

# CANOE FOCUS

No 74 DECEMBER 1991 Price £2.00



## ANGLO SOVIET TRIP

*home with snow on their boots!*

## ONE WOMAN'S VIEW



# COLEMAN®



## BUILT TO TAKE IT.



For further details please contact:  
The Coleman Co. (0272) 845024



# CANOE FOCUS

**Canoe Focus** The official magazine of the British Canoe Union

**John Dudderidge House,**  
Adbolton lane,  
West Bridgeford,  
Notts NG2 5AS  
Tel: (0602) 821100  
Fax: (0602) 821797  
ISBN 0953-010X

**BCU Enquiries to**  
above address

**Acting Director:** Geoff Good

**Editor:** Kevin Danforth

**February copy date:**  
30th December 1991.

**Publishing Contractors**  
Raven Marketing Group  
New Road, St. Ives, Cambs.  
PE17 4BG  
Tel: (0480) 496130  
Fax: (0480) 495514

**Advertisement Manager**  
Sarah Clegg

**Printed by:**  
Acorn Colour Print Ltd.,  
Normanton.

**Colour Repro by:**  
CLE, St. Ives, Cambs

**Design, Typesetting and Page  
Make-up by:**  
RMG Design, St. Ives, Cambs.

**Annual Subscription Rate**  
UK inland £12 overseas £14.  
Supplied to BCU members -  
adults £11.50 basic, £20  
comprehensive; under 18's £7  
basic £10.50 comprehensive.

Canoe Focus encourages contributions of any nature but reserves the right to edit and condense to fill the space available and unless otherwise stated the Publishers assume no responsibility for the return of unsolicited manuscripts, artwork or photographs. Opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the British Canoe Union, its committees or members. The printing of an advertisement in Canoe Focus does not necessarily mean that the British Canoe Union endorse the company, item or service advertised.

All material in Canoe Focus is strictly copyright and all rights are reserved. Reproduction without prior permission from the Editor is forbidden.



4 *Comment*  
News from HQ

6 *Letters*

8 *Noticeboard*

14 *Access*

23 *Paddlers Gear*  
Kayaks for the Disabled

31 *Regional Roundup*

32 *One Woman's View*



16 *Competition Focus*  
Surf, Marathon, Polo.

34 *Liffey Descent*  
A long weekend in  
Dublin



20 *Off the Top of the  
World*  
Anglo-Soviet Sea  
Kayaking

38 *Members Classified*



**Cover photograph:** Aleut sea kayak amongst the Soviet ice flows.

Leicester Canoeist Colin Dodge gets on his bike. Is this the birth of the all terrain urban outdoorsman? Copyright Leicester Mercury.

# C O N T E N T S



## NEWS FROM BCU HEAD QUARTERS

### Random thoughts .

**C**ongratulations to all our paddlers who achieved honours for their clubs, their country, and satisfaction for themselves with some outstanding performances during 1991. And our best wishes to them, and all our other contenders, as they prepared hard for the Olympics, or other major events during 1992.

**Recruitment to membership** is vital to our future. In spite of the recession the BCU continues to grow. Thank you one and all who 'sell' the need for there to be a central coordinating body for the sport - even if you do moan about shortcomings at times.

Our superb, worthwhile sport and pastime is held back in every sphere through lack of resources. Greatly increased membership is the key - so let's go for it in 1992.

**Thankyou for your response.** We are receiving an excellent response to the questionnaire. Thankyou for taking the time and trouble to help. Some members are using the opportunity to spell out a few home truths! We know the problems, though. In the main we agree with you. The people in key positions are paddlers and members too! The old adage usually applies, however: 'when you are up to your ass in alligators, it's difficult to

# Comment

remember that the original intention was to drain the swamp!' - but we are working on it, even if usually we are in it!

**New canoeing magazine** to be launched. 1992 will see an interesting new development when the publishers of 'Yachts and Yachting' enter the canoeing sphere. A 60 page monthly glossy is due to hit the news-stands in March.

**Olympic tickets.** Some tickets are available for the racing and slalom events at Barcelona. or slalom contact Sue Wharton (02572) 62051 and for racing, the BCU office.

**Basic Members can vote,** - or, the missing star need not lead to missing stars! Adult basic members who have recently received a renewal reminder have not been deprived of their hard-won voting rights? All that happened was that the star which should have appeared in the box on the membership renewal form against 'Voting Rights' was inadvertently 'lost' when the form was being revised on the desk top publisher. Thank you to those who spotted the error, and our apologies for its occurrence. See you at the AGM?

**And a Merry Christmas to one and all. We do wish all members the very happiest of Christmases, and a prosperous, paddle-popping New Year.**

**Geoff Good  
Acting Director.**

## 1991 MEDAL WINNERS

### Slalom World Championships

|    |      |   |        |
|----|------|---|--------|
| K1 | Men  | Shaun Pearce                              | Gold   |
| C1 | Team | Gareth Marriott/Mark Delaney/Bill Horsman | Bronze |

### Slalom World Cup

|    |     |                 |      |
|----|-----|-----------------|------|
| K1 | Men | Richard Fox     | Gold |
| C1 |     | Gareth Marriott | Gold |

### Junior Pre-Worlds Slalom

|    |     |                               |                |
|----|-----|-------------------------------|----------------|
| C1 |     | Joel Scott                    | Bronze         |
| K1 | Men | Paul Ratcliffe<br>James Croft | Gold<br>Silver |

### Sailing Europa Cup

|  |  |                |      |
|--|--|----------------|------|
|  |  | Mark Goodchild | Gold |
|--|--|----------------|------|

### World Canoe and Kayak Sprint Championships

|    |         |                      |      |
|----|---------|----------------------|------|
| C1 | 10,000m | Andrew Train         | Gold |
| C2 | 10,000m | Andrew/Stephen Train | Gold |

### WWR World Cup

|    |        |                 |        |
|----|--------|-----------------|--------|
| C2 |        | Twigger/Simpson | Bronze |
| K1 | Ladies | Karen Porter    | Silver |
| K1 | Ladies | Cynthia Berry   | Bronze |

### Mechelen International Regatta

#### Juniors

|          |       |                                |        |
|----------|-------|--------------------------------|--------|
| K1Ladies | 5000m | Tricia Davey                   | Gold   |
| K1       | 500m  | Tricia Davey                   | Silver |
| K2       | 6000m | Ian Wynne/Tony Richardson      | Gold   |
| K2       | 1000m | Ian Wynne/Tony Richardson      | Silver |
| K2       | 500m  | Ian Wynne/Tony Richardson      | Silver |
| K4       | 1000m | Richardson/Wynne/Jenson/Slater | Silver |
| K4       | 500m  | Richardson/Wynne/Jenson/Slater | Silver |
| K2       | 6000m | S Unstead/S Hynds              | Silver |

#### Seniors

|    |      |                               |        |
|----|------|-------------------------------|--------|
| K2 | 10km | Ivan Lawler<br>Grayson Bourne | Gold   |
| C1 | 10km | Andrew Train                  | Bronze |

### Marathon World Cup

|     |  |                  |        |
|-----|--|------------------|--------|
| K2  |  | Burns/Lawler     | Gold   |
| LK2 |  | Troop/Blumenthal | Bronze |
| C2  |  | Train/Train      | Gold   |



**AVONCRAFT GIVES YOU THE WORLD'S FINEST CHOICE**



**AVONCRAFT** SOLE U.K. DISTRIBUTOR FOR **RÖMER GmbH**

**GRUMMAN CANOES**

Visit our warehouse facility and see the largest stocks of kayaks, canoes, paddles, safety equipment and accessories available from all the Worlds leading names:- Prijon, Grumman, H.F., Romer, Ace, Perception, Arrowcraft, Old Town, Coleman to name but a few.

Opening Hours:

MON-FRI 9am-5.30pm SAT 9am-1pm



**SCHLEGEL**

**hf**



**PRIJON**

The leading innovator of the toughest yet blowmoulded high density Polyethylene kayaks, renowned for their rigidity and unequalled safety features. These include the Taifun, T Slalom, T Canyon, Yukon, Gattino, Topolino, Topolino Duo, Invader and Seayak.

**AVONCRAFT**

Borrowfield, Welwyn Garden City, Herts. AL7 4SR  
Telephone: (0707) 330000 Fax: (0707) 333026

AVONCRAFT NORTH. Carlisle Canoes,  
41 Wigton Road, Carlisle, Cumbria. CA2 7AX  
Telephone: (0228) 31703



## BIASED

✍ I feel I must write to complain that the magazine and in fact the members survey has a distinct bias towards slalom and white water canoeing. Not being one to put these sports down as I enjoy them as much as any other canoeist but I feel that canoe polo has been ignored on a regular basis. Events occur all year and get very little recognition or coverage. We hear of marathon and slalom all the time in Canoe Focus, but do you realise that there have been open polo tournaments in Germany, France., Belgium, Ireland and all round the UK. The Australian national side has just completed a tour of Europe and all this plus the national leagues. Canoe polo suffers from a lack of coverage, which is a shame when it is such an exciting sport especially as Great Britain teams and national sides usually do very well indeed at international level. Do remember there are a lot of polo players who read Canoe Focus. Sorry to moan but I feel I needed to write.

**Steve Capeham**

*Editorial reply: A valid point, but Focus has to receive match reports and news in order to print them. Action photographs are also desperately needed.*

## BOSOMS?

✍ I would like to congratulate you on a very informative and interesting write-up on Paddlers Gear. However, I do feel you have forgotten two very important things. Bosoms! All the gear you have tested has been tried out by yourself, a man (I presume). But at no point has it been tried out with concern for the fit, functionability and comfort of a woman.

You state the Palm buoyancy aid has managed to reach the compromise situation between comfort and function. I have to dispute this. If the buoyancy aid is comfortable for me - an average sized woman - and it is not so tight it permanently damages those afore-mentioned unmentionables, then it slips over my head when I'm emersed in water trundling down a rapid swimming after my kayak and paddle.

# Dear Focus

However, if the harness strap is tightened sufficiently to prevent this happening, then it inhibits good paddling technique and something else quite important, inhalation of air.

The same thing applies to the Foster Rowe Sea Buoyancy Aid, although I haven't tried one. You stress the fact it has been designed by three rough water sea kayakers - Ray Rowe, Nigel Foster and Andy Middleton. True, but also three men who, yet again, have not considered the differing needs of women.

I feel your article would make different reading if you gave the gear to a woman to try out. I know for a fact the cut of the Patagonia Scanorak you mention is really generous, so generous in fact that when the cuffs are fastened round the wrists the sleeves bunch up under the armpits and impede that wonderful thing you mention, paddling technique.

**Tina Pomfrett**

## HP SLALOM COURSE

✍ I am somewhat concerned about the contents of the article by Andrew Haywood on the operation of the artificial slalom course at Holme Pierrepont during conditions of low discharge in the Trent that appeared in the Late News in the last Canoe Focus. One or two of the statements that are made in that article are questionable, in my opinion.

During the design of the course we anticipated and took into account almost all of the operational aspects that

are cited in the article. One that was not anticipated, nor was it brought to our attention, was the 'excessive vibrations' (of what?) due to the complete closure of the sluice gates. I find it difficult to understand why, if it is possible, the sluice gates should not be completely closed in periods of low river discharge and all of the river flow be diverted down the course. (I appreciate that some would be needed for the intermittent operation of the locks.)

There may be good reasons why this idea of complete closure is a silly one, but, as I say, during the design of the course we were not appraised of them - nor have I heard of any since then. The thing that concerns me is that statements like this one, even though they may be without foundation, may become a sort of Holme Pierrepont folk lore because they are repeated without being questioned. I can perhaps illustrate this point by recalling a personal experience.

At a meeting of the water engineers' professional association not too long ago, a statement was made during a question time that because of the level of pollution in the Trent, the course at Holme Pierrepont should never have been built, and would not be allowed if the exercise was to be repeated now. On closer questioning, it became clear that the senior member of the profession who made this statement was not aware of the document on the issue of pollution that formed part of the design considerations for the

course. He was involved in a 'washing of hands' exercise to distance his Authority from any responsibility for the incidences of illness that have occurred amongst paddlers using the course. This sort of thing is prejudicial to the chances of building more slalom courses.

The way in which the course is operated is itself prejudicial to this same thing. I live (probably) as does to the course as any BCU member, so I visit the course fairly often. This is because as one of the designers of the course who is continuously involved in the designs of other courses, I am interested to see how its fabric is wearing and how its operation is organised. These are both, again, aspects of course function that were carefully considered at the design stage, and they are things that prospective promoters of courses are keen to see and learn something about.

When visitors see the relatively unkempt nature of the course and appreciate the frequency with which it is allowed to be booked at prime times for a relatively few, and often select, paddlers, we find that we have a recovery job to do in terms of encouraging them to maintain their indignation to consider building a course. It seems to me that the relative unpredictability of access to the course means that most of the time it really operates as a regional facility and not a national one.

We had to design the course down to a fixed price and it still gives the impression of something that has not been quite completed. This appears to be reflected in the attitude to the way in which the course should be run. With a world championships event fast approaching, perhaps about now is a good time to give the whole site another major push to get it looking completed. For example, since it was built a method for installing moveable obstacles has been developed and tested.

Hands up those who would like to find the course completely different next time they paddle it?

**George Parr.**



# pyranha



# Magic



Paddling the Magic Bat, you know it's a thoroughbred, fast and furious on white water, calm and serene on flat water, devastating as a stunt boat. A kayak that has the stability, volume and length to maximise your enjoyment in any situation. An incredibly versatile machine for paddlers of all standards and abilities.

**PURE MAGIC !**

**Pyranha Mouldings Limited, Marina Village, Preston Brook, Runcorn, Cheshire WA7 3DW.  
Tel: (0928) 716666: Fax: (0928) 714399**



## Still No Fee For BCU Members' Master Card

Members' who have taken advantage of the Bank of Scotland BCU members' Master Card, will be pleased to learn that, unlike many other charge cards, no annual fee is being introduced for 1992.

If every member took advantage of this credit card offer, it would make a substantial difference to our finances. Why not support our sport? Please ask for details from the BCU office.

## Paddlers International Liaise with BCU

Paddlers International have kindly agreed to provide river information to BCU members. Their special expertise is in waters beyond Europe for which there is little information available in this country. Write, enclosing a self addressed and stamped envelope, to Paddlers International, Catlina Cottage, Aultivullin, Strathy Point, Sutherland, Scotland KW14 7RY.



## British Canoe Union Access cash pledge. 10K for House of Lords appeal

At its meeting on Saturday 2 November the Union's Council approved a 10,000 guarantee to the House of Lords Appeal for the Yorkshire Derwent Case. This confirmed the decision taken at the beginning of October by the Union's management committees to support the appeal.

Mike Twiggs, Chairman of Access said "I am delighted that Council have unanimously supported the appeal. As your representative on the Water Heritage Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those clubs and individual canoeists who have contributed to the Appeal Fund, but we still need more to continue the case."

The landowners with support from anglers and conservation

# Notice Board

groups are boasting that they have so much money they can and will continue the fight whatever the cost. Can we allow the public right of access to water highways and byways be determined not by what is right or just, but by the size of a bank account.

To those, who have not yet contributed I appeal to you to do so now.

Send a cheque or postal order, made out to WATER HERITAGE and post it to: WATER HERITAGE Mowthorpe Hill Farm Terrington York YO6 4QF

## Welsh experience

A new video to promote Wales is being launched on Thursday October 31st 1991, featuring the Experience of Adventure in Llandrillo, near Corwen as the place to go for all your outdoor activities. It shows John and Ruth Tribe kayaking on the river Tryweryn and running a raft through the graveyard section.

To coincide with the release of the video they have produced a new brochure for 1992. The video will be distributed world-

wide for the next seven years by the Welsh Tourist Board, The British Tourist Authority, International Video Network and

Readers Digest to promote Wales as a tourist centre. The white-water action shows a fresh view of Wales from the slate mines, castles and choirs that have been its image in the past and is designed to attract the more adventurous tourist to the mountains.

Call 0490 84348 for the new Experience of Adventure brochure.

## Grants to Exhibitions

May we remind you that the BCU Expeditions Committee which gives approval and/or Grant Aid processes most applications in February and the closing date is the 10th January. Approval is given to a wide range of expeditions including youth groups. It is probably

*continued on page 10*

## Consultant engineers win boat building contest with sailing canoe



SILK CUT 'N' STICK skippered by Consultant Engineer Barry Deakin and crewed by fellow consultant Peter Weynberg from Southampton University won the 500 first prize and the Silk Cut Challenge trophy in an exciting boat building and racing competition held during the Southampton Boat Show between 13 and 21 September.

Picture shows: University of Southampton Consultant Engineer Barry Deakin, 35, (left) and fellow consultant Peter Weynberg, 46, propelling their sailing canoe SILK CUT 'N' STICK which won them first prize, although the craft could finish only third in the sailing race.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION

The AGM of the British Canoe Union will be held on Saturday 14 March 1992 at the Westminster Boating Base.

Members are reminded that Article 18(b) of the Union's Articles of Association requires that any motion for discussion at the Annual General Meeting not originating from the Council of Management, shall be

Signed by two full\* members entitled to vote, and 2 Be lodged with the Secretary (Director) before 1 January 1992.

Article 13(c) requires that the nominations of candidates for election as elected members of the Council of Management are put forward in the form of such a motion. Nominations should

be accompanied by a pen portrait of the candidate up to 100 words maximum in length. As a consequence of elected members of the Council of Management completing their two year electoral term there will be five vacancies for membership of the Council.

Members entitled to vote include the following classes of membership:

- 1 Adult Basic
  - 2 Life Comprehensive
  - 3 Adult Comprehensive
- (also full and life members under the old system)

Only members as designated in \* above are eligible for nomination as elected members.



We can obtain for you almost any canoe, kayak or surfski from almost any manufacturer. We can also let you pay for your purchase with 3 or 6 monthly cheques. No fuss, no delays, minimum details required.

**3 or 6 MONTHS**

**NO INTEREST PAID**

For any further information please do not hesitate to contact us.

**The P & H Company** 0602 320155

The P & H Company, Station Road, West Hallam, Derbyshire.

**CHEQUESPREPAID**

**FINEST DESIGNS  
HIGHEST STANDARDS  
THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION  
OF CANOE TRADES**

- AC CANOE PRODUCTS (CHESTER) LTD  
PO Box 62, Chester CH1 3JX (0244) 311711
- ARROWCRAFT MARINE LTD  
PO Box 15, Cannock, Staffs WS11 3DH (05435) 73466
- DIAMOND WET SUITS LTD  
Northolt Drive Bolton, BL3 6RE (0204) 28225
- GAYBO LTD  
Bellbrook Business Park, Uckfield, East Sussex TN22 1QU (0825) 765891
- KIRTON KAYAKS LTD  
Marsh Lane, Crediton, Devon EX17 1ES (0363) 773295
- LENDAL PRODUCTS LTD  
30 Hunter Street, Prestwick, Ayrshire KA9 1LG (0292) 78558
- MARSPORT (UK) LTD  
215 London Road, Reading, Berks RG1 3NY (0734) 665912
- MOBILE ADVENTURE LTD  
Bridge Works, Knighton Fields Road West, Leicester LE2 6LG (0533) 830659
- NORTH SHORE DESIGNS  
Tanton Hall Farm, Stokesley, Middlesborough Cleveland TS9 5JT (0642) 710350
- PADDLESPOUT  
9 Saddler Close, Stratford on Avon CV37 0EE (0789) 298187/(0836) 580598
- PALM CANOE PRODUCTS LTD  
Harbour Road, Portishead, Bristol BS20 9BL (0272) 842740
- SLALOM SPORTS  
12 Holmscroft Road, Luton LU3 2TY (0582) 571841
- SUNRAY GP  
4a Bolton Road, Adlington, Nr Chorley, Lancs PR6 9NA (0257) 483362
- THE P & H COMPANY  
Station Road, West Hallam, Derby DE7 6ZH (0602) 320155
- TRYLON LTD  
Thrift Street, Wollaston, Nr Wellingborough, Northants (0933) 664275
- VALLEY CANOE PRODUCTS LTD  
Private Road 4, Colwick Estate, Nottingham NG4 2JT (0602) 614995
- WILD WATER  
The Mill Glasshouses, Pately Bridge, Harrogate, N Yorks HG3 5QH (0423) 711624

**FAMILIAR NAMES THAT OFFER YOU THE BEST IN CANOES, KAYAKS & EQUIPMENT**

*Write or ring for further information.*

**pyranha**

**BODYGUARDS**

Pyranha PRO-RANGE accessories, a range of accessories combining safety and style at a very competitive price.

