very practical, and the experience of the author is evident in his 'what works for me' approach, coupled with the strong encouragement to 'go out and practise'. Much of the content is far more detailed than anything else available at present, and this book will make a very valuable addition to any sea canoeists' library.

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# THE 1986 ICF CONGRESS



Photo: Alan Laws



The Congress of the International Canoe Federation (ICF) takes place every two years usually either at the site of the World Canoe Racing Championships or the Olympic Games. At the Congress the rules, standing orders and statutes are examined and if necessary amended by the representatives of the Nations present. The Congress also elects the Members to the Board of the ICF and the Chairmen of its standing committees, The Racing Committee, The Slalom and White Water Committee, The Marathon Committee, The Canoe Sailing Committee, The Touring Committee, The Sports Medicine Committee and the Promotion and Information Committee. Those elected normally serve for a four year period. The Congress indeed is the ultimate governing body of the ICF.

The XXIII Congress was held in Montreal, Canada in August 1986, and there were 37 nations represented. Representing Great Britain there were three delegates, Albert Woods (voting delegate), Alan Laws and Peter Wells. The Director of the BCU, Ron Emes was there in his own right as a member of the Board having been elected as one of the European representatives at the 1984 Congress in Sophia in Bulgaria.

It was a very important Congress for Ron as he was nominated for the position of Second Vice President. There were no other nominations for this position and Ron was duly elected by the Congress to be the Second Vice President of the ICF. This is the highest

position that anyone from Great Britain has ever achieved. It acknowledges all his work, over many years in the ICF and the sport in general. Ron has devoted a great part of his life to the sport of canoeing and is a great ambassador of the BCU in the eyes of world canoeing. His appointment is one he thoroughly deserves and he is to be congratulated.

The President of the ICF, Sergio Orsi, made a presentation at the Congress to the BCU of a commemorative plaque to celebrate the 50 years of the British Canoe Union.

There were relatively few motions for discussion by Congress and most of these were accepted including the three submitted by the British delegation. Reports were given on the progress of the following events:

- a) World Championships in Duisburg 18/ 23 August 87 (Racing Seniors)
- b) World Championships in Bourg St. Maurice 9/19 July 87 (White Water & Slalom Seniors)
- c) World Championships in Belgrade 2/5 July 87 (Racing Juniors)
- d) World Championships in Lymington 14/ 22 August 87 (Canoe Sailing)
- e) Canoeing involvement at the XXIV Olympic Games in SEOUL 26 Sep - 1 Oct 88

The British application for the first World Championships in Marathon to be held in 1988 was accepted by the Congress. The Danish application for the same year was

withdrawn, for reconsideration for the 1990 World Championships.

The British application for the World Junior Slalom and White Water Championships in 1990 was defeated in favour of the Swiss application, by 26 votes to 11. It was indicated that re-application for subsequent years would be readily accepted.

Sergio ORSI (Italy) was re-elected as President of Federation until 1990. Ron EMES (Great Britain) was elected second Vice President until 1990. Joachim WEISCOP (German Democratic Republic) and Jose Perurena LOPEZ (Spain) were elected as the European representatives to the Board. Robert SLEETH (Canada) and Sade Jose PUBILONES (Cuba) were elected as the American representatives to the Board. Tsunekichi KOMURO (Japan) was elected as the Asian representative to the Board. Helen BROWNLEE (Australia) was proposed as the Oceania representative. However the Congress decided that as only one member for Oceania was required and one had already been elected at the last Congress, this nomination was not accepted.

Jan VERSTUYA (Belgium) was elected Chairman of the Sports Medicine Committee to replace Dr. BURGER (German Democratic Republic) who unfortunately passed away during this year. Edward SEREDNICKI (Poland) was elected Chairman of the Touring Committee. Andre VANDEPUT (Belgium) was elected Chairman of the Promotion and Information Committee.

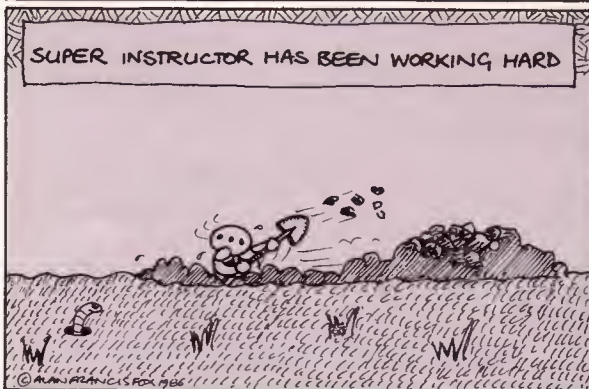
After the Congress the new Board met to consider nominations for the various Standing Committees. The following British nominees were elected: Albert WOODS to the Slalom and White Water Committee, Alan LAWS to the Marathon Committee and Peter WELLS to the Sailing Committee.

