

THE CANOE SPORT MAGAZINE FOR THE NINETIES

# canoe

## focus

02-98

No. 111

£2.00

Brits in

boats

Peruvian

paddlers

Adventures at

home

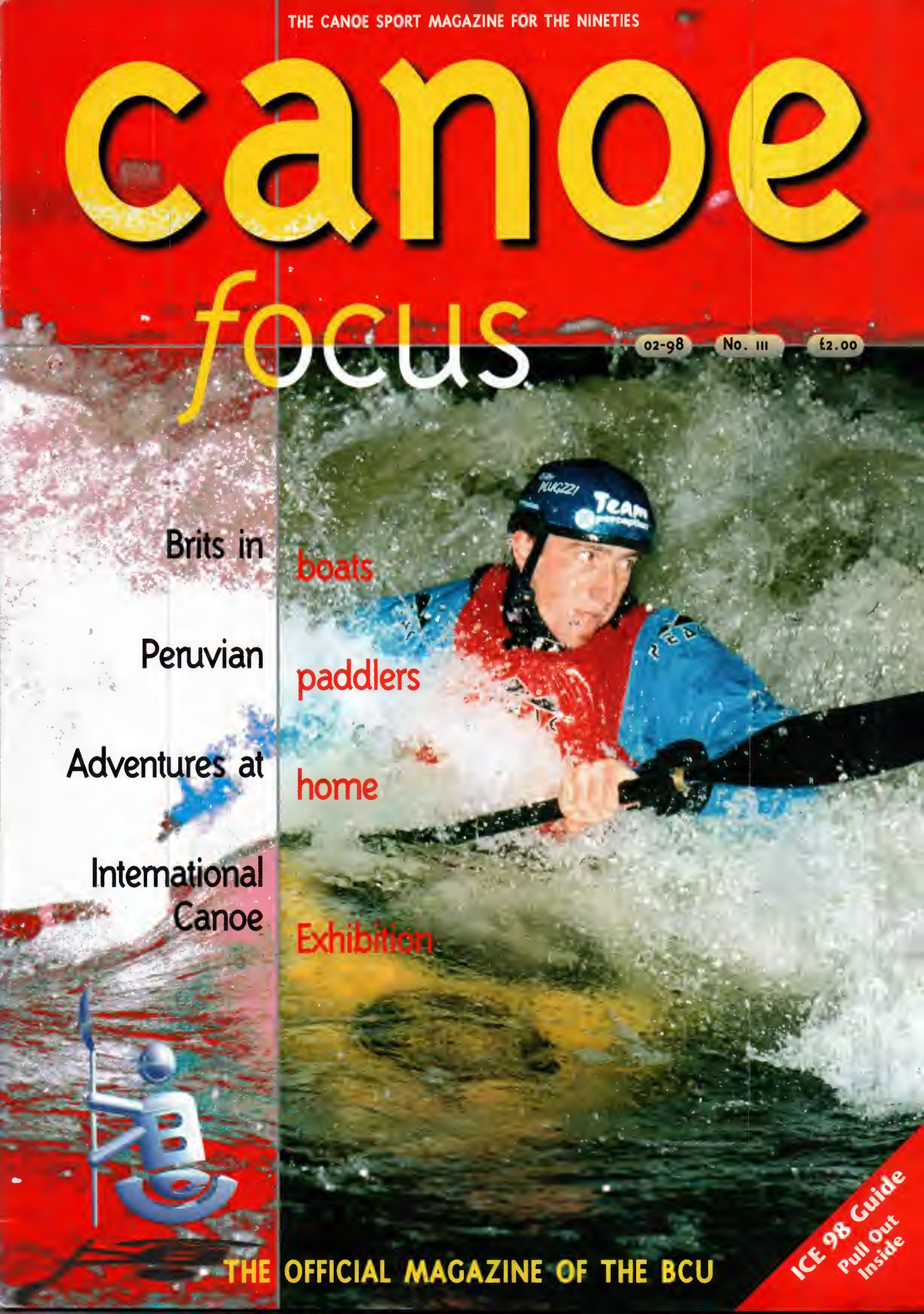
International  
Canoe

Exhibition



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BCU

ICE 98 Guide  
Pull Out  
Inside





# Avoncraft

## Launch the Fly II for 1998...



Thanks to  
Dick Wiseman  
& TEVA for the  
use of their  
photograph

When Toni Prijon and his team designed the Fly they combined 16 years of experience in manufacturing HTP Blow-moulded kayaks with fresh perspectives throughout its design and development from Paul Fletcher

The secret to designing a successful allround whitewater kayak is the ability to combine manoeuvrability and stability without sacrificing the potential for fun. With this in mind the Fly has hard rails for tight turns into eddies and a rockered nose for added upstream speed without burying, whilst the Fly's flat low volume tail maximises performance for surfing and river play. A thoughtfully designed cockpit is equipped with adjustable seat and thigh braces, cushioned backstrap and a compression footrest. This makes the Fly both safe and comfortable whilst holding the paddler more firmly in the boat.

The Fly is a unique kayak, which excels in every aspect of whitewater canoeing from the river to the ocean surf.

Available from all good stockists  
UK Distribution by

**AVONCRAFT**

ROBERT VARDY LTD

12 West Burrowfield Industrial Estate, Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL7 4TW  
Tel: (01707) 330000 Fax: (01707) 333026 email sales@avoncraft.demon.co.uk





Input & Ideas



News & Events



Features



Competition



Reviews

# contents

## Canoe Focus

The official magazine of the British Canoe Union  
John Dudderidge House,  
Adbolton Lane, West Bridgford,  
Notts NG2 5AS  
Tel: (0115) 9821100  
Fax: (0115) 9821797  
ISBN 0953-010X

BCU Enquiries & Editorial to  
above address

## Chief Executive

Paul Owen

## Editor

Wendy Blackman

## Publishing Contractors

zb Graphic Design  
29 Greenfields, St. Ives,  
Cambs. PE17 4HB  
Tel/Fax: (01480) 465081  
ISDN 01480 496933  
Peter@twobdesn.demon.co.uk

## Advertising Sales

Anne Egan

## Printed by

Warners, Bourne, Lincs

## Colour Repro by

zb Graphic Design

## Magazine Designer

Peter Tranter  
Steve Clarke

## Illustrations

Richard O' Donovan

## Typesetting and Page Make-up by

zb Graphic Design

## Annual Subscription Rate

UK inland: £14.00

Overseas: £18.50

Supplied free to BCU members -

adults: £17.00 basic

£28.00 comprehensive

under 18's: £10.50 basic

£16.50 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.



## 5 Comment

From Chief Executive Paul Owen.

## 44 Yakkety Yak

Letters page. Star letter wins a Yak buoyancy aid.



## 6 Noticeboard

It's a gas special offer

## 10 What's On

So much to do, so little time...

## 20 Access

Latest news

## 16 BCU Re-organisation

Latest developments

## 20 Young Paddlers Programme

Paddlepower 1998

## 27 Open Canoe Association of GB

Autumn activities

## 28 The World of Canoeing and Kayaking

Intro to the activities at ICE 98

## 29 International Canoe Exhibition

Pull-out guide

## 33 Paddlepower

Quiz sheet



## 14 Alpine Whitewater

Flip flops in France

## 22 Jeddah CC and Holme Pierrepont

News from clubs and courses

## 24 Brits in Boats

Dave Evans - The Maine man

## 34 Roches Douvres Reef

Sea kayaking in the Channel Isles

## 38 Adventures Happen Close to Home

Girl power on the Grand Union Canal

## 56 Peruvian Paddler

The Rio Apurimaca



## 18 Book & Video

What to see and read

## 46 Paddler's Gear

The latest gear

Your contributions make Focus happen. The quality and variety of news, articles, reports and photographs depend on the submission of material from you. Very few contributors are professional writers and photographers. Please don't be put off writing because you have no experience! Canoe Focus is all about canoeist to canoeist dialogue: a paddler's magazine written by paddlers. Technical information. Contributions are acceptable in clear handwriting or typed (double spaced). PC disks (3.5 or 5.25) can be read from most Word Processing programmes especially if saved as an ASCII file. Macintosh Files saved as DOS or ASCII can also be scanned. Photographic images are preferred on transparencies (colour slide). Artwork and line drawings should be clear and large. All material is accepted on the understanding that the BCU and it's agents cannot be held liable or responsible for loss or damage, although every care and effort is taken to safeguard material. Next Copy date is the 20th FEBRUARY 1998. Material arriving at FOCUS after this date cannot be included in the April 1998 issue.



# ATTENTION!! ALL CAMPING & WATERSPORTS ENTHUSIASTS

## EVER SLEPT IN DAMP BEDDING??

Then suffer no more, enjoy a truly damp free night with Sylvan's brand new unique patented duvets and pillows.

## WATERPROOF BEDDING by SYLVAN

- Single and double duvets
- Feather pillows
- No Laundering
- Wipe Clean
- Flame Retardant
- Totally Waterproof
- Ideal for Asthma Sufferers

*"The bedding that keeps you warm and dry, but doesn't induce sweating"*

FEATHER PILLOW: £24.99

SINGLE DUVET: £69.99

DOUBLE DUVET: £89.99

(Subject to £4.95 P&P)

(All prices include VAT)

TO ORDER CONTACT  
THE SYLVAN CORPORATION ON  
**01706 712925**



# GUARANTEED UNBREAKABLE

Rodeo

Rodeo X

Rodeo X HPS

Internet Info:  
[www.phcompany.co.uk](http://www.phcompany.co.uk)  
E Mail: [gorilla@phcompany.co.uk](mailto:gorilla@phcompany.co.uk)

## GORILLA'S

"aggressive paddles for aggressive paddlers"

Gorilla Technology is part of The P&H Company, Station Road, West Hallam, Derbys. DE7 6HB. Tel: (0115) 9320155 Fax: (0115) 9327177

12 months blade breakage guarantee on all rodeo blades

# Capel LaCanoes

**ESTABLISHED SINCE 1976**

**BARN FULL OF CANOES AND KAYAKS**

Full range of accessories available



**MAIL ORDER**



Five Oak Green, Tonbridge, Kent  
Tel: 01892-832128



# Sports Review of the Year

An unprecedented eleven British canoeists attended the BBC Television Sports Review of the Year. It is happening slowly but canoeing continues to gain more and more publicity and recognition.

## British Academy of Sport

The decision to back Sheffield as the United Kingdom Institute of Sport was announced by ministers just before Christmas. The National Water Sports centre at Holme Pierrepont will remain as the main site for water activities although there are various possibilities for regatta courses in other parts of the country.

## Revenue Funding

The BCU has just agreed the level of Revenue grant from both UK Sports Council and the

English Sports Council as follows: UK Sports Council £225,000. English Sports Council £160,000. A total of £385,000. The increase in grant from the English Sports Council is to be predominately targeted at the Young Peoples programme.

## Slalom in the Olympic Games

Work is underway to raise the BCU's pledge of \$Aus 50,000 as a contribution to the Canoe Slalom course in Penrith New South Wales. The BCU was one of several ICF members to pledge

funds to help keep canoe slalom in the Olympic Games.

## BCU AGM

The BCU AGM will take place at Westminster Boating Base, London on Saturday 14 March. Please see the enclosed agenda concerning the business of the meeting.

## International Canoe Exhibition

The International Canoe Exhibition will take place later this month on Saturday 21 and Sunday 22 at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham. Running alongside the National Boat, Caravan and Leisure Show. New exhibitors together with competitions on paddling machines and the Pendigo Lake are new features to this years show. See the pull out Exhibition Guide in the centre of this issue for more detail.

## BCU Annual Report

The abridged BCU Annual Report is contained within the BCU Yearbook (enclosed with this issue of Canoe Focus) see pages 125-127.

## BCU email address

A reminder of the BCU email addresses: [Info@bcu.org.uk](mailto:Info@bcu.org.uk). [Membership@bcu.org.uk](mailto:Membership@bcu.org.uk). [Coaching@bcu.org.uk](mailto:Coaching@bcu.org.uk). [CanoeFocus@bcu.org.uk](mailto:CanoeFocus@bcu.org.uk). The website is shortly due for updating and a new style, it can be found at <http://www/bcu.org.uk>.

## North Sea Crossing - Rod Cooke and Simon Worsley

As stated in the October issue of Canoe Focus Rod Cooke and Simon Worsley completed a new record for crossing the North Sea in a time of 20 hours and 7 minutes. A full account of their voyage is available by sending an SAE to the BCU office marked 'North Sea Voyage'.

## Geoff Good

Geoff Good, Director of Coaching would like to thank everyone who has enquired after his health, and those who have been kind enough to send greetings for their concern. A tumour has been diagnosed which will hopefully respond to radio-therapy treatment which has recently started.

## Richard Fox

Congratulations to Richard Fox on his appointment as Chief Coach for the Australian Canoe slalom team through until the Olympic Games.

## Performance Director

Applicants for the post of BCU Performance Director are to be interviewed during the week commencing February the 9th.

# Obituary - Brin Hughes

The British Canoe Union regrets to inform its members of the death of Brin Hughes. Brin passed away in early December after battling with a long illness. Brin had been involved in canoeing since the late 1950's, where he actively encouraged youth club members into canoeing, he became an instructor in the 1960's and continued to play a major role in developing young people into the sport.

One of the founder members of Ealing Canoe Club, he ran regular bath sessions and canoe trips home and abroad for his club members. In the late 1970's he became LCO for his area and in 1983 he was elected as the Chairman of the London and South East Region where he served for many years. Also becoming Chairman of the Committee for English Affairs (now The English Regions Management Committee), serving the BCU members with his unique spirit and love for the sport.

A long serving member of the International Canoe Exhibition Committee he was heavily involved in assisting to organise many of the Exhibitions from Crystal Palace through to Sheffield and the NEC.

Bryn's outstanding work within the region and nationally has previously been recognised by the BCU with an Award of Merit presented in 1989 and an Award of Honour in 1994. He will be sadly missed, not only in the London and South East Region but also throughout the British Canoe Union family.







## BCU National Disabilities Committee

Are looking for a volunteer minutes

Secretary.