**"BREATHABLE" DRY CAG**

Our latest cag manufactured in a breathable material which ensures you stay dry and comfortable inside. Developed with twin seals on the body and extra protection around the wrist seals. **£94.95**



**DRY CAG**

Our standard dry top manufactured in 3 colours with a neoprene waist, now with a more generous underarm cut giving greater freedom. **£54.95**



**EXTREME BUOYANCY AID**

A true whitewater buoyancy aid. Five built in pockets, karabiner, heavy duty buckle. **£74.75**



**ALPINE BUOYANCY AID**

A development of the extreme, with the same buoyancy (10kgs) plus knife pocket, and karabiner. **£67.95**



**PRO-LIFE HELMET**

The stylish way to protect your head, and a must for any whitewater use. Pro-Life helmets - 3 colours, 4 sizes. A helmet to suit everyone. **£29.95**



**PRO-GRIP SPRAYDECK**

Specially manufactured for Pyranha by Day 2 in New Zealand. This is the ultimate spraydeck. Its "U" section rubber band grips the cockpit rim tightly but also ensures removal of the spraydeck in an emergency. **£49.95**



PYRANHA accessories, - for further information contact Pyranha Factory Shop on (0928) 716666.



not worth applying for grants for your Alpine holiday or Welsh sea kayaking trip. First descents, wilderness trips and other credit-worthy ventures will be favoured. Full details are contained in the expedition pack (£2.00) from the BCU Office.

### **Jersey International Sea Kayaking Symposium**

■ The Jersey Canoe Club in conjunction with the Nordkapp Trust is organising a Sea Kayaking Symposium over the Bank Holiday weekend of 23rd - 25th May 1992 followed by a further 4 days of guided paddling in Channel Island waters with the opportunity to undertake training and assessment for national awards.

The waters around Jersey are an ideal playground for the sea paddler regardless of personal ability. Committing open crossings and tidal races contrasting with the peaceful exploration of superb coastal scenery. It is against this background that the 1992 Sea Symposium is being arranged. A number of well known sea paddlers including Frank Goodman, John Ramwell, Howard Jeffs, Ray Rowe and Duncan Winning from the UK with George Hartwig from Germany and Didier Plouhinec from France are scheduled to give talks and lead practical sessions. In addition a number of local experts from a variety of related fields will be lecturing.

Delegates to the Symposium will be able to select a variety of workshops from a choice of approximately 30 topics. In the evenings there will be a comprehensive social programme and a creche is planned making it an ideal choice for the family paddler, especially as it coincides with most schools half term holidays.

The cost of the Symposium is 45 and help is available with arrangements for travel and accommodation. The Channel Islands have in the past largely been ignored by sea paddlers those who have visited the area have not been disappointed by what they have found. The Symposium is an ideal way of paddlers increasing their knowledge in many superb sea paddling environment. Make 1992 the year that you visit the most southerly area of the British Isles.

Further details and a booking form are available from: Kevin Manseil 177 Quennevais Park St Brelade Jersey 0534 45936

### **BCU WOMEN IN CANOEING PANEL**

At last the Women in Canoeing Panel is up and going! Politics and diplomacy move very slowly for an old activist like me!

I am sure you would agree that there are many areas which currently demand attention but after much discussion and consultation the priority area for the first 3 years will be

#### **Women in Coaching.**

There is little doubt that establishing a firm basis in the coaching scheme by substantially increasing the female coaching stock, will go far in attracting more women and girls into the sport.

This in turn could lead to increased membership

and an improvement in many other aspects of canoeing.

The Panel will be working to help and advise the Union and will be accountable to the Access Coaching and Recreation Management Committee. The programme for the first year will be an initial meeting of the whole panel followed by a number of working group meetings, finally reporting to ACRMC. The members of the panel will have been selected by the Chairs of Council and ACRMC and the Director of Coaching. Members will be kept informed of what's going on through Canoe Focus. I would love to hear from you if you have anything you would like to discuss or contribute to the panel's work. **Anne Palmer** - Chair-Women in Canoeing Panel. Telephone: 0455 841847.

## **NOTES FROM NOVEMBER COUNCIL**

The following issues were among those addressed by the November meeting of the BCU Council. A copy of the minutes is available to members on receipt at the BCU office of a sae.

#### **Tributes**

The meeting stood in silent tribute to the late Director, Trevor Bailey. It also noted with regret the resignation through ill health of Paul Archer, an elected member.

#### **Tobacco - no go !**

It was agreed that the BCU should not accept sponsorship from tobacco companies. Each meeting should vote whether or not to permit smoking during that meeting.

#### **The Worlds come to Britain**

Plans are proceeding for the staging of the World Slalom and Wild Water Racing Championships in Britain in 1995. WWR on the Tryweryn, in co-operation with the Welsh Canoeing Association, and Slalom at Holme Pierrepont.

It was also agreed that the Polo World Championships should be staged in Britain in 1994. Busy times ahead.

#### **Event at AGM**

Plans are proceeding for a canoeing event to be held in conjunction with the BCU agm at Westminster Boating Base -14 March 1992.

#### **Financial Review Working Party**

Concern continues about the hand-to-mouth existence of the Union's sections, and the difficulty of finding substantial funds to 'seed' priority developmental projects. A small working group was established to review the existing sources and priority distribution of income, and to propose alternatives.

#### **The development of Recreational Canoeing**

A paper from the National Development Officer was adopted, placing responsibility for the promotion of local activity firmly in the court of the BCU Regional Committees.

BCU Lifeguards Arrangements for the affiliation of BCU Lifeguard Units were agreed.

#### **Women in Canoeing Panel**

The 'ginger group' to recommend ways in

which the sport can be made more welcoming to females was approved as an advisory panel reporting through the Access, Coaching and Recreation Management Committee.

#### **Unanimous support for Derwent appeal**

There was a unanimous vote to under-write £10,000 to enable the very significant appeal against the means of establishing rights of way on water, to be defended. The details are reported on elsewhere in this Focus.

#### **Communication**

The Press and Information officer spoke to a report. Improvements are planned to the Members' Yearbook to make the mass of information it contains, more easily accessible. Focus should be a monthly publication - the increase required on the annual membership fee to achieve this was estimated at £1.80. Inter-committee communication is tedious and not fully effective. The two latter issues require further debate.

#### **Canoeing for Young People**

The report on sport in the curriculum has identified a number of opportunities for canoeing. Clubs and instructors could well be presented with a major opportunity. The Chairman was thanked for his detailed work in responding to the report on behalf of the BCU.

#### **Clubs and the Olympics**

A circular to clubs suggesting ways of capitalising on the interest in canoeing likely to be shown during and following the Olympics in August 1992, was noted.

#### **Better dead than 'Fed' ?**

Many members will remember the less than amicable debates concerning federalisation of a decade ago. The Scottish and Welsh Associations, now firmly on their feet, are not happy with the way in which the current agreement between the BCU and the Associations is working out, and in particular with the process through which 'British' level decisions are achieved within the current BCU structure. A liaison meeting is due to seek to clarify the situation, and hopefully propose a more acceptable way ahead. Watch this space !



The  
**TRAPPER classic**

the 17ft 6in Canadian Canoe  
winner of the Trans Pennine marathon  
winner of the Liffey Descent Touring Class in  
Kevlar or Diolen

'simply the best'



Contact Chris Hare  
at:

**Chris Hare Marine**




Unit 3A  
Ullswater Road  
Industrial Estate  
Leppol TS25 1UE  
Cleveland  
Tel 0429 235737  
Fax 0429 865341

**DAWSON** **DCS**  
**CANOEING SYSTEMS**

- the range is expanding, the quality stays the same...

- **EQUIPMENT**  
DCS Bouyancy aids, throw bags  
and rescue gear
- **BOATS**  
**CONQUEST, CIPHER, BUBBLE, ENIGMA**  
A full range of OLS kayaks and canoes
- **COACHING**  
The kayak control syllabus, new techniques  
for modern boats
- **CONTRACT**  
The East Midlands Centre for Outdoor  
Leisure Supplies


Mail order available. Full details in the brochure.



Simon Dawson,  
75 Turney Street, The Meadows, Nottingham NG2 2EG  
Tel: (0602) 868803 Fax: (0602) 850325

**ROTHER VALLEY WATERSPORTS**

WATERSPORTS SPECIALISTS



3-7 PARK HILL · SWALLOWNEST · SHEFFIELD S31 0UN  
TELEPHONE OR FAX (0742) 692739

PROPRIETOR: MARK RAYNOR  
FULL RANGE OF SAILBOARDS, SKIS & CANOES.  
WETSUITS & ACCESSORIES  
OPEN TUES/SAT 9.30-6PM · FRIDAY LATE TILL 7PM

**NEW SHOP FOR SOUTH YORKSHIRE**

KAYAKS BY ALL LEADING NAMES \* PADDLES BY SCHLEGEL, AINSWORTH. MI  
PLUS FULL RANGE OF ACCESSORIES

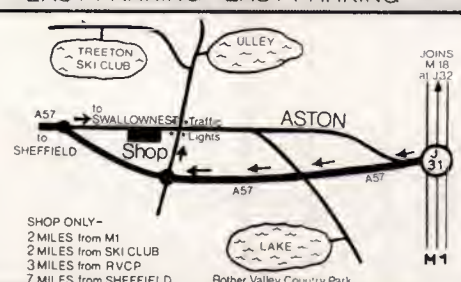
MAIL ORDER - FREE DELIVERY \* FREE POSTAGE \* ACCESS \* VISA

ACCESSORIES \* ACCESSORIES \* ACCESSORIES \* ACCESSORIES

LONG JOHNS \* SHORTIES \* VESTS \* SHORTS over 150 suits in stock  
CAG TOPS - spray, taped or dry - all in stock from £25.25  
CRASH HELMETS - Protec - all sizes, all colours £34.95  
BOUYANCY AIDS - Wildwater - the best - good selection  
SPRAYDECKS \* THROW ROPES \* ROOF RACKS, straps and pads etc.  
WET BOOTS - 8 styles in stock - all sizes - from £9.95  
GLOVES \* WET SOCKS \* POGIES \* plus lots more . . .

0% FREE CREDIT ON GOODS TOTALLING £300 +  
e.g. Pay deposit of £60 + 3 post-dated payments of £80

EASY PARKING \* EASY PARKING \*





## DECEMBER SPECIAL OFFERS

|                       |         |                           |          |
|-----------------------|---------|---------------------------|----------|
| AEROQUATIC II         | £395.00 | WILDWATER EXPLORER LEADER | £65.00   |
| MI 370 (SECONDS) from | £180.00 | SPLASHSPORT CHAMPION      | - 20%    |
| MI 335 (SECONDS) from | £180.00 | RACE CAGS & BOUYANCY AIDS | DISCOUNT |
| MI 415 1990           | £180.00 |                           |          |

**INTEREST FREE CREDIT**  
**UP TO 12 MONTHS**  
 (RETAIL PURCHASES OVER £150)  
 ASK FOR FULL DETAILS

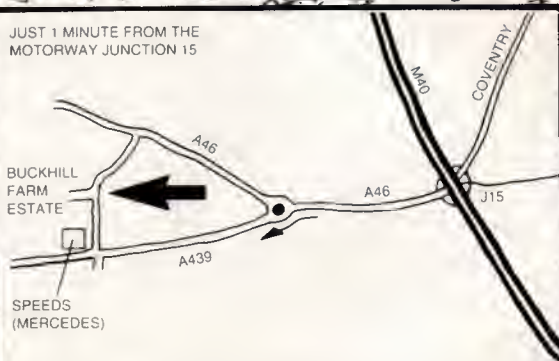
**PADDLE SPORT & WAVEFORM**  
**HAVE MOVED -**  
**NEW LARGER SHOWROOM AND**  
**WORKSHOPS NOW OPEN. SEE BELOW**

## MAKE A KILLING - SIGN A CONTRACT

The boys from Waveform understand Delivery dates, quality and good after sales services are our trademark. Our contract services division offers unbelievable rates, first class delivery and a friendly helpful team to select the best equipment for your organisation. We supply the best deals to HM Forces, Outdoor Centres, Schools, Colleges, Scouts & Guides. Don't cop out when you buy in bulk. Contact Waveform for an offer you can't refuse.

You need protection. . .

JUST 1 MINUTE FROM THE MOTORWAY JUNCTION 15



## WE ARE CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

|             |         |            |         |
|-------------|---------|------------|---------|
| STRATFORD   | 5 MINS  | WORCESTER  | 30 MINS |
| WARWICK     | 5 MINS  | EVESHAM    | 20 MINS |
| COVENTRY    | 15 MINS | CHELTENHAM | 45 MINS |
| BIRMINGHAM  | 20 MINS | GLOUCESTER | 45 MINS |
| NORTHAMPTON | 40 MINS | LEICESTER  | 35 MINS |
| OXFORD      | 25 MINS | LONDON M40 | 60 MINS |

**PADDLE SPORT**

*waveform*  
 WATER SPORT

**GROUP BUYERS**  
**PACKAGE DEALS**  
 6 KAYAKS + DECKS+  
 PADDLES +BOUYANCY AID  
 from £1395 inc. VAT &  
 Delivery

**RACING OR RELAXING**  
 We have one of the widest ranges in the UK for you to choose from  
**CALL US AT ANYTIME MON. TO SUN. DAY OR EVENING**  
**DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR**

**BLACKHILL FARM TRADING ESTATE,**  
**SAND BARN LANE, BLACKHILL, NR STRATFORD ON AVON CV37 0PH.**  
**TEL: (0789) 731133 MOBILE: (0836 580598) FAX: (0789) 731133**





## RIVER DART Canoe Courses 1992



Introduction to Whitewater Skills:  
24-26 Jan £62  
Advanced Professional Training assessment  
17-19 Jan £72  
Instructor Training/Assessment: 8-10 May £72  
Intermediate Whitewater Skills 10-12 Jan £67

All courses include full board accommodation

Chalet, s/c accommodation for groups up to 16. All rooms centrally heated. Drying facilities. Guides and instructors available through the season.

For details contact:  
Mountain Stream Activities  
Wydemeet, Hexworthy, Yelverton,  
DEVON PL20 6SF. Tel: 03643-215



ALL THE MAJOR NAMES  
GAYBO/PERCEPTION ACE  
WILD WATER OTTERSPTS  
ALL FROM STOCK ALL AT KEEN PRICES.  
PLUS our own range of Kayel Kits & G.R.P. canoes and kayaks.

# Granta®

\*\*Ask for our "Special Offer"  
discount list\*\*

BOATS LIMITED  
Ramsey, Huntingdon, Cambs., England  
Telephone: Ramsey (0487)813777

® 'Granta' 'Kayel' and 'Typly' are registered trademarks

## PADDLE A CANOE IN 92

FULL RANGE OF B.C.U. COURSES

AND FULL OUTFITTING SERVICE

Holidays, Tours, Sales, Rental, Books, Maps, Guides, Boats & Gear From Major Manufacturers And Many Specialist Items

FULL DETAILS FROM:

TELEPHONE, MAIL ORDER, ACCESS/VISA



South View, Severn Bank,  
Shrewsbury SY1 2JD

0743 365022

FOR EITHER  
**SEX**  
ANY SIZE OR SHAPE  
**Wet Suits**

AT UNBEATABLE PRICES

Long John  
READY MADE FROM

£36.50

Also made to measure service

Write  
or phone for  
Free Brochure

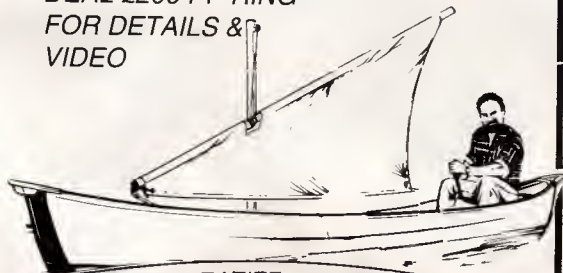
**ACE WATERSPORTSWEAR**

Beverstone Corner, Britannia Road  
Kingswood, Bristol BS15 2BJ.  
Telephone: Bristol (0272) 675065

*Canoe Store*



- MAMMOTH PRE CHRISTMAS SALE!!!  
(ring for sale list)
- LEADING & BUDGET BRANDS
- TRY BEFORE YOU BUY!!!
- BCU TUITION & COURSES
- INLAND, SEA & OPEN CANOES
- CS 3 SAIL RIG FOR CANOES
- "BLISTERS" PREVENTION PACK
- SPANISH MOUNTAIN CANOE & TREK HOLIDAYS
- SPECIAL CLUB INTRO  
DEAL £200 PP RING  
FOR DETAILS &  
VIDEO



CANOEISTS PARADISE OF THE SOUTH!

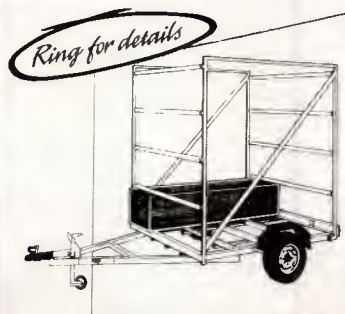
DOLPHIN QUAY, QUEEN STREET  
EMSWORTH, HANTS. PO10 7BJ.  
A Subsidiary of T.M. Water Activity Training.

## HITCH UP... CANADIAN CANOE AND KAYAK TRAILERS

Models to carry  
up to 21 canoes

Choice  
of  
Stowage  
Boxes

Made  
to  
measure  
service



All  
models  
include  
lights  
and  
jockey  
wheels

Built to latest EEC  
Regulations

Standard Trailers Ex  
Stock

### HAYLING TRAILERS

THE HAYLING TRAILER COMPANY LTD

254A Havant Rd,  
Hayling Island,  
Hampshire  
PO11 0LW

Fax: 0705 463069

Telephone: 0705 464176

...AND GO!



## 1992 and all that..... EUROPE (PART 2)

This is a follow on to the article on Europe in Access Extra with October CANOE FOCUS. We have obtained a copy of the DTI publication "Brussels can you hear me?", which outlines how to influence decisions in the European Community. The whole publication is written for businesses, which underlines the fact that the community is predominantly concerned with businesses and matters relating to them.

Five key points are made:

- Submit opinion before the Commission has drafted proposals for the Parliament and Council.
- Try to submit opinions jointly with others. Single voices carry much less weight.
- Submit opinions in a way that indicates your commitment to making the Community work and your understanding of Community procedures.
- Your case needs to be well reasoned and compatible with the needs and aspirations of other member states and preferably also with what the Commission is trying to do.
- Secure and maintain contacts with the Brussels network, so as to be able to react quickly to anything relevant. Standards-making can be an important area.

To influence decisions there are three important stages:

- Obtaining the necessary background and detailed information
- Clarifying objectives and drawing up an action plan.
- Identifying contacts and making approaches probably through the DTI.

The overall impression is that this is not an easy route to goal and there is a lot of expertise to be developed if the

# Access



Eddie Palmer canoeing at the Mike Jones Rally on the River Tyne, where as BCU Regional Access Officer he and his team of local Access officers have been instrumental in securing access for canoeists. Eddie is also an active member of the Northumbrian NRA Regional Rivers Advisory Committee and the BCU Northumbria Committee.

European route is to be used successfully. The publication is dated August 1991, but already there is potential for change in the scope of the Community following the forthcoming Maastricht summit.

We repeat the appeal in Access Extra, to which there has been no response to date. If any member has practical knowledge or experience in this area and could help to progress the European option,

please contact the National Development Officer at BCU Headquarters.

## FROM THE STONE AGE TO THE SPACE AGE!

From 1 November 1991 up to date Northumbria access information will be available from 091 272 2225. The number is that of the Watershed, run by Dean Maragh, in Newcastle upon Tyne, and accessibility on the North East's major rivers will be updated weekly. Dean will answer himself during working hours, as it has not been practicable to put this information onto an answerphone yet!

In addition, the NRA have introduced two answerphone lines on water levels (for fishermen). These are updated twice daily from February to October, and once daily from November to January. This is a new service, developed from the telemetry at gauging stations, with canoeists as an afterthought. These numbers are 091213 0828 covering the N Tyne, S Tyne, Tyne and Coquet and 091213 0829 covering the Tees and Wear.

## STOP PRESS

Special access arrangements were made for the Mike Jones Rally at Hexham especially with reference to the North Tyne Chollerford access point. Will all paddlers please note that the usual access point det bank should now be used.

## COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION FOR SCOTLAND

The Scottish Canoe Association has provided an input to the Countryside Commission for Scotland review of access to the countryside including the legal situation and including water. The Scottish Sports Association has chosen SCA President of Honour, Duncan Winning, to represent them on the Countryside Commission Technical Advisory Committee concerned with the review.