So yet another Congress was over and all the delegates are looking forward to the next Congress during the Olympic Games in 1988 which are to be held at SEOUL in KOREA.

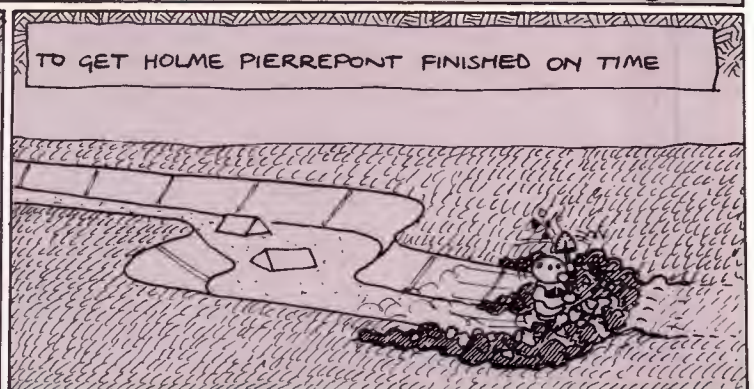
A. J. Woods  
British Delegation Voting Member  
Vice Chairman, British Canoe Union

## Super Instructor

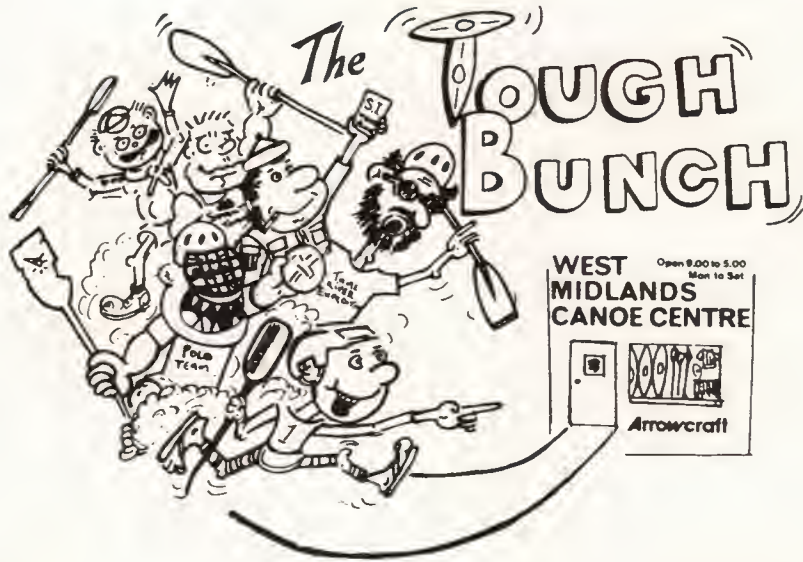
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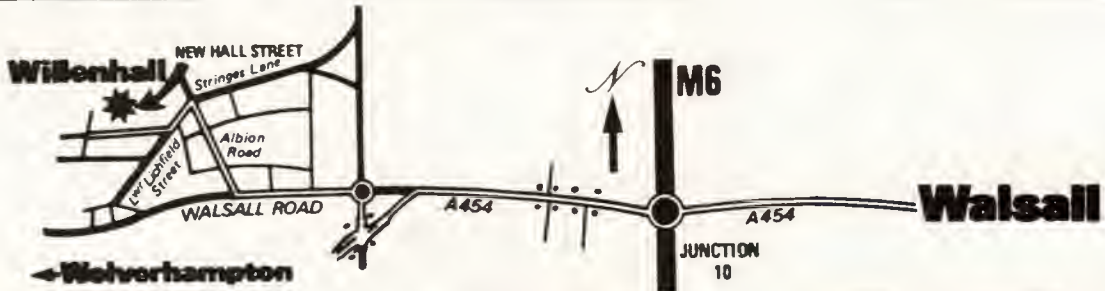
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# Trade News

## Hawaiian Palm

Bristol based Palm are going in force to the tropical climes of Hawaii. Andy Knight said 'One of our sponsored paddlers, Neil Peek, is participating in the World Championships on the new 'Gun' Ski. We are having increasing export enquiries on our wide range of accessories and are using the Championships to show off our range to the world, and produce our 1987 brochure and promotional video'. They are also taking the 'Wave Rider', Palm's polyethylene ski, which is ideal for beginners and beach hire.