Expenses will be paid for travel to meetings which take place at weekends, approximately three meetings per year. For more details of the post please write to Viv Kendrick, 8 Yew Grove, Huddersfield, W Yorks HD4 5XG

# It's A Gas for 1998

**T**he BCU are delighted to announce a scheme that will save its members money and at the same time benefit the BCU. The domestic gas market began deregulation in 1996 and during 1998 the entire UK will be able to chose a new gas supplier if they wish.

Eastern Natural Gas is one of the largest and most competitive gas suppliers in this marketplace. By changing to Eastern you can make substantial savings of around 20% when compared to the British Gas standard credit tariff.

The arrangement to take gas from Eastern is very straightforward and merely involves completion of a simple supply contract. It is completely free to make the switch and no change to the pipes or meter is involved. The agreement can be terminated at any time, by giving 28 days notice to Eastern.

Eastern Gas are to make a donation of £10 to the BCU for every supporter who agrees to transfer their gas supply agreement to them before the end of June 1998. In order to process the change over and enable maximum savings to be made it is suggested that applications to change are made as soon as possible.

Simply phone Freephone 0800 458833 and quote the BCU reference number 253-3510 to receive any information and assistance needed, together with a comprehensive information package.

So why not save yourself, your family and friends money on their gas costs and at the same time help the BCU to provide even better services and facilities for the membership.

## Peter Hanover Memorial Fund

The fund in Peters memory has had a great response, and we at Tees KC would like to thank all those that have made a contribution. After purchasing a bench to be installed at the Middleton Slalom Site, we are currently left with about £1200. A small group of trustees have been appointed by the committee of TKC to oversee the fund, which intends to support: "The development of youth slalom in the North of England". By setting a deliberately wide remit we are not restricting awards to paddlers in the North, but will consider any application for assistance where this would promote canoe slalom in the Northern Region area, for example, this may be a youth coaching weekend at Abbey Rapids (attended by paddlers from around the country) or it may be an award to a single paddler from the Northern Region. We intend to award an amount of around £200 per year, although this will be at the Trustees discretion. Youth development is targeted at under 16. The award will be by the calendar year. Application forms are available from F Davison, 10 Sinderby Close, High Grange, Billingham TS23 3HF.

## National Sports Club of the Year

Port of Plymouth Canoeing Association has beaten nominations from all over the UK to second prize in the Sports Club of the Year 1997 awards, and has been awarded £5,000 from the Foundation for Sport and The Arts. The club won the prize in recognition of the hard work of its volunteers in making the club a success, both in competition and the Plymouth community. In first place, winning £10,000 was Sheffield Basketball Club and third place £1,000 to Bath Sword Club.

The baptism of a kayaker took place on Sunday 23 October at St Catherine's Church, Wakefield, the service being conducted by the Rev. Mike Croft. Dad's Overflow pictured on the edge of the baptistery was used as a receptacle for the Holy water.

Robert Thomas Chadwick aged five months at the time of the baptism is already a seasoned canoeist having recently returned from a canoeing trip to Malta.

Pictured with Robert is Rev Mike Croft, and parents Heather and Vic Chadwick.





# WhiteWater Consultancy INTERNATIONAL LTD.

THE NUMBER ONE WORLDWIDE  
MAIL ORDER WAREHOUSE

**Now in Stock**

The best open canoes money can buy

**The full '98 range from  
MAD RIVER CANOES**

Come and see them, come and try them  
you'll want to buy them.

WhiteWater Consultancy still has the biggest stock  
of boats and accessories in the UK, and the best  
consultancy service available, and a mail  
order/delivery service that is second to none,  
but now we are called

WhiteWater Consultancy International Ltd.

**COMING SOON**

**FREE TRYWERYN TOUR  
WE PAY ~ YOU PADDLE FREE!**

16th/17th MAY



OPEN 9.00 ~ 5.30 MONDAY TO SATURDAY

ORDER HOTLINE:

**FREEPHONE 0500 118051**

GENERAL ENQUIRIES:

**01267 223555**

FAX: 01267 223666

EMAIL: [sales@wwc.co.uk](mailto:sales@wwc.co.uk)

WEBSITE: <http://www.wwc.co.uk>

BRONWYDD, CARMARTHEN, WALES. SA33 6BE







## Slalom Bib Amnesty

There are several sets of slalom bibs used for team runs and for judges runs which have one or more of the sequence missing.

This makes them inconvenient to use and replacing them will incur unnecessary expense. If you have one of the bibs please will you put it in an envelope and send it to:

Mrs Beverley Maton,  
8 Andrew Close,  
Wokingham,  
Berkshire  
RG40 2HY.

## Environment Agency and British Waterways End Trial Licensing Agreement

The EA and British Waterways have decided not to continue the reciprocal licensing agreement that they operated on a trial basis during 1997. The initiative which gave a licence holder with one authority 15 free days on the other's waterways, was created to encourage greater use of the inland waterway network, but in practice generated little additional traffic.

# Nottingham's Sports Review of the Year

Although canoe slalom on a national scale is very much a minority sport, in December at Nottingham's Sports Review of the Year the achievements of some of the sports top athletes was recognised. In front of the Chairmen of Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham's top sporting athletes and administrators Shaun Pearce, Paul Ratcliffe and Ian Raspin were awarded the prestigious title of Achievement of the Year.

This award being presented on the back of their World Championship success in Brazil in September when they took the Gold medal in the Men's Kayak Team Event. Ian commented that it was an honour to receive the award and what made it even more special was the fact that it went to the small sport of Canoe Slalom, when the presenting panel could have awarded it to any sport, amateur or professional.



## New Wild Water Racing Coaches

Congratulations to James Mc Intosh, Mary-Jo Hoare, Kirsty Brown, Janette Brown, Andy Harrison, Jason Toovey and Yvonne Yost who recently passed their Level 1 course at the December Scottish WWR training weekend held at Logierait. This brings the total of new recruits from the ranks of parents and club helpers to 13 since the Autumn. If you would like to be a smarter coach, contact, **Howard Blackman, National Wild Water Racing Development Coach, 18 Newton Road, Burton on Trent, Staffordshire, DE15 0TX 01283 517375**



## What's On

### BCU Lifeguard Training Convention

The Annual BCU Lifeguard Training Convention, at Atlantic College, South Wales, which has superb facilities - Friday pm 24 April to Sunday 26 April 1998.

Canoe Lifeguarding is still one of the best ways to patrol and protect whilst Lifeguarding. Working from the platform of a canoe you are able to monitor events on the water whilst still being able to move quickly without getting too tired. Within the canoe there can be all sorts of

equipment and stores that are easily carried and taken with you from place to place as you follow the activity. Working from a canoe you can easily communicate with swimmers who don't feel threatened as you are a similar height to them, there are no engines, propellers or smelly fumes and yet you can follow them into shallow waters or even surf.

Not qualified yet? Not done this stuff before? No problem! Lifeguarding and safety care is all about learning, practising and then keeping up to date. The scheme is designed to give basic







**SPECIALISTS IN SEA KAYAK DESIGN**

P&H sea kayaks specialise, this is our business, our recreation, and our obsession!

Our range is not a collection from various disciplines within kayaking and canoeing, not an after thought "to fill a gap in a range of whitewater kayaks" but consists purely of the worlds finest sea kayaks.

Please do not hesitate to ask for our new Ocean Exploration brochure.



**OUTLANDER**  
Length 488cm (16ft)  
Width 60 cm (24")



**CAPELLA**

Available in Glassfibre or Polythene

**Glassfibre:**  
Length 518cm (17ft)  
Width 56 cm (22")

**Polythene:**  
Length 500cm (16ft 5")  
Width 56 cm (22")



**ORION**  
Length 518cm (17ft)  
Width 60 cm (24")



**SIRIUS** available in three sizes  
Length 518cm (17ft)  
Width 52 cm (20")



**SPECIAL FEATURES**



COCKPIT WITH COMFORTABLE CROSS-DECK, SELF-BREATHING HULL, RETRACTABLE SEAT

**The P&H Company**, Station Road, West Hallam, Derbyshire DE7 6HB U.K. Tel: (0115) 9320155, Fax: (0115) 9327177. <http://www.phcompany.co.uk> E Mail: [phseakayaks@phcompany.co.uk](mailto:phseakayaks@phcompany.co.uk)

**Pure energy**

Fuel your passion

**perception®**  
ultimate performance

For a copy of our full colour brochure and details of your local stockist contact:  
Perception Kayaks • Bellbrook Business Park  
Uckfield • East Sussex • TN22 1QU  
Tel: 01825 765891/2 • Fax: 01825 763707  
<http://www.perception.co.uk>





training and building on that over time but still contributing at your level until being fully qualified. The starting modules would normally be first aid and a rescue test after which you can assist other members of a team protecting and saving life.

The following BCU lifeguard awards will be covered and examined; BCU Awards, Canoe Safety Test, Assistant Lifeguard, Life Guard, Life Guard Trainer, Life Guard Examiner, Aquatic First Aid, Aquatic First Aid Trainer, Update for LSE to examine rescue test 98. Non BCU Awards - VHF Radio Licence. Workshops - Oxygen Therapy, Manual Handling, Spinal Care.

Don't want to be an active lifeguard but want to learn some skills? Again - not a problem! Come along, learn first aid,

do the Canoe Safety Test, get a VHF Licence, learn about spinal care. We are pretty sure that you will get in to it and want to do the rest though.

Special interest lectures and workshops. These are about one hours duration and cover a wide range of safety, search and rescue themes. Where possible experts are brought in to add a touch of realism and tell a salty story or two.

Social - There is of course a fun side too. Lifeguards tend to be a social lot and welcome newcomers young and old alike. Evenings are spent warming up and over a glass of ale - or a bottle of Bud - discussing techniques, ambitions and generally putting the world to rights!

Full details are available from 1st March by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: BCU Convention, Harbourwatch, 27 Chapelhay Street, Weymouth, Dorset DT4 8JJ. See the convention web page for more detail <http://www.users.dircon.co.uk/~rascl/bcuintex.htm>.

### Thames Weir Rodeo

21/22 March at Hurley weir on the river Thames near Maidenhead in Berkshire. The rodeo is the first event in the 1998 national circuit and the points from this event will count towards the national championships and the UK team selection

for the 1998 pre-world rodeo championships in New Zealand in December. Entry forms will be available at the International Canoe Exhibition at the NEC in February or from Playboater Tel: 01628 602622 or 01628 789146 for details.

### Western Isles Challenge

The Western Isles Challenge is on for 1998, the dates are May 6-8 though participants need to be in Benbecula on May 4 or 5. The race is a relay for four people, who over three days make their way by kayak, mountain and road bike and on foot along roads, across fells and up mountains from the Isle of Barra to the Butt of Lewis lighthouse. We're looking for team entries and for canoeists prepared to offer their services to teams lacking a 'sea person'. You MUST hold a BCU Sea Proficiency (four star) or foreign or Services equivalent. Race preparations are being conducted via the Internet, see website [www.wichallenge.prestel.co.uk](http://www.wichallenge.prestel.co.uk) for details and entry form and/or email me [steffisar@aol.com](mailto:steffisar@aol.com). Or Tel: 01851 870716. P.S. women are particularly desirable since the winning team has to include at least one! Stephanie Sargent, Deputy Director, The Western Isles Challenge 1998.

CARDIOSPORT



#### HEARTSAFE

- ♥ Heart rate to ECG accuracy
  - ♥ Heart rate recording up to 1 hour
  - ♥ Heart zone setting in 5 beat steps
  - ♥ Out of zone alarm
  - ♥ 10 hour stopwatch
  - ♥ Water resistant to 20m
  - ♥ Bike mount included
  - ♥ Changeable transmitter battery
- £69.95**



#### LIMIT

- ♥ Heart rate
  - ♥ High and low heart rate limit with alarm
  - ♥ Target zone settings in 1 beat increments
  - ♥ Target zone indicator
  - ♥ Off indicator
  - ♥ Large display
  - ♥ Water resistant
  - ♥ Bike adapter included
- £59.95**



#### EXEL

- ♥ Heart rate to ECG accuracy
  - ♥ Time of day
  - ♥ Heart rate recording up to 2.5 hours
  - ♥ Heart zone setting in 1 beat steps
  - ♥ Out of zone alarm
  - ♥ 10 hour stopwatch
  - ♥ Time spent in heart zone display
  - ♥ Water resistant to 20m
  - ♥ Bike mount included
  - ♥ Changeable transmitter battery
- £85.95**



#### 2001

- ♥ Heart rate to ECG accuracy
  - ♥ Time of day, calendar & alarm
  - ♥ Heart zone setting in 1 beat steps
  - ♥ Out of zone alarm
  - ♥ Heart rate recording up to 21 hours
  - ♥ 30 lap time memory stopwatch
  - ♥ Accumulated training session data
  - ♥ Water resistant to 20m
  - ♥ Bike mount included
  - ♥ Changeable transmitter battery
- £154.95**

**DESPERATE MEASURES** Britain's Leading Supplier of CardioSport HRMs to Canoeists  
39-41 Trent Boulevard, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5BB Tel: 0115 9816815





## Jersey Canoe Club - 4th Sea Kayaking Symposium

Is again being held in Jersey, Channel Islands from 23 to 25 May. An opportunity for paddlers from around Europe and further afield to meet and gain new experiences in one of Europe's foremost sea kayaking areas. Symposium members are limited to 85 paddlers, the aim is to keep numbers low to allow plenty of hands on experience. The theme of the weekend is 'Paddling with a purpose'. A team of experts in geology, geomorphology, sea shore life and natural history will present lectures and then follow this up with guided paddles to explore some of the spectacular coastline of Jersey. An extended paddling programmer will again operate for the remainder of the week, consisting of



various paddles and offshore trips (weather permitting). The cost will be £85, which includes dinner on Saturday night. With most people opting to camp preferential rates have been obtained along with the option for those travelling from further afield to rent fully equipped tents. For more info contact: **Jerry Michel, 46 Clos des Ormes, Rue Verte, St Lawrence, Jersey JE3 1JJ. Tel: 01534 639390. Fax: 01534 874089. Or visit the symposium website: <http://www.itexjisy.com/hosting/jcc/symposium98.htm> or email: [jccsymposium@itexjisy.com](mailto:jccsymposium@itexjisy.com)**

## Wales Rodeo - The Way To Win

It is time for structured training to be put into Rodeo in Wales, to develop a way to access rodeo for all and to train all levels of the sport whilst still having fun. The WCA has given a kick start with an impetuous of cash, support and motivation. The events have been organised by Canolfan Tryweryn and Twr-y-Felin to give you the chance to coach, be coached and to judge all aspects and levels of rodeo. The remaining dates are Twr-y-Felin - 2 days - 14 & 15 March. To be involved you need to be a grade 3 paddler with a 50% roll success rate on moving water and a willingness to learn

playboating skills. And be a keen watcher and analyser of paddles and have an interest in coaching/judging/knowing what rodeo paddling is all about. **Contact Bob Timms (Canolfan Tryweryn) 01678 521083**

## Swaledale Charity Paddle - 21-22 March

Paddling the Swale between Grinton and Richmond which is approximately 13 miles grade 2/3. Full camping facilities available and live entertainment and bar in the club house on Saturday night. As a new event this year there will be a white water race, only open to white water boats, all specialised boats i.e. wild water racers will be excluded. To complete the course there may some orienteering type check points to find. 2 classes for single and double canoes depending on entry numbers. For further info **Richard Wormald, 3 Woodview, Ingleby Cross, Northallerton, N Yorkshire DL6 3NQ Tel: 01609 882008**

## Open Boat Dee Tour - 26-27 April

15 miles over 2 days. Camping available at Bangor on Dee on Friday and Saturday, shuttles, safety cover, heated marquee, Ceilidh, on site bar etc. Global ticket

Continued on page 12

# The SpeedCoach™ for Paddlers

The Nielsen-Kellerman SpeedCoach will provide you with all the information that you need to train and race effectively, regardless of your chosen speciality. Boat speed is accurately measured and clearly displayed together with stroke rate and elapsed time, distance or average speed. You get instant feedback as you paddle, and the memory feature lets you review your performance in detail piece after piece. The display is waterproof, buoyant and durable. The low drag sensor is easy to install and requires no through hull wiring. Stroke rate can be determined either by a tilt switch on the paddle shaft, or by sensing the changes in hull speed as you paddle. Whatever your needs, and however you use it, the Speedcoach will become *your* personal training partner and coach.