BCU officers welcomed senior officers of the National Rivers Authority to John Dudderidge House on 7 October. It was a positive and friendly meeting which has provided a good basis for co-operation on important issues in the immediate future.



World beating  
CANOE and KAYAK  
designs  
from

# Arrowcraft

Marine Limited

Individually Hand Built to a high  
standard by people who care

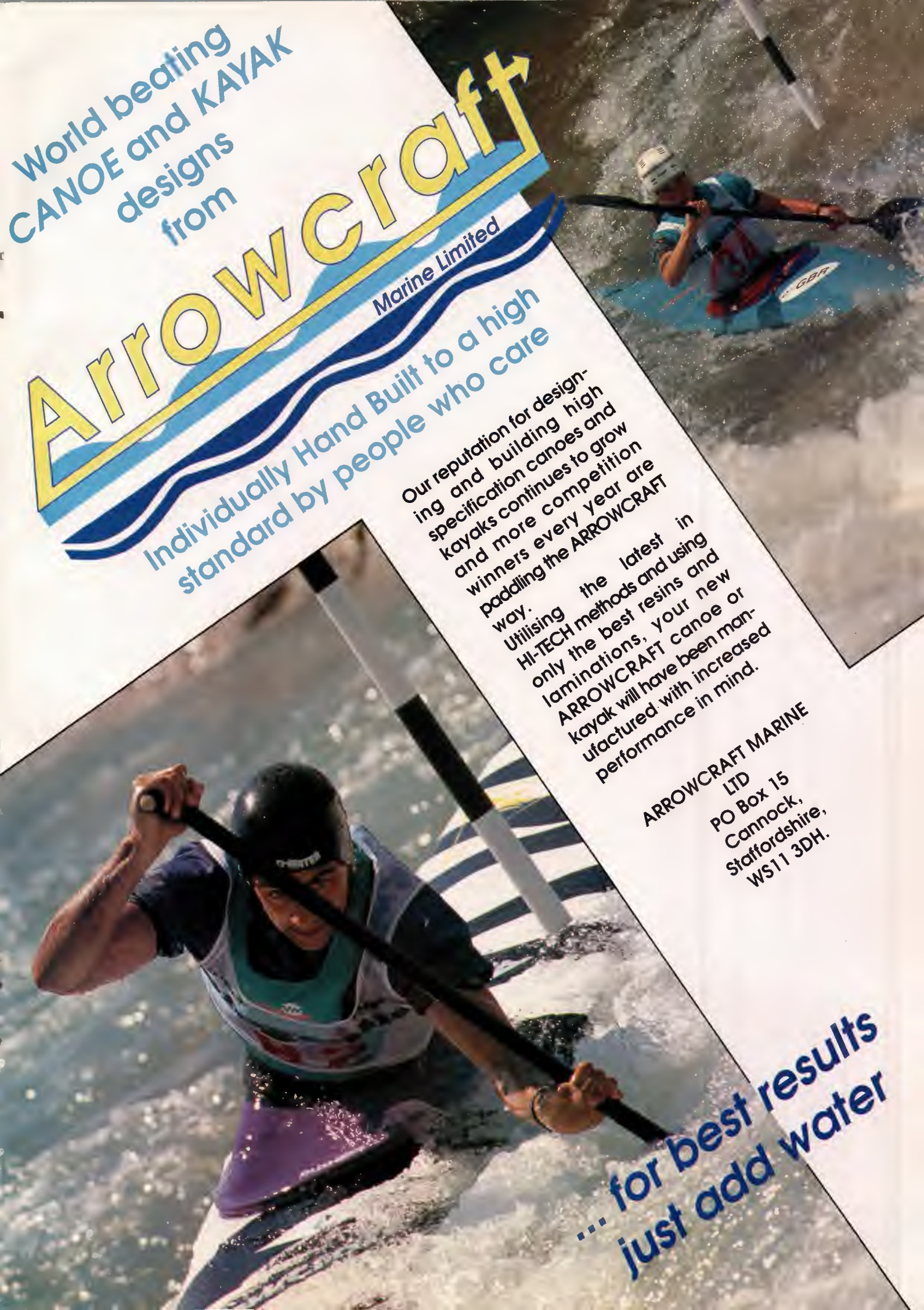
Our reputation for design-  
ing and building high  
specification canoes and  
kayaks continues to grow  
and more every year are  
winners every year are  
paddling the ARROWCRAFT  
way.

Utilising the latest in  
HI-TECH methods and using  
only the best resins and  
laminations, your new  
ARROWCRAFT canoe or  
kayak will have been man-  
ufactured with increased  
performance in mind.

ARROWCRAFT MARINE  
LTD

PO Box 15  
Cannock,  
Staffordshire,  
WS11 3DH.

... for best results  
just add water





## MARATHON SELECTION POLICY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS 1991 - BRISBANE

International Marathon Canoeing has moved on to a new level with the major competition being staged outside Europe for the first time in 1992. The World Championships in Brisbane, Australia on 2/3 October and the 2nd Grand Prix a week later in Melbourne, presents an exciting development. It also gives a logistical and financial situation which the Committee have not encountered before.

The final size of the team we are able to send to Australia will, to a large extent, depend on finances available. The Sports Council have already indicated that our International Grant for 1992 will be 15,000. It is the Committee's intention to seek further finances through sponsorship in order to send the maximum team possible.

The Committee, however, at the beginning of 1992, can only guarantee to support one entry per class for the two events, by paying the return air fare to Australia and an internal flight between Brisbane and Melbourne.

In order that potential team members can actively seek sponsorship as early as possible to assist with the overall cost of the trip, the Committee has nominated a national squad. This does not, of course, preclude anybody else being formally added to the squad and finally selected.

### THE SQUAD IS:

**Mens Kayak:** Ivan Lawler, Graham Burns, Chris Ballard, Greg Slater, Paul Wells, Duncan Blyth, Robin Williams, David Martyn, Ian Timbrell and Guy Dresser.

**Ladies Kayak:** Alison Thorogood, Sandra Troop, Maria Blumenthal and Jackie Eastwood.

**Canoe:** Steve Train, Andrew Train and Marcus Gohar.

For practical purposes it will be necessary to select the team at the beginning of July 1992. The selection will follow a series of assessment events and the 1st Grand Prix of the season in Portugal at the end of June.

Invitations to other international events are anticipated in 1992. These will have to be fully financed by the organisers or paddlers.

# Competition Focus

## ASSESSMENT EVENTS

Jan 12 - K2  
Elmbridge to Richmond  
Feb 9 - K1 Windsor to Royal  
Mar 15 - K2 Thameside 11  
May 10 or 11 - K1 and K2  
35 Km Assessment Race  
May 23 or 24 - K1 and K2  
25 Km Assessment Time Trial  
June 27 - All Classes  
Crestuma Grand Prix 1

## MARATHON WORLD CUP BERLIN 1991

This years World cup took place in Berlin over the last weekend in September. It was certainly an interesting event not only in terms of the food competition but also in terms of the surrounding activities. For those of us who braved taking the car or minibuses actually locating the accommodation was definitely a challenge! We managed to get off the autobahn within about 1km of the building but it then took us 2 hours to find it! We asked some of the locals for directions but they all gave us strange looks and assured us they didn't know where it was. Our saving grace was Stan Newell who was driving the British minibus and was lost too so after flagging him down we discovered that they had a police escort and they didn't even have the area marked on their map.

Eventually we found the building and quickly realised why no-one knew where it was. The building had been the Stazi Headquarters in East Berlin. Apparently Honeker had also decided that hot water was too good for the Stazi and their families so he had had all the hot water system removed! Breakfast was in the East German Television centre which was actually closing down the next week and

the canoeists were definitely a source of attraction.

The actual race took place on the canal which used to run along the east-west border. On the Saturday there was a domestic race along side the Junior event and our entrants did well achieving 1st, 2nd, 3rd in the K2 class and 2nd in the K1.

The International on the Saturday involved the K2 ladies race, the C1 and the Men's K1. The competition was good. In the mens K1 there was a tight first group with Ian Timbrell and his major rival Mike Thomas (Australian) who were vying for the best paddling position. Unfortunately Ian suffered a mishap with his drinking bottle on one of the portages and this was to affect him for the rest of the race. However, as the race progressed Duncan Blyth pulled back to take 4th place behind Mike Thoms (Australia -1st) Tunny Benschop (Holland -2nd) Thomas Bundvad (Denmark 3rd).

The Hungarians dominated the Ladies K2 but Sandra Troop and Maria B put in an excellent performance and finished 3rd only half a boat length down on the second Hungarian K2.

The next day continued in the same strong competitive vein. In the mens K2 the competition was not only intense but there were some personal achievements being sought. The competition was dominated by Ivan Lawler/Graham Burns the Australians and the Belgians. The first group all vied for the best position and at the last portage 3 K2's were extremely close and they remained so until Ivan and Graham went for the final burn into the finish line leaving the Australian crew of Damion Waites and Rhamon Andersson behind. The Belgians were pushed into third place. The second Australian K2 with Robin Belcher and G

Fraser came in 4th. for those of you whose memories go back over the last few years will remember that Robin used to paddle for GB and Robin's comment was when he got off the water was that "there was still life in the old dog yet".

The mens C2 saw the GB partnership of Steve and Andy Train strengthened and their first marathon gold for two years. As it progressed the C2 race ended up between GB and Hungary as the third C2 was really cropped at the last portage. The Trains took the pace up about 40 metres from the line and the Hungarians wobbled and had to support the boat and were unable to catch up.

## LATE NEWS:

There will be a marathon training day for team members and prospective team members at Elmbridge on December 14th. Full details are available from Jim Rossiter or Alan Williams.

## Marathon Draw

The September draw was won by Catherine Jones (nearly aged 10!) who will receive a new K1 and Nottingham Kayak Club who issued the winning ticket have received £100.

**Tamsin Phipps.**

## WOODMILL CANOE DRAGONS SLAY CHAMPIONS

Woodmill Canoe Club based on the river in Southampton are the 1991 British Dragon Boat Racing Association National Champions.

Competing at the Westminster Serpentine Regatta the Hampshire Crew Sprang a surprise when they beat defending champions Kingston Royals and Wey Anchors in a pulsating finish with just over a second dividing three five crews.

The Woodmill Club, which took delivery of its own dragon boat earlier this year, automatically qualify to represent GB in the Hong Kong International series next June.

David Cooper, who has raced in the Hong Kong event, said "Kingston Royals have long set the standard in the UK and to beat them is a real achievement. We now face a double challenge. First we must raise money to fund the trip and second, we must prepare thoroughly to face the worlds best in Hong Kong".

Driving rain and cold condi-



tions prevailed on the Saturday when the mixed and Junior Championships were won by Kingston Royals and amateur from Liverpool respectively. The brilliant sunshine on the Sunday was matched by the standard of racing which saw Kingston Royals women avenge their men's defeat by retaining the women's championship in impressive form.

For more information contact: John Warren on 081 994 4407 (BDA Hon Press Officer) Woodmill Canoe Club on 0703 555993 (Phil Quill) David Cooper on 0703 222508 (work) (Woodmill CC) 0243 374570 (home)

## "KISSING YOUR SISTER"

I read John Bull's articles on the Open Canoe Group. in the last issue of Focus, with great interest. It is important however to, point out that the BCU Sailing Committee is the body which represents canoe sailing.

John is quite correct in saying that the International Ten Square Metre Sailing Canoe is a very different concept to the Open Canoe and that it was mutually agreed that the OCSG should be formed to look after the interests of open canoe sailors. The International Canoe has a very distinct identity and I would hope that this is recognised by your readers.

I must take issue with John over his remarks about the IC. Today the class is recognised by dinghy sailors world wide as the ultimate single handed racing boat. Yes it is increas-

ingly sophisticated but this is making it easier to sail and handle. The expense is partly due to the fact that boats, any boats, are expensive these days, but also through the increasing use of hi-tech materials pioneered, in part, by builders of paddling canoes. If the competitive urge to "cut your ears off for half a lengths advantage" already exists then John can be sure the open canoes will follow the same path in time.

To imply that the IC has led to a decline in canoe sailing is unfair. The basic concept of fitting a rig and leeboards to a paddling canoe has long been known and described in many books. We are proud of our long history and a book is currently being written by one of our members which chronicles the evolution of the IC. The disparity between the interests of the IC and the OCSG is because we are at different points on an evolutionary path. Once rules need to be formulated to ensure sporting competition, or safety, perhaps a new class will emerge. The IC is currently making real progress in these recessionary times because it occupies a very special niche in watersports generally. The top sailors in the class will travel to Richmond California for the next World Championship in 1993, The Europa Cup will be defended by the UK at Loch Lomond in 1992. At present there are more enquiries about doing the class than boats available, despite a steady increase in boat numbers.

I was amused by John's inclusion of one of the OCSG members observation that planing an open canoe is "like riding a pig without stirrups"! Nothing could be further from sailing the thoroughbred IC. Bill Kempner spoke for all of us when he declared, "After sailing an IC, anything else is like kissing your sister!"

May I conclude by re-affirming the position of the Sailing Committee. We are keen to help and advise members about Canoe Sailing. We with John and the OCSG every success in their activities as fellow enthusiasts in canoe sport.

**Alan Powell**  
Hon. Secretary  
BCU Sailing Committee.  
3 Kimbells Close,  
Shabbington, Aylesbury,  
Bucks HP18 9HL 0844  
201243.



continued on page 18

From total disbelief to undisputed acceptance by thousands of people in five years

## BUFFALO DOUBLE-P-SYSTEM CLOTHING



rainproof to 1/2 hr  
windproof to 40mph

TOTALLY condensation free

guaranteed to raise your COMFORT LEVEL (in the worst conditions)

replaces up to 5 layers of conventional clothing

dries sweat in minutes and eliminates chilling

shirt jacket salopettes trousers

COMFORTABLE on land or water

COMPLETE CLOTHING FROM THE SKIN OUT

For fast repairs, stockists and details:

NAME: ADDRESS: POSTCODE: send to: BUFFALO, MEERSBROOK WORKS, VALLEY RD., SHEFFIELD S8 9FT 0742-580611

# GARSTANG NORTH WEST CANOE SHOP

For the best in canoeing

pyranha

AINSWORTH

PEAK PERFORMANCE



WILD-WATER

Palm



77 Hazelhurst Drive, Garstang Nr Preston Lancashire  
(0995) 602114 (24 hour answer service)



## THURSO COMES UP TRUMPS YET AGAIN WORLD KAYAK SURFING CONTEST

In 1987, after the Home International, this was the story going round:

"When someone tells you that the break at Thurso East is better than anything he found during a fortnight in Hawaii then it is time to start paying attention".

In September 1991 Thurso yet again lived up to its reputation of being one of the Worlds Classic breaks. On the Sunday after the competition, American Mark Olsen failed to make it out of the tube and his boat, a Perception Sabre was split in two by the impact of the water when he hit the bottom of the wave. Some interesting tales will be going back State-side about the Thurso Break.

### Big Thurso-Day

The programme of events for the week was as follows: weekend... Thurso Challenge, followed on Tuesday and Wednesday by the World Team Championships and finally on Friday by the World Individual Championships. The rest days were called as there were no local breaks working. On the Monday several members of the England team travelled West to Bettyhill and found a clean 6' wave, unfortunately for Mike Crispin the wave found him but a check up in hospital revealed only severely bruised ribs. On Thursday morning the wind blowing at about force 6 and surfing cancelled for the day, the American team went trout fishing whilst most of the others lazed around the caravan site which overlooks Thurso Bay. Shortly before lunch the wind dropped and a superb 12'-15' (plus) wave started to break on Thurso East. Within ten minutes the first paddlers were out taking huge drops and fast shoulders. Any mistakes were severely punished (Thurso is a reef break with solid rock just 2'-4' beneath the surface). With nearly every paddler having at least one noteworthy wipeout, and Leighton on his ski went head first over the falls on several occasions. After about 20 minutes the wind got up again and everyone returned to the shore, well battered but having ridden some of the biggest waves of their lives. That evening, on returning from their fishing trip, the Americans could hardly believe their eyes when they saw the video film of wave after wave

pounding onto the reef with kayaks (notable rides by Ian Plumridge and Mike Jenkins) and skis (Steve Cox) ripping across them. Understandably this surf session has become known as "Big Thurso Day". (Watch out for the video which will be on show at the Canoe Exhibition, BCU Surf Stand).

### World Team Championships

Five nations contested the team championships, Scotland, England, Wales, Ireland and America. The contest is based on the results of two rounds of competition usually taking place on two separate days. Each round consists of 6 heats mens senior kayak, 2 ladies kayak, 2 junior kayak, 3 mens ski, 2 ladies ski and 2 junior ski. (Surf hot dogging and veteran kayak are not a team championship events). The winner of each heat is awarded 1 point, second two etc and hence the team with the fewest points at the end of the second round is the winner.

After a flat day at Thurso on Monday but with known good surf further west it was decided to move to Strathly and after a fairly unpromising start with the surf only just rideable conditions soon improved until sets of 6'-8' were common with strong offshore winds allowing spectacular rides.

### The Longest ride

As a result of the storm Thurso east was working the following day with hollow waves of 4'-6' crashing onto the reef. Again all was going well with several kayaks being tubed when English junior, Clive Kerswell was dumped over the falls head first into the reef. Semi-conscious and unable to keep his head above water his predicament was quickly spotted by his fellow competitors who, with the help of spectators carried him to the shore. An ambulance was called (car phones have their uses) and first aid in the form of towels for neck support came from the Americans and comforting stories about dry drowning were told by John Mould. The ambulance duly arrived and despite Clive's protests he was stretched off for a check-up. Several hours and 14 neck and spinal X-rays later Clive returned to the beach much to everyone's relief, OK apart from a bruised neck and back. His helmet had undoubtedly saved him from more serious injury. He still claimed to have had the longest ride of the day to Wick hospital and back. The surf held up well

with classic rides being had in most heats, Alison Williams being tubed twice in what was generally thought to have been the best ladies heat ever seen in Britain. The last heats were finished by six o'clock and England had retained the team championships.

### Results

Individual World Championships Mens kayak, ladies kayak, junior kayak, veteran kayak and surf hot-dog honours were at stake with a non-ranking ski competition also taking place.

Surf conditions could hardly have been better for the individual world championships with Thurso east working at 15 plus and "the pipe" between 6' and 10' both with a flat water paddle-out. With the vast difference in surfing experience amongst the competitors (there was no pre-qualifying) it was decided to hold the competition on the pipe with the top two paddlers from each heat of four going through to the next round. Inevitably there were big name casualties including Richard Potter, Derek Rosenberg, Charlie Morris and American Jim Kinninger.

The quarter-finals were hard fought with Simon Pinner and Mike Jenkins being amongst those failing to progress to the semi-finals. The surf conditions continued to improve with the sets holding up for rides of up to 200m. The veterans' semi-finals were next, tough on Tom Copperwaite and Kim Sprague who were still in the main competition, but they both made it through to the veterans' final.

The semi-finals of the mens kayak were next, the cross/off shore wind had increased slightly making "the rights" fast and steep and occasionally very punishing when sections of wave would crash down onto the paddler, "the lefts" in contrast were smaller but much friendlier. Again spectacular rides were had by all, with good wave selection being essential if a long bongo slide to the shore was to be avoided. Paddlers Derek Mason, Mark Olsen, Kim Sprague and Ian Plumridge were the unlucky semi-finalists.

The ladies final was next with Donna Casey (USA) being the only one able to master the now quite difficult conditions of taking off into a crosswind. Throughout the week she had surfed well and thoroughly deserved her World Championship win.

The junior kayak final saw a remarkable comeback with Clive

Kerswell showing why he is one of the sports brightest prospects for the future by winning the event.

The mens final saw some of the best rides of the week with Simon Discombe, Steve Hannon, and Jim Warner surfing the critical rights and Tom Copperwaite choosing the safer and more consistent lefts. Good wave selection proved crucial as Simon screamed cross the face and made every section with three out of the four waves he took scoring more than 17 out of 20. Steve pressed him hard but his Sabre was slightly slower than Simon's Jester and consequently some of his rides were curtailed by sections of the wave crashing down. Jim Warner's style of surfing low down on the face of the wave proved his downfall as this, and surfing into the wind slows you down on the face of the wave proved his downfall as this, and surfing into the wind slows you down, led to him constantly being hit by the break wave

Tom's decision to surf the lefts proved to be unfortunate, as during the final these waves virtually disappeared (probably an effect of the state of the tide on the rocks) and consequently the pre-competition favourite could only manage fourth.