## First Australian Expedition to the Arctic



P & H Fibreglass have recently supplied four Kevlar-Carbon construction Icefloe sea kayaks to the Australian team now on their way to the Arctic.

Team members, Graham Joy and Larry Gray, spent two weeks assisting David Patrick of P & H Fibreglass, and his workforce, modifying and equipping the kayaks for their arduous journey, retracing the 1931 expedition of Gino Watkins, one of England's greatest Polar explorers.

The four-man team sailed from Portsmouth on the 8 July in an old sailing boat purchased as a supply vessel to the expedition. P & H Fibreglass are no amateurs when it comes to supplying canoes for such ventures. They are often asked to supply kayaks and equipment for expeditions to exotic places.

P & H Fibreglass, WEST HALLAM, Derby, (0602-320155).

## Longer Roofrack Straps

The humble camlock roofrack strap is now widely available, but only in 3 metre lengths. Chiltern Canoes, having discovered that these are too short for most open canadian canoes, are now stocking 3.5 metre straps — ideal, and so much more reliable than ropes. Retail price £4.75. Mail order welcome.

Chiltern Canoes, Northend, NR. HENLEY ON THAMES, Oxon. (049 163 767).

## Sea Kayaking at Calshot

Calshot Activities Centre, conveniently located on the Solent, specialises in sea kayaking, and has a large fleet of various sea kayaks.

Sea kayak expeditioning is particularly popular with canoeists who have paddled the limited number of touring rivers in England, and are looking for new challenges, and also

with those who are fascinated by the unspoilt coastlines only accessible by kayak. Ornithologists, ecologists, and others with a love of the environment, find sea kayaking's special kind of freedom ideal. A high level of canoeing skill is not essential before interesting trips can be made.

Calshot runs a series of beginners' and expedition weekends, with BCU awards available, plus longer expeditions for proficient paddlers.

Advanced expedition weekends, plus a Round the Isle of Wight, and sea kayaking holiday fortnight are run. This year, a group will be spending two weeks in the Isles of Scilly, whilst the autumn expedition weekend will be in North Devon, with a chance of visiting Lundy Island, a nature reserve.

Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot, SOUTHAMPTON, SO4 1BR.

## Range of Neoprene Boots from Typhoon



Typhoon identified amongst the requirements for good boots, that good thermal protection for cooler weather, support for the ankle, reinforced stress areas for durability and good grip were of particular importance. The result: the Typhoon Standard Boot, the Typhoon Super Boot and the Typhoon Foot Strap Boot.

The interior is lined with a one-way stretch fabric. In order to give a greater feeling of comfort and security by holding the foot firmly in place, the moulded rubber sole features high sides with integral toe-cap and heel-cap. The caps also give additional protection to these two areas which are subjected to high stress loads when the boot is in active use. The underside surface of sole is extremely hard-wearing and gives excellent grip. The Typhoon Standard Boot (RRP £18.50 inc VAT) is very popular with canoeists.

Typhoon International Ltd. 42-44 Arundel Terrace, LONDON SW13 9DS (01-748 8341).

## Storage Units

Wallminster Limited ex-marine and new containers are of steel construction with a wooden floor supported on cross channel members. Access is from one end by means of single or double doors. This forms a robust storage unit supplied in a wind and watertight condition, and may be bought at low cost in comparison to building the usual type of storage. They are highly portable and can be placed in an accessible position by the water-

side, providing a secure storage unit for club members.

Containers are available in 10, 20, 30, 40 feet by 8 feet by 8 feet 6 inches sizes, and can be hired for the season if preferred. Transport can be arranged at very competitive rates.

LONDON (01)-245 9755; CIRENCESTER 0285-68981; HULL 0482-225811.

## Roof Rack Mounting System for Gutterless Cars



Paddy Hopkirk's ingenious new Loadmaster system cures the many headaches caused by the 'gutterless' body shell which deprives conventional roof racks of both support and anchorage.

Until recently, the only answer has been a whole series of racks and roof bars, each tailored to fit a handful of the growing number of new-generation cars. Every bar and rack in the Loadmaster 'G' range (the subject of a patent application) comes with standard mountings plus four sets of brackets which between them will cope with virtually any car.

Like all rooftop luggage carriers from Mill Accessory Group, the new products can be fitted and adjusted in moments without tools, and are made with a huge reserve of strength.

Paddy Hopkirk 'G' bars sell at around £22 per pair, including VAT.