To make enquires or to order your new SpeedCoach please contact **Nielsen-Kellerman** at the address below:

**NK NIELSEN-KELLERMAN CO. LTD**

**Speed/Pace** - choice of metres per second or 500 metre split times

**Timer** - one tenth of a second resolution

**Distance** - accumulated trip distance, and total since installed

**Average speed/pace** - displayed for trip

**Stroke rate** - number of strokes taken per minute

**Memory** - all information recorded in 25 set interval lengths of either 100m or 500m

**Units** - choice of metres, kilometres, nautical miles or statute miles

**Automatic Start** - when first stroke is taken

**Dimensions** - 90 x 60 x 23mm, complete unit weighs 250gms





## RNLI - Charity Paddle

Paul Schur last year paddled from Shrewsbury to Bridgnorth to raise funds for the RNLI and raised £223. He is again attempting the same, therefore if anyone should wish to sponsor him or would like to join him, be just below Shrewsbury Weir at 10.00hrs on Easter Monday 13.4.98. Safety will be the responsibility of the individual paddler though anyone seeing another in difficulties will be expected to assist. Estimated paddling time for the 31.25 miles is about 5 hrs depending in weather and water conditions. If you would like more information contact Paul Schur, Wiggo Cottage, 135 Main Road, Wyburnbury, Nantwich Cheshire CW5 7LR

includes access to river, camping, Ceilidh, children's area, shuttles, safety cover, site security all at £20 solo, or £30 tandem & £15 thereafter, children under 15 go free. Early booking is essential as numbers are limited. Definitely no entries on the day. Contact **Affinity Watersports - Steve Wales 01244 342 660** or **Clive Mills main organiser 0151 342 5170**.

## Touring in the Eastern Region

The Eastern Region now has a Touring Officer, the position having lain vacant for the past few years. If you are organising a touring event in the Eastern Region or are interested in taking part in any of the arranged trips, please write to: **Ian MacGregor, 27 Maple Avenue, Heybridge, Maldon, Essex CM9 4BP**.

Events on the calendar so far are: 5 April, River Blackwater, Kelvedon to Langford, Essex. 14 June, Eastern Region day, river Stour, Sudbury, Suffolk. 21 June, River Stour (Tidal) Cattawade to Shotley, Suffolk. 12 July River Nene, Elton to Wansford, Cambridge. Please send SAE for more details.

## Northern Region Coach Education Seminar

The University of Teesside in Middlesbrough is organising a coach education seminar on the role of physiological testing in competitive canoeing. This will be primarily aimed at coaches from the Northern Region, and its content will include discussions, lectures and demonstrations. The seminar is scheduled to take place in late

March/early April and further details can be obtained from **Mr Chris Barnes at the University of Teesside on 01642 342355**.

## Hereford Kayak Club - Charity Paddle

The paddle will take place on May 31st starting in Hereford and finishing in Ross on Wye, a distance of 27 miles on the beautiful and unspoilt river Wye. The aim is to have fun and raise money for Hereford Mencap. Further details may be obtained from myself, as can details and sponsor forms with a booking fee made payable to Hereford Kayak Club of £4.50, non BCU members £3.00 BCU members and £2.00 children under 14. **Hereford Kayak Club Secretary: Mrs E Ottaway, 20 Overbury Road, Hereford HR1 1JE**

# Washburn River Releases for 1998

## Provisional dates:

28 March	WWR Div A	9.30-4.00	Alan Barber	Tel: 01302 834527
29 March	WWR Div B	9.30-4.00	Ian Needham	Tel: 01943 463199
25/26 April	Slalom Div 1	9.00-4.30	Esther Matthews	Tel: 01302 535941
29 April	Evening Cruise	4.30-8.00pm	Ray Todd 0113 2823742 or Hugh Pashley 0114 235 1508	
6 May	Evening Cruise	4.30-8.00pm	Ray Todd 0113 2823742 or Hugh Pashley 0114 235 1508	
16/17 May	Weekend Cruise & Rodeo	9.00-4.30pm	Ian Needham	Tel: 01943 463199
27 May	Evening Cruise	4.30-8.00pm	Ray Todd 0113 2823742 or Hugh Pashley 0114 235 1508	
6/7 June	Weekend Cruise	9.00-5.00pm	Ray Todd	Tel: 0113 2823742
17 June	Evening Cruise	4.30-8.00pm	Ray Todd 0113 2823742 or Hugh Pashley 0114 235 1508	
27/28 June	Slalom Div 2/3	9.00-5.00pm	Barbara Cox	Tel: 01302 535941
8,15 & 22 July	Evening Cruise	4.30-9.00pm	Ray Todd 0113 2823742 or Hugh Pashley 0114 235 1508	
1 Aug	WWR Div B	9.30-4.30	H Blackman	Tel: 01283 517375
2 Aug	Cruise	9.00-5.00pm	Norman and Pam Taylor	Tel: 0113 2737393
11 & 20 Aug	Evening Cruise	4.30-9.00pm	Ray Todd 0113 2823742 or Hugh Pashley 0114 235 1508	
5/6 Sept	Slalom Div	2/3 9.00-5.00pm	Ian Needham & Bernard Chapman 01943 463199 or 0113 2793372	
16 & 23 Sept	Evening Cruise	4.30-8.00pm	Ray Todd 0113 2823742 or Hugh Pashley 0114 235 1508	
3-4 Oct	Weekend Cruise	9.00-5.00pm	Hugh Pashley	Tel: 0114 235 1508
24 Oct	WWR Div A	9.30-4.30pm	Andy Goodsell	Tel: 01636 702981



## Scottish Canoe Association - Access

**F**ollowing the announcement of Mary Conacher's retirement as the SCA Access Officer, Chris Dickinson has been appointed. Chris has decided to change the role in spirit from being an officer to a coordinator, he says "I believe that paddlers have a right to be on Scottish Rivers, and that we should express that wish in the consultations currently taking place prior to consideration by government of possible changes to access legislation. I also believe that paddlers must be seen to pursue their sport in a responsible and considerate manner if we are to enjoy

that right of access. We have to be prepared to educate youth, those new to the sport and paddlers from outside Scotland to treat the waterways, countryside and the people we meet there with the utmost respect. If we do so, we can reasonably argue that canoeing is one of the most environmentally friendly, healthy and valid of all sports. With this in mind the following developments have taken place in recent weeks".

**River Advisers** - the list of river advisers has been substantially increased and up dated and appears in the SCA and the BCU Yearbook (contained with this magazine). The position with regard to access in Scotland is

different to that in other parts of the UK, this information and the SCA Code of Conduct also appear in the aforementioned Yearbooks.

**River Findhorn** - It would be helpful, in a sensitive situation, if paddlers taking out at the bottom of the Findhorn Gorge at Mains of Sluie would leave cars parked up at the main road. At present there seems to be no objection to paddles bringing a vehicle down the rough track to the 'farm' to actually load their boats prior to leaving, but leaving cars there for lengthy periods whilst you are on the river is likely to lead to future difficulties for paddlers egressing from the Findhorn.



# BUSHSPORT DESIGNS

Cagoules  
Sea Kayak  
Deck Cags  
Shotcord  
Vest-tops  
Canadian  
Bibs & Braces  
Prodecks  
Topdecks  
Bushdecks  
Lycra Wear  
Bushpants  
Plastic Gasket  
WWR  
Longs  
Fleece Jackets

*The Genuine Article*

**Stand 4 at  
the ICE show**

Bakehouse Cottage, 28 High Street,  
Gretton, Corby, Northants NN17 3DE  
Tel: 01536 770967 or 01536 373038  
Fax: 01536 373038

**YOU CAN STAY  
DRIER &  
WARMER WITH A  
MADE TO  
MEASURE  
SPRAYDECK TO A  
CLASSIC DESIGN**

**Coachman®**

## The Waterproof Radio Communication System

- One-way
- 75m Range Over Water
- Any number of Receivers
- 5 Frequency Bands Available
- Hands-free Operation
- Out of Range Indicator
- No License Needed

For availability and more information:  
Banana Sports Ltd., Business  
Innovation Centre, Sunderland, SR5 2TA

Tel: 0191 501 0030 Fax: 0191 548 1119

YOUR PARTNER'S IN LOVE WITH  
YOUR BEST FRIEND, YOU MISSED  
THAT PROMOTION AT WORK.  
THE BANK CALLED AGAIN AND  
THE TELEVISION BLEW UP ON  
MONDAY. THANK GOODNESS  
THERE IS SOME GOOD NEWS -  
IT'S RAINED ALL WEEK...

# ESCAPE



...FREE YOUR MIND...  
PADDLE LENDAL...

LENDAL

**Made in Scotland**

30 Hunter Street Prestwick Ayrshire Scotland KA9 1LG  
Tel: 01292 478558 Fax: 01292 671298





# Alpine

## white water

Right: At last we were paddling

Below: Still no river!

The idea seemed good - 'a quick blast down the river before some sailing' after all this was supposed to be a rest day on our Alpine white water trip. We



had looked at the Reallon at the egress and it looked like a fun little river. Josef Haas in his book 'Gems of Whitewater of the High Alps' described it as a great river for 'connoisseurs of beautiful white water'. Why had we not heard people rave about it?.

Anyway we drove steeply up the road to what we assumed from our interpretation of the guide book was the put in. We changed quickly opting for light thermals instead of the fleeces we had been wearing all week. Daz wore his flip flops (and I mean proper flip flops not sports sandals!), he may well have regretted this later on.

The track down to the river did go on a bit but those with sturdy boats dragged them whilst others had to carry theirs on sunburnt shoulders. When the track veered round up the valley it was decided to cut across a meadow as we did not want to put in on the grade six section which was above our intended access point.

We dragged over grass trying to control our boats which were even keener to get to the river than we were. Then it was into the

woods which sported some particularly nasty thorn bushes and when we eventually reached the river most of us had plenty of cuts to whinge about.

However although we could see the water all was not well - the river looked too hard and an inspection downstream by the keenies found plenty more drops and trees blocking the river. The remainder of us sat sweating on our boats and thinking that we had had better rest days!

And so stage 2 consisted of a bushwhack through the trees again to a meadow and then a walk down the valley to a pint where, hopefully, the river eased off. On the way we got more cuts, more fed up and hotter. We were also investigated by some horses grazing in the meadow, which looked altogether a better way of spending the day than our little adventure!

About one kilometre or so later the convoy stopped on a woodland path and once more those who had some energy left went off in all directions trying to find a route down the river. The rest of us finished off our limited water supply. It was now 4pm - nearly 2 hours after we set off and we were still no nearer to getting on the river.

Once the scouts had returned we had the choice of two routes- one a traverse through the woods then a lower/abseil down to the river or there was the hard route! People were so determined to paddle now that no-one considered the third option of calling it a day!

And so at the edge of a steep bank we began to amass throwlines, slings and karabiners which once completed would have made a Big Wall climber look over equipped!







Top: Has anyone seen the river?  
Above: The team

### 999 programme

It was at this stage as boats were lowered in two stages and people began to abseil down on a variety of improvised harnesses that a tune came into my head - DUH DER DUH yes it was the tune from the 999

programme. . . . . As they committed to the gorge the young paddlers could never have known what lay ahead DUH DER DUH.

By the time we got onto the river and Leon the famous scouse Brookside barman had experienced his first abseil it was 5pm and in the gorge those of us with minimal clothing began to regret it as the sun started to disappear (DUH DER DUH).

Big AL and Alan had made a crucial ferry glide across the river which disappeared over

some more big drops. When they returned some time later without their paddling gear our hearts dropped as it meant we still wouldn't be paddling yet.

And so the saga continued with everyone making the ferry glide and then embarking on the continued portaged down the side of the river which was un-runable due mainly to trees.

Daz was the probably the most experienced person in the group for this sort of thing, not from a paddling point of view but because he had previously carried a rotobat 100 miles for charity - but that time he had no intention of paddling it and he wasn't wearing flip flops. I'm sure he was feeling less than charitable when he threw his boat down in a 'Basil Fawly' style temper tantrum when once again it refused to be dragged where he wanted it to go.

All in all people were a little fed up - it was like a John Ridgeway survival course except not as much fun and without the poems!. Hopes were raised momentarily when someone saw what looked like human footprints but they could just have likely been from stone age man as that was probably when the river was last 'paddled'!

We must have dragged at least 2km (or so it seemed), everyone was totally switched off, cold and frustrated and I could still hear THAT tune.