Tom soon made amends in the veterans' final, now surfing the rights, he beat off the challenge of Kim Sprague, Malcolm Pearcey and Wayne Horodowich.

The wave were now huge with the whole bay closing out on the big sets and there was just time to run two heats of the non-ranking ski competition. For several paddlers it was just a case of being happy to make it back to the shore in one piece. The following morning the ski competition was completed on a clean, if somewhat infrequent 4' wave with Steve Cox the winner.

In the final, three Americans battled it out with an Englishman and it was the man from Devon, Ian Plumridge, who came out on top with one notable ride starting with paddle twirls, then paddle tosses, followed by a paddle throw-away, hand surf and paddle recovery on two occasions and finishing with hand surfing into a perfect vertical pirouette.

So ended a brilliant weeks surfing.

Our thanks to John Mould, the competition organiser, to the staff of the Leisure Centre and all the people of Caithness. Thanks also to BBC Scotland, Grampian



TV and Channel 4 for the coverage. Next year Ireland beacons for the Home Internationals and in the Spring of 1993 the World Surf Kayak Championships are to be held in Sante Cruz California, with all four home countries hoping to see representatives. John Mould & Taddy

## Worlds Championship Results

### Mens Kayak

1 Simon Discombe,  
2 Stephen Hannon,  
3 Jim Warner USA,  
Tom Copperwaite.

### Ladies Kayak

1 Donna Casey USA,  
2 Kathryn Dunnett,  
3 Denise Buckley,  
4 Alison Williams.

### Junior Kayak

1 Clive Kerswell,  
2 Ian Doherty  
3 Colin Walker,  
4 Fraser Lamont.

### Veteran Kayak

1 Tom Copperwaite,  
2 Kim Sprague USA,  
3 Malcolm Pearcey,  
4 Wayne Horodowich USA.

### Surf Hot-Dog

1 Ian Plumridge,  
2 Dan Crandall USA,  
3 Wayne Horodowich USA,  
4 Kim Sprague USA.

## BCU LIFEGUARDS NATIONAL CHAMPS

The weekend was extremely successful with over 100 people taking part. Training and assessment took place on the Saturday for all of the Lifeguard awards, with a high percentage of passes.

The Championships were held on the Sunday and proved to be very testing! However, this produced some excellent examples of seamanship and life-guarding in a wind exceeding force five at times. The Championships were held up on several occasions while our unit members carried out "real" rescues on several different sailing boats. One in particular had been separated from his boat and was in the process of being washed out into the Solent.

The overall positions were: 1st Herts. Canoe Rescue (A) 2nd Birmingham Lifeguards (Green) 3rd Llanelli The positions for the major situations were: 1st Birmingham Lifeguards (Green) 2nd Herts (A) 3rd Birmingham (Red)

The relevant contacts for the BCU Lifeguards are: Chairman: Mark Carter. Tel/Fax 0252

330400. National Training Officer: Mark Osborne. Tel 0903 782604. Supplies Officer: Simon Fairless. Tel 0376 29212. Membership Secretary: Nick Hodson, 39 Athelstane Grove, Bow, London E3\_5JG. Tel 081 983 0960.

The development plan for 1991-1992 is well under way, we now have a large stock of equipment for sale, this is obtainable through the Supplies Officer, Simon Fairless and can be seen at the International Canoe Exhibition 1992.

## Important dates for 1992

Lifeguard Convention April 10-12  
Calshot National Championships September 18-20

## CANOE POLO AGM

The Canoe Polo AGM is on Sunday January 5 1992 at the Viking Venture Headquarters, Woodlands Road, Allestree, Derby commencing midday. Location maps and agenda can be obtained from the secretary on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope. NB You should be prepared to show your current BCU card at the meeting.

## Boat Specifications

The following boat designs have been checked by the Canoe Polo Committee equipment checking sub committee, and have been approved for use in BCU Polo competitions.

Mogul; New Dragonbat Extra; Tiger: Krackerbat 1 & 2; Shark; Demon; Rotabat; Wombat; Polo Mk2; Polo Sprint; Ti-ger Mk2; Brumby; Arrowbat Mk2; Aquabat; Polo Mint; Eliminator; Dash; Dash International; Felix Volta 2; Eliminator Mk2;

The following boats produced prior to November 1 1986 may also be used in BCU Polo competitions, providing they have adequate paddling at bow and stern. Polo; Polo Sprint; Arrowbat; Prototype Mogul; Prototype Tiger; Prototype New Dragonbat Extra;

Canoe Polo Boats that are not of the approved design, but which have been modified to meet the required specifications, may be used in BCU Polo competitions, provided they have been individually checked and approved. A list of individually approved boats is held by the Canoe Polo Secretary.

A Rackham



## MORAY HOUSE COLLEGE

Incorporating the Scottish Centre for  
Physical Education, Movement and Leisure Studies.

## DIPLOMA IN OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Applications are invited from qualified teachers and qualified community/social workers in the United Kingdom for places on this one year full or part-time DPSE course commencing October, 1992. Other mature applicants with exceptional qualifications will be considered.

Based upon a foundation of outdoor experience, the programme will include modules which focus on a range of outdoor pursuits, environmental education, teaching and leading out of doors, personal and group development through outdoor experience, programme planning and management and an expedition. In addition, there will be a placement in an appropriate outdoor setting.

Further particulars and forms of application may be obtained from the Registrar, Moray House College, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh EH8 8AQ. Closing date 31 January 1992.

THE LIST IS  
**AWESOME**  
THE CHOICE IS  
**OBVIOUS**

**RAS  
DEX**

## RUBBER TECHNOLOGY

•RAS DEX neoprene spraydecks•

**0422 341856 0602 455786**

Available from all good canoe shops

**MAIL ORDER IS OUR SPECIALITY**





# 'OFF THE TOP OF THE WORLD'

## ANGLO SOVIET NORTHLAND SEA KAYAK EXPEDITION 1991

**E**very expedition expects challenge, but this one had its route changed by over three hundred miles, the USSR went through one of the most radical changes this century during our visit, and the team changed within a week of departure! And that was just the beginning.

Even the inhabitants of the Taimyr area of Northern Siberia (our starting point) believed we would not return, although they chose not to mention this...until our return!

The Soviet Union, with its vast expanse of rivers (five are over one thousand five hundred miles long) has attracted much attention within the canoeing world. Both Russian and international paddlers have been involved in some remarkable trips already, and talking to Russian canoeists there is a lot more to come.

However for the sea kayaker the potential is even greater, with a coastline which extends from 36 degree's to 82 degree's North and stretches a third of the way around the world! Surprisingly, with the exception of

the Russian eskimos in North-Eastern Russia, sea kayaking is still virtually unknown.

The 1991 Northland Expedition hoped to explore this potential by:

**1** Exploring the little known Taimyr Peninsula, Severnaya Zemlya and Archipelago Nordenshelda, a paddle of 300-400 miles up the western coastline of the Taimyr Peninsula.

**2** Paddle around the most Northerly Peninsula in the world, and

**3** Increase awareness within the Soviet Union regarding sea kayaking.

Crossing the Russian/Finnish border on the 31st of July, it was difficult to imagine that the expedition's roots grew from Colin, the expedition leader as he returned from kayaking around Cape Horn. Meeting Gennardy (Gene) at the border completed the six man team, and we were quickly escorted past the large queue of traffic waiting to enter the Soviet Union. (The power of TACC news agency which supported the expedition, was to follow and help

throughout). Our route took us to Leningrad (now St Petersburg) for our first press conference.

However we had to negotiate roads which would suddenly disappear and the traffic police (Gui) who stopped us for crossing an imaginary line! Again the power of TACC saw us through. Our first setback was the latest ice report. After a severe winter, the pack ice had not yet moved and was unlikely to move sufficiently on the North West coastline. We had to consider the North Coast route and start the planning again.

After some official functions in Moscow and the final packing of equipment we left Moscow by cargo plane. The three Aleut sea kayaks were wedged in between Russian TV's, Polish videos and boxes of clothing.

The plane had to be jacked up at the back because of the weight (our equipment alone weighed over eight hundred kilograms!). The flight of nine hours is purely



academic, as the pilots seem unconcerned about their schedule. Although friendly, passengers are treated as freight, no seats, safety belts and its up to yourselves what you do when landing or taking off. We wandered in and out of the cockpit, and it came as no surprise on the return journey when we actually took turns flying the plane!

Landing at Khatanga at 72 degrees north was like stepping back into the 'wild-west'. The roads were a series of muddy quagmires. Steam bellowed from the ground where they attempted to melt the permafrost for foundations and the roar of cargo planes, military aircraft and helicopters dominated the town.

## Flying low enough to see the fish

Mosquitos swarmed everywhere as we tried to re-adjust to the fact that we had not witnessed darkness for the last eighteen hours, and would not see it for another month! The hotel was a series of rooms, flats and offices in no set order, and people would come and go at all hours, depending on whether they worked on local time or Moscow time.

The people were a mixture of Russian immigrants, arctic tribes (Dolgans, Nenets or Gneuey) German refugees or seasonal workers. And it was quite difficult identifying the percentage. Even Gene had difficulty understanding some of the dialects.

They were all tremendously friendly and wanted to share their limited supplies of vodka. We had difficulty refusing presents even though we could not carry them in the kayaks, and left with 2 bottles of vodka, 1 bottle of champagne, 121b of salted fish, and a carved wooden plaque of the Beatles.

If we were surprised at the plane journey, then the helicopter flight of 5 hours was amazing. Heading north at 220km per hour at between 30-50 metres above the ground ...I'll never want to go on a roller coaster again.

The few trees became shorter in height and finally disappeared as we followed the coastline North. Reindeer ran from the noise and we were low enough to see fish!

Snow and ice appeared in small amounts on land and at sea and we looked questionably to each other for interpretation.

As the helicopter left, the silence and remoteness seemed so powerful that it took us all some time to appreciate the three years of planning had ended.

From now on success was resting purely on our shoulders. No more bureaucratic hurdles to overcome, just practical challenges like trying to read a 1:500,000 map to establish our starting point.

Even the helicopter pilots were only reasonably sure.

Our first camp and our first storm, the barometer dropped over 20 millibars through the sunlit night, and torrential rain, snow and hail followed for the next 48 hours. During the days to come the weather was to remain perverse, with continual headwinds and little time in

between the storms. It was not unknown for the barometer to rise and fall twice in the same day.

## The Walrus the Reindeer and the Bear

Our next paddle saw the arrival of a large walrus within 3 metres of one of the boats "paddle like..." took on an international meaning.

Although the wildlife was relatively scarce, the next beach saw a stampeding heard of reindeer come over the tundra along the beach and into the sea. They swam past us and disappeared back over the tundra. Two days later, as we navigated through a large spit we came across polar bear tracks. After months of being told "There are no bears here at this time of year" we saw their prints. The next few days witnessed much polar bear defence systems discussion. Ice on the horizon and a distant rumble meant maintaining ice lookouts, our experience and knowledge of paddling in ice conditions was about to take a giant leap forward.

## Bark like a dog...

Stopping at the Andre polar station was like coming across an oasis. It was our warmest day so far, 0 degrees centigrade. Gene could speak Russian again, we could dry clothes and learn how to defend ourselves against polar bears. "Simply get on all fours and bark like a dog" was their advice. Spending the night eating, singing and sleeping in the oldest Russian polar station was pure heaven.

The next two days we found ourselves retreating into a bay. Only to be followed and cut off by large pancake and brash ice. A 30 metre lead saw us on dry land and then the lead closed up behind us. We were stuck.

A day later and the ice started crawling along the bay until eventually, a lead opened up and we could move on again. Was this going to be the pattern?

Our first open crossing of 10 miles was attempted with limited visibility. Was there any pack ice out there? Which way was it moving? And was the other shoreline open?

Two days later with the sea freezing around the boats, we were again forced to cut short our day and find a safe campsite. For five days the ice opened and closed in front of us. With a secret military base only 7 miles across the Tundra, we were keen to leave this Peninsula.

Eleven o'clock at night on the fifth day, we could see the final hurdle Ostrov Bolshoy (Big Island). With a 13 mile crossing ahead and a line of ice between us and the island, we were cautiously optimistic.

Within 2 hours we were weaving our way through growlers the size of houses. Then we came across the edge of the pack ice. The wind was freshening from astern. Following the edge of the pack ice we got within 1 mile of the island and landed. All we could see was ice in front, and pressure ridges were forming behind us, time to get out of here.

By the time we reached relatively open water, the wind had strengthened...another

er storm! This time there was nowhere to hide, the wind was pushing us into the ever increasing line of ice. After 5 hours in freezing seas and winds we landed on Terra Ferma. Having surfed in between 20 metre pieces of ice and 7 foot waves. Waking, 6 hours later, the wind had backed through 180 degrees and the bay was emptying of ice again.

With 2 days left to make 60 miles and one member suffering with a back injury, we made one last attempt to reach the next polar station.

In force 3-4 conditions we were forced to stop, our hopes had ended but not the adventure.

The following day we paddled back to the secret military base, and Gene went across the Tundra to try and radio for our helicopter. The next nine days found us making friends with these soldiers, exploring the local wilderness, barb-e-qing at 15 degrees, firing Kalashnikov machine-guns, teaching soldiers how to paddle and running out of food and fuel.

Two of the team were a week late, starting new jobs when the helicopter came out of the fog, it was like a scene out of MASH. Back in Khatanga we saw our first night and the most magnificent celestial display (aurora borealis). Something we will never forget.

Now we had to face the realities of the August coup, with many people back in Britain unaware of our position. During the 5 weeks in the arctic we had only paddled between 120-150 miles, along a coastline sometimes barren in features except for the ice contortions. We watched the sea freeze around us, with streams and lakes freezing as we fetched water. We had wolves around the tents and polar bear prints reminded us of the hostility of the wildlife.

The air temperature rarely went above zero, and the water temp remained around 5 throughout.

Upon reaching our destination by helicopter, we marvelled at the polar explorers who went before us; Amundsen, Ushantov, Nordensheld.

Throughout the trip we reflected upon the friendliness of the Russian people, we have so much to learn from their approach to the outdoors and canoeing and yet we are quick to try and Westernise them.

We beg of all expeditions who embark on a journey into the Russian wilderness learn about the ahoitnik, the taiga and their people.

**Mike Bartle.**

### Expedition Members

Colin Craig  
Mike Bartle  
Allen Wearmouth  
John Driver  
Tom Turner



Mail Order  
Now For Xmas

# PEAK

PERFORMANCE



## WINTERWEAR

### BREATHABLE DRY+SEMI DRYCAGS

Competition style cut. Wide super soft neoprene waist band. Fully taped inc. cuffs. Sizes - Small / Medium / Large Colours - Jade / Black • Black / Jade Drycag £63.95 Semi (neoneck) £53.95

### NEOPRENE SHORTS+TROUSERS

Pre-bent high back fit. 3mm supersoft neoprene. Double lined or smooth skin. Sizes - Small / Medium / Large Colours Black with Jade+purple. Shorts £32.95 Trousers £44.95

AVAILABLE FROM

- DESPERATE MEASURES •
  - TWICKENHAM CANOE CENTRE •
  - EDDY LINES, LLANGOLLEN
  - NO LIMITS AT CURRENT TRENDS
  - CARLISLE CANOES • LENDAL PRODUCTS
  - GARSTANG ADVENTURE
- FOR DETAILS CONTACT

## PEAK PERFORMANCE

UNIT 8 FASHION DESIGN STUDIOS 69 / 73  
LOWER PARLIAMENT ST NOTTINGHAM NG1 3BB

## WHITE WATER CONSULTANCY



romer  
PRISON

WILD-WATER  
AGE  
pyranha

YAK  
perception

Jack  
Wolfskin

SCHLEGEL  
ETC

WE WISH ALL  
OUR  
CUSTOMERS A  
HAPPY XMAS  
AND A  
PROSPEROUS  
NEW YEAR

LARGEST STOCKIST OF  
CANOEING EQUIPMENT  
IN WEST WALES  
SUPPLIERS TO COLLEGES,  
OUTDOOR CENTRES,  
H. M. FORCES ETC.  
TRADE ENQUIRIES WELCOME  
TRY BEFORE YOU BUY  
DEMO BOATS AVAILABLE.  
YOUR SPECIALIST OUTDOOR  
CONSULTANT  
ACCESS TO THE TEIFE  
ALL YEAR ROUND  
PERMANENT  
WHITewater FACILITIES  
COURSES FOR GROUPS  
OR INDIVIDUALS  
FRIENDLY FARMHOUSE  
ACCOMMODATION  
MAIL ORDER  
ACCESS & VISA  
FACILITIES

THE OLD SHOP.  
WILKSHEAD SQUARE  
LLANDYSYL-SA44 4AA  
TEL. (0559) 362083

WAREHOUSE NOW AT-PENIEL,  
CARMARTHEN, SA32 7HU.  
TEL. (0267) 237093 FAX. (0559) 362083  
24HR ANSWER PHONE

## PLAS Y BRENIN

### The National Mountain



Plas y Brenin

Centre



More

Wild water courses.

More

White water, sea & surf courses.

New

Open canoe courses, novice to S.I.  
See the BCU yearbook for training &  
assessment courses,  
or 'phone 06904 214/363/280.



## EQUIPMENT FOR CANOEISTS WITH DISABILITIES

### ROB ROY BACKREST

The Rob Roy has been a popular craft for use with paddlers with disabilities for many years now. Its use was improved when Pyranha refined the design a few years ago. Unfortunately, one feature of the Rob Roy remained unchanged, this was the lack of back support and for many people with a disability this continued to present a problem. Last year the technicians at Pyranha applied themselves to this problem and brought out a backrest that can be fitted into the standard Rob Roy.

Once fitted the backrest is an excellent addition and greatly extends the use of this fun craft. Support and comfort are good and the colour match with the Rob Roy and similar plastic used for its construction gives the backrest an integral appearance.

# Paddlers Gear



a legitimate need to use the straps, indeed in many instances we have been concerned that individuals should not use the straps. That is not to say the straps do not have a use, its just that we have not found a legitimate one. I say this because they have been used by various characters to strap in - in an attempt to roll the Rob Roy! Invariable at these time the straps pulled out of their slots in the backrest since the pressure on them was probably well in excess of that for which they were designed.

The backrest, like the Rob Roy is made by Pyranha and, for the additional benefit that can be obtained in the use of this outstandingly versatile craft, is very reasonably priced.

### THE DIMENSION

We collected this craft from the Canoe Exhibition in February this year. Due to its immense popularity, with paddlers of all abilities and disabilities, it has been in almost continual use since that time.

Its design follows the style of many other craft built for the leisure market. Essentially it is a large kayak shaped plastic buoyancy tank with the top indented to make the cockpit so that the paddler sits on rather than in the craft. The seat is designed to lean back into an integral backrest which makes it comfortable enough to sleep in, whilst being supportive enough for many people with disabilities. It is for this group we believe the Dimension has its greatest prospects. That is not to deny the use for which it was designed, that of relaxed paddling, fishing or as camping transport; since it has a large storage space behind the seat with a smallish screw hatch plus stowing elastics on the fore deck. It comes with its own split paddle that, when not in use, sits in an

integral paddle park to one side. I had my doubts about the structure for this since I banged my knuckles on this a couple of times when paddling. The fact that the paddler would fall off the craft in a capsize has meant it has proved to be very popular with some of our most nervous paddlers.

The hull is interesting in that the main hull shape is quite narrow affording good straight line stability and reasonable turning ability. However, to each side of

this are two further hulls or pontoons that usually ride out of the water until the craft leans to one side when they provide additional support to the craft's stability.

The craft has four carrying loops, one at each end and one each side of the seat, making transit quite easy. There is no footrest as such, the paddler rests his/her feet on the end of the cockpit pod. This works very well for most people between 150cms in height, outside these limits either the paddler's feet do not reach or their knees are under the chin. I understand that this is an issue under consideration by the manufacturers of the Dimension.

The craft is well constructed and in spite of having a rough time with club use and on endorsement courses is wearing well. The importers of the Dimension are Mobile Adventure and although it cost may be marginally more than a plastic kayak it is cheaper than its nearest GRP rival.

*continued on page 24*



*The Rob Roy from Pyranha*

Now the Rob Roy is reasonably stable but it can be quite easily capsized, in itself this is not a problem since in doing so the paddler is tipped into the water often without even wetting the hair. Therefore, I was a little uncertain when I saw that a lap and crutch strap were fitted, since in use these would only serve to hold the paddler into the craft when it went over necessitating close supervision and an established rescue procedure. In the multitudes of paddlers, able and disabled, who have used our Rob Roy and backrest we have never felt



*The Dimension from Mobile Adventure*



continued from page 23

## THE KIWI

For the last six months I have been using one of these versatile new plastic kayaks with a wide range of people with disabilities on both open water and in the swimming pool.

