

## BRITISH CANOE UNION

### FLATWATER NEWSLETTER – APRIL/MAY 2005

The spring is here and competition sprinting can begin in earnest. This weekend sees the first regatta of 2005 at Holme Pierrepont and hopefully we will all get a sun tan rather than continuing to rust. These premier regattas are very important in the development of the sport and most of all provide real competition pleasure and experience for the paddlers.

This Easter as usual saw D/W event and I am told it was all run in a very slick fashion. Congratulations and thanks to the organisers as it is a daunting event to organise. You will see more about the event in this issue if the promised report arrives in time for the print deadline.

Regrettably the Mechelen regatta and the Dinant World Cups Marathon have both been cancelled as the Belgian Federation obviously have organisation and/or money problems.

The Dinant Marathon has been replaced at the last moment by the Crestuma race in Portugal being up rated in status. It will take place on the original dates of 25/26 June. The course is a proven one as it was a world cups event last year. Unfortunately it costs quite a bit more to get there and this will put even more pressure on the already slim budget. No word yet as to what will happen with the regatta, it seems that the number of World Cup Regattas is really small this year.

Who's going to the Sella Race this year? The race attracts all sorts and levels of paddler and can either be good fun race or a very serious event run from the front. You have to be lucky to do well but you also have to be good.

The water and the wine are abundant in roughly equal constituent parts, which combined with the sun and the very friendly enormous crowds make for a fantastic event. Anyone for a club trip? If so please tell Christine who will organise the entries again this year. You will need to send her a s.a.e. so we can tell you how much the entry is this year. We will also need a copy of your BCU membership card, as the organisers will not accept an entry without. Just like here really.

As the season hots up [hopefully] I thought it might be a good idea to have more event reports included in these pages.

Between now and November 2005 I will be keeping stock of the reports I receive and print and there will a prize of a "Craft" paddling top for the one I judge as the best. One side of A4 is the best, in word format, sent by email please.

Alan Laws

## **NEWS AND INFORMATION**

### **HASTINGS 1066 MARATHON**

Date change to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2005 - Please make a note in your diary.

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### **RACE ORGANISERS PLEASE NOTE**

Up to date BCU Marathon Register is available from Wikki Daniels. Please email her on [wiktoriadaniels@onetel.com](mailto:wiktoriadaniels@onetel.com) she will give you a pass word to enable you to get onto the HRM web site at <http://web.onetel.net.uk/~wiktoriadaniels> to download the latest information including the latest promotions. Wikki will also help you through any problems you may have.

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### **EVENT TICKETS**

These are now a minimum charge of £2.00 to be sent to BCU HQ not the regional Treasurer. Instant membership forms are now also available from BCU HQ.  
This is a change from the information published in the Racing Handbook.

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### **ORGANISERS CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

Ironbridge Race – 11<sup>th</sup> September 2005 (2006 Hasler Event)

Mrs Sharon Tarbuck  
25 Rowan Drive  
Essington  
South Staffs  
WV11 2DJ  
Tel 01922 476646      Mobile 0788 7964990

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## **MILAN 10KM 19-20 MARCH**

As part of the winter training programme, the Marathon Committee selected a team of 16 paddlers to compete in the Europe Cup 10km races in Milan over the weekend of 19-20 March. The team were selected following the first assessment race and all were chosen to race K1 on one day and K2 on the other. The warm sunshine in Milan made a very welcome change to the British winter.

The team got off to a great start on the Saturday with the junior girls crew of Louisa Sawers and Leanne Brown winning their race and the junior boys of Andy Daniels & Allen Spencer and Ross Negus & Stuart Hastings coming first and second in their race. Best of the men was Steve Baker who made the lead group and did much of the work. Leading from the final turn he was out sprinted finishing 4<sup>th</sup>. In the women's K1 race Jo Bates also made the lead group of 5 which included the 2004 World Champion and silver medallist. Staying with the group throughout the entire race she finished 5<sup>th</sup> with Claire Hynds, Harriet Farish and Nicky Taylor finishing together 2 minutes behind.

On Sunday, the juniors raced K1. Andy Daniels finished a close 2<sup>nd</sup> to Zerial of Italy who was a finalist in the 2004 Junior European Sprint Championships. However the best performance was probably Louisa Sawers who stayed with the Italian Cicali who was the run-away winner of the 2004 Marathon Junior Worlds. Sharing the work, the two girls finished over 2 minutes ahead of the rest of the field with Cicali taking the win.