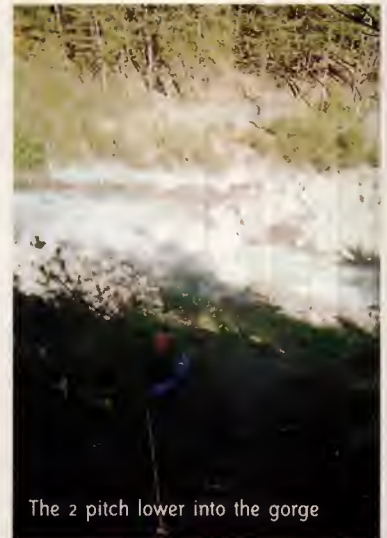
But then ahead we could see that people ahead were getting ready to paddle, 7.30pm (5 hours since we set off) and we were actually going to paddle the Reallon!

All that had gone before us was instantly 'washed away' as we were swept down boulder strewn grade 3+ rapids with an excellent display of concise paddling, eddy hopping with occasionally people standing up to have a quick look and signalling the rest of the group. Fortunately there were no incidents although there were plenty of broaches and rock banging.

We turned a corner and saw the road bridge and the lake in the fading light. It was over! There were victory rolls and shouts of general relief as we were washed at speed into the lake. Sara and Anna the support team greeted us and explained they were minutes from calling out the rescue.

The stories went on well into the night fuelled by cheap beer and wine. The day will stay in my mind for ever and there were a few lessons learnt. But isn't that what it's all about? Oh and if your'e in the Alps and someone recommends a quick blast down a river I suggest you go prepared for all eventualities!

Article by Ian Wilson who paddled with Mike, Leon, Daz, Big AL, Michael, Alan, Andy and Cathoir with superb support from Anna & Sparty Spice (Sara).



The 2 pitch lower into the gorge



## Classic Alpine Kayak Treks NO. 42 The Reallon

### Location:

Southern France, Near Embrum

### Description:

A varied trek incorporating long tracks, alpine meadows, woodland, steep banks and waterside dragging.

### Access:

Drive up a steep road from the lake until you reach a point as far away as possible from the river. From here head roughly towards the river.

### Time:

Allow around 7 hours depending on group size and abseiling ability.

### Equipment:

A lightweight boat is recommended plus plenty of ropes, slings and karabiners.







# BCU Re-organisation

## Representation and democracy in England

### Democracy begins at home

The nearer to the members that we can bring our organisation the better. The proposal for updating the regional structure provides for the establishment of Local Development Groups. These will usually be made up of groups of local clubs having a common interest such as a shared river or geographical relationship. The local clubs in consultation with their regional officers will identify these groups.

Apart from your club being directly involved your Local Development Group will also appoint a representative to your Regional Committee.

**A**dditionally, whether a club member or not, you are entitled to attend your regions AGM at which you will appoint representatives directly to about half of the English specialist committees.

Again, whether a club member or not,

you are entitled to take part in a postal vote for the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer of the English Council and for three Elected Members.

### And another contribution.

In many cases your club has

representation at annual meetings of those specialist committees whose activities your club actively supports (in particular many of the competition committees), and takes part in appointing the remaining members of these specialist committees. In this way, those most directly involved in a specific area of canoeing, influence the appointment of the members of their specialist committees.

Only limited numbers of co-opted members are allowed under committee rules, in order to protect your democratic rights, whilst allowing for bringing in members with useful expertise where needed.

### What are Elected Members?

In the first case they are your direct representatives on the English Council. If you fail to obtain satisfaction through the

## SCOTTISH PADDLER SUPPLIES

3 Whiterigg, Dunning Glen, Dollar, FK14 7LB, SCOTLAND Phone 01259 781 491 Fax 01259 781 620 Web site : [www.kayak.co.uk](http://www.kayak.co.uk) Email : [sps@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:sps@globalnet.co.uk)

The U. K's leading specialist mail order supplier of kayaks, canoes and equipment, delivered to your door. From ACE Kayaks and Admiralty charts through to Z-beds and Zippo lighters

**U. K. AND INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTERS OF THE KAYAK CARRIER SYSTEMS RANGE PRACTICAL AND INNOVATIVE KAYAK AND CANOE TRANSPORTATION EQUIPMENT:- DUAL PURPOSE TROLLEY & CAR LOADERS, EASYLOADERS, KAYAK & CANOE CRADLES, STRAPS AND PORTAGE SLINGS**

## SEA KAYAK SPECIALISTS

**U.K. IMPORTERS OF THE Feathercraft RANGE OF FOLDING KAYAKS AND ALZY FOLDING CANOES**

**CATALOGUES, BROCHURES AND PRICE LISTS ON REQUEST**

# Eddylines



Llangollen  
Tel: 01978  
861444  
Open 10 till late  
7 days a week

### Canoes and Accessories

TRY BEFORE YOU BUY DEMOS!!!



MAIL ORDER



RIVERSIDE SHOP at MILE END MILL

# JOEL

ENTERPRISES

Holt Fleet,  
Nr Worcester, WR6 6NW.

Tel/Fax:  
(01905) 455311 or 425959

[HTTP://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/joel\\_enterprises](http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/joel_enterprises)

### For all your Kayaking & Canoeing requirements

Large and wide range of stock  
Discounted prices call for details

*Friendly Expert Advice  
Speedy Mail Order Service  
Colour brochures available*



Located off A4133, adjacent to river bridge





committee structure then go direct to one of the Elected Members. They will sit on the English Council and so represent you at the highest level of the organisation.

Additionally we hope that they will be members of ability who can be brought directly into the central England management body where they can be called upon to contribute without other responsibilities.

#### How do you know what is going on?

The committee structure should, if its officers are working effectively, let you know right down to Local Development Group level (and so on to clubs) what is being discussed and decided.

However we are all human (and busy) so there will be a new English Roundup reporting on, amongst other things, the English Councils decisions and future business. This will go to members of all English committees and to clubs. In this way clubs and committees can be advised directly and quickly of decisions, matters of interest and future agenda issues on which they may wish to submit

opinions through their various representatives.

#### Anything else?

Well, yes. We think that the new Paddlefest will become an annual member's conference at which all specialist committees will be represented to answer questions from, and listen to, you the members. The success of this will depend on members attending.

As with any democracy it depends on your participation. In the new organisation you will have an opportunity to select your representatives to all levels. BUT you must exercise this right.

There is no doubt that meeting the aspirations of members for full accountability leads to more and larger committees. However in the re-organisation we have managed to eliminate one committee and reduced the size of the Council and trust that some of the specialist committees will also be able to reduce their size. All this leaves volunteers more time to get on with the job of promoting canoeing.



To summarise  
In the new structure the members appoint, directly or indirectly, virtually all members of the specialist committees and the English Council. If you don't like what is happening then it is up to you to vote for new candidates next time round. You should also be made aware of decisions taken and be able to contribute to the debates leading to future decisions.



## N. W. BROWN INSURANCE BROKERS

### Cover Available for:

- ◆ Canoes & Equipment  
(BCU Approved Scheme)
- ◆ Activity Travel
- ◆ Activity Centres  
(inc. Instructors Liability)
- ◆ Personal Accident
- ◆ Motor
- ◆ Household

For Full Details Contact

**Shaun Carter**

**Tel: 01223 720200**

**Fax: 01223 353705**

**Email: canoe@nwbrown.co.uk**

central  
london's

canoe  
store

now open

prijon  
dagger  
pyranha  
eskimo

nookie  
palm  
yak  
playboater

schlegel  
dr d's  
mail order

embankment place  
11-14 northumberland ave  
london wc2n 5sq  
f: 0171 930 3032  
t: 0171 930 5050

OCEAN LEISURE





## Whitewater Safety and Rescue

Franco Ferrero -

In association with Palm Equipment

Pesda Press ISBN 0 9531956 0 0

£11.95 available February 98

**T**oday the skill level of the average paddler is higher than ever before but situations and accidents still happen!

This book written by Franco Ferrero, Head of Canoeing at Plas Y Brenin who is one of the countries foremost practitioners and a respected white water paddler, deals not only with how to rescue but with the whole topic of safety.

Divided in to four major sections with twenty nine chapters covering white water safety, white water rescue, care of victims and recovery/access.

Containing sixteen pages of full colour photographs interspersed with black and white photos along with clear diagrams not only covering kayaking but with useful contributions of traditional open boating by Ray Goodwin, WW open boat by Dave Luke and Rafts by Bob Timms.

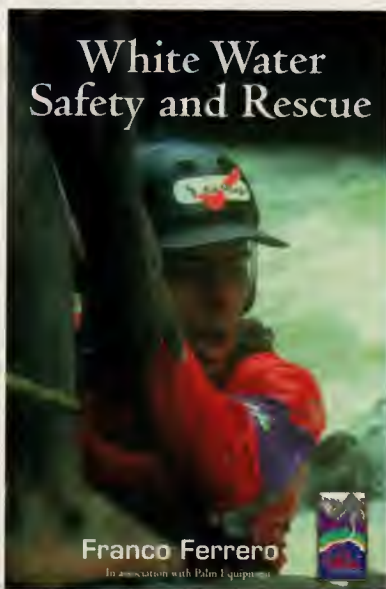
Well laid out and easy to read, where this book really scores is from the authors own personal experiences and reflections with plenty of 'top tips and handy hints', and is certainly a useful 'tool' for those working towards the BCU's 5 star awards.

There are some well chosen words of advice for professional instructors and also for bodies such as fire and rescue personnel who often get involved in rescues/recoveries.

A set of appendices including knots and hitches complements this text.

White Water Safety and Rescue is extremely comprehensive, written with a British flavour it places equal importance on both the motor skills and cognitive side of safety, not only thoughtful but thought provoking and is a highly recommended reference in the library of any canoe sport coach or white water paddler.

Review by Graham Wardle - Level 5 coach.



paddling, this is probably the most graceful piece of paddling I have ever seen, her seemingly effortless and precise movements are like a ballet on water. The video is worth it just for this!



## Solo Playboating - The Workbook

£9.95 Available from BCU Supplies

This book accompanies the above video, although both stand alone. A very clear and concise 64 page book. Split into sections, coinciding with the video, accompanied by black and white photographs and diagrams, and interspersed with handy hints. A brilliant little reference book.



## Tyne Tour '97

Available from Canoe Shops in the North East, price £12.99 (includes £3 donation to film makers for further projects) (or from Chrisfilm price £12.99 +p&p Tel: 01423 711310)

The Tyne Tour Video Album has been put together by Andy Watt, Richard Joy, Frazer Pearce and Al Collis as a record of all the events and activities that took place over the Tyne Tour weekend. Although it is a little rough around the edges it does capture the fun element of the tour, covering everything from the campsite to the Ceilidh.

£3 from the sale of each video will go towards producing a white water safety video, which will also be produced by the same team.

If you are intending to paddle the Tyne Tour in '98, it would be a good idea to purchase this film just to see what you are letting yourself in for.

## Solo Playboating II - Drill Time!

Video - £19.99 Available from BCU Supplies

An excellent open boating instruction video, from Kent Ford and his pals. This video covers everything you need to know about paddling an open boat from, precision paddling, carving, surfing and everything in between. The instructors guide you through each section using video footage and diagrams, allowing you to work at your own speed. Approximately five minutes in to the video there is an outstanding piece of footage showing Karen Knight freestyle





# Kent Canoe Services

## SUPERSTORE

LONDON AND THE SOUTH  
EAST'S FINEST CANOE STORE

Whether you are a beginner or expert, we offer the best possible advice on canoeing equipment, plus great package deals on new boats. Part exchanges welcome (subject to type and condition). For all you playboaters, river runners, we offer a wide range of demo boats for you to try before you buy, plus a Kent Canoe Services Customer Loyalty Card with new boats.

**NEW**  
**2000**  
square foot  
showroom  
and shop  
**st**  
**CHOICE**

### CONTRACT CUSTOMERS

We are one of the largest specialist retailers in the UK. We supply equipment to youth groups, schools, clubs, universities, local authorities and HM Forces. Call us for a competitive quote for all your canoeing needs.



**INSTANT CREDIT AVAILABLE**

(subject to status)



**Mail Order Service**

**01732 886688**

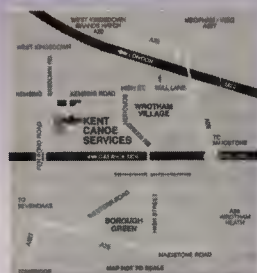
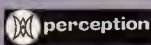


### BCU APPROVED CANOE SCHOOL

Full range of courses from beginner to advanced, run by Level 5 Coach. Contact us for our 1998 programme.



**ESKIMO**  
THE PERFECT  
COMBINATION



#### WE ARE CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

5 mins from M20/M26  
10 mins from M25  
20 mins from Dartford Bridge  
45 mins from Channel Tunnel

#### WE ARE OPEN:

Tuesday 10:00-18:00  
Wednesday 10:00-17:00  
Thursday 12:00-17:00  
Friday 10:00-17:00  
Saturday 10:00-17:00  
Other times by arrangement

### KENT CANOE SERVICES

NEW HOUSE FARM, KEMSING ROAD, WROTHAM,  
NEAR SEVENOAKS, KENT. TN15 7BU

Tel: 01732 886688 Email: Kentcanoe@Aol.com



# PADDLE SPORT

## CANOES & KAYAKS

Whitewater or Recreation  
Whatever You Paddle

# WE HAVE

One of the **largest** comprehensively stocked showrooms in the UK. **First class** service and **friendly expert** advice from experienced staff, easy parking and full workshop facilities plus 20 acre teaching and **demo lake** all within a superb country park setting.

## Interest Free Credit

Written details on request

**BEST DEAL IN THE UK**

**12 months to pay (retail purchases over £295)**



**Instant Mail Order Service**  
**01926 640573**



**Same day despatch and free UK delivery on most orders including Kayaks.**  
**Worldwide availability**

## Group Buyers Package Deals

**EG. 6 kayaks + decks + paddles + buoyancy aids from £1680 inc VAT and delivery.**

*waveform*

Our contract service is **second to none**. We understand the importance of delivery dates, quality and **after sales service** and our years of specialist experience ensure that you get the right equipment at the **right price - Every time**. Whether you are a Local Authority, Club, HM Forces, Centre, School, University, Scouts etc. You can rely on us.