It is short for easy manoeuvrability and broad in the beam for great stability. (In our club it is referred to as the "Mister Man Boat"). It is, without doubt, the most comfortable craft I have ever paddled. Its seat is large and well shaped and the backrest which is hinged to the seat gives relaxed support in just the right place. The cockpit is large which facilitates unrestrained entry and exit for people with disabilities. It has large rope end loops and it is possible to fit a spray deck.

However, its most unique feature is the additional seat which can be clipped in front of the main seat. Undoubtedly designed for a child it is limited to persons of about 25-30kg maximum. Sitting, as they do, between the main paddler's legs, paddling two-up can be quite snug. It is this intimate feature that has provided for us its most valuable feature. It is possible to give very close

support and coaching to someone in this seat. We have paddled it K2 style, also with the learner holding the paddle and the instructor giving literally hands on support and similarly with the learner; in full control and the instructor giving advice and, very importantly, security. One strong characteristic of this craft is that it looks like a kayak - this has been especially important to those disabled paddlers who have needed its stability without wanting to appear particularly different to other kayakers.

The craft is well constructed and has withstood the rigours of both our club use and handling by a multitude of instructors on endorsement courses where it has been dragged, scraped, dropped, stood on and generally abused in the name of "having fun".

We brought our boat from Granta and the cost is very comparable with other plastic kayaks.

**Geoff Smedley**

*All photographs by G. Smedley*



Granta's Kiwi

## PALM GORETEX DRY SUIT

Older paddlers like myself, as blood thins with advancing years, have long sought a 'dry' alternative to the ruffy tufty wet approach to white water and sea paddling. Most full dry suits suffer from weight and flexibility problems, and two piece suits always seem to let the cold damp stuff in somewhere. All dry suits end up being soggy inside anyway because frenzied paddling activity produces copious perspiration as a by-product. This happens even if you sit still doing nothing but worrying about the next rapid (although this is called a cold sweat).

I have paddled for the last two seasons in a sailing dry suit and put up with a stiff shoulder zip arrangement which feels a bit like having a coathanger in there permanently.

Palm have worked hard on this suit and it's cut is what you would expect from other well made garments in the range: generous around the shoulders and designed to be sat in, hence

baggy posterior. The dry seals on ankle, wrist and neck are good quality (and small enough to be snug on women and small persons. I almost passed out trying it on) and need to be care-

ders. You know it is there but it is flexible and unobtrusive after a while.

The Goretex fabric is the big bonus and the reason for the suit's high price. Breathables have been around a long while now and I have to admit that I have not been completely convinced that they work well enough to justify the high material cost.

I still have some doubts about use in salt water but the paddlers using the suits on the Anglo Soviet trip (page.20) reported no problems and impressive results. During my test I paddled in the freezing cold and waded chest deep at the end of my trip and did not experience cold drip syndrome. I felt warm and soggy whilst paddling but the real benefit was lunch break and car park time. As soon as left the boat and moved around the fabric began to breathe.

A minor quibble but the next developmental step could be a toilet zip ?

How many times have you

I would pay anything to be warm and dry' If you have said it and meant it, here it is. There is a good non-breathable version at a lower price, which is still a long way better than previous dry-suits. Andy Knight of Palm tells me that they will tailor a Goretex dry suit specifically to fit women but delivery times will vary for a custom fit.

**Kevin Danforth**

**Manufactured by Palm Canoe Products, Harbour Road, Portishead, Bristol.  
RRP £325 Goretex  
£225 Standard**

## FEEDBACK

*Comment has been received from two Focus readers regarding the testing and opinions of various bits of gear. They point out that the equipment is often designed for, and tested by men. (see letters page) A fair point: I am guilty as charged. In future efforts will be made to have gear tested by women paddlers. Certainly more attention could be given by manufacturers to the way equipment fits and its suitability generally for women. The article in this issue by Marianne Jeffery will strike familiar chords amongst many women who have found themselves in similar situations. See Noticeboard for details of interesting developments in this area.*



fully trimmed to fit. These are protected from snagging and tearing by a strong neoprene overcut, an excellent idea as it is usually the ankle seals that are torn or caught on brambles or rocks. This feature also increases warmth.

The Zip is lightweight plastic and is placed across the shoul-



JOHN DAY, DESIGNER OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WINNING DESIGNS THE 'REFLEX II' (1989) AND THE 'REFLEX BARCELONA' (1991), IS NOW MANUFACTURING THE BARCELONA IN THREE VOLUME OPTIONS.

ML - MAX PADDLER WEIGHT 9.5 ST  
 SL - MAX PADDLER WEIGHT 11.5 ST  
 HL - MAX PADDLER WEIGHT 13.5 ST

ALL MANUFACTURED TO THE HIGHEST QUALITY SPECIFICATIONS AVAILABLE, IN CONSTRUCTIONS TO SUIT ALL POCKETS. EITHER CUSTOM BUILT OR AVAILABLE EX-STOCK FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY.

WRITE OR PHONE FOR DETAILS

**PO BOX 18  
 MANSFIELD  
 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
 NG18 2SN**



**WERE YOU HAPPY  
 WITH YOUR LAST  
 SLALOM CANOE?**

**WELL NOW THERE'S A NEW  
 CONCEPT IN SLALOM!**



THE RETURN OF THE FINEST, HIGHEST QUALITY CANOES EVER ...

**Q U A L I T Y  
 P E R F O R M A N C E  
 V A L U E**  
 OFTEN COPIED, NEVER EQUALLED!

**concept**  
 C · A · N · O · E *Sports Ltd*  
 (0623) 642301

PRESENTING

# THE SKERRAY <sup>R</sup><sub>M</sub>

AFTER FOUR YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT  
 A ROTO-MOULDED SEA KAYAK FROM VALLEY.

- ① Recessed deck fittings - from the original V.C.P. design.
- ② Retractable skeg with box integral with hull **A FIRST!**
- ③ Sacrificial welded hatches and bulkheads **ANOTHER FIRST!!**
- ④ Lightweight foam seat with *hidden* hip adjustment **ANOTHER ONE!!!**

**VALUE!** R.R. £599.00 inc. vat.  
 an astounding 25% saving over GRP equivalent.

**THRIFT PACK!** £569.00 inc.vat. save another 5% by  
 assembling seat, skeg & deck fittings yourself

# VALLEY

PRIVATE RD. 4. COLWICK  
 NOTTINGHAM.  
 TEL: 0602 614995



# O.L.S. MEET YOUR REQUIREMENTS!



## Conquest

Available in both Standard and Whitewater Specifications, With its immense rigidity and strength, this kayak will suit both Educational establishments and enthusiastic Whitewater paddlers alike. Being Attractive, Comfortable and Responsive, the Conquest incorporates a Totally Unique bolt-on Bow Cap system. Its rubber coated steel end loop system withstands almost 2000 kg breaking strain. The Conquest sets New Standards in Design, Safety and Durability.

Length: 320 cm / Width: 56 cm / Volume: 262 litres.

NEW

A Traditional Whitewater Touring Kayak designed by Klaus Lettmann of Germany. This Kayak widens out sharply at the front to give plenty of volume and stability for Alpine type conditions. Especially good for those heavier paddlers or those wishing to carry loads of equipment . . . Fast yet Stable!

Length: 335 cm / Width: 60 cm / Volume: 350 litres.



## Olymp 335



Designed for the multi-use organizations where rigidity and durability are the most important factors. Manufactured in Foam Sandwich Cross-Linked Polyethylene, this Canadlan is at home on flat or whitewater. It carries 4 people comfortably with plenty of room for equipment. Very Attractively Priced!

Length: 490 cm / Width: 90 cm.

## The Trapper 16'

The Only Rotationally Moulded Cruising Squirt Kayak available To Date! With its Radical Performance Features, The Enigma enables you to perform Exciting and Challenging Manoeuvres in a wide variety of water conditions.

Length: 305 cm / Width: 62 cm / Volume: 130 litres.



## ENIGMA



Length: 225 cm / Width 61 cm / Volume: 230 litres.

Manufactured from the same Incredibly Tough Linear Plastic as the rest of the range, the Bubble performs best on steep boulder strewn rivers where Nimble Agility are a prerequisite for Exciting Paddling!

## Bubble

## The CYPHUR

a new whitewater performance kayak available soon

## WATCH THIS SPACE



Outdoor Leisure Supplies, Unit 6, Lon Parcwr Industrial Estate, Ruthin, Clwyd. Tel : 08242 7391. Facs : 08242 7387.

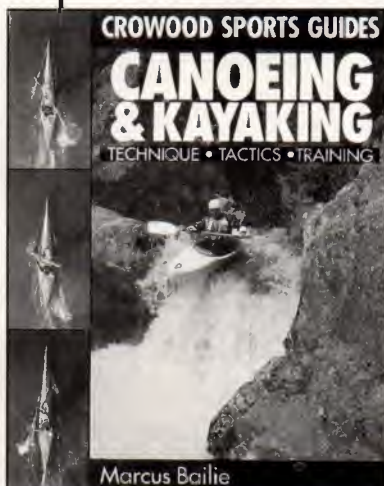


## BOOKS

### Canoeing & Kayaking

by Marcus Bailie  
Published by  
Crowood Press Ltd.  
Price £7.99

I looked forward to reviewing 'Canoeing and Kayaking', knowing Marcus to be one of our most innovative and talented coaches. The approach of this perceptive work is a very personal one and the book succeeds because of this. Unusually written to work on two levels it will appeal to those who wish to improve as paddlers and also those who teach/instruct/coach.



It is not simply another 'How to do it' book, but a step forward in revealing what a coach does. Here laid bare in lavish colour photographs and clear diagrams (mainly the painstaking work of Phil Bibby, another BCU Coach) is the bread and butter work of a man who views instructional tasks as a creative and educational process for both the student and the coach. As such the book has much to offer instructors and fellow coaches as well as paddlers who will (and should) grasp this book to seek solutions to their problems. I have been privileged to watch Marcus work and in the written word he is no less impressive. Tremendously fertile in ideas, the book reflects accurately that the trick to good sports coaching is allowing and encouraging the student to learn. This may seem obvious but some rigid instructional techniques actu-

ally restrict and slow the learning process. Some of the content of the book may perturb and alarm some of the 'method' instructors; I would hope this is not the case and they read on with an open mind, or better still, try it out on the water. I personally have no difficulty marrying Marcus' approach to the BCU Canoeing handbook. If the handbook is the skin and bones of learning to canoe and kayak this volume provides some high quality meat. I know the author is a strong advocate of people teaching what they themselves do rather than stylised idealistic techniques and his practical approach is evident throughout.

This work expands the good practices of the Coaching Scheme and I am sure will be pillaged for good ideas. It works equally well on the student level. It is extremely well written, clear and importantly, a good read. Key points are highlighted for self-help readers, and the information is attractively laid out. Marcus modestly confesses that many of his ideas come from other coaches: I am certain the process will continue as many others use his first book as source of ideas. Summary: The best instructional book since Ray Rowe's White Water Kayaking, and a bargain price. Nice one Marcus.

### The Blind Probe cartoons by Foxy Published by Cordee Price £4.95

This is a book for grinning brats (Focus 72) on long car journeys who like a good chuckle whilst driving around looking for some water this winter. This 'best of' compilation of Foxy's cartoons fosters the feeling that, in the newer material at least, he is beginning to become more narrative in style. This style will not suit all, and those easily offended by colourful(!) language will be offended by the...colourful language. Most white waterpaddlers will enjoy seeing their stereotypes in here

# Reviews

and recognise their antics. There are a few little gems, but I won't spoil it for you. I did like especially the difference between the 'novice' and 'expert' waterfall kayaker. The book relates much in style to the brilliant 'Kayak' by William Nealy, and acknowledges this in one or two places. A good stocking filler.

## VIDEOS

### Waterwalker

A Bill Mason Video  
Price £19.98

Open boaters will already know and love Mason's previous Path of the Paddle films for their instructional content and practical approach to wilderness boating. Bill died of cancer soon after completing this video and it is a fitting tribute to his life and his passion for the open boat. It is not an open boating manual: more a travelogue through his existence. Bill was also a talented landscape painter and a good portion of the footage shows him combining journeying by canoe to find subjects for his canvas. Along the way there is no shortage of good technique on view, including poling, and sailing using improvised materials. Skills on show for real. Sensitively shot in stunning landscape the visual effect and atmosphere made me want to pack an open boat and lose myself in the wilderness (and I'm a kayaker). There is even an exciting ocean sequence shot in a respectable size of swell. Does he get his comeuppance in the clapotis? watch and find out. The scenery is breathtaking and the rough water sequences are a reminder that open boat purists tackle lumpy water without the benefit of maximum air-bags. During Bill's emotive commentary much of his philosophy of life is heard. Affinity with the Native American Indians, the land as earth mother, and concerns over acid rain are topics aired. I found

the video inspirational and was left with an envy of Mason's quality of life. I would love to hand a copy to all those people who ask 'why do we canoe?'.

### Open Canoe Roll

Bob Foote £19.98

The 'Rollin' with Nolan' Video which appeared in Britain a couple of years ago opened a few British eyes to the possibilities of rough water open boating. Without wishing to get involved in the 'is an open boat full of airbags then not an open boat?' debate it all looks fun and a significant number of paddlers are getting involved in this type of paddling.

Inevitably paddlers need to acquire and adapt skills to suit activities and this short teaching video by Bob Foote deals with the Canoe Roll.

The opening footage shows some impressive spate river rolling action, with Bob smoothly recovering from the inverted position to a soundtrack from Holst's Planet Suite.

Switch to pool and Dire Straits. In clear, easily-followed stroke breakdown, the mysteries of the canoe roll are revealed. In reality there is nothing radically new or different, especially to those who can roll C1 slalom but it is interesting how easily techniques translate across disciplines. What is really impressive is the slow motion and underwater photography.

Foote keeps it nice and simple and picks out all the right key points with sound advice on head positions and paddle set up. Good stuff and a red hot dry land demo showing why technique wins and brute force fails. Kayakers please note. Bob advocates using a partner to 'spot' whilst learning. This is standard in lots of sports coaching ie gymnastics, but not seen too often in canoeing. Nice tip with eggs! Needing grace and finesse Bob uses a woman paddler as his demo and makes a very valid point about the concept of 'right' and 'wrong' technique. If it works it's good. Outfitting is crucial to success and the video ends with a commercial feature on one system: I can live with commercialism if the result is the production of good instructional aids.

Kevin Danforth





# BCU SUPPLIES (0533) 830659

TELEPHONE  
SALES

VISA

MASTERCARD

ACCESS ACCEPTED

## BCU IN HOUSE PUBLICATIONS

| Quantity |                                    | Members<br>Price | Non Members<br>Price |
|----------|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| .....    | Canoe Focus Binder                 | £ 5.75           | £ 6.75               |
| .....    | Coaching Logbook (Stitched)        | £ 2.00           | N/A                  |
| .....    | Coaching Logbook (Loose Leaf)      | £ 2.00           | N/A                  |
| .....    | Touring Logbook                    | £ 2.30           | N/A                  |
| .....    | Logbook Binder                     | £ 4.00           | N/A                  |
| .....    | Directory of Tests and Awards      | £ 2.80           | £ 3.00               |
| .....    | Licence ID Holder (Sticks to Boat) | £ 0.50           | N/A                  |

## BCU BOOKLETS

|       |  |                |            |
|-------|--|----------------|------------|
| ..... | Throwlines and Their Uses                            | £ 1.75         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | Weir Wisdom  | £ 1.75         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | Chest Harness - Use in Whitewater                    | £ 1.75         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | Canoe Camping  | £ 1.10         | £ 1.50     |
| ..... | Kayak Rolling  | £ 1.10         | £ 1.50     |
| ..... | Canadian Canoeing                                    | £ 1.10         | £ 1.50     |
| ..... | Canoe Construction & Maintenance<br>(GRP)            | £ 1.10         | £ 1.50     |
| ..... | Canoe Building<br>(Soft Skin & Moulded Veneer Boats) | £ 1.10         | £ 1.50     |
| ..... | Canoeing for Schools<br>& Youth Groups               | £ 1.10         | £ 1.50     |
| ..... | <b>All nine above titles</b>                         | <b>£ 10.00</b> | <b>N/A</b> |

## CORPS OF CANOE LIFEGUARDS BOOKLETS

|       |  |                |            |
|-------|--|----------------|------------|
| ..... | The Structure of Corps                               | £ 1.50         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | Awards and Training                                  | £ 1.50         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | Equipment used by Canoe Lifeguards                   | £ 1.50         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | Responsibilities and Operations                      | £ 1.50         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | Canoeist's First Aid & Aftercare                     | £ 1.50         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | Accident Prevention                                  | £ 1.50         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | The Elements - Reading Water<br>/Weather Forecasting | £ 1.50         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | Working with Rescue<br>& Safety Service              | £ 1.50         | £ 2.00     |
| ..... | <b>All Eight above titles in BCU Binder</b>          | <b>£ 15.00</b> | <b>N/A</b> |

## CAR STICKERS

|       |                        |        |        |
|-------|------------------------|--------|--------|
| ..... | I do it with the BCU   | £ 0.30 | N/A    |
| ..... | I Love Canoeing        | £ 0.50 | £ 0.70 |
| ..... | I'd rather be Canoeing | £ 0.50 | £ 0.70 |
| ..... | Go Canoe a Kayak       | £ 0.50 | £ 0.70 |

## BOAT STICKERS

|       |                 |        |        |
|-------|-----------------|--------|--------|
| ..... | Graphic Surfer  | £ 0.50 | £ 0.70 |
| ..... | Oceans are Free | £ 0.50 | £ 0.70 |

## BADGES

|       |                                     |        |        |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|
| ..... | I do it with the BCU (Button Badge) | £ 0.20 | N/A    |
| ..... | BCU Member (Embroidered Badge)      | £ 1.00 | N/A    |
| ..... | British Canoe Union (Blazer Badge)  | £ 1.50 | N/A    |
| ..... | I love Canoeists (Button Badge)     | £ 0.20 | £ 0.30 |
| ..... | Canoe Cadet (Embroidered Badge)     | £ 0.60 | £ 1.00 |



## VIDEO SERVICE

All Videos are VHS (PAL SYSTEM)

## OPEN CANOE VIDEO'S

| Quantity |   | Members<br>Price | Non Members<br>Price |
|----------|---|------------------|----------------------|
| .....    | Long Distance Canoe Racing<br>Techniques & Training (USA) | £ 19.98          | £ 21.98              |
| .....    | Canoeing the Basic Skills                                 | £ 14.99          | £ 16.99              |
| .....    | Rollin' with Nolan  | £ 14.99          | £ 16.99              |
| .....    | The C1 Challenge  | £ 14.99          | £ 16.99              |

### The Bob Foot Collection

|       |                                 |                |            |
|-------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| ..... | The Open Canoe Roll             | £ 19.98        | £ 21.98    |
| ..... | Open Canoes in the Grand Canyon | £ 19.98        | £ 21.98    |
| ..... | <b>Both Titles</b>              | <b>£ 39.00</b> | <b>N/A</b> |

### The Bill Mason Video Collection

|       |   |                |            |
|-------|---|----------------|------------|
| ..... | Path of the Paddle - Solo Basic         | £ 14.99        | £ 16.99    |
| ..... | Path of the Paddle - Doubles Basic      | £ 14.99        | £ 16.99    |
| ..... | Path of the Paddle - Solo Whitewater    | £ 14.99        | £ 16.99    |
| ..... | Path of the Paddle - Doubles<br>W/Water | £ 14.99        | £ 16.99    |
| ..... | Song of the Paddle                      | £ 14.99        | £ 16.99    |
| ..... | Waterwalker                             | £ 19.98        | £ 21.98    |
| ..... | <b>All Six Titles</b>                   | <b>£ 89.00</b> | <b>N/A</b> |

## KAYAKING VIDEO'S

|       |                                      |         |         |
|-------|--------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| ..... | Kayak Handling - Richard Fox         | £ 14.99 | £ 16.99 |
| ..... | River Rescue - The Video of the Book | £ 14.99 | £ 16.99 |
| ..... | 5 Idaho Classics + Rollin with Rocky | £ 14.99 | £ 16.99 |

## ADVENTURE VIDEO'S

|       |   |         |         |
|-------|---|---------|---------|
| ..... | Paddlers must wear Lifejackets<br>(Liffey Descent with John Noakes) | £ 14.99 | £ 16.99 |
| ..... | Big Blue Ocean (Outrigger Racing)                                   | £ 14.99 | £ 16.99 |