Final races were the Senior K2s. Steve Baker & Mike Quane controlled much of the race, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> with Simon Dark and James Mayers one minute back in 4<sup>th</sup> place. In the womens race the Yugoslava and Polish boats were well clear with Harriet Farish & Becky Schofield and Jo Bates and Claire Hynds finishing in the second group in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> places.

David Enoch

# Worcester Marathon Race

## Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2005

**VENUE:** Worcester Canoe Club, Grandstand Road, Worcester.

**COURSES:** **Assessment**

Senior Men's K1	18 miles, 2 portages
Senior Women's K1 and Senior C1	15 miles, 2 portages
Junior Men's K1/C1 & Junior Women's K1	12 miles, 1 portages

**Hasler**

Divisions 3 singles, 3/4 doubles	12 miles, 1 portages
Divisions 4, 5 & 6 singles, 5/6 doubles	8 miles, 1 portage
Divisions 7, 8 & 9 singles, 7/8 & 9 doubles	4 miles, no portages
Lightning races and junior open C2 race	1.2 miles, no portages

**TIMETABLE: Booking In** **9:30 – 12:00**

1<sup>st</sup> Briefing -Div 7, 8 & 9 singles, 7/8 & 9 doubles **11:00**

1<sup>st</sup> Race Start (upstream start) **11:30**

2<sup>nd</sup> Briefing – Assessment, Div 3, 4, 5 & 6 singles, 3/4 & 5/6 doubles  
Lightning race and junior open C2 race **13:00**

2<sup>nd</sup> Race Start (upstream start) **13:30**

**RULES & SAFETY:** In accordance with the BCU Marathon Rules, all Divisions 7, 8, 9 paddlers and Lightning race **MUST** wear an approved buoyancy aid. All paddlers are also advised to ensure that their boats have sufficient buoyancy to support the paddler(s) and boat in the event of a capsized.

**B.C.U** Paddlers must hold current BCU membership. Cards must be shown at booking in or a photocopy sent with your entry. A BCU event fee of £2.00 is payable for non BCU members and those unable to prove their membership.

**NUMBERS:** Upright number plates will be required for all classes.

**PRIZES:** Will be presented to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in each class subject to sufficient entries.

**ENTRIES** Seniors £5.00 Juniors £4.00 Lightning race £1.00  
Late entries will be accepted on the day at £1.00 extra per seat.  
Entries should be posted to – John Parker, 1 Riverlands, Astley Burf, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcs. DY13 0RZ by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April.  
If you have any queries contact John on 01299 824344 or e-mail  
john.parker@baggeridge.co.uk

**RESULTS** Will be forwarded if a SAE is sent with entry.

## **DEVIZES TO WESTMINSTER RACE REPORT**

It's Easter time which means chocolate eggs, a long weekend off work and, best of all, the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race. After the Arctic rigours of the build-up races, particularly Waterside C, paddlers enjoyed unusually mild weather over the weekend. Sadly, the clement conditions were counter-balanced by weak flow on the Thames which ruled out any serious assault on the record-book. Nevertheless, some very swift times were recorded and the race is clearly flourishing both in terms of the quantity and the quality of paddlers taking part.

The Senior Doubles Race was won in the remarkable time of 17 hours and 1 minute by Steve Baker (Elmbridge) and Gary Mawer (Salmon Leap). They held off a brave challenge from Daniel Beazley (Leaside) and Simon Dark (Bradford) who finished some 26 minutes behind. Third place was snatched by the fast improving Richmond pairing of Piran Shelley and Nevil Stonehouse in 18 hours and 45 minutes.

A competitive Mixed Doubles Race was won by Susanne Moessner and Mark Bragg of Integrate Paddling in 20 hours and 20 minutes whilst Richmond retained the Ladies Doubles Trophy with a crew of Charlotte Heijnis and Karen Triegaardt in 24 hours and 5 minutes. The C2 event was won by Stuart Lovell and Mick Underhill-Rose of Whitstable in 24 hours and 14 minutes.