## Paddlesport Internet

Web Site Address: <http://www.paddlesport.co.uk/>

E-Mail Address: [info@paddlesport.co.uk](mailto:info@paddlesport.co.uk)



BCU Approved Centre

### Approved Centre

**1 - 4 Star Kayak courses**

**1 & 2 Star Open Canoe courses**

**Introduction to White Water Kayaking  
Canoe Safety Test Training & Assessment**

Tailor made courses to suit your needs



BCU Approved Centre

**Open 9.30 - 5.30 Mon-Sat  
& most Sundays & Bank Holidays.**



**PARK FARM ESTATE  
COMPTON VERNEY,  
WARWICK CV35 9HJ  
TEL: 01926 640573  
FAX: 01926 641932**

**ACT**  
association  
of canoe clubs





# Canoe Focus - Young People's Programme Paddlesport Scheme Starts in 1998

After initial piloting, the BCU is launching its new young paddlers scheme on a phased basis. The first workshops for coaches wishing to deliver the scheme are scheduled below. If you are interested in attending a workshop, please contact the appropriate person/ Paddlesport Development Officer

**New Paddlesport Officers Appointed**  
2 new Paddlesport officers have been appointed. Dave Hellowell will be working 2 days per week in the Teesside area and Rory Corder will be working 1 day per week in the Wearside area.

#### Top Club

The Paddlesport Development Officers have been piloting the TOP club scheme in their areas and after six months of working closely with clubs to review how they work with young people, the first

clubs are coming through for accreditation.

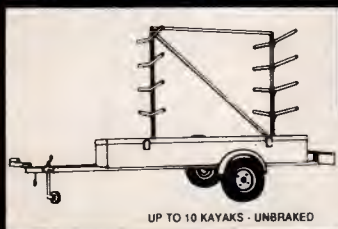
Top Club accreditation is about quality work with young people and every club that has come through to this first stage has had some work to do in changing how they deal with young people. All the clubs accredited have made at least a 2 year commitment to continue improving their work with young people.

#### An example from one of our first Top Community Clubs

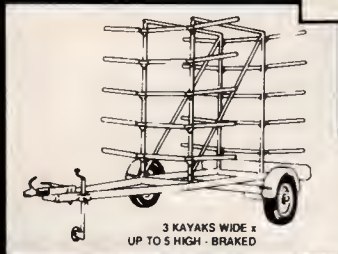
Emma Collins, Junior Organiser of Soar Valley Canoe Club says: In following a bid for Top club status, we clearly stated that the club would provide proper provision for all juniors and so it was decided to add a junior section to the Constitution

Region	Dates	Contact
North West	28/2/98 (Chester) plus further workshops planned for March & April at other venues in the NW	Jonathon Davies 01244 390451 Dave Hellowell 01642 651661
North East East Midlands	Dates will be arranged for March/ April and various venues in the NE 10/3/98 (Leicester), 22/03/98 (Nottingham), 29/03/98 (Nottingham) + one further for the Derby area	Angela Hampton 0116 2674428 Graham Campbell 01386 870072 Sue Hornby 0181 941 2714 BCU HQ 0115 9821100 BCU HQ 011 9821100
West Midlands	16/3/98 (Worcester) 4/4/98 (Fladbury) + others during April	
W London/NW Surrey	28/3/97 & 1/4/98. Others to be scheduled	
South West	April	
South	Reading area - April/ May	
It is hoped to cover the rest of the country in 1999.		

## Hitch up ... and go ... with HAYLING TRAILERS CANOE & KAYAK TRAILERS

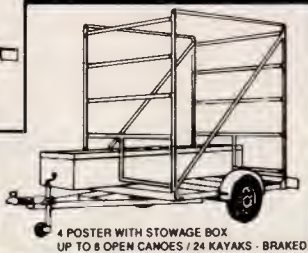


All models include lights and jockey wheels  
Standard Trailers Ex Stock

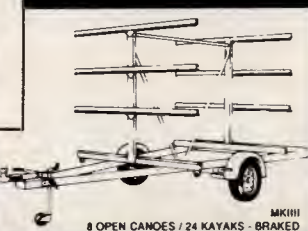


For details & FREE BROCHURE ring  
01705 464176

Models to carry up to 30 Kayaks  
Choice of Stowage Boxes



Built to latest EEC Regulations  
Custom made service



**THE HAYLING TRAILER CO. LTD**  
254A HAVANT RD HAYLING ISLAND HANTS PO11 0LW  
FAX 01705 463069 TEL 01705 464176

## CARLISLE CANOES

KAYAK & OPEN CANOE SPECIALIST

OLD RAFFLES PARADE, WIGTON RD,  
CARLISLE CA2 7EX

### KAYAKS IN STOCK

Prijon, Eskimo, Dagger, Perception, Pyranha

### OPEN CANADIANS IN STOCK

Grumman, Old Town, Mobile Adventure,  
Dagger, Coleman, Pyranha

### SEA KAYAKS IN STOCK

Prijon, Pyranha, P&H, Valley

CONTRACT PRICE LIST  
AVAILABLE FOR CENTRES,  
CLUBS, COLLEGES  
AND FORCES etc

### MAIL ORDER



Telephone/Fax

**(01228) 31703**

AS FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER 1997 WE ARE MOVING TO  
OLD RAFFLES PARADE, WIGTON RD, CARLISLE CA2 7EX



We keep the largest stock of accessories and paddles from

PRIJON  
SCHLEGEL  
PALM  
NOOKIE  
KOGG  
SUZY  
BUFFALO  
PEAK  
RÖMER  
YAK  
RAS DEX  
PLAYBOATER  
LENDAL  
CREWSAVER  
PHOENIX  
WILD-WATER  
HF  
GORILLA  
DR D'S  
ESKIMO,

plus lots more







**Other examples of changes we have made are:**

- The club will undertake to pay the junior members BCU comprehensive membership in order to enable them to take part in any competition. The money will be recovered in instalments from the juniors
- All club coaches will work within the following guidelines when coaching junior members of the club
- To treat each child as an individual putting their needs first and winning second
- Not to shout or criticise children for making a mistake
- To reinforce positive attitudes of 'fair play'
- Not to question publicly the judgement of officials and never their honesty
- To be friendly to other clubs and coaches
- To reward effort as well as achievement
- To provide equipment that is the right size for the paddlers age group and stage of physical development
- To commit to providing good quality coaching
- The junior section will have its own committee, overseen by the junior organiser

- We have developed a Youth group night where Scouts etc come to the club to try canoeing with a view to them joining
- We have a paddling session for the disabled which many of the scouts help out with
- We have a junior club night that has social events running through the winter
- Annually we present both male & female awards to the junior paddlers that have shown the most commitment to the club
- We have purchased more junior boats and split paddles. This has made a dramatic difference in the water confidence and performance of young paddlers.

A great example of **Top Club** recognising quality and making a difference!

As you will know there are 2 types of Top Club accreditation - **Top Performance Club (TPC)** and **Top Community Club (TCC)**. TPC is naturally discipline specific in that it acknowledges best practice in clubs not only in preparing young people for top level competition but also looking after their many needs.

TCC is particularly for those clubs that offer youngsters an excellent

Continued on page 42

**Junior Club Directory**

The BCU is often asked by parents & schools for names of clubs that cater for juniors.

To this end, in 1998 we hope to develop a junior club directory. If your club currently offers such provision, welcomes youngsters to the club and would like to be part of the listing, please complete the following brief questions and return to the National Youth Officer at the BCU.

Name of Club & Address

.....  
 .....

Junior Organiser Name & Address

.....  
 .....

Tel no. ....

Sessions (please tick) daily  twice weekly  weekly   
 weekends only  summer only

Other (please specify).....

**Range of Paddlesport offered**

- (Please tick) Touring  Slalom  Sprint   
 Marathon  Whitewater Racing  Sea  Surf   
 Polo  Canoe Sailing  Rodeo  Duke of Edinburgh   
 Paddlepower schemes  Star Schemes   
 Other (please specify).....

(Please tick) Disabled welcome  Parents welcome   
 volunteers welcome

**FOUR SEASONS**

- Raft
- Canoe
- Kayak
- Climb
- Camp

- White Water Course
- Retail Shop
- Cafe

BCU Approved Centre

**Teesside White Water Centre**  
**Tel: 01642 678000**

**WATERSIDE VENUE** **MAIL ORDER**

**WEST MIDLANDS CANOE CENTRE**

TEL: 01922 479279

**CONTRACT SERVICES** **GROUP PACKAGE DEALS**

**100% Washable**

- Washing Guidelines
- roto moulded kayaks
- open canoes
- buoyancy aids
- paddles, crash hats
- cags, spray covers
- roof racks etc.

West Midlands Canoe Centre Fax: 01922 479096  
 Sneyd Wharf, 401 Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich, Walsall, WS3 2LT  
 web site <http://www.arrowmcc.demon.co.uk>

email [wmcc@arrowmcc.demon.co.uk](mailto:wmcc@arrowmcc.demon.co.uk)





Gareth Moss, Head of Centre, The Continental School, Jeddah.

## The Continental School Canoe Club, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

"So you work in Saudi Arabia then eh?" I nod.  
"Teaching kayaking?" I nod again. "Interesting!"

**A**dmittedly Jeddah is on the periphery of the kayaking world as we know it, but there is never any need for fleece, wet-quits, helmets or pogies. A drink down the pub to discuss various paddlers daring dos would be welcome but not possible as the place is free of any alcohol, ham sandwiches or pork scratchings. But, (wait for it) there aren't any fishermen either (rapturous applause).

I run an ethnically diverse club out here for the pupils of the school (a school large enough to be able to finance its own outdoor education centre and employ

full time staff recruited from the UK). The pupils all use the centre for a week every year on their Outdoor Education course, where they may find themselves canoeing, windsurfing, camping, sailing, snorkeling or hiking.

We are fortunate in that we have a lot of swimming pools out here and there are no heating bills. In fact the swimming teams drop lumps of ice in to cool the water down before racing!

Our members are involved in the usual activities of a club based on flat water and particularly enjoy playing on the waves when the regular force 4 winds blow in the afternoon. We paddle throughout the academic year from September to June, taking a break during the stiflingly hot period when temperatures of 40 C are not uncommon. Obviously out here hyperthermia is more of a consideration than hypothermia. When we work through the Star awards, we have to include extra theory relevant to our hot climate. The journeying content of the

revised Star syllabi) has caused us a few problems though as we are restricted to paddling on a large lagoon. We are only rarely able to paddle on the sea, as the coastguard here literally guards the coast from illegal emigration and immigration. To paddle on the sea legally we would have to register our craft with the coastguard, a long bureaucratic process and also equip each kayak with a spare engine and fire extinguisher! This is because the Saudis are very much into power boats, particularly jet skis.

All of our equipment has to be shipped in from the UK as there are no suppliers out here and to the best of my knowledge our selection of Dancers, Cyphurs, Visions and Jumpers are the only kayaks in Saudi Arabia or even the Arabian peninsula.

We are very proud of our dugout canoe that we found just along the shore from our Centre. The nearest trees of suitable thickness from which to carve such a canoe grow many hundreds of miles away in East Africa.

Well the boats have been loaded up on my roof rack for over 4 years now, but still no sign of rain! Maybe next weekend. So you think that you have drought conditions!

If you are ever on your camel passing through, do drop by and see us.



Holme Pierrepont  
Hotline to report  
any incidence of  
illness Tel: 0115  
982 4710

## Holme Help for Other Water Sports Centres

**News that all canoe slalom courses will be subject to the same rigorous testing and reporting procedures as the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham has been welcomed by the English Sports Council.**

**T**he slalom committee of the British Canoe Union, which met for its AGM in November agreed that the National Water Sports Centre's canoe slalom course should be treated no differently to any other water sports facility in Britain in respect of water quality issues.

In future all canoe slalom courses will be asked to follow the lead of the National Water Sports Centre in making water quality reports and analysis available to all interested parties.

In addition, a motion to restrict selection races and events on the canoe slalom course at Holme Pierrepont was defeated at the AGM, with the canoeing fraternity showing overwhelming support for continued use of the National Water Sports Centre.

English Sports Council Director of National Centres, John Davies was delighted with the outcome. He said:

"The English Sports Council is proud of the National Water Sports Centre in Nottingham and has invested heavily in maintaining the world class facility for the benefit of the country's top performers and also for the local community. We have adopted a policy of complete openness about water quality issues at the centre and we have taken a proactive approach to the issue to ensure that the safety of all users of the centre is foremost in everyone's minds.

Over recent years we have actively encouraged people to report any ill effects that they may encounter after using the canoe slalom course, we have set up a special hotline for people to report these ill effects and we have increased the number of advisory signs around the complex reminding users of the issues and what they can do to minimise the risks.

While only a small proportion of

slalom users have reported any ill effects to us - 20 out of 30,762 users up to the end of August 1997 - we will continue to take this responsible and proactive stance and we will continue to support the efforts of agencies responsible for water quality in the area to reduce still further the likelihood of ill effects.

The National Water Sports Centre is a world class sporting facility but it is not unique in the problems that it faces, particularly in terms of water quality issues. And we are delighted that we now have a level playing field to play on which means that every canoe slalom course in Britain will be expected to follow our lead in taking an open approach to water quality issues.

The National Water Sports Centre exists to help this country's top performers in their quest for medals by making sure they have the very best facilities and environment in which to train and compete. We are delighted that the canoeists have shown an equal admiration for and commitment to the centre by overwhelmingly voting to keep selection races and events in Nottingham."





# AVONCRAFT LAUNCHES STUBBY

THIS AIN'T NO ORDINARY SPUD BOAT...

A planning hull with hard chines creates effortless flat spins and clean slices for perfectly linked vertical moves. So get ready to cartwheel in places you never knew existed...



## AVONCRAFT

ROBERT VARDY LTD

T2 West Bromwich,  
Walsley Garden City, Herts, AL7 4TW  
Tel: (01707) 330000  
Fax: (01707) 333026  
email sales@avoncraft.demon.co.uk

Phone

44

(0)1932

247978

# WHITEWATER

## The Canoe Centre

Fax

44

(0)1932

241368

### The Finest Canoe Shop in the Universe!

From whitewater to wilderness, rodeo to recreation, surfing to playboating, we've got the right equipment for all your boating needs.