# BCU SUPPLIES BOOK SERVICE

TELEPHONE SALES (0533) 830659 ask for BCU SUPPLIES



## KAYAKING

| Quantity |                                 | Members Price | Non Members Price |
|----------|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| .....    | BCU Handbook - The BCU Textbook | £ 14.95       | £ 16.95           |
| .....    | Canoeing - by Neil Shave        | £ 5.99        | £ 6.99            |
| .....    | Kayak - by Nealy                | £ 7.95        | £ 8.95            |
| .....    | Whitewater Kayaking - Ray Rowe  | £ 9.95        | £ 10.95           |
| .....    | Performance Kayaking - U'Ren    | £ 9.95        | £ 10.95           |
| .....    | The Squirt Boat Book - Snyder   | £ 7.95        | £ 8.95            |
| .....    | River Rescue - Ray              | £ 9.95        | £ 10.95           |

## SEA KAYAKING

|       |                                     |         |         |
|-------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| ..... | Sea Canoeing - Howard Jeffs         | £ 6.95  | £ 7.95  |
| ..... | Sea Kayaking - Nigel Foster         | £ 9.95  | £ 10.95 |
| ..... | Fundamentals of Kayak Navigation    | £ 9.95  | £ 10.95 |
| ..... | Coastal Kayakers Manual             | £ 8.95  | £ 9.95  |
| ..... | Sea Kayaking - John Dowd            | £ 8.95  | £ 9.95  |
| ..... | Baidarka - The Kayak - George Dyson | £ 14.95 | £ 15.95 |
| ..... | Coastwise Navigation                | £ 6.99  | £ 7.99  |

### The Hutchinson Collection

|       |                               |                |            |
|-------|-------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| ..... | Sea Canoeing                  | £ 8.99         | £ 9.99     |
| ..... | Sea Kayaking                  | £ 9.95         | £ 10.95    |
| ..... | Eskimo Rolling for Survival   | £ 8.95         | £ 9.95     |
| ..... | <b>All Three of the above</b> | <b>£ 26.89</b> | <b>N/A</b> |

## OPEN CANOEING

|       |                                       |         |         |
|-------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|
| ..... | The Open Canoe - Bill Riviere         | £ 9.95  | £ 10.95 |
| ..... | Wilderness Canoe Camping              | £ 12.25 | £ 13.25 |
| ..... | Canoeing Wild Rivers - Cliff Jacobson | £ 15.75 | £ 16.75 |
| ..... | Basic Essentials of Canoeing          | £ 5.95  | £ 6.50  |
| ..... | Sail Your Canoe - John Bull           | £ 3.95  | £ 4.45  |
| ..... | Beyond the Paddle - Conover           | £ 13.95 | £ 14.95 |

### The Bill Mason Collection

|       |                          |                |            |
|-------|--------------------------|----------------|------------|
| ..... | Path of the Paddle       | £ 12.95        | £ 13.95    |
| ..... | Song of the Paddle       | £ 13.95        | £ 14.95    |
| ..... | <b>Both of the above</b> | <b>£ 25.80</b> | <b>N/A</b> |

## CANOE/KAYAK BOAT BUILDING

|       |   |         |         |
|-------|---|---------|---------|
| ..... | Canoe/craft - Building Woodstrip Canoes | £ 10.95 | £ 11.95 |
| ..... | The Wood and Canvas Canoe               | £ 14.95 | £ 15.95 |
| ..... | Boat (Canoe&Kayak) Builders Manual      | £ 6.95  | £ 7.95  |

## BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS

| Quantity |                         | Members Price | Non Members Price |
|----------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| .....    | Skin Boats of Greenland | £ 40.00       | £ 43.00           |
| .....    | Canoeing and Kayaking   | £ 7.99        | £ 8.99            |
| .....    | The Blind Probe (Foxy)  | £ 3.95        | £ 4.95            |
| .....    | The Canoe               | £ 30.00       | £ 33.00           |

## I.C.F. PUBLICATIONS

| Quantity |                                     | Members Price | Non Members Price |
|----------|-------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| .....    | Canoeing an Olympic Sport           | £ 15.95       | £ 17.50           |
| .....    | ICF Poster Book                     | £ 14.95       | £ 15.95           |
| .....    | World of Marathon Racing            | £ 15.95       | £ 16.95           |
| .....    | Canoeing - 50 years in the Olympics | £ 12.95       | £ 13.95           |

## TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE

|       |                                   |         |         |
|-------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| ..... | Seekers of the Horizon            | £ 15.95 | £ 16.95 |
| ..... | Raging Rivers, Stormy Seas        | £ 12.95 | £ 13.95 |
| ..... | Marsayandi - River of Annapurna   | £ 4.00  | £ 5.00  |
| ..... | Blazing Paddles - Wilson          | £ 12.95 | £ 14.95 |
| ..... | River Days - Collected Stories    | £ 12.95 | £ 13.95 |
| ..... | Argonauts of the Western Isles    | £ 10.95 | £ 11.95 |
| ..... | First Descents - O'Conner/Lazenby | £ 10.95 | £ 11.95 |
| ..... | Zambezi - Journey of a River      | £ 19.95 | £ 20.95 |
| ..... | Canoeing Across Canada - McGuffin | £ 14.95 | £ 15.95 |

## FITNESS AND FIRST AID

|       |                                   |         |         |
|-------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| ..... | Sports Injuries a self help guide | £ 11.95 | £ 12.95 |
| ..... | Stretching - Anderson             | £ 10.99 | £ 11.99 |
| ..... | Sporting Body, Sporting Mind      | £ 7.99  | £ 8.99  |
| ..... | The First Aid Manual - Red Cross  | £ 5.99  | £ 6.99  |

## RIVER GUIDES

|       |                                   |         |         |
|-------|-----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| ..... | BCU Guide to the Waterways of GB  | £ 4.50  | £ 5.50  |
| ..... | London's Waterways Guide          | £ 7.50  | £ 8.50  |
| ..... | Northern Waterways Guide          | £ 7.50  | £ 8.50  |
| ..... | British Whitewater - Terry Storry | £ 10.95 | £ 11.95 |
| ..... | Run River Run - Foxy              | £ 7.95  | £ 8.95  |
| ..... | Rivieres D'Ardeche                | £ 9.95  | £ 10.95 |
| ..... | Rivieres des Cervennes            | £ 9.95  | £ 10.95 |
| ..... | Whitewater Canoeing in S. Norway  | £ 11.95 | £ 12.95 |

### The Ordnance Survey Guides

|       |                                     |                |            |
|-------|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------|
| ..... | OS South (New Edition)              | £ 8.99         | £ 9.99     |
| ..... | OS Central (New Edition)            | £ 8.99         | £ 9.99     |
| ..... | OS North                            | £ 6.95         | £ 7.95     |
| ..... | OS Broads and Fens                  | £ 8.99         | £ 9.99     |
| ..... | OS Thames                           | £ 8.99         | £ 9.99     |
| ..... | <b>All five of the above titles</b> | <b>£ 39.00</b> | <b>N/A</b> |





# BCU SUPPLIES (0533) 830659

TELEPHONE SALES

VISA

MASTERCARD

Ask for BCU Supplies  
ACCESS ACCEPTED

## BCU LOGO DESIGN - EXCLUSIVE TO MEMBERS

| Quantity |  | Price  |
|----------|--|--------|
| .....    | I'm a paddler - Baseball Cap                                       | £ 3.95 |
| .....    | I'm a paddler - Tee Shirt<br>Size: Medium or Large (as Vest)       | £ 4.99 |
| .....    | I'm a paddler - Vest<br>Size: Small, Medium or Large               | £ 3.49 |
| .....    | BCU Logo Sweatshirt<br>Size: Medium, Large or X Large              | £ 9.99 |
| .....    | BCU Logo Polo Shirt<br>Size: Small, Medium or Large                | £ 9.99 |
| .....    | BCU Vee neck Sweater<br>Size: Medium or Large (not shown)          | £ 9.99 |
| .....    | BCU Paddler Motif Sweatshirt<br>Sizes: Medium or Large (not shown) | £ 9.99 |



| Quantity |                            | Price   |
|----------|----------------------------|---------|
| .....    | BCU Leather Card Organiser | £ 4.95  |
| .....    | BCU Waterproof Notebook    | £ 5.95  |
| .....    | Kayaking \$murf            | £ 2.75  |
| .....    | Roof Rack Lock Guard       | £ 11.20 |



| Quantity |                                    | Price   |
|----------|------------------------------------|---------|
| .....    | Stripper Open Canoe                | £ 99.00 |
| .....    | 10" Open Canoe                     | £ 29.99 |
| .....    | 10" Sea Kayak with Paddle          | £ 33.84 |
| .....    | 3 Canoe Paddle Rack<br>(not Shown) | £ 19.74 |
| .....    | Single Paddle on Stand             | £ 10.99 |
| .....    | 8" Slalom Kayak                    | £ 19.74 |



*This list supersedes all previous lists, we reserve the right to alter prices, and specifications of all products without notice  
Postage is now inclusive in all the above prices - VAT is included where applicable*

### ORDER FORM

To place your order, please state the quantity required, and size and colour where applicable and send your order to:

**Mobile Adventure Ltd,  
Bridge Works, Knighton Fields West, Leicester LE2 6LG**

Cheques made Payable to "Mobile Adventure Ltd"  
For Payment by Access/Mastercard/Visa

I enclose cheque for £..... (amount)  
Access/Mastercard Number.....  
Visa Number.....  
Expiry Date..... Signed.....

Your Delivery Address (Please Print)

Name.....  
Address.....  
.....  
.....

BCU Membership Number

.....  
Must be given if claiming Members Prices.



# Regional Roundup

## Vice-chair's chat

Regional recreational and taster - level events underpin BCU's expansion programme, so if you haven't compiled your 1992 calendar of events yet, and put in your entries for the BCU Yearbook, go to it please. It is a good time of year also to review Development Plans and ensure that these too encourage canoeing for women and young people. A push for canoe clubs to be more family - oriented, providing a range of competitive, recreational and social activities wide enough to interest a whole family, would be a useful step in that direction. And, while you're at it, why not foster BCU Lifeguards Units within canoe clubs? All the best for 1992.

**Charles Hicks**

## South

Our 1992 touring programme is for a regional canoe-camping weekend on the Wye, based at Mordiford, for the May-Day bank holiday (2-4 May) and four or more regional tours, hosted by clubs and with a theme such as a gourmet, 'Howards' Way' Waterways' Museum or Thames backwaters tour. Contact Ted Moulding on 0908 676343. The 1992 race training programme starts with a series of 'Have & Hounds' training races at Henley on Sunday 5, 12, 19 and 26 January. These offer a marvellous opportunity for timed winter training and to see how much you can improve as the series progresses; also to bring on young people, and the less experienced, in K2's. Contact Charles or Katie Hicks on 0252 850657.

**Charles Hicks**

## South West

The Committee has successfully funded a number of initiatives by clubs and others to develop and improve canoeing standards. All due to our priority position as a Focus sport in the South West. Polo, competition coaches and disabled endorsements for instructors are among the recipients. Many schemes have been submitted to the Region's finance sieve Committee. It is important that projects are sent to this Committee via the secretary BEFORE they go to the Sports

Council or any other 'provider' of finance. The region aims to encourage "family based" competitive events and asks clubs to publicise as widely as possible their ideas. Leaflets in libraries, free newspaper adverts etc are all useful. Junior and youth/school clubs can also promote such events and Taster Sessions. Lets get cracking.

**Jim Cornwell**

## London and South East

Congratulations to two local clubs, which recently celebrated notable anniversaries. Shepperton are 25 years old and commemorated the event by holding a slalom run to the rules of 25 years ago. Royal, of course, are a little older. They marked their 125th anniversary with an International Grand Prix marathon. The regional white water training week-end at Holme Pierrepont was held in August. Once again it proved very popular and this year an inflatable race was added to the programme. Many thanks to Maidstone Canoe Club and others who ran the event. The regional pool slalom (the qualifier for Crystal Palace) will be held at Alleyns School pool on 4 January. For details contact Vince Lamph.

**Chris Childs**

## East Midlands

The regional pool slalom is on 11 January at Bramcote pool, Nottingham, starting 6pm - all welcome! The "Taster Scheme" will be in operation and paddlers not proving BCU membership will be asked to pay a premium. A message from me to all members of the regional slalom squad - WELL DONE!! - both paddlers and bank support. If you have not heard, we won the regional slalom individual trophy this year at Llangollen, plus a magnum of NICOLAS SEUIL-LATTE champagne, thanks to the sponsors. The new committee elected at the AGM is looking forward to 1992. They are "in

office" to work for you "the regional paddlers". Please let them know what you want. Ring me on (0332 558263).

**Pearl Mulholland**

## East

By the time you read this the region's AGM will have come and gone. How many people took this opportunity to speak and give their ideas of what the BCU and the region should be doing on their behalf? If previous years are anything to go by less than 30 out of 1200 members! Last year a regional news sheet was launched, if somewhat erratically! Why erratic? Because too few people were trying to do too much for canoeing. I will be paddling at most of the Essex Winter Series and I hope that my next article takes us into the New Year on a more positive note!

**Ron Hodgson**

## North

The North Tyne winter access agreement from 1 November is the same as last year. Contact G Thompson (0434 602622) for details before travelling. Telephone M Gill (091 548 6803) about the Durham City Boxing Day race/paddle at Ilam. Regional Pool Slalom at the Dolphin Centre, Darlington, 28 December - contact A Wilson (091 584 1869). Jerry Tracey (0434 683409) is running the New Year's day North Tyne race. M Norris (Blyth 368658) is planning a Sl Sea Training course. Send applications by 1 January to Don Raspin for 91/92 Sports Council grants in line with the development plan. The next meeting of Northumbria Canoeists is 6 January, 7.30pm, at the Ouseburn Centre, Quayside, Newcastle.

**Mary Armstrong**

## West Midlands

Your regional committee wish all paddlers a merry Christmas and a wet New Year. The Ice Breaker paddle, your first 1992 tour, starts at Malthouse Tipton and finishes at the Pie

factory Tipton details from Malcolm Freeman (021 520 7861). The Vyrnwy Tours on 8, 15 and 29 February are subject to surplus water release, so you must phone Mike Hubbard (021 356 7619) before setting out. There will be evening talks on sea touring covering navigation etc in January February and March, plus weekend and introductory courses from April onward. Details from Lester on (0384 258492).

**Mike Male**

## North West

Any items for the region's display stand would be appreciated from paddlers. The pool slalom is at Woolston Baths, Warrington on Saturday 11 January at 5.30pm. Contact Mike Burt (0925 764818). The region will co-ordinate a series of one day mini slalom next year primarily aimed at newcomers to slalom or canoeing. The very successful Holme Pierrepont week-end will be repeated on 23/24 May 1992 - keep the date free! The region has recently obtained a fleet of six Mirages, available to clubs and school groups, at 50 per week or 10 per day, including equipment. This is thanks to the successful project with the Sports Council on liaison with schools. Manchester Canoe Club will be running a mini-slalom on 1 March 1992.

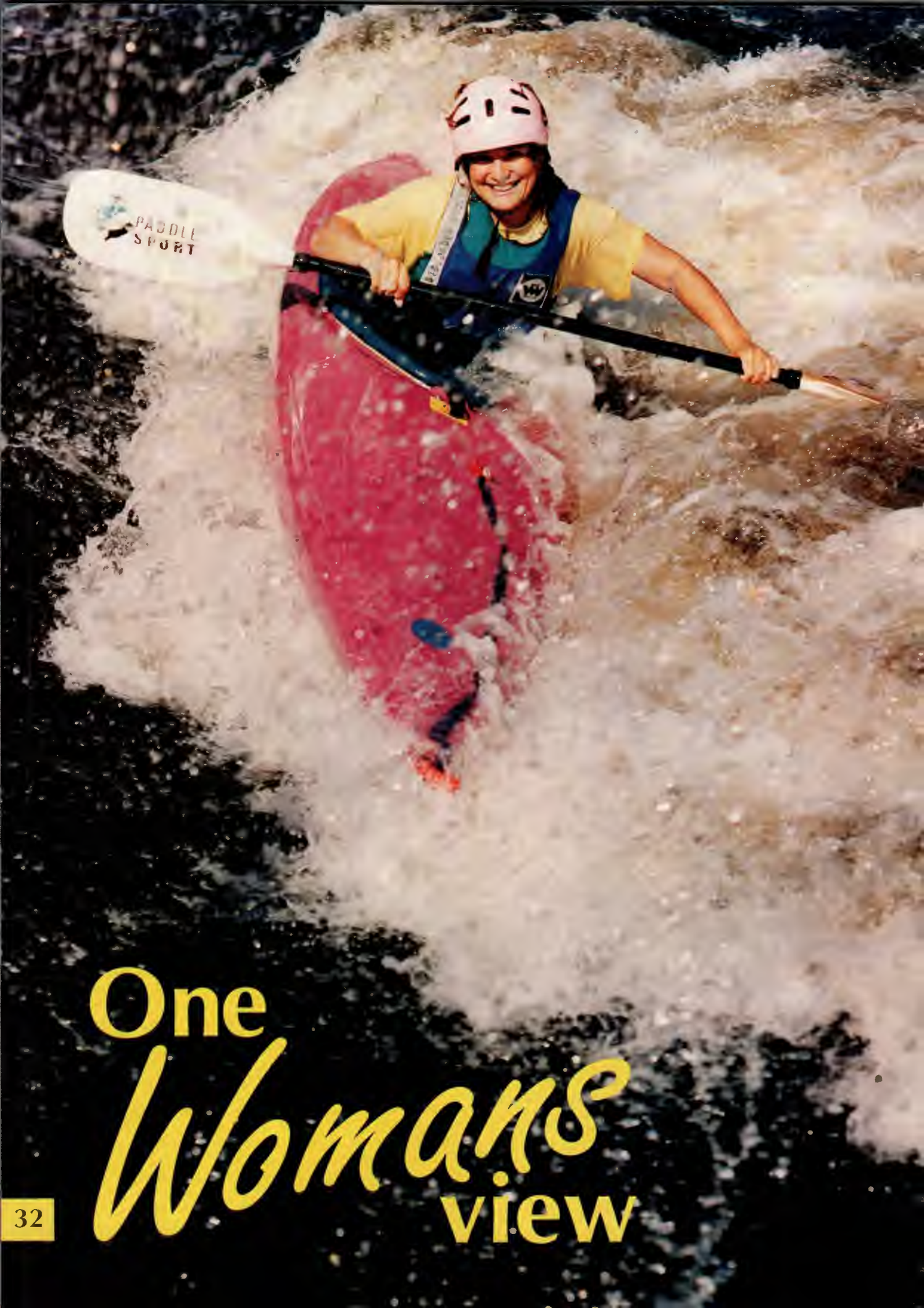
**Mike Burt**

## Yorkshire and Humberside

Information and dates for the 1992 Regional Yearbook are urgently need by Nigel Addy, 7 Gatehead, Marsden, Huddersfield HD7 6JR. Tel: (0484 847838). The Yearbook will be available in time for Crystal Palace to all members of the BCU within the region. The Canoeists Guide to Yorkshire Rivers should be ready also. All members are urged to attend the region's AGM on Thursday 5 December at 7.30pm at the Parkside Inn, Pontefract. Dial 0423 711531 for the region's Information Line for the news of forthcoming events. To promote an event or have information put on the line ring Marianne Spender (0422 882908). Contact Simon Dixon (0924 430785) about Pennine CC inter-club quiz at Dewsbury in the new year in aid of the Derwent Appeal and Water Heritage.

**Marianne Spender**





# One Womans view



## WHAT IS "NORMAL" ANYWAY?

When I first started paddling some two and a half years ago I was privileged to have been the recipient of two pearls of wisdom, whilst sitting on my buoyancy aid (naughty naughty) and on which my paddling has since been based:

"Canoeing is a social sport for anti-social people" and "Charts are useless to us paddlers - they don't show the pubs."

Fortunately for me the first statement has proved inaccurate with the majority of people I have met being very supportive (under- statement of the year) and it would appear, from direct observation, the proud owners of O.S maps!

Having spoken to some of those martyrs, the majority of whom I have to say have been male, who have survived my two and half year introduction to kayaking, a number of things have been highlighted which might suggest that if they were in the unfortunate position of introducing another female to the sport the approach may be somewhat different.

Typical introductory kit for women - for me at any rate.

One large German manufactured 'crash' helmet - with chin guard - just in case.

One upwardly mobile buoyancy aid - especially when swimming.