## Swipes



Colin Muirhead, Managing Director of Collingham Marketing Limited, writes — 'I am one of the many sufferers plagued by fly and mosquito bites, when travelling on holiday. For many years I have tried almost every available insect repellent — in lotions, creams, gels, aerosols and even sticks. I have found that they all have drawbacks — either they smell awful, or the packs are inconvenient to carry around. For this reason my company looked at developing a more handy-to-use presentation. During the last two years we have done extensive tests, taking a well proven formulation of insect repellents, and impregnating it into tissue wipes, sealing each



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wipe in a sachet, and then packing ten sachets to a carton.

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Collingham Marketing Ltd. United House, High Street, Collingham, NEWARK, Notts NG23 7NG (0636-892078).

## Disposable Barbecue



On the shelves of some selected stores and garden centres is a new British disposable barbecue, made by Rectella International, which takes much of the worry out of planning ahead for a 'cook-out'.

Exhaustive testing has shown that it is possible to barbecue on a single Bar-Be-Quick for up to an hour and a half. A meal of sausages, chops and steak for six to eight people can be cooked quite easily.

The all-in-one packaging of the Bar-Be-Quick includes the disposable aluminium tray with a cooking area of nearly 12 inches by 9 inches, specially pre-treated high-grade charcoal, the firmly fixed cooking grill and the starter.

The starter is already in place beneath the grill, and when ignited with a match, the flames are evenly spread over the charcoal bed. The whole pack is shrink-wrapped, including instructions and is easily carried in one hand. It retails at £2.99.

## Contact Lenses for a Sporting Lifestyle



With the growing popularity of contact lenses over glasses for sports wear, freedom of lifestyle, comfort, and convenience is the thinking behind the new Le Weekend soft contact lens package from Hydron.

Each Le Weekend package comes complete with a range of grey and pink lens accessories. These, together with all the solutions needed for daily lens care, are supplied in a compact bag measuring just seven inches by five inches.

Le Weekend incorporates a six month planned replacement programme — a move in line with current medical opinion which states that most of the problems associated with lenses (such as protein build up) could be avoided if patients changed their lenses more frequently.

Hydron Europe, UK Division, Southern Trade Centre, Admiralty Way, CAMBERLEY, Surrey GU15 3DT. (0276-35884).

## Cordless Power Tools



Black and Decker Professional Cordless Products offer performance, convenience and the all-important operator comfort-safety. In many applications, cordless tools have distinct advantages over their more restrictive corded counterparts, because they can be used anywhere where a mains tool is used without the inconvenience of an attached cable, and they can be used wherever a mains electricity supply is not available or where an extension cable would not be practical.

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## Hipkiss Handipacks



Hipkiss eyelet and press stud packs include fitting tools so that repairs to canvas or outer-wear can be made quickly and effectively. The brass eyelet packs are available in five sizes up to a half-inch in diameter, and include a disposable steel punch and die.

Hipkiss Press Stud Fasteners packs are a more recent introduction, derived from an association with T R W Carr, a long-established fastener manufacturer. The popular size 9/16 diameter studs are supplied in pack form with a cutter, punch and die together with detailed fitting instructions.

Two types of fasteners are available: PP100 material to material and PP101 material to wood. Packs are available from leading hardware retailers and chandlers.

## Handycam Beside the Seaside



Handycam, the world's smallest video camera/recorder, is the first 'take anywhere' recorder — and that means both land and, now, water.

Since so much of today's leisure activity take place around or in the water, Sony thought that Handycam users would welcome a splashproof 'Sports' version of its successful camcorder.

In fact, Sony has gone a step further with a Marine Pack for sub-aqua and scuba divers. Both are designed to clip around the main body of the Handycam, taking the place of the standard removeable hand-grip section.

Sports Pack (SPK-M8), with its distinctive yellow livery, adds just 550 gms to the weight of Handycam but floats if dropped into the water. Handycam Sports allows for the full joys of active videography — up to three hours of sound and picture — to be enjoyed in and around water in complete safety.

Marine Pack (MPK-M8) is waterproof to a depth of 40 metres (sports divers go down to 39 metres) and features a special piezoelectronic microphone to capture subterranean sound.

Sports Pack is expected to retail at £89.95 and Marine Pack at £449.95. Handycam itself retails at around £799.99. Sony has available three decks for video playback and edit controller (RM-E100) for professional standard results.

## Timex Snooz Alarm

With its practical protective case, the neat compact digital alarm clock, measuring just 7.5 cms x 4.5 cms, has a constant readout of minutes and seconds and comes in a choice of black or ivory. The special Snooz-Alarm function can be switched off temporarily and will repeat at four minute intervals, ideal if you are one of those people who tend to turn over and go back to sleep when the alarm first sounds!