We are the Main Dealer for all the major equipment manufacturers.

If they make it, we take it.



We have a wide selection of demo boats available to try on our lake before you buy.

We accept all major credit/debit cards.

We are 5 minutes from Chertsey Weir and 35 minutes from Hurley Weir (in a Porsche). So give us a call on up to date levels on the big Thames weirs.

See you on the water!

## MAIL ORDER WORLDWIDE

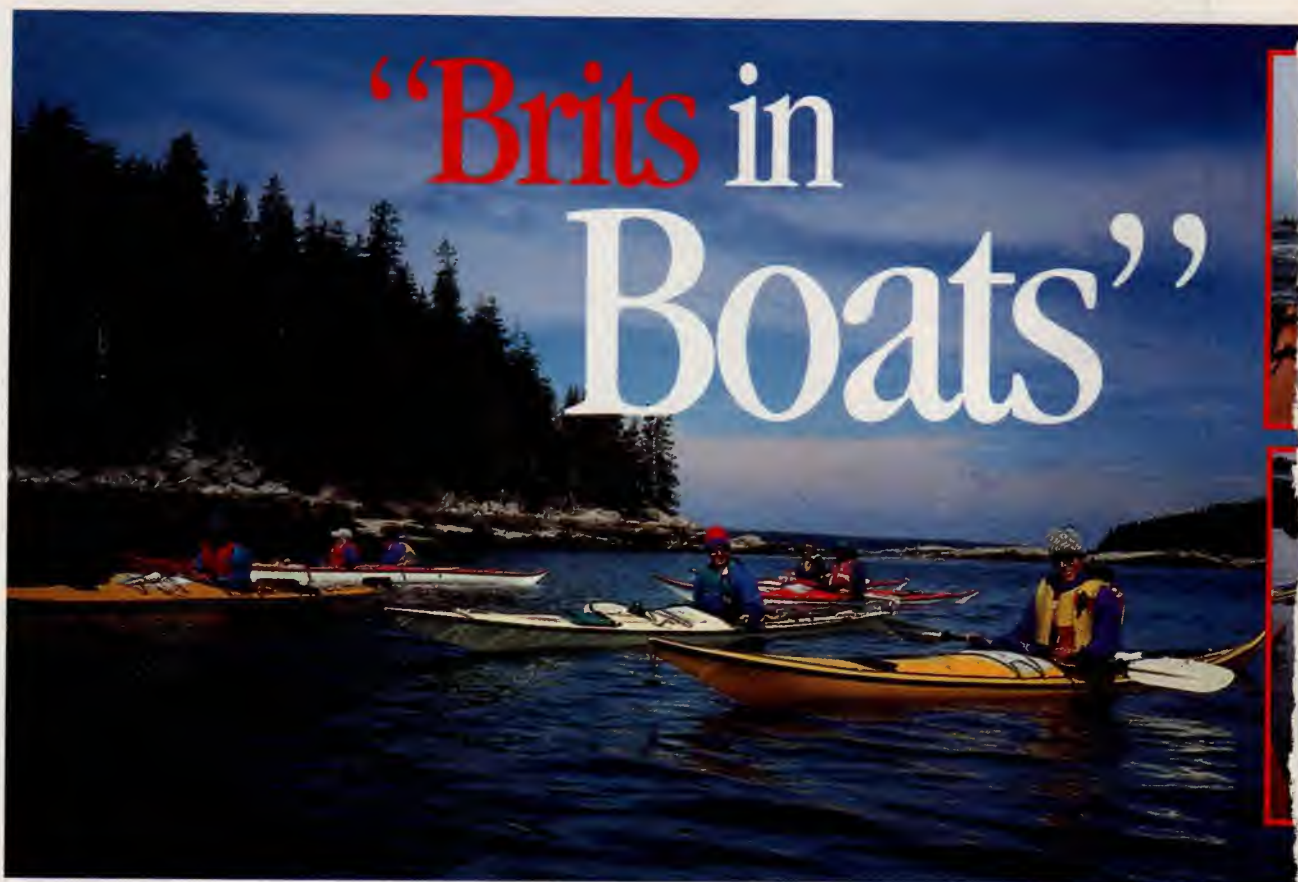
Find us at: Shepperton Marina, Felix Lane, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 8NJ

We operate a courtesy bus from Shepperton BR station





Dave Evans.  
Dave is a B.C.U.  
Coach level 5,  
Chairman of the  
B.C.U.'s Sea  
Touring  
committee, and  
an Outdoor  
Adventure  
consultant.



# 'Brits in Boats'

"Hi, I'm Victoria from Hurricane Island", started the phone call I received one dark and dreary evening last winter." I understand you might be able to come over and run our Sea Kayak staff training". It seemed like too good an opportunity to pass up so I eagerly agreed.

**H**urricane Island Outward Bound school operates off the east coast of Maine in the north eastern part of the U. S. and runs courses lasting from eight days up to twenty two, with students living and working in the wilderness and travelling either on foot, by open canoe, sea kayak or open sailing boat.

Students on the Sea Kayaking programme have a day's introductory training on arrival including a capsize in water that even in summer takes your breath away. They then depart on a self contained expedition for the rest of the course with their two group Instructors. Other aspects of the programme include rock climbing, a high ropes course, community service and a solo period of contemplation on one of the many deserted islands in the area.

I was running the training with Maggie Annat, another English paddler, who now lives in the States and works full time for Outward Bound. As a result the course had already been given the nickname 'Brits in boats'. There were twelve participants with varying degrees of experience from 2 star upwards. The U.S has no comparable Sea kayaking coaching scheme and an increasing number



of courses are being run in America by B.C.U. qualified staff. Our coaching scheme is generally held in high esteem there.

We spent the first afternoon at a local High School Pool. Although the course took place in mid May the sea temperature was a chilly five degrees centigrade. We spent the time practising deep water rescues and rolls mindful of the colder experience still to come.

Later, we loaded our boats and kit onto the powerful diesel launch which took us the twelve miles out to Hurricane Island. All the available deck space was crammed with sea kayaks, with the inside loaded with our expedition rations and with general supplies for the island. Hurricane Island is about two miles in circumference and about a half a mile across. It's one of hundreds of similar islands in the area, some deserted and some inhabited. Part of its interior used to be quarried for granite and the old quarry area now makes an excellent climbing area.

My planned programme had included some advanced practical skills training, open crossings and some night navigation. By the time I had arrived the original proposals had already undergone considerable change.

There appeared to be no fast moving tidal streams in the area, and the school rules restricted crossings to a maximum of two miles offshore, and imposed a ban on night paddling. The water temperature also seemed to preclude any prolonged immersions. Prospects improved dramatically after a long chat with Victoria. Yes, we could go for both a longer crossing between the islands and the night paddle was on. We even found some very fast moving water at the entrance to a large, almost landlocked tidal lake known as the basin.

We visited the basin two days running first in singles, and then in the double Sea Kayaks. Both times we arrived as the tidal flow was building and experienced some excellent white water paddling over a two hundred metre stretch. We played until it was impossible to paddle back up through the gap and achieved some impressive high crosses in the doubles. This led to plenty of real rescues for the group to perform.

Whilst on the island I also experienced life American O.B. style. The day started at six with a two mile run round the island, followed by a fifteen foot leap into the bay from the dockside. I didn't stay in long enough to feel the cold but I'm sure there were two lumps in my throat when I got out. As there were only staff on the island at the time the morning dip was optional, well sort of! Anyway stiff upper lip and all that, we had to show the colonials what we were made of. Meals were preceded by everyone holding hands and there was a fair amount of hugging on the rock at the morning briefings. Not quite British perhaps, but it all seemed to work well in context.

The two days of skills training were followed by a four day expedition. Launching





needed helpers at the sides as well. Awkward as it was with the singles, it is even more of a serious problem with the schools doubles loaded with supplies for up to twenty two days.

The trip itself held few natural surprises for the group as they had all paddled in the area with students. There were however a few unexpected incidents supplied courtesy of Maggie and myself. It did also give their staff a chance to play, go rock hopping, and go paddling at night, an experience new for most of them. The area has a large number of small and large islands all with the backdrop of Mt. Desert Island and the Acadia National Park as you look towards the east. Surprisingly, perhaps, access is strictly limited on many of them but the school has a comprehensive permissions list giving details of restrictions and times when each can be visited.

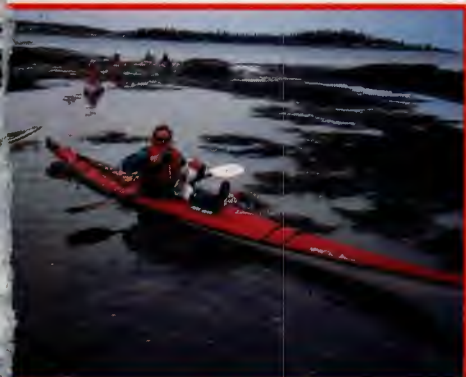
Our route took us to the east and on the exposed outside of the islands. We passed close to Heron Neck lighthouse and then paddled along the south side of Vinalhaven. From here we made our longest crossing of the trip, eight miles across to Merchant Island, our first campsite. The wind was south easterly force three and increasing giving a difficult quartering sea. Our campsite was sheltered by the trees which, as on many of the islands, grow almost down to the waters edge. Landing was awkward as the foreshore consisted of smooth rounded granite boulders. We had intended to paddle out to two small islands, Great and Little Spoon the

following day but the strong S.E. wind led to a change in our plans. After tormenting the group with a staged epic we headed off to the village at the northern end of Isle au Haut (pronounced the same as Ivanhoe).

Mindful of the fact that we had to ensure we arrived back on schedule and that going any further east would take us further away from home, we paddled north up through an area littered with small, identical looking islands and outcrops. Visibility was restricted and the sea glassy smooth, making for an interesting navigation exercise. We camped on the delightfully named Hell's Half acre island, and landed on a completely smooth gently shelving granite ledge. Next day we headed west and included a four mile crossing of East Penobscot Bay. With the wind from the same quarter we had a beam sea all the way across, which, although never difficult, did make us pleased to reach the shelter of Fox Island thoroughfare. From here we would have a sheltered but long paddle back to base on the last day. We camped on the deserted and attractive Calderwood island. The tents went up in a clearing about a hundred metres away from the shore. The site gave superb views to the north and to the tree covered hills inland. We collected and cooked local shellfish and wandered up to the top of the small hill for a superb sunset.

After dark we set off for a night trip through the islands. The night was very dark with no moonlight. We paddled the two miles

Continued on page 26



the kayaks was a major task as the only way into the water was via a narrow walkway leading down to a floating pontoon. The heavily laden boats could only be carried by someone at either end although they really

# EXPERIENCE THE FREEDOM OF SEA KAYAKING

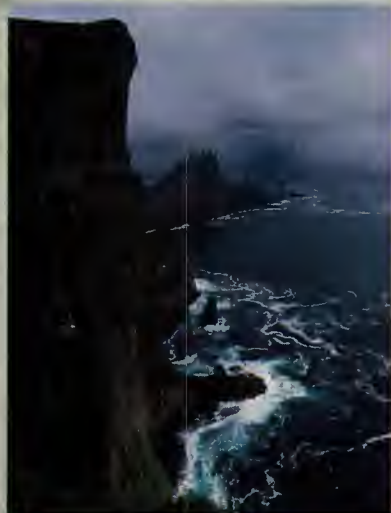
WE HAVE EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO EXPLORE OUR LAST TRUE WILDERNESS AREAS

**VALLEY**

**SEA KAYAKS -**  
including the new  
**NORDKAPP JUBILEE**

**ACCESSORIES -**  
Everything from pumps to penny  
washers

**CLOTHING -**  
See the latest additions to the Knoydart  
Clothing range



**Visit us at Stand 11  
at the International  
Canoe Exhibition**

Visit our Keswick store or ring for our  
mail order brochure

6 Months Interest Free Credit available  
on boat sales



**KNOYDART KAYAKING SYSTEMS**

4 Daleston Court

Southey Hill Est

Keswick, Cumbria

CA12 4HH



Tel: 017687 75519

Fax 017687 75005

E mail: [df@knoydart.softnet.co.uk](mailto:df@knoydart.softnet.co.uk)





east to Goose Rock light in almost complete silence. The tide was running strongly against us as we neared the light and the sound of the waves lapping against the rocks was both eerie and disconcerting. We resumed to our campsite along the other side of the islands, tired but satisfied with the evening's work.

Our last day was a bit of an anti-climax, with a headwind for much of the way it seemed much further than the eleven miles indicated on the chart. Perhaps not surprisingly the expedition finished with an all in rescue, Where did that sudden and violent gust of wind come from!

The weather throughout the trip was cold and we saw very little sunshine. Unlike our own shipping forecast there is a constantly

updated continuous weather channel broadcasting on both marine V.H.F and on a frequency which can be picked up by a small cheaply purchased weather radio. It's a great idea but unfortunately for much of the time the forecast didn't seem to match the weather we got.

Was it a success? Judging from the feedback then certainly. As in any organisation there were procedures that could be improved upon, and personal skills that benefited from an outside perspective. Will I be going back? Just try and keep me away. I can thoroughly recommend the area as a place to go paddling. You don't have to undergo the rigours of an Outward Bound

course. There are a large number of Outfitters along the coast offering Sea Kayak hire facilities and tuition or escorted trips for those who require them. There is even a Maine Island's Sea Kayaking trail which is a little like a marine long distance footpath, complete with designated wilderness campsites on route. Getting there couldn't be simpler. The flight to Boston takes about six hours from London and the coast of Maine is only two or three hours up Interstate 95, or on Route One, the coastal highway. The best time to go is probably mid to late August when the 'mosses' have died down and the 'Ocean' is at its warmest.



Below:

Hurricane Island showing office, kitchen and dining room complex



Right:

Author on high ropes

Below:

Local wild life. A young deer who swam to the island



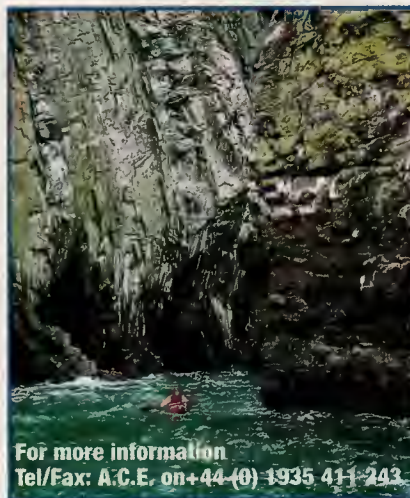
## Adventure Club Expeditions



Learn about Leadership, Safety, Survival and Rescue. A 21 day adventure, including Kayaking, Cliff Climbing, Mountain Biking, Trekking and Sailing, across 300Km of the breathtaking landscapes of South West Ireland.