One large pink waterfall boat to which I will be eternally indebted for taking me down and allowing me to 'survive' some rather large white water in France back in June this year, but, as I found out later, retarded my kayaking development!

A fortnight in France, paddling Alpine rivers with eleven mad, but very lively, Irish people whom I now call very good friends, served to highlight some of the basic weaknesses of my paddling technique and skills at that time.

The first day made me seriously ask the question as to what I was doing when as a basic exercise we were asked, as a group, to ferry-glide across the Durance river just above the Rabioux wave. No problem in theory but the reality of the situation resulted in my being swept down river at a tremendous pace of knots and a long walk back up the bank - if only I had understood and practiced the art of edging and reading the water. Resolution for my return to Wales - I will need to learn how to paddle!

The main piece of advice I

# Top Tips and handy hints

## ONE WOMEN'S VIEW

**Our Top Tips in this issue is a simple one highlighted by the author of this article; if you are small, short in arm or not a "normal" shape, be chosey about how your equipment fits and feels. Conversely this applies to large people with long legs and 'different' physical attributes. Canoes and canoeing equipment is now available in a wide variety of sizes and shapes; try to fit your kit. You would not consider running a marathon in a vest two sizes too small or training shoes two sizes too big would you?**

had grasped with both hands to accompany me to France was that 'If in doubt PLF' (paddle very fast).

The trouble with that advice was that for the majority of the time on the water I was severely in doubt! On our first river, the Upper Guile, I paddled flat out past everyone, apologising as I went, not realising until much later that I could have used the water. As it was, I had left myself in the vulnerable position of having no energy when I really needed it. Presumption by my fellow paddlers - "She's a one pace paddler" - too true - flat out or die!

Trees - the bane of my Alpine and pre-Alpine paddling career. Owing a boat that had a telepathic sensory device in the nose, which could home in on a tree with unerring accuracy, does not do a lot for ones confidence. Contrary to popular belief paddling backwards does nothing but delay the inevitable. I have since been offered the solution - (I hope this is not copyright) - point the boat at the tree; EDGE (I'm not telling you which way and then "paddle backwards" - simple! (This little gem is dedicated to the three ladies I met outside the toilets on the evening of the Liffey Descent who all had close encounters with trees that day!)

Although, very appropriate for a 6'3", 15 stone male, I have recently realised that some of

the things I was trying to achieve are almost impossible with the kit I had and for someone of my stature ie 5'3" and a bit inches - weight irrelevant!

From a recent survey of some of my female paddling friends a large number appear to have a basic congenital problem of having what I would call 'normal' length arms (for a woman). However, this appears to be more than an inconvenience when attempting to either role or edge a high volume boat. Being able to reach the water whilst edging the boat and attempting to perform a text book stern rudder is something that dreams are made of - not for us mere mortals.

Some twelve months after I started paddling I began to volunteer myself as a student on a number of SI training and assessment courses. On one particular occasion my forward paddling technique was, I recall, closely scrutinised and the final verdict by one of the candidates was

that I was over stretching and needed longer paddles. I toyed with the idea to the extent of even ordering a longer shaft - fortunately there was a delay and this major operation and potential mutilation of my paddle did not take place.

The realisation that I didn't have the basic skill to choose where I wanted to be on those rivers in France and as a consequence was not in a position to ensure my own safety let alone contribute to the safety of the other paddlers in the group - my friends - led me to the inevitable realisation that I needed some specific coaching or instruction to help me with my own personal limitations and attributes to become a better paddler.

I have been fortunate in tracking down a coach, although the reality was that I barged into his boat on the Treweryn, who has helped me find the answers to some of my problems. The quest must continue!

Some answers are simple: Most paddling kit is designed by males and made for male bodies, not smaller people who are (you may have noticed) quite a different shape. My new found coach suggested a small kayak, shorter paddles(!), a small buoyancy vest, and a helmet I could see out of. The transformation was almost instantaneous. I could feel what I was supposed to be doing. My coach understood from simple observation that I had been struggling with equipment too large for me - easy really.

Coaching women needs different tricks of the trade too: it is better to find a coach who is aware of this.

There is a basic need for a large number of us, myself included, to appreciate the individualistic nature of the sport we are involved in and to explore the options available to each individual in terms of appropriate kit, technique, methods and approaches to learning. Paddling may be a social sport for anti-social people, but there is one thing for certain - we are all different.

**Marianne Jeffery**

**Next issue:** River reading and route finding.

## Women in Canoeing Stand Canoe Exhibition 1992.

The theme of this years stand will be: "clothing and equipment for the female paddler". Women will have the opportunity to try on clothing and try out equipment and discuss any particular features or problems they have encountered. A survey to find out what clothing and equipment is currently being used by women will also be carried out. Feedback from the exhibition will be passed on to manufacturers and published in Canoe Focus.



It took several years to realise that the Liffey takes place in early September each year. Having watched the video of the 1990 Liffey we nearly thought again about the Liffey for 1991. Enjoying the Exe Descent could be an entry requirement of the 17 mile race but the entry form proved more worrying - stringent race qualifying conditions with approval by assessors! But only if you're Irish! Does that mean we're expendable?

Where do you train for paddling a K2 over 17 miles of fast flowing, weir studied river in a British summer? Answer - its more a case of mental preparation and that's where the Jamesons comes in. When you get to the river its not that they move the goal posts they don't put them up until the day. Checking out dry weirs and predicting lines with a 30 million gallon release takes more than the odd tot!

Ten distinctive weirs require a good crib sheet on deck - if only to aid the memory as to which comes next and when to get out and run. Like the Exe the first weir comes soon after the start, but something was distinctly different - the weather, hot enough to consider if more than a tee shirt would cause overheating!

The start - mind blowing - 850 paddlers moving 500 metres upstream to a chaotic sort out and when the start comes there's no chance of hearing it for the noise of the TV helicopter. Just as well the K2's go off first. 500m later Straffan Weir puts 12 boats out and others swim. The jungle section - inland proficiency - be able to negotiate bends where the current sets under trees, (yes but the 5 or 6 miles?) Yellow pages paddling (let the toes do the walking on the rudder bar) with some entertaining manoeuvres. Each weir etches its place in the memory -some you get right, some not quite! Our aim - we're winners



# IMAGES OF THE LIFFEY

*or a long weekend in Dublin*

the line and go for it - oops, torpedoed the island and a log jam of chuntering boats on poor lines builds up.

Lucan Weir - advice given, with a Dublin accent between slurps of Guinness, "As you come round the corner take it broadside in the first 25 metres where most of the water goes. Throw the rudder right over so you don't snap it off. Bow man hang in as you slide down then let go just before you hit the stopper and the bow breaks thought". Easy!

"Can't you take it straight or diagonal?"

"Jesus, did you not see the rock ledge, its broadside or break up!"

"Would you like another Guinness?"

Sluice Weir - can't get at it for a look before the race. Not so much a weir, more a nice narrow grade three - exacting but blast on through. Palmerstown weir, near the end but had us both psyched out. Vicious V shape of stoppers with little margin for error in hitting the apex. Got it right with the line...wave throws us left and into the stopper. Momentum takes us on a long tour of the slot to a high speed exit with something resembling a high cross at the end and some nearly impaled rescue divers. Live to shoot another weir.

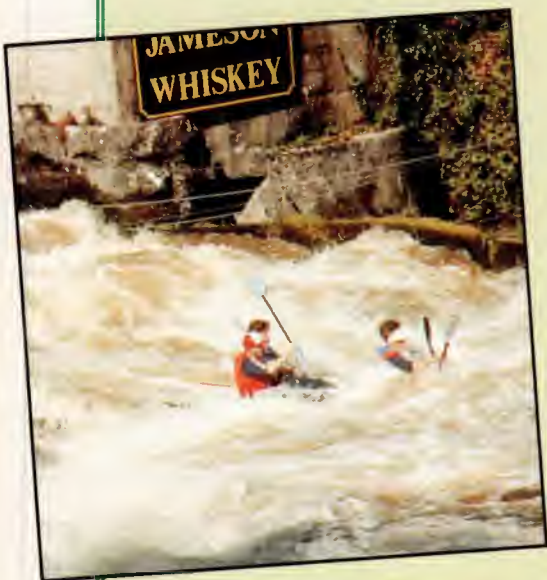
Chapelizod weir - "Lift your paddle as you drop off the bottom or you'll snap a

blade off". "Oops missed, still no problem for the paddles".

Crowds cheering, waving, jumping in at every weir and bridge. Little old ladies wave from garden chairs. On to the finish, carnival atmosphere, jazz band playing, refreshment and trade stands, badges, presentations...and the crack-lazing in the sun, in the park watching the open Canadians come in. The Liffey takes place on a Saturday and the marquee bulges and throbs at night with the eating of food and consumption of 3 thousand pints, most of which is sweated out on the dance floor until the early, or not so early hours - and that's where marathon racing stamina really comes in.

Lasting memory - of good crack, incredible warmth and hospitality, amazing club scene with 5 or 6 thriving clubs in 10 miles of river. Incredulous looks and comments as we describe the access in England. Makes you think of emigrating at least for next September.

MIKE MILLS



if we complete the course. The Irish, much practiced on the river, exhibit confidence and new boats which only familiarity could account for.

Vanessa Weir - where was she, the water nymph who invited us to swim? Find



# CANOE FOCUS

## TRADE DIRECTORY

### SOUTHERN

#### Woodmill

Canoeing & Outdoor Activities Centre  
Woodmill Lane, Swaythling,  
Southampton SO2 2JR. Tel: (0703) 555993



Canoes, paddles and accessories from leading manufacturers. Demonstration boats available. Huge range of courses for all levels. Write or phone for full programme. BCU approved.

47 Queen Street

#### Prestidge

BOAT SALES AND WATERSPORTS

Derby  
(opp. Derby Cathedral)  
Tel: 0332 42245

Stockists for MI Designs. Canoes and Vinta Windsurf boards, also accessories Mountain and water-sports. Demonstrations available by request.

#### WATERWAYS

Stockists of:

Wave Skis & Canoes (Palm, Perception etc) Paddles, Wetsuits and all accessories.  
62 Lagland Street, Poole, Dorset  
Tel: 0202 677523

PHONE  
0480 - 496130

for details of  
advertising in the  
**TRADE  
DIRECTORY**

Ask for Sarah Clegg

#### Canoe Store

Dolphin Quay, Queen Street,  
Emsworth, Hants, PO10 7BJ  
Tel: 0243 372234 Fax: 0243 375088

Budget and leading brands, retail, hire and BCU qualified tuition. Kayaks, surf skis and Canadians with sail and motor

#### DAWSON CANOEING SYSTEMS DCS

**SQUIRT BOATS  
PLAY BOATS  
BOUYANCY AIDS  
RESCUE GEAR  
BACKSTRAPS  
HOT TOPS  
RIVER GUIDES  
COACHING**

The range is expanding...  
the quality stays the same.



Simon Dawson, 75 Turney Street, The Meadows,  
Nottingham NG2 2EG. Tel: (0602) 968803

#### nookie

Superior range of squirt, surf & playboat accessories. Custom & made to measure no problem.  
Contact: Nookie, Heathfield Cottages, Clearbrook, Yelverton, Devon PL20 6JD.  
Tel: 0822 855400

### IRELAND

Tel: 0365 87605  
Fax: 0365 87605

**OUTDOOR  
ACTION**

55 Tattymacall Road  
Lisbellaw Co. Fermanagh  
N. Ireland BT94 5GR

Canoes · Watersports · Camping and Climbing Gear · Outdoor Action Wear Fleece Clothing

### NORTH WEST

#### Garstang Adventure

North West Canoe Shop of the 90's

Stockists of Palm, Ace, Pyranha, Gaybo

Perception. Repair & Hire Service.

77 Hazelhurst Drive, Garstang  
Nr Preston, Lancashire  
0995 602114 (24hr Answer Ser.)

#### ALTERNATIVE SURF

**The Sea and Surf Experts**  
South West's leading canoeing and surfski centre. Where you can try before you buy and prompt mail order service.

30 Fore St. Heavitree, Exeter  
0392 219600

### WALES

**WHITE  
WATER  
CONSULTANCY**

Tel: 0267 237093 0860 290750

Largest stockist of  
canoeing equipment in  
West Wales

Huw Evans · Trefynys  
Peniel · Carmarthen · SA22 7HU

### SCOTLAND

#### Strand Glassfibre & Canoe Centre

129 Laidlaw St. McLaren  
Ind. Estate, Glasgow  
G5 8LA  
Tel: 041 429 0377

Superb range of canoes and accessories from leading makers. Vast range of glass fibre and resins plus all ancillaries.

#### FOUR SEASONS

44 The Bank  
Barnard Castle  
Co. Durham  
DL12 8PN  
Tel: 0833 37829

Canoes, equipment, coaching. For all occasions. Specialists in slalom and white water. Contact Len and Russ Smith.

### WEST COUNTRY

#### CANOE SURF SKIS

Full range of accessories  
**ATLANTIC AQUA SPORTS**  
Albert Street, Penzance  
Cornwall TR18 2LR  
Tel: 0736 65757  
Discount to any club member

#### Strand Glassfibre & Canoe Centre

313 Gloucester Road  
Horfield Bristol BS7 8PE  
Tel: 0272 244075

Superb range of canoes and accessories from leading makers. Vast range of glass fibre and resins plus all ancillaries.

#### KIRTON

THE BEST IN THE WEST

A full range of all leading manufacturers canoes, kayaks and accessories. Demo boats available  
Talk to professionals  
Kirton Watersports, The Quay, Exeter  
Tel: 0392 421831

### GREATER LONDON

#### TWICKENHAM & WHITewater Canoe Centre

Now the finest canoe shop in the known universe.

Canoe and kayak specialists. Courses, hire, instruction, equipment. The complete outfitters, mail order service available.

Shepperton Marina, Felix Lane, Shepperton,  
Middlesex TW17 8NJ. Tel: 081 892 8979

### THAMES & CHILTERN

#### PLAYBOATER

The very best river running and hotdog equipment from the world's leading manufacturers. Mail order Access/Visa. Minutes away from the best Thames weirs.

Mobile 0831 258862. Winter opening - Fridays only 9am - 5pm. Collections at other times by arrangements.

PLAYBOATER LTD, The Haymill Centre, 112 Burnham Lane, Slough, Berks SL1 6LZ. Tel/Fax: (0628) 667507

### MIDLANDS

#### Strand Glassfibre & Canoe Centre

444 Stratford Road  
Birmingham B11 4AE  
Tel: 021 772 3099

Superb range of canoes and accessories from leading makers. Vast range of glass fibre and resins plus all ancillaries.



Suppliers of Kayaks and Canadian Canoes Paddles, Clothing and all canoe accessories

#### HAZE ENTERPRISES

25 Primrose Hill, Tockenham,  
Wootton Bassett, Swindon, Wilts.  
Tel: 0793 852904

#### marsport CANOES & KAYAKS

215 London Road,  
Reading  
Tel: 0734 665912  
Fax: 0734 352484

Canoes, Kayaks, Paddles and Accessories: All advice and supplies for the competitive or leisure paddler.

**C.A.F.E. fitness management systems**  
When HRM technology is available, can you afford not to be using it

**POLAR  
HEART RATE MONITORS**

NEW waterproof heart rate monitors. Price from £64.99  
POLAR Edge POLAR Favour  
POLAR Accurex POLAR Sport Tester  
Plus our FREE fitness management customer support package on using heart rate monitors for racing and training

BROCHURE for individuals and CLUBS:  
3 Brys Rd., Moss Wessham Clwyd, LL11 0EL  
Tel: 0978 751382

#### DEE KAYAK & CANOE SCHOOL

B.C.U. - W.C.A. Approved  
65 Harwood Lane, Rossett, Wrexham.  
Clwyd. LL12 0EU

Tel: 0244 570157 (24hr Ans)

Courses for beginners. Send SAE for full programme.  
All BCU Coaching awards

We would like to wish all our customers a Merry Christmas



**WATERFRONT  
SPORTSGEAR,  
BODYFITS LYCRA  
WEAR & CAMPING  
EQUIP.**

Suppliers of watersport accessories Lycra wear & camping equip. at competitive prices. Selling/Buying used watersports items? Then take the easy option.

Use our "contact" Agency  
Cardiff 0222-692108







## CANOE BUY A BETTER KAYAK?

For slalom information including craft from Perception - Reflex, Nomad, Pyranha and Arrowcraft together with accessories from Wild-Water, Freeblades, Propulsion, MI, Diamond, Bushsport etc.

**Please contact Melvyn Jones**

Information on all other requirements, Personal and Contract, including Ace, Prijon, Pyranha, Perception, MI, Coleman, Arrowcraft (new Aquabat) and accessories from Chang, Tornado, Helly-Hansen, Javlin, Lendal, Schlegal, Kober, New Wave etc.

**Please contact Tim Houghton**



**Telephone: 0902 634567**

West Midlands Canoe Centre,  
112 Newhall Street, Willenhall, West Midlands WV13 1LQ.

## EVERYTHING FOR THE CANOEIST



## TWR·Y·FELIN

**On the Ocean** Sea kayaking in S.W. Ireland in May and September. Surfing and rock hopping in Brittany in April. Touring, surfing and rock hopping throughout the year in St. Davids.

**On White Water** Paddle the Sun Kosi or Bio Bio in November or December '92 or play in the Austrian Alps on our intermediate or advanced white water courses.

**In the shop** Stunning deals on the Aeroquatic II, Stunt Bats and the Corsica S. Dry cags, dry bags, juggling balls and much much more. Excellent stock of Foster Rowe buoyancy aids and cags.

**CONTACT** **Andy Middleton, Twr-y-Felin, St Davids, Pembrokeshire SA62 6QS.**  
**Tel: 0437 720391 Fax: 0437 721838**



Once a year, we abandon our familiar coastline for the rugged island strewn coast of North West Scotland. This challenging and unique area provides the canoeist and naturalist with a unique opportunity to indulge in a break from civilisation in a wilderness setting.

For more details - Telephone 0248•670964 or write to:  
**Plas Menai National Watersports Centre**  
**Llanfairisgaer, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1UE**

- A Sports Council for Wales National Centre -

## Britain's friendliest mail order company

We can supply you with the *right* canoeing product at the *right* price



12 Holmscroft rd Luton LU3 2TJ Tel(0582) 571841



TROJAN TRAILERS manufacture a range of high specification trailers to suit most requirements, with carrying capacities from 2 to 26 canoes. A bespoke service is available to design and build to individual requirements.

For details:  
Telephone 0604 785244 evenings  
0831 578714 day  
available direct from the factory



**Excellence in Design**  
**Excellence in Craftmanship**  
**An Exquisite Range of Open Canoes**

## Mad River Canoe

Only available from  
**Fulmer** 5, Frodsham St. Kelsall, Tarporley, Cheshire.  
Tel: 0829 52634 Fax: 0829 51589



# CLASSIFIED

## Courses/Holidays

### RAPID 'N' WAVES ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES

Kayak and Canoe courses for all levels

- Individual and group tuition anywhere in UK
- Ideal for schools, youth groups and Canoe Clubs
- Star Tests to Coaching Courses
- White Water Skills, Seatrips, Surfing holidays
- Transport available from anywhere to anywhere in UK

For further information send your requirements to: 8, Moreland Close, Great Wakering, Essex, SS3 0HD

### BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL OF CANOEING

A wide selection of courses from Novice to Advanced run by our friendly BCU staff, selected for their expertise and specialist skills.

Please ring now or send S.A.E. for a programme to: Greg Parkes.

Birmingham School of Canoeing,  
96 Barrs Rd. Cradley Heath,  
Warley, West Midlands B64 7HH

Tel: 0384 67896  
FAX: 0384 67617

### Ynys Môn

Personal Development

The New way to Experience  
Outdoor Pursuits

Venues anywhere in the U.K. Canoe, Kayak, Climb and Mountaineer on Courses and Holidays tailor-made to suit your needs. Also expeditions at home and abroad. Group and Individual tuition under the guidance of qualified, experienced and caring staff.

For further information please contact "Ynys Môn" for a personal quotation on - 0270 - 764 - 888.

### Wanted

Canoes for novices. School needs 4-6 plastic canoes. Also trailer for 10-12 canoes. Contact Pedro Cavanna. Tel: (0580) 880626

## Situations Vacant

### Canoe Control

B.C.U. Approved

#### ALPINE KAYAK SCHOOL FRENCH ALPS SUMMER 92

An adventurous holiday catering for beginners to the more experienced paddler.