The Timex Snooz-Alarm weighs 32 gms and is available at leading jewellers and department stores, priced £15.95.





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## Dear Focus...

### PROTECT SEA KAYAKING IN THE WESTERN ISLES

Have you ever visited the superb coastline and Islands to the Northwest of Glasgow? If you have you will know that is the ideal area for Sea Kayak touring with ample opportunities for finding remote campsites and a wide range of sea conditions from calm lochs to wild tide races like Corrievrechan. If you have not, then it is a delight to which you can look forward.

The Scottish Scenic Trust have launched a campaign to help protect the area against environmental pressures including supertanker routes, oil and gas exploitation, quarrying, fish farms, power cables and thoughtless development. They also plan to promote the clearing up or concealing of eyesores.

As the governing body of sea kayaking we have been asked for our support. The BCU is happy to give its moral backing but the Sea Touring Committee feels that something more tangible should be promoted as this area is so important to sea kayaking and ask for your help.

By visiting the area, spending money there, and leaving no trace of our passage we promote the financial health of the area and if we ourselves try to leave the area a bit tidier — clear up a bit of rubbish off the shore for example, we are helping.

However, any efforts to protect and improve the environment costs money and logical-

ly we the users should make our contributions. To show the Trust we are conscious of the need to support sensible conservation measures to protect the environment for us all to share, we need to send money to help their funds. As I visited the area last summer and will be again in 1987, I am sending a £5 personal donation reflecting the importance of the area to my sport.

If you wish to support the Trust in protecting a prime canoeing area, your letters and donations should be sent to:- Neil Jamieson, The Scottish Scenic Trust, 15 Essex Street, London, WC2R 3AA.

**John Kuysler**  
BCU Sea Touring Committee

### MEDWAY CANOE MARATHON

As a result of speaking to some of the paddlers who didn't come to the Medway Marathon this year, I have discovered that the marathon has developed something of a reputation as being a tough event, and potential participants are being put off having a go.

I would like to re-assure paddlers that although the marathon is certainly character building, anybody is welcome to take part. The organisers always wait for the last paddler home, which can be over six hours. There are marshalls at each lock if paddlers want to drop out or rest, and a sweep boat (a Canadian tourer) follows the last paddler and can pick up bodies and equipment if necessary. If paddlers find their energy failing they are able to 'top up' with squash and biscuits at each lock where there is also help if needed for portaging.

Experience shows that only 5% of starters do not make it, and the majority of these non-finishers are adult males! The success rate for 13 year olds girls so far is 100%. Out of 212 starters this year only eight didn't finish the course!

So those of you who have been discouraged by the rumours — please come along and find out for yourself next year!

**Toby Lankester**  
Joint Organiser, Maidstone, Kent.

### REST IN PEACE!

Please find enclosed one dead Basic Roamer. The aforementioned passed away quietly on the foredeck of my Nordkapp during an expedition around Anglesey. The cause of death is unknown, but foul play has been ruled out, and we suspect the deceased was just not up to the trip.

I was vey saddened by the discovery as my Basic Roamer had proved its worth as a very useful tool, in the short time I had come to know it. I am now literally lost without it. Please could you warn fellow canoeists of this plight and hopefully a repetition of this tragic happening can be avoided.

**Yours mournfully,**  
**K. Harris, Walton-on-Thames**

Editor Note

*The Basic Roamer was reviewed in Focus No. 45, page 15, price £1.60. It incorporates 20 handy features to assist with map reading. Please note however, as indicated by Mr. Harris' sad letter, the Basic Roamer whilst shower-proof, will come apart if totally immersed.*

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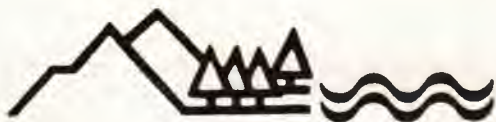
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# OVER FIVE THOUSAND CANOEISTS (ON A VERY SMALL LAKE)

by Keith Falconer, Local Coaching Organiser for Staffordshire and Co-ordinator for the Festival Canoeing Scheme.



Photo: Patrick Murray



Photo: Patrick Murray

Canoeing has proved to be a very popular attraction at the Stoke-on-Trent National Garden Festival. The West Midlands Region of the British Canoe Union set up a "Try Canoeing" scheme at this event where any member of the public, young or old, could take a kayak or canoe (open canadian type) out onto the Festival Marina lake. There had to be a small charge to cover the cost of keeping instructors to supervise the scheme for the whole summer. This however did not deter the public, who queued for up to forty minutes to try their skills in the boats provided.