For more information  
Tel/Fax: A.C.E. on:  
+44 (0) 1935 411 243

Or write to:  
PO Box 1707  
Yeovil, UK  
BA21 4YB



For more information  
Tel/Fax: A.C.E. on +44 (0) 1935 411 243

**Daewoo Mountain Bikes sponsors Adventure Club Expeditions in SW Ireland**

**Old Head, Kinsale, Co. Cork where ACE canoes through the headland and climbs the cliffs.**



**DAEWOO BICYCLES**

## BREATHING DRYSUITS

in 5 styles, all at Manufactureres Direct Prices

**RAPIDE**

in two colour combinations

**GOLD & NAVY**  
or **MULBERRY & NAVY**

Suits from

**£225**



## CLIMATE CONTROL WITH THERMALS FROM RAVENSPRING

Use of the latest material technology has enabled Ravenspring to produce underwear which is both soft & light with excellent thermal properties. The VILLOFT® fabric inherently wicks moisture away from the skin so that you remain warm & comfortable even in adverse conditions. An essential piece of kit.

Tops at **£16.00** Bottoms at **£16.00**  
+ £1.00 p&p. each



Ask for our **FREE BROCHURE**

Ravenspring Ltd, Ford Road,  
Totnes Industrial Estate, Totnes, Devon TQ9 5LQ.

Phone/Fax: **01803 867092**







# Open Canoe Association of Great Britain -

## Autumn Activities



### Four Star Training Assessment

17-19 October 1997

This year's venue, as last year, was the Maypool Youth Hostel, Devonshire, with an excellent turnout of 23 paddlers including coaches.

Saturday was spent on the estuary where we left the quayside at Stoke Gabriel in thick mist, but compass work was not needed as the sun soon broke through. Two groups were formed and we set off upstream against an ebbing tide where best use had to be made of eddies and side currents to make progress. Trimming of the boats was essential and was a continuing theme throughout the weekend. Using transits we aimed for our first target and then commenced rescue work and demonstrations of various towing techniques.

Turning downstream, eddy turns and ferries were carried out and following lunch the whole gambit of open boat paddle skills were dealt with. The afternoon was rounded off with makeshift sailing rigs some which were a little more upmarket than others.

Sunday saw the groups further up the river Dart to learn and demonstrate moving water ability. The stretch used was from Buckfastleigh to Staverton. Ferries both backward and forward, eddy turns, setting and checking poling, snubbing, lining and tracking and throw bag techniques led to a full day.

### Introduction to White Water Weekend -

7-9 November 1997

Some three weeks after the four star, the first of two white water weekends took place again based on the Dart. However, the river levels were totally different which called for faster reactions and a few rescues, including a broached canoe. As before trimming the boat and reverse ferries were a necessity. Saturday was on the Buckfastleigh to Staverton stretch with some continuing to Totnes.

It had been hoped to run 'the loop', but weather and river conditions put paid to this. However, the leaders made an early visit to the river and concluded the run from Holne Bridge to Buckfastleigh was OK. This proved to be a sound decision as there were plenty of opportunities to run and play on a number of rapids and learn/improve technique.

The writer would like to thank the OCA for these weekends and if you wish to improve your open boat skills in good company and at a most reasonable price contact the association without delay.

**Bob Andrews Welsh Rep OCA**

### Richard Scullard, OCAGB Events Secretary writes:

Seventeen 4 star course members attended, who had been so daunted by the joining instructions that only five had opted for assessment! The coaching team were delighted with the standard of

paddling and twelve passed a rigorous 4 star assessment.

The last event of the year was the Introduction to White Water weekend on the River Dart 21-23 November. Once again, the sun shone and the river was in excellent heart! We split into two groups, a beginners' class which worked hard under Neil Fuller achieving an enormous improvement in confidence and skill by Sunday afternoon. We were also delighted to be able to welcome five visually impaired paddlers from Guide Dogs for the Blind Holidays who, accompanied by their own or OCAGB boat captain, showed their disability to be of no consequence in running to Totnes on Saturday and from Holne Bridge to Buckfastleigh the following day.



## Some Testimonials:

"My canoe which ended up pinned sideways on the pillar of the bridge was brilliantly retrieved."

"Instruction which compared favourably with tuition recently received at that Oxford of the canoeing world, the Nantahala Outdoor Centre in North Carolina".

My thanks again to the splendid team of coaches and experienced paddlers who enable the OCAGB to put on these challenging events with a high coach/paddler ratio at a reasonable cost. Also to Fiona Edmonds for access and the Maypool YHA Wardens and the William Pengelly Trust for their excellent accommodation.

Join this expanding and successful nation-wide canoeing club for £10 a year, by writing with a SAE to: **The Hon Membership Secretary, OCAGB, 30 Bishops Avenue, Worcester WR3 8XG**





# The World of Canoeing and Kayaking

(at the National Boat, Caravan and Leisure Show)

**NATIONAL  
BOAT CARAVAN  
& LEISURE SHOW**

Once again the British Canoe Union will be exhibiting at this show which takes place between Saturday, 14th February and Sunday 22nd February, and will be combining with Messrs Pyranha Mouldings Ltd, Mobile Adventure Ltd and the West Midlands Canoe Centre. The objective is to promote the activity and sport of canoeing and kayaking with a themed stand and co-ordinated displays.

Included within this area will be a mini-pool, which will not only be the location for a number of attractive water based activities, but a focal point for many other related canoe promotions. At the pool, the daily programme will be:

- 10.00 hrs Canoe Come and Try It
- 11.00 hrs Sailing Come and Try It
- 12.00 hrs Fashion Show
- 12.30 hrs Canoe Come and Try It
- 13.30 hrs Sailing Come and Try It
- 14.30 hrs Fashion Show
- 15.00 hrs Rolling Demonstration
- 15.30 hrs Canoe Come and Try It and Children's Competition

#### 21st only

- 18.00 hrs Adult Canoe Competition

Beyond the World of Canoeing and Kayaking will be a refreshment area, which on Saturday 21st, Sunday 22nd will lead into the:

### Canoeing '98

Whilst a number of old friends will be missing, visitors will be pleased to meet a number of new Exhibitors, some from abroad. For the first time we welcome representatives from Australia (Northam's Avon Descent); Italy (Rainbow Kayaks) as well as Gatz Canoes from Germany and Cobra Kayaks from the United States via Ireland.

The Exhibition will have it's own refreshment area within the main hall in addition to the already existing bar, buffet restaurant. Within this refreshment/rest area there will be opportunities for visitors to view some of the latest sporting and recreational videos. Likewise a number of half hourly presentations will be mounted from the stage area, which will interest visitors whilst 'munching their sandwiches'. A programme will be published and displayed around the Exhibition area.

#### Active Young Paddlers Look Out!

The BCU Youth programme is delighted to be involved in the exhibition for the first time.

The Union is always on the look out for young prospective paddlers - not only to try out paddling but to continue on a regular basis.

Come and visit STAND 02 'Active Young Paddlers' where there will be plenty to do:  
**Young Paddlers Quiz** - see page 33, complete it

if you can and come to Stand 02 to claim your prize!

**Young Paddlers Games** - why not try out the following:

**Paddle Hunt** - can you solve the clues hidden around the show and claim your prize?

**Challenge Slalom** - try your hand at completing this dry land slalom - No Paddling Experience Needed!

**Photojit** - get photos of our top paddlers, see if you can find them at the show and get their autographs!

**Lots of Info and Giveaways** - there are badges and stickers to be had along with cool information on what Paddlesport is all about and the BEST places to get started.

#### Don't Miss Us!

When you are tired of visiting the various displays, then take an opportunity of exploring the National Boat, Caravan and Leisure Show (in the adjacent Halls) - our tickets admit to both; stroll through the Centre's Piazza and then go to the lake outside to watch competitors or take part in:

### The Pendigo Mini - Marathon

Sponsored by the National Boat, Caravan and Leisure Show and the British Canoe Union.

As visitors to the International Canoe Exhibition will be able to 'pass out' and return to the Exhibition Halls, it has become possible to hold an event on the Pendigo Lake to promote canoeing to the general public. This is going to be a fun event, open to all comers. All you need is your own personal clothing and a towel. A changing area is provided close to the course. All craft and equipment are being provided on site, courtesy of: Aqualisure Ltd (drysuits); Crewsaver Ltd (buoyancy aids); Lendal Products Ltd (paddles); Mobile Adventure Ltd and Pyranha Mouldings Ltd (craft).

Entries are accepted on site, at the Mini-Marathon Control Point (adjacent to the start and finish). Standard equipment is being provided for everyone, so as to ensure equality and fairness to all. After allocation of craft, five minutes will be allowed for warm up and familiarisation of canoe and equipment.

The course will be one circuit anti-clockwise around the edge of the lake, going between marker buoys and the shore.

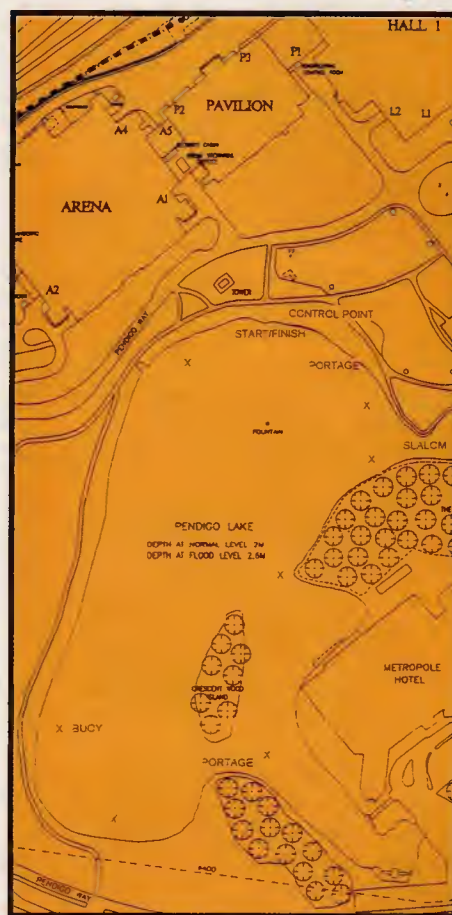
There are three hazards on the course, the first a portage over a wooded headland. The second a series of slalom gates strung over the backwater (no time penalties for touching gates, so long as the craft goes through the centre of the gate) and third a portage to the finishing line.

All competitors will be timed. Second attempts will be allowed only if space and time permits. The competition will run on Saturday between 11.00-16.00 hrs, and on Sunday between 11.00-14.00 hrs.

Prizes will be awarded to the fastest male/female (senior) competitors - £200 respectively and to the fastest male/female (junior-under 16 years of age) competitors - £100 respectively.

A progress board and results will be displayed inside the Exhibition. Prizes will be presented at 16.00hrs on the stage by the refreshment area on the Sunday (if the winners are present). The course may be subject to alteration prior to the Exhibition, dependant on water levels and weather conditions. The Race Organisers decision is final (as always!)

NOTE: For groups of paddlers (from a club or organisation) there will also be an opportunity to paddle on the lake. Individual touring canoes and a Cio are available for use. Please book at the Mini-Marathon Control Point.





INTERNATIONAL CANOE EXHIBITION

# CANOEING 1998



Official Guide to the International Canoe Exhibition, NEC Birmingham 21st - 22nd February 1998

**AC Canoe Products Ltd Stand No 47**

P0 Box 62  
CHESTER  
Cheshire CH1 3JX  
Tel: 01244 311711  
Fax: 01244 318890

**Active Young Paddlers Stand No 02**

BCU Youth Programme  
British Canoe Union  
Adbolton Lane  
West Bridgford  
NOTTINGHAM NG2 5AS  
Tel: 0115 9821100  
Fax: 0115 9821797  
E-Mail: info@bcu.org.uk

**Ainsworth Designs Ltd  
Stand No 65**

76 The Green  
TWICKENHAM  
Middlesex TW2 5AG  
Tel: 0181 898 4839  
Fax: 0181 755 0981

**Aqua-Tek Stand No 74**

(Aqua Leisure Watersports)  
Units G & H  
7 Colomendy Industrial Estate  
DENBIGH.  
Denbighshire LL16 5YA.  
Tel: 01745 815476  
Fax: 01745 813485

**Arctic Canoe Race Stand No 33**

PL83,  
99301 MUONIO, Finland  
Tel: 00 358 16 532838  
Fax: 00 358 16 532839

**Arctic Light Ltd Stand No 29**

8 The Spears  
SALTASH  
Cornwall PL12 4UG  
Tel: 01752 847762  
Fax: 01752 847762

**Avon Descent Stand No 35**

P0 Box 555  
NORTHAM 6401, Australia  
Tel: 00 618 9622 2555  
Fax: 00 618 9622 5555

**BCU Sea Touring Committee  
Stand No 19**

103 Millfield Road  
West Kingsdown  
SEVENOAKS  
Kent TN15 6BX  
Tel: 01474 853002

**Bicton College of Agriculture  
Stand No 67**

East Budleigh  
BUDLEIGH SALTERTON  
Devon EX9 7BY  
Tel: 01395 562370  
Fax: 01395 567502

**Boys Brigade Canoe Club  
Stand No 17**

59 Rensbury Street  
Newbridge Road  
HULL  
East Yorkshire HU9 2NL  
Tel: 01482 705323

**British Dragon Boat Racing  
Association Stand No 53**

13 The Prebend  
Northend  
LEAMINGTON SPA  
Warwickshire CV33 OTR  
Tel/Fax: 01295 770629

**British Wave Ski Association  
Stand No 68**

34 Greenham Wood  
BRACKNELL  
Berkshire RG12 7WJ  
Tel: 0181 848 6570 (work)  
01344 486836 (evenings)

**Bush Sport Designs Ltd  
Stand No 04**

Bakehouse Cottage  
28 High Street  
Gretton  
CORBY  
Northants NN17 3DE  
Tel: 01536 770967  
Fax: 01536 373038