#### WEST COUNTRY WHITE WATER WINTER 91/92

Beginners kayak courses  
Beginners w/w courses  
Intermediate w/w courses  
Guiding on G4+

#### CLIMBING/CAVING/CANOEOING W/days W/ends

With full board accommodation

Please ring or send S.A.E. for full details to:

4 Abbeygate Axminster  
Devon EX1 35TP  
Telephone 0297 33123

### ACORN VENTURE

WORK FOR ACORN VENTURE IN 1992  
Centres in the UK France & Spain  
April-September

We require mature, professional staff who are well qualified and experienced

- INSTRUCTORS for all land-based activities and water sports
- SUPPORT STAFF (kitchen and maintenance)
- MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS AND NURSES

People, 18+, who are seriously interested in working with groups of young people should contact: *The Personnel Dept.*  
Acorn Adventure, 137 Worcester Road,  
Hagley, Stourbridge, DY9 0NW Tel:

### CANOEISTS WANTED

PGL require B.C.U., S.I.'s and other canoeists with considerable experience to instruct children or families for long or short periods between March and October. Minimum age is 18 for the U.K, and 20 for France. Applicants for France should have Canadian experience. All posts are residential.

Details from Application Department,  
PGL Young Adventure Ltd,  
Alton Court,  
Penyarde Lane (B20)  
Ross on Wye  
HR9 5NR  
Tel: 0989 764211

To advertise in Canoe Focus Classified:

Boxed advertisements £6 per column cm (semi-display). + VAT

Lineage 30p per word (min. 20 words). + VAT

Contact: Raven Marketing Group, New Road, St Ives, Cambs., PE17 4BG.

Tel: (0480) 496130

**Manor Adventure** requires experienced multi-activity instructors for season Feb-Oct '92. Qualified canoeists/experienced climbers etc. preferred. For application and further information phone David Shaw on (0584) 73333.

**Calshot Activities Centre.** Outdoor Pursuits (Watersports) Instructors, March - October 1992. A combined Training and Instructional post for those who already have previous experience in Outdoor Education, providing an opportunity to improve and extend a wide range of Outdoor and Development skills. Further details and application forms from Miss D Bradford, Chief Instructor, Calshot Activities Centre, Clashot Spit, Fawley, Southampton, SO4 1BR enclosing an SAE. Tel: Fawley (0703) 892077

**Derbyshire County Council.** Residential accommodation for groups in the Derbyshire Countryside at Buxton, Cromford and Wirksworth. Ideal bases for outdoor pursuits or educational visits. Send for a free leaflet to The Acting County planning Officer, Derbyshire County Council, County Offices, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3AG

### For Sale

**Old Town Discovery 158** Only 2 years old. In excellent condition. Reluctant sale due to overseas move. £400 ono. Tel: 05395 31758

**M1 380 Sport Kayak** for sale. Brand new yellow includes paddle, spraydeck and Palm Bouyancy jacket. Bargain £200. Phone: 081 521 8639

**For Sale:** Canoes - Masters - Coleman - 20 Boat Trailer - Mini bus (D Reg) Ford Bedford A reg. Helmets - Bouyancy Aids - Wet Suits - Paddles - Tents - Stoves - Boots - Climbing and Mountain Equipment - ideal for Scouts - Schools - Groups - ring Ripon 0765 604071.

### Trade

**Canoeing Fabrics,** breathable water-proofs, P.U., neoprene coated nylon, polycotton, waxed cotton, Cordura, Ventile, Pile, fleece and stretch fabrics. Buckles webbing, shockcord, velcro and much more. Patterns for all outdoor gear. Discounts. For samples/prices stamp please. Tor(Ca) 3 Fryer Street, Runcorn, WA7 1ND

**JOEL ENTERPRISES** for all your Canoeing requirements. Large stocks of plastic, from ACE to PRIJON. Accessories from most major suppliers. Our own GP f/glass from £130. including VAT. Shop open Saturdays 10.30am until 4.30pm. (Catalogue available.) Joel Enterprises, Holt Fleet, Near Worcester. Tel (0905) 55311 or 425959

### HOUGHTON CHAPEL RETREAT HUNTINGDON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE

The Retreat offers accommodation for groups having their own canoes and programme.

We are 200 yards from a launching site onto the River Ouse. The river is a navigation and the centre holds an N.R.A. "Group Licence".

We have 30 beds in 6 dormitories, lounge, dining room, kitchen, central heating, TV/video and table tennis.

TEL. 0480 69376/68535

**Dartmoor, Camping Barn.** Close to River Dart, cheap and cosy, toilets and showers, cooking and drying facilities. Phone Katie (03643) 271

### FLOATING KNIFE £27.65



DESIGNED FOR KAYAKING  
PUNCTURES & SAWS PLASTIC  
NON-SLIP HANDLE  
SHEATH FOR BOUYANCY AID  
BRITISH STAINLESS STEEL  
HIGH QUALITY 3.5in BLADE

### Design EXcellence

Unit 3, Hob's Acre, Upper Beeding, Sussex, BN44 3TZ  
0903-815571

## Adventure International enterprises Ltd

### INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED 1992 SEASON

Instructors required at our Multi Activity centre for the 1992 season. Climbers, Sailors, Canoeists etc. Season starts April - finishes end October.

Full training given, prior to and during the season. Applicants 18 years or above.

Apply for details:

Chris Wilson, Adventure International  
Belle Vue, Bude, N. Cornwall EX22 8JP  
Tel: 0288 355551



WATERSKIING • SNORKELLING • SURFING

Call now for FREE brochure

0727 40404

WETSUITS

MOUNTAIN BIKING • SAILING • CANOEING • BOARDSAILING • BOATING



## Trade

### CANOESTORE Hampshire & Sussex

☆Retail ☆ Hire ☆ Tuition☆

Visit our new harbourside  
showroom  
(off the A27 coast road)

New & Secondhand deals  
& packages from leading  
suppliers. Gear, Video's,  
Books, BCU testing, demo's.

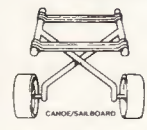
Dolphin Quay, Queen St.,  
Emsworth, Hants.  
Tel: (0243) 372134

**Special Offers/Sea Kayaks.** We quite often have demonstration kayaks with a slight cosmetic fault. Send an SAE for our up to date list of kayaks available. The P&H Company, Station Road, West Hallam, Derbyshire DE7 6HB. Telephone: 0602 320155

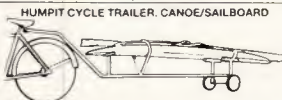
**'Manual of Ply/Epoxy Canoe Construction'** with over 70 illustrations. Includes plans and details for converting your canoe to sail £8.50 Visa/Access. For free catalogue of Canoe plans send an S.A.E. to Selway Fisher design, 15 King Street, Melksham, Wilts, SN12 6HB. Tel: 0225 705074

## HUMPIT CANOE TROLLEYS

Still  
the best  
range of  
Sailboard  
Trolleys



HUMPIT X FRAME



See your local stockist or send for further information to—  
**MULTI-VAC.** Brynarth House,  
Barnsley Hill, Chester Road North,  
Kidderminster. 0562 824886.

**The Watershed** 091-272-2225. Call in or mail order. Schlegel, Perception, MI, Pyranha, Coleman, Grumman, Old Town, Romer, H.F., Prijon, etc. 3 minutes from the A1 Serving the North East and beyond! The best canoe shop in the World is at: Unit 1 Elliott Terrace, Elswick, Newcastle Upon Tyne. NE4 6UP

**Interest Free Credit** - Buy your next canoe or kayak over 3 or 6 months. No interest. Any make, anywhere in the country - telephone or write with your order. Remember 3 or 6 months to pay. No extra charges. The P & H Company, Station Road, West Hallam, Derby DE7 6HB. Telephone 0602 320155

### PADDLE MITTS

for serious winter canoeists.

### Rescue safety equipment.

Including Green Slime  
rescue throwbags.  
For details of all our products  
contact:



Suzy,  
2 Victoria Close,  
E. Molesey, Surrey.  
Tel: 081-941 2714.

**Carlisle Canoes, The North's Specialist** in Kayak and Open Canoes. All leading makes in stock. Mail Order, Access, Visa, Kayak and Canoe Hire. Contact: Carlisle Canoes, 41 Wigton Road, Carlisle. Tel: (0228) 31703.

### FOR SALE

Members advertisements are displayed free of charge. Please send your copy to BCU HQ, remembering to quote your membership number.

**Aleut Sea II**, 4 months old, 3 oval hatches, 2 compact 50 pumps, C-trim rudder, 28 RDF's. Save £500, only £995, no offers. Tel: K Steer 051 494 1682.

**Avon Redshark**, 12 foot raft, seats five for rafting, can take engine up to 6hp, footstraps fitted, fair condition, including 4 paddles £395. Tel: M Bruce 0202 877148.

**Aztec slalom boat** £40, slalom/touring glass CI £40, Palm Pro 7'2" wave ski £190, Palm 7'6" beginners ski £190, Raider 7'2" pin tail ski £110, New Lendle paddles 218 £55, New Wave 180 ski paddles £30, Asymmetric 180 ski paddles £30 and various windsurfing equipment all has to go due to emigration. Tel: Bude 0288 82712.

**C2 WW Racer** Fluo good condition raced in Div A last year. Ex-Australian team boat £250 ONO offers. Tel: A Guest 0905 429190.

**Coleman Gold Medalist** 16' good condition black £360 ONO. Dancer XT white good condition £200 ONO. Tel: Dave 0424 440228.

**Crosslinked Everest**, white-water spec. Very good condition, £200.00. Tel: 0248 602287.

**Dagger Encounter** comp- lete with Perception saddle and air bags, 1 year old. Tel: R Nayler 0432 890252.

**Derwent Shuttle Sprint** KI slalom in VGC Silver Glitter fade deck, poly buoyancy, kevlar hull £150. Tel: D Flood 0268 756169.

**Double Canvas Kayak** just been renovated klepper stirring Mel seats and back rest £50. Tel: B Bancroft 061494 5288 after 6pm.

**Eagle Race K1** standard construction blue, overstem rudder and understem fittings, good condition £200. Tel: J Stirling (0539) 722349.

**Five** general purpose kayaks suitable for club use, some attention required, all reasonable offers considered. Tel: A Barrie 0923 247430.

**Fladbury Spartan** 17 K1, unused immaculate condition £350 ONO. Fladbury K2 unused and immaculate £400 ONO. Valley Canoes Leesailer car top dingy with GRP hull £150 ONO. Tel: 0533 681423 during office hours.

**Freeblades** kevlar/carbon paddles, 208 right hand £30. Tel: D Flood 0268 756169.

**Sea Kayak Anas Acuta**, 2 VCP hatches, chimp pump, RDF's £160. Tel: K Steer 0524 822542.

**Sea Horse** racing K2 (similar stability to Mirage K2). Old design but very strong and hardly used. Excellent condition £125. Hawk slalom canoe with spraydeck, very good condition £50. Tel: 0784 460841.

**Sea King Sea Kayak**, red VGC £260 ONO. Concept Top kayak slalom offers VGC. Tel: J Spence 0572 823834 after 6pm.

**Slalom C1**, GC ready to paddle, plus spraydeck £120. Racing/Touring kayak (class 3 K1) excellent condition veneer construction £150. Tel: G Bourne 0442 219532.

**Stiletto K2** understem, used for sprinting only £250. Tel: R Freeman 0684 292539.

**T Canyon**, 1 year old. Tel: R O'Dowd 0785 662910.

**Wooden K2 racer**, old but in excellent condition, overstem rudder - would suit collector or connoisseur. Ring Keith 0705 827261 Ext 220 or 0705 671478.

**White Water Rotobat**, cross-linked plastic. Foot plate, buoyancy bag, back rest, toggles and thigh grips fitted. In GC £250 ONO. Tel: A Bellis 0244 678719.

**YNYS Sea kayak** in excellent condition. Three bulkheads, three hatches, front deck pump, knee tube, lift-skeg. Full expedition rig and outrageous splatter finish in pink and

blue. One of a kind. One careful owner. Nearest offer to £600. Ring 0602 863770. **Isokinetic** Paddling machine. Twin head, bench and shaft. New condition. Retirement forces sale. £550 or nearest Liz on 0842 812274.

**Dancer XS** (Lilac) in VGC plus accessories £220 Ring 021 453 6757.

**Mountain Bat** Extreme Spec 18 months old (Green) £325 ONO Stunt Bat WW Spec 6 Months Old Purple £330 Phone evenings & weekends 0942 816988 or 817630, daytime 0204 390517 Gaybo Cudamax Slalom CI, Kevlar construction, good condition. £120 ONO Tel (0458) 31937 Felsham 385 WW Spec Good Condition, with Kober Slalom Paddle £230 Tel 0524 792089 Evenings.

**Dancer XT** with with buoyancy bags, VGC £200. Pro gun waveski plus bag as new £220 Thule roof rack £25. Tel 081 8855779

**Gees** wooden kayak paddle, left hand, 210cm, in GC, offers. Tel: D Golding 0223 63288 after 9pm.

**Junior kayak** Elphin S. Outgrown! Will fit child up to 4'6" tall. GC with spray deck and silver glitter deck £75. Tel: C Bolton 0925 823897.

**K2 Top Model** suitable for DW, competition weight, good condition, £250 ONO. Tel: A Barrie 0923 247430.

**Kayak yellow Ace Cadence** WW spec, air bags included, VGC £200. Tel: T Hillsdon 0487 842286.

**Kevlar/Carbon** multi-layer hull, kevlar deck north shore excel slalom kayak in VGC £250. Carbon large blade propulsion paddles on carbon shaft 205R hardly used £80. Tel: R Benson 0602 783522.

**KW4** general purpose fibre glass canoe and reflex slalom fibre glass canoe. As new £130 each for quick sale. Tel: S Holtorp 0703 473379 daytime or 0703 221931 evenings.

**Mark Gees** wooden paddles, 212 right hand, VGC £45. Tel: D Flood 0268 756169.

**Nordkapp HM**, chimp pump, deck lines, excellent conditions, £300. Lendal Nordkapp sea paddles £35. Surf shoe £50. Tel M Munday 0509 231566 or 881788 (moving house).

**Nordkapp HM**, hatches, pump, RDF's in VGC £395. Tel: P Hunter 0508 20779.

**Open canoe** Old Town Path Finder in excellent condition. Reluctant sale £450

ONO. Tel: P Green 0803 866215.

**Perception Mirage**, blue, approximately 18 months old, little used, VGC, £175 ONO. Tel: J Farren 0785 712050.

**Perception Reflex** including Pyranha spray deck, 18 months old, hardly been used, excellent condition £200. Tel: R Goodwin 0706 82 5893.

**Prijon Taiphun** large volume red kayak with decklines, buoyancy bag, full plate footrest, VGC £225. Tel: T Storry 0248 351448 (weekends).

**Prijon T Slalom** full plate footrest, back-strap, airbags etc. Little used hence excellent condition £250. Azzali all wood paddle £30. White water buoyancy aid (small) £20. Tel: J Broomfield 0895 638104.

**Roofrack c/w** two pairs 'J' bars (gutter mount) £40. Tel: D Flood 0268 756169.

**WANTED**  
**KW7 Mould**, reasonable condition, cash available, depends on quality. Simon Dawson 0602 868803

**K4's** in any condition for youth centre. Tel: Kim 0635 48922 will collect.

**Second hand** Barracuda K2's, spraydecks, asymmetric paddles, buoyancy aids, mirage K2. Tel: M Daughters 0784 460841.

**Yak Spud/Topolino**. Tel: S Rodgers 0229 53788 after 4pm.

**K2** Suitable for the DW. Either loan, hire or buy. Stroud Glos 0453 758640

### LOST/FOUND

**Lost New Wave** paddle (minus stickers) white blades with black shaft. Andy Quick written in faded blue on both blades. Lost on lower section of Tryweryn on 1 September. Tel: A Quick 051 608 2029.

### MIKE JONES RALLY

#### LOST & FOUND

A number of items have been reported lost & found. Please write in giving an accurate description to; Mike Jones Rally, c/o Betwys y Coed Sorting Office, Betwys y Coed, Gwynedd LL24 1AA.. Please enclose an SAE for a reply.

#### MIKE JONES RALLY TEE SHIRTS

A few souvenir Tee shirts are available £4.50 each inc postage. Sizes; Large, large or large! Send a cheque to Mike Jones Rally, address as above.

### APPOINTMENT

## DIRECTOR OF THE BRITISH CANOE UNION

The British Canoe Union is the Governing Body of the sport of Canoeing with approximately 15,000 members. New Headquarters have been established in Nottingham and the Director will be expected to operate from there.

The Director is required to promote the aims and policies of the Union as determined by the Council, and is responsible for a Secretariat of 12 staff. A clear grasp of management, finance and administration is required together with an understanding of sports organisation.

The salary scale will be related to the Sports Council scale for Principal Officers and will be £23,329 to £27,819, rising by four annual increments, including subsidised pension scheme. Starting salary to be negotiated; appropriate allowances and fringe benefits will be paid. Normal Work will be within the context of a 37 hour week, but evening and weekend work will be essential.

More detailed information on the post is available from Mrs Wendy Blackman, British Canoe Union, John Dudderidge House, Adbolton Lane, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5AS, or by telephoning 0602 821100. Letters of application (no forms) together with curriculum vitae and names of two referees, should be sent to:

**Geoff Sanders** Chairman of BCU Council  
**4 Barston Lane Solihull**  
**West Midlands B91 2SS**

By 6 January 1992





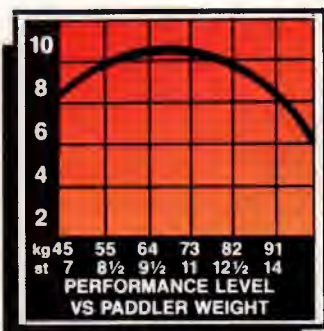


# perception®



# CORSICA S

## A Paddler's Dream



### specifications

- Length: 310 cm
- Width: 61 cm
- Weight: 17.6 kg.
- Volume: 252 Litres
- Cockpit size: 85cm x 49 cm



A short, medium volume, high performance kayak.

High rocker and flat centre section for fast, effortless turns coupled with stability. Subtle rails for predictable control.

Excellent response and speed allow manoeuvrability out of tricky situations. comfortable and roomy.

The kayak that has taken the U.S. rodeo circuit by storm.

A kayak for all types of white water, 'rodeos', great in surf.

A playboat of the highest order.

### NEW SAFETY FEATURES:

"Security loop" - an easily reached, deck mounted, wire loop, to which a carabiner can be snapped in times of trouble.

Doubles as a security loop, to enable you to lock down your boat to your car when it's not in use.

Unique new foam grip system.

Also Features: Revolutionary new end loop system.

Tie in loops behind seat.

GAYBO LIMITED, BELLBROOK BUSINESS PARK, UCKFIELD, EAST SUSSEX. TN22 1QU.  
TELEPHONE: (0825) 765891. FAX: 0825 763707 TELEX: 87323 FSI G GAYBO



Shaun Pearce using "Energy" blades and Double Torque shaft to win the 1991 World Slalom Championship. Wild Water equipment was used by competitors from more than 15 nations.



Photographs © T. Tickle.



HAVE YOU GOT THE **ENERGY**  
Carbon Blades by WILD WATER

Richard Fox, four times World Slalom Champion, helped with the design of the "Energy" blade.

Double Torque paddle shafts need no introduction! They have been used to gain World Championship wins in almost every canoeing discipline and are now being used by whitewater and flatwater recreational paddlers world-wide.

Richard Fox originally pioneered the use of Double Torque in competition and soon became aware that standard blades had not been designed to take full advantage of the angles within the Double Torque shaft.

The answer is the asymmetric "Energy" blade. Perfectly engineered to match the exact asymmetry of the Double Torque shaft, the "Energy" blade re-aligns and centralises the blade area relative to the cranked hand grips, thus further increasing paddling efficiency.

Unleash the full power of Double Torque with "Energy".

"Energy" blades are available from specialist Double Torque canoe retailers who will be happy to advise you regarding set up angles, feather etc. In case of difficulty please contact Wild Water on 0423 711624.

"Wild Water" "Double Torque" and "Energy" are all trade names of Mont-Bell UK Ltd.

*'DOUBLE TORQUE paddle shafts are fully protected by Registered Designs in Great Britain and other countries worldwide (British Reg. Des. No. 1052445, British Pat. No. 9009262-8) and are manufactured and sold under exclusive licence from the original designer, Andrew Bruce.'*



Photographs © T. Tickle.

## SEE YOU AT CRYSTAL PALACE

**mont-bell**

Wild-Water is a trade name of Mont-bell UK Ltd.

Glasshouse Mill, (Pateley Bridge), Harrogate, N. Yorkshire, HG3 5QH, England. Tel: (0423) 711624. Fax: (0423) 712493.