Placid water canoeing is currently being developed by the BCU, due to the ease of access to the many miles of canals and navigations around Britain. Access to white water is far more limited and under pressure from the growing numbers of canoeists. Flat water touring also appeals to a broader spectrum of people, as has been proved at the Festival where the age range was from six months (possibly a bit young!) to well over sixty — we were too polite to ask the lady in question.

Canoeists at the Festival were mainly young, but often Dad and sometimes Mum and Granny too, were persuaded to try. Some families went away and immediately purchased canoes of their own, such was the enthusiasm generated. A local scheme that is

teaching canoeing to youth and unemployed in its area has reported a great increase in the interest in their courses.

The Polypippin boats used for the scheme were supplied by David Train of Fladbury.



Photo: Keith Falconer

They are reasonably fast and ideal for learners in our situation. They have open cockpits so that there is no danger of legs getting trapped in the unusual event of a capsiz. They are made from almost indestructible polyethylene plastic. The Scheme used these boats for the whole of the three and a half months of their project and found them to be completely safe and satisfactory in every way. The only capsizes observed were young people determined to get wet!

Volunteer instructors from the BCU's Midlands Regions assisted in supplementing the staffing of the scheme at weekends. Their interest in flat water canoeing has been

greatly increased by seeing just how easily anyone can get afloat in this type of kayak. Open canadian canoes were also available on the Marina and were used for family canoeing, particularly where children were too small to manage alone.

All in all, the "Try Canoeing" has been highly successful and much credit should go to the Senior Instructor on the site, Mr Patrick (Paddy) Murray — a third year student at I.M. Marsh College in Liverpool, where he is studying Outdoor Pursuits and Education. A qualified BCU Senior Instructor he took over the scheme in mid-June and staffed it with humour and efficiency (a rare combination) through some very bad weather until the project ended in September. He had to negotiate with a somewhat sceptical Festival organisation, who evidently feared drowning on a large scale. However British Waterways were very helpful and indeed the scheme could not have gone ahead without their support.

Canoeing as an activity was very dependant on the weather — not surprising as not many people brought a change of clothes with them or even a towel. On very wet days the operation had to shut down. On sunny days however, up to two hundred people waited patiently for their turn. This was an activity that most had never tried before — but we believe many will try again.





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| Specification:- | Length | Beam  | Price      |
|-----------------|--------|-------|------------|
| Blenheim        | 520cm  | 51 cm | £199 + VAT |

*The BCU would like to point out that BCU Approval is not exclusive to any one equipment design and does not necessarily mean that other manufacturers' designs are inferior.*

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# Competition

## JUNIOR WORLD WILD WATER CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships held on the River Lieser at Spittal in Austria were supported by 16 nations, who fielded over 200 paddlers. France, Austria and Germany had the largest representation, the latter being the only country to gain a medal in each event.

The British Team was an all K1 Team, consisting of three male and two female paddlers. During the trip, one of the female

members, Emma Boulton regrettably broke her leg, but this did not deter her colleague Julie Ashton, who finished a very creditable 10th place. British Open Champion, Alan Tordoff had a disappointing run (seventh), his brother Ian with a further year as a Junior (thirteenth), awaited the outcome of the last paddler, Neil Stamps, the British Ranking Champion. Neil setting off last was chasing the favourite from France, Herve Vitali. Changing their positions throughout the race, Neil eventually finished eight seconds behind



Vitali, thus gaining a very honourable silver medal.

The team event did not have world ranking status, so the event was credited with the European title. Over half the participating nations entered teams and it was a very close run thing. Individual timings were extremely close, but our K1 team (Neil Stamps, Alan and Ian Tordoff) took the gold medal by only 15 seconds ahead of Switzerland, with Austria third.



Photograph by Phil Dean

▲ Neil Stamps passing through gorge section of River Lieser

The successful Great British team ►



Photograph by Phil Dean



## NATIONAL MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS — WORCESTER

On 23 and 24 August, the Worcester Canoe Club held the Annual National Championships. There were 265 competitors in the two day event. The races were held in good competitive spirit, there were no complaints about the weir or shute as in previous years.

On Saturday the weather looked promising for the start of the event, many of the competitors pitched tents on Worcester Race Course for the weekend. However on Saturday evening the clouds opened, and it poured. On Sunday the skies were once again clear and many spectators turned out to give their support.