Meanwhile, in the Team Event, a series of consistent performances by the Royal Engineers allowed them to break the recent stranglehold that Richmond have enjoyed in this competition. The Engineers' aggregate time of 62 hours and 44 minutes pushed Richmond into second place by 50 minutes.

The staged version of the race - for those who prefer to savour the joys of DW over four days rather than rushing through it in one go - benefited from equally kind weather. This makes a big difference to those hardy souls who paddle by day and camp by night.

The dominant school in the Junior Doubles event was Cokethorpe, coached by David Coulson. Not content with taking first place through Joe Siman and Bob Hobin (18 hours and 2 minutes), they took second with James Eagle and Philip Pearse (18 hours and 18 minutes) and third through Timothy Pearse and Lena Beardsell (18 hours 37 minutes). This clean sweep ensured that they comfortably won the Team Competition, pushing a fine Kimbolton team into second place, narrowly ahead of Royal Hospital School in third. The third of the Cokethorpe crews - Pearse and Beardsell - also picked up the Mixed trophy whilst the Junior Ladies Race was won by Chloe Galea and Karen Havershon of Dauntsey's School in 22 hours and 25 minutes. The Junior C2 event was won by Matthew Moore and Benjamin St John of Bedford School in 23 hours and 41 minutes.

The Senior K1 event saw a hard fought race which was finally won convincingly by Sean Morley (Truro & Hayle) in 16 hours 36 ahead of Henry Hendron (Richmond) in 16 hours 53 minutes. Third, by a whisker, was Ciaran Cooke (Phoenix), less than a minute behind. The Ladies' Race was won by Joanne Bates of Elmbridge in an outstanding time of 18 hours and 51 minutes.

Behind all these crews, many others followed, some on their coat-tails, some hours or even tides later. As usual, there were stirring tales of paddlers fighting through desperate fatigue, defying damaged boats, capsizes, wrong turnings, missed support crews and injury in their effort simply to complete the course.

As a test of blood and guts stamina, DW remains the Gold Standard.

Graham Stonehouse

## World Championships 2005

The Marathon World Championships this year are in Perth [Australia just in case there were any anxious Scots amongst you] and the cost of sending a team there is as you would expect very high.

One of the guiding principles of the BCU marathon Committee for many years, has been that selected paddlers should only have to bear a very small part of the cost and that part should be equal for all. No paddler of merit should have to turn down the opportunity of paddling for their country on grounds of cost.

Consequently with this extra cost in mind the MRC have tried to raise extra funds. A request was made to BCU central funds to recognise the difficulty but their overall budget did not allow for this.

Enter the white knight in slightly rusting armour in the form of Team Manager Jim Rossiter, who has been out raising money with special editions of bottled products and his single handed efforts have produced a profit of over £1,000 which will send an extra two thirds of a paddler.

He has also created and run a raffle to raise even more. Anyone who is a member of the BCU and has read the February issue of "Canoe Focus" will know that the **first prize is a top line NELO K1 worth £2,000**

Please help the potential World Championships paddlers and sell these tickets.

Buy them yourselves, bludgeon the local constabulary and promise to go to their ball in turn, put on fishnet tights and sell them on the street corner, anything to raise the money to get the lads and lassies out there.

**All raffle ticket stubs have to be back to Jim by 28<sup>th</sup> April.**

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# SCOTTISH RACING WEEK 2005



*6 RACES OVER 9 DAYS, A CHANCE TO SAMPLE THE RICH VARIETY OF SCOTTISH RACING FROM THE TAY TO LOCH LOMOND AND THE RECENTLY RE-OPENED FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL ALONG WITH SOME OF SCOTLAND'S MAGNIFICENT SCENERY. THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE BOTH ON OR OFF THE WATER.*



## PROGRAMME

<b>21<sup>ST</sup> MAY</b>	<b>10K BRIDGE OF ISLA TO THISTLEBRIG</b>
<b>22<sup>ND</sup> MAY</b>	<b>MARATHON GRAND DUNK (GRANDTULLY TO DUNKELD)</b>
<b>24<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>MARATHON LOCH LOMOND</b>
<b>26<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>10K FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL</b>
<b>28<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>MARATHON LOCH LUBNAIG</b>
<b>29<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>10K LOCH LUBNAIG</b>

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jonathan Hutt (*Racing Week Co-ordinator*)  
Tel : 01236720760  
Email :