The first race was U14 mens K1 which was won in a time of 33 minutes 46 seconds by A. Richardson (Royal Canoe Club). The U14 ladies K2, with only two competitors was won by R. Leverett and J. Fisher (Lincoln Canoe Club) in a time of 25 minutes 32 seconds. The U16 mens K2 which was fought out by three clubs, Irish Canoe Union, Royal Leamington Spa Canoe Club, Bollington Canoe Club with only 25 seconds between the first three over the line. There was a more spirited entry in U16 mens K1. A. Barkway (Norwich Sea Scouts) and J. Wilson (Anker Valley Canoe Club) fought for first place, Barkway got the better of Wilson to win the race in a time of 54 minutes 6 seconds. Ladies U16 K2 was won by L. Dawe and T. Lodge (Exeter Canoe Club) in 33 minutes 52 seconds. U18 mens K1 was won by P. Gibbins (Exeter Canoe Club) in a time of 1 hour 18 minutes 22 seconds. U18 Ladies K1 was taken by R. Bland (Fladbury Canoe Club) in 1 hour 2 minutes 47 seconds. S. Reeves and D. Loughry (Leighton Buzzard Canoe Club) took the trophy for senior and veteran men K2 (Div 5-9) in a time of 54 minutes 55 seconds. Senior and Veteran Ladies K2 (Division 3-4) was won by J. Hall and H. Jacobson in 1 hour 18 minutes 35 seconds. These winners came from Australia especially for the event.

The Senior K1 race saw an extremely close finish — mere seconds separating those in contention. I. Lawler (Elmbridge Canoe Club) crossed the finishing line in 1 hour and 51 minutes 55 seconds, with R. Belcher (Adlington Canoe Club) one second behind, and A. Williams (Royal Canoe Club) a further two seconds behind him. In the Senior K1 for ladies J. Hall (Australia) returned a time of 1 hour 25 minutes and 57 seconds with G. Clough (Lichfield Canoe Club) only 4 seconds behind.

The Canadian C2 class saw some very

interesting paddling again from our visitors down under, with T. Bond and K. Phillips finishing ahead of G. Owen and K. Young (Nottingham CC) in times of 1 hour 26 minutes 46 seconds and 1 hour 30 minutes 15 seconds respectively. The Senior K2 saw Lawler combining with Williams and providing a good match for the Australian pair C. Brown and M. Coulter with the former pair finishing in 1 hour 42 minutes 18 seconds, just four seconds ahead.

The Organiser, Mr. T. Phillips, on behalf of Worcester Canoe Club said that this event was the best held by the club in the last five years. Although Worcester Canoe Club did not have many paddlers in the event, they received three good results, J. Austin and M. Hines took second place to S. Reeves and D. Loughry (Leighton Buzzard Canoe Club) in the mens K2 Div 5-9. A. Nolan and R. Powell came 6th, winning the veterans award. A. Gillespie took Gold in the Ladies Div 3 K1, she was the only female member of the club to take a medal.

On Sunday afternoon Exeter Canoe Club received a K1 for winning the overall event. The boat, which was kindly donated by Fladbury Canoe Club, seemed to make Saturday nights soaking worthwhile for Exeter.

## WHITE WATER RACING AND TRAINING GUIDES

A number of Racing and Training Guides to white water rivers have been produced by *White Water News*. These cover the Rivers Aire, Allen, Awe and Calder. Copies can be obtained by sending a stamped and pre-addressed A5 envelope to Dave Kay, 14 Lake View, Furness Vale, STOCKPORT, Cheshire, SK12 7QD.

## ARCTIC CANOE RACE



CONGRATULATIONS TO Andy FREEMAN and Ian WHITE of the Hereford Kayak Club who won the K2 Class of the Arctic Canoe

Race in July/August in Finland, with a combined time of 43 hrs 12 mins and 46 secs. This, following their win in the Devizes-Westminster earlier in the season, gives them the "Classic Series" for 1986. In second place, were Richard HORSLEY and Graeme SWADLING of the Windsor Canoe Club in a time of 44 hrs 53 mins and 41 secs.

## FRODSHAM MARATHON CANOE RACE

Although flat water canoeing just about disappeared from the Cheshire region, following the demise of the one-time highly successful Preston Brook Canoe Club, recent months have witnessed a resurgence of interest in the sport. Earlier this year, a 16 mile descent race (won by Robin Belcher) was held on the River Weaver. Over 70 competitors took part in this the first Frodsham Marathon, held on 3 August. The surprise of the day was the late entry of members of the New Zealand white water racing team who provided some very tough opposition in Division Two.

Between Northwich and Runcorn, the River Weaver provides almost perfect conditions for the flat water canoeist — deep, wide and slow moving with long straights and rights of way along both banks. Additional to the perfect water conditions are beautiful scenery and the absence of fishermen. The Organisers would like to express their appreciation to Bass Brewing (Preston Brook) Limited for sponsoring the event and to former members of the Preston Brook Canoe Club for donating trophies and assisting with the organisation of the event.

## MARATHON DRAW RESULTS

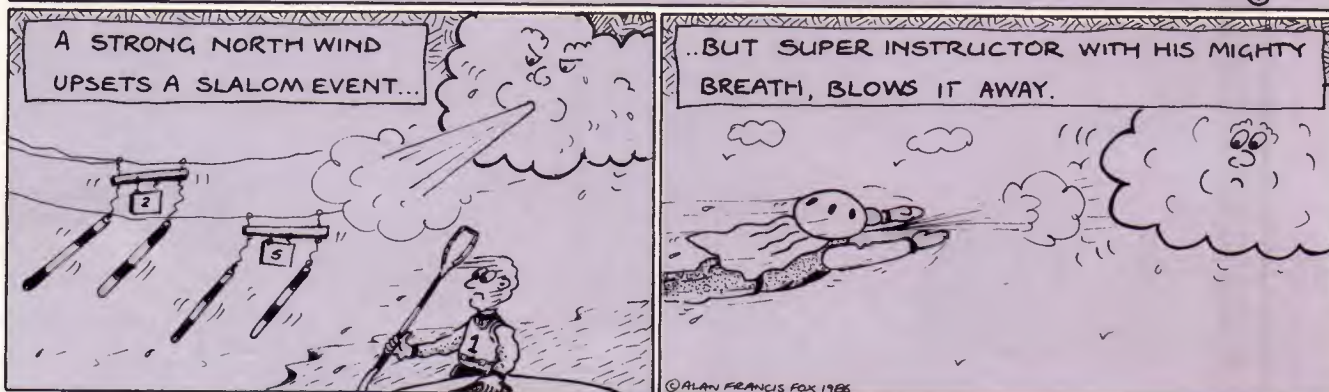
The June Draw was won by A Hart of Hull and District Canoe Club at the Hull and District Race on 18 May. The winning certificate was No. 37180. A Hart will receive a K1 from Kirton Kayaks who now sponsor the Marathon Racing Scheme. Hull and District Canoe Club will receive a cheque for £100.00 as organisers of the winning event.

So far this year the Marathon Racing Scheme has given sponsorship to the following clubs:-

- Truro Canoe Club received a Marsport Falcon K2
- Liverpool Water Sports Centre received £200 towards the cost of Blenheims and Discoveries
- Marlow Canoe Club received £200 towards the cost of three K2's

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## NEWS FOR SLALOM PADDLERS

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## SCHOOLS SLALOM SUCCESS

Wes Halton, ably assisted by helpers from Bolton Canoe Club, and elsewhere, organised another happy and successful weekend of slalom canoeing competition at Moses Gate Country Park, on behalf of the British Schools Canoeing Association between 28-29 June. A total of 17 perpetual trophies were competed for at the Championships besides individual medals in 21 classes. Top schools were: 1st — Richmond, 2nd — Furtherwick Park and 3rd — Millbrook. The Top Junior Clubs were first — Bolton, Second — Kinver and third — Banbury. Grateful thanks go to Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council and all concerned.

## JUNIOR WORLD SLALOM CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Championships held in parallel with the Wild Water Racing Championships (see page 38) at Spittal in July also saw one of our Junior paddlers bringing home a medal. In the Ladies K1 event, Heather CORRIE, at 14 years of age the youngest competitor to paddle the course — was pipped into third place as a result of penalty points for the touch of a gate. A bronze medal out of 29 competitors from 13 countries is an excellent achievement, of which Heather can be justly proud.



Heather Corrie



Photograph by Peter Ingram

Getting ready before the fifth race

## THE HEINEKEN EUROPA CUP

### Heineken sponsor International Canoe Sailing

The Europa Cup Competition held at Rock in Cornwall from 26th July to 1st August, drew competitor from Sweden, Germany as well as the host country. 37 canoe sailors took part in a series of five races (best four results to count) in weather which could hardly be described as ideal. It was obvious from the start that the Swedes were going to dominate

the event, and this they proceeded to do. In the finally tally, O. Bergquist finished in top position (with two firsts, a second and a fourth), ahead of R. Carlsson (one first, two seconds and a third) and M. Tollqvist, the 1981 World Champion (with two firsts, a third and eighth) in third place. The leading British competitor (and as a result — the British 1986 Champion), was Graham Mackereth in overall fifth place (with a third, a fifth and two sixth places). Graham is to be congratulated on this achievement, especially as he graduated to canoe sailing from paddling.



Photograph by Peter Ingram

◀ Down to the start



Photograph by Peter Ingram

Getting under way ▶





# Christmas is coming!



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