**Canadian Recreational Canoeing Association Stand No 54**  
Bank House  
Sheep Lane  
MIDHURST  
West Sussex GU29 9NT  
Tel: 01730 812181  
Fax: 01730 815686

**Can carve Designs Stand No 55**  
5 Shanklin Place1  
Beacon Hill  
CRAMLINGTON  
Northumberland NE23 8HA  
Te/Fax: 01670 713640

**Canoe Camping Club Stand No 21**  
25 Waverley Road  
South Norwood  
LONDON SE25 4HT  
Tel: 0181 654 1835

**Canoeist Magazine Stand No 27**  
4 Sinodun Row  
APPLEFORD  
Oxfordshire OX14 4PE

**Canolfan Tryweryn Stand No 31**  
National Whitewater Centre  
Frongoch  
BALA  
Gwynedd LL23 7NG.  
Tel: 01678 521083  
Fax: 01678 521158

**Carlisle Canoes Stand No 37**  
Old Raffles Parade  
Wigton Road  
CARLISLE  
Cumbria CA2 7EX  
Tel/Fax: 01228 31703

**Cobra Kayaks Stand No 60**  
(EMDEC Industries)  
Woodstock  
Badger Hill  
KILTEEL  
Co. Kildare, Ireland  
Tel/Fax: 00 353 1 458 7017

**Delapre Blades Stand No 50**  
Unit 6  
Strathclyde Business Centre  
Pottery Street  
GREENOCK PA15 2UH  
Tel: 01475 743433  
Fax: 01475 745945

**Desperate Measures/Phoenix of Nottingham Stand No 40**  
39-41 Trent Boulevard  
West Bridgford  
NOTTINGHAM NG2 5BB  
Te/Fax: 0115 981 6815

**Devizes-Westminster Canoe Race Stand No 34**  
21 Worsley Road  
Freshbrook  
SWINDON  
Wiltshire SNS 8NU  
Tel: 01793 534017

**Diamond Wildwater Stand No 64**  
(CCA Ltd)  
Northolt Drive  
BOLTON  
Lancashire BL3 6RE  
Tel: 01204 528225  
Fax: 01204 361549

**Endless River Canoe Adventures Stand No 52**  
PO Box 69  
KIDDERMINSTER  
Worcestershire DY10 4YG  
Tel: 01562 827065  
Fax: 01562 827065

**Environment Agency Stand No 23**  
Rio House  
Waterside Drive  
Aztec West, Almondsbury  
BRISTOL B512 4UD  
Tel: 01454 624400  
Fax: 01454 624409

**Eurocraft (GB) Ltd Stand No 41**  
112 Clydesdale Place  
Moss Side  
LEYLAND  
Lancashire PR5 3Q5  
Tel: 01772 622856  
Fax: 01772 622857  
E-Mail: eurocraft@airtime.co.uk

**Gatz - Kanus Stand No OS**  
Berg.  
Gladbacher Strasse 787  
51069 KOLN, Germany  
Tel: 0049 221 682300  
Fax: 0049 221 6805231

**Hampshire Outdoor Centres Stand No 10**  
Sport and Community Service  
Mottisfont Court  
High Street  
WINCHESTER  
Hampshire SO23 8ZF  
Tel: 01962 846032  
Fax: 01962 841565

**Historic Canoe & Kayak Assn Stand No 56**  
Mr A. Ford  
Am Kurpark 4  
37444 ST. ANDREASBERG, Germany.  
Tel/Fax: 0049 5582 619

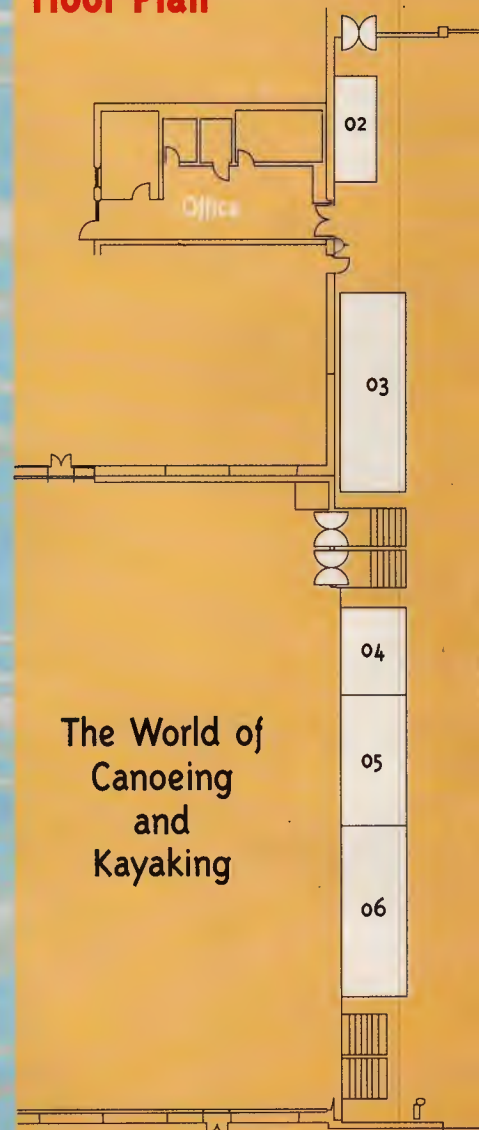
**Holme Pierrepont National Watersports Centre Stand No 24**  
Adbolton Lane  
West Bridgford  
NOTTINGHAM NG12 2LU  
Tel: 0115 982 1212  
Fax: 0115 982 5213

**International Sea Kayaking Association Stand No 20**  
S Osprey Avenue  
Westhoughton  
BOLTON  
Lancashire BL5 2SL  
Te/Fax: 01942 842204

**Jameson Liffey Descent Stand No 36**  
(Irish Canoe Union)  
House of Sport  
Long Mile Road  
DUBLIN 12, Ireland  
Tel: 00 353 1 450 9838  
Fax: 00 353 1 450 2805

**Kirton Kayaks Ltd Stand No 28**  
Marsh Lane  
CREDITON  
Devon EX17 1ES  
Tel: 01363 773295  
Fax: 01363 775908

## Floor Plan







**Lendal Products Ltd  
Stand No 09**

30 Hunter Street  
PRESTWICK  
Ayrshire KA9 1LG  
Tel: 01292 478558  
Fax: 01292 471298

**Longridge Scout Boating Centre  
Stand No 22**

Quarry Wood Road  
MARLOW  
Buckinghamshire SL7 1RE  
Tel: 01628 483252  
Fax: 01628 483252

**Marsport and Arrowcraft  
Stand No 39**

(Arrowcraft Marine Ltd)  
401 Sneyd Lane  
Bloxwich, WALSALL  
West Midlands W53 2LT  
Tel: 01922 479335  
Fax: 01922 479096

**Mega Performance Kayaks Ltd  
Stand No 48**

Unit C4  
Ford Airfield Industrial Estate  
Ford, ARUNDEL  
West Sussex BN18 OBE  
Tel/Fax: 01903 717150  
E-Mail: kayaking@pavilion.co.uk  
WWW: mega-kayak.co.uk

**Nigel Dennis Kayaks Ltd Stand No 18**

(Anglesey School of Sea Canoeing)  
Porthdafarch  
HOLYHEAD  
Gwynedd LL65 2LP  
Tel: 01407 762525

**Norfolk Marine Stand No 70**

Church Road  
Wroxham  
NORWICH  
Norfolk NR12 8UG  
Tel: 01603 783150  
Fax: 01603 782471

**Nucleus Watersports Stand No 49**

204 Frinton Road  
Holland on Sea  
CLACTON  
Essex CO15 5SP  
Tel: 01255 812146  
Fax: 01255 813178

**Old Town Canoes Stand No 46**

(Plastimo Manufacturing (UK) Ltd)  
School Lane  
Chandlers Ford Industrial Estate  
EASTLEIGH  
Hampshire SO5 3DG  
Tel: 01703 262211  
Fax: 01703 266328

**Open Canoe Association of Great  
Britain Stand No 66**

23 Cabot Drive  
Grange Park  
SWINDON  
Wiltshire SN5 6HG  
Tel: 01793 875595







## **Open Canoe Sailing Group Stand No 15**

S Heyfields Cottages  
TITTENSOR  
Staffordshire ST12 9HG  
Tel: 01782 373903

## **Outdoor Leisure Supplies Ltd Stand No 12**

Unit 5  
Lower Parcwr Industrial Estate  
RUTHIN  
Denbighshire LL15 1NJ  
Tel: 01824 707177  
Fax: 01824 707387

## **The P&H Company Stand No 43**

Station Road  
WEST HALLAM  
Derbyshire DE7 6HB  
Tel: 0115 932 0155  
Fax: 0115 932 7177

## **Paddles Magazine Stand No 73 (Freestyle Publications Ltd)**

Alexander House  
Ling Road, Tower Park  
POOLE  
Dorset BH12 4NZ  
Tel: 01202 735090  
Fax: 01202 733969  
E-Mail: paddles@freepub.co.uk  
WWW: freepub.co.uk

## **Peak Performance Stand No 07**

Unit 23  
Cromford Mill, Mill Lane  
CROMFORD  
Derbyshire DE4 3RQ  
Tel: 01629 825133  
Fax: 01629 825833  
E-Mail: peakperformance@easynet.co.uk

## **Plas Menai National Watersports Centre Stand No 26**

Llanfairisgaer  
CAERNARFON  
Gwynedd LL55 1UE  
Tel/Fax: 01248 670964

## **Plas y Brenin National Mountaineering Centre Stand No 25**

CAPEL CURIG  
Conwy, LL24 0ET  
Tel: 01492 720214  
Fax: 01492 720394

## **Playboater Stand No 51**

PO Box 1904  
MAIDENHEAD SL6 8BL  
Tel: 01189 321449  
Fax: 01189 321449

## **Rainbow Kayaks Stand No 63**

(IBR srl)  
Via Pederzola 1/3  
Scenzorosciate  
BERGAMO  
Italy 24020  
Tel: 0039 35 599190  
Fax: 0039 35 599289

## **Ras Dex Stand No 44**

100 Trent Boulevard,  
West Bridgford  
NOTTINGHAM NG2 5BL  
Tel: 0115 904 0505  
Fax: 0115 904 0430  
E-Mail: info@rasdex.co.uk

## **River Equipment Service (SARL) Stand No 62**

16 Avenue de la Dranse  
F74200 THONON LES BAINS  
France  
Tel: 0033 4 507 12697  
Fax: 0033 4 507 12731

## **Rotomod Stand No 03**

Zone Industrielle Jean Maleze  
47240 BON ENCONTRE  
FRANCE  
Tel: 0033 5 53 954050  
Fax: 0033 5 53 966134

## **Rough Stuff Paddles Stand No 30**

Mill Lane  
Palmerstown  
DUBLIN 20 Ireland  
Tel: 00 3531 626 4363  
Fax: 00 3531 626 4876  
E-Mail: rufstuff@indigo.ic  
WWW: http://indigo.ic/n.rufstuff

## **Screen Graphics Stand No 45**

PO Box 41  
Marple  
STOCKPORT  
Cheshire SK6 7ED  
Tel/Fax: 0161 427 8884

## **SDS Watersports Stand No 14**

66-70 Station Road  
Halfway  
SHEFFIELD  
South Yorkshire S19SGW  
Tel: 0114 248 8688

## **Sola Wetsuits and Leisurewear Ltd Stand No 42**

Ocean Quay  
Richmond Walk  
Stonehouse  
PLYMOUTH  
Devon PL1 4QA  
Tel: 01752 551510  
Fax: 01752 606890

## **Symonds Yat Rapids Preservation Group Stand No 57**

33 Golden Vale  
CHURCHDOWN  
Gloucester GL32LU  
Tel: 01452 531218  
Fax: 01452 531218

## **Teva Sport Sandals Stand No 06**

(Deckers Europe BV.)  
Zekkenstraat, 23 - 25,  
HOEK VAN HOLLAND  
Netherlands, 3151 XP  
Te: 0031 174 388500  
Fax: 0031 174 383448  
E-Mail: 101460.550@compuser.com

## **Valley Canoe Products Ltd Stand No 11**

Private Road No 4  
Colwick Industrial Estate  
NOTTINGHAM NG4 2JT  
Tel: 0115 961 4995  
Fax: 0115 961 4970

## **The Watermark Company Stand No 71**

Kuipersweg  
4338 PH  
Middelburg  
The Netherlands  
Tel: 0031 118 63 8941  
Fax: 0031 118 63 9152  
E-Mail: waterfun@worldonline.nl

## **Welsh Canoeing Association, Stand No 32**

Frongoch,  
BALA.  
Gwynedd, LL23 7NG.  
Tel: 01678 521083  
Fax: 01678 521158

## **Wetsuits Unlimited Stand No 61**

(JAG International Ltd)  
Unit 25  
Pensilva Industrial Est  
PENSILVA  
Cornwall PL14 SRE  
Tel: 01579 363444  
Fax: 01579 363168

## **White Water Consultancy International Ltd/Mad River Stand No 13**

Bronwydd  
CARMARTHEN  
Carmarthenshire SA33 6BE  
Tel: 01267 223555  
Fax: 01267 223666  
E-Mail: sales@wwc.co.uk  
WWW: wwc.co.uk

## **Whitewater, The Canoe Centre Stand No 38**

Felix Lane  
Shepperton Marina  
SHEPPERTON  
Middlesex TW17 8NJ  
Tel: 01932 247978  
Fax: 01932 241368

## **Yak Stand No 08**

(Crewsaver Ltd)  
Mumby Road  
GOSPORT  
Hampshire PO12 1AQ  
Tel: 01705 528621  
Fax: 01705 510905





# Paddlepower

Have a go at the activities below and bring whatever you do to the Paddlepower team on stand 02 at the International Canoe Exhibition.

**T**here is a goody bag for everybody and a special prize for the best entry picked out of the hat.

## Picture

Draw a picture of you or your friends paddling a canoe or kayak. It can be as big or as small as you want, but make it as fun and colourful as possible and you may win the big prize.

## Colour

Make our little paddler as colourful as possible.



## Spot the difference

Circle as many differences as possible between these two pictures.



## Word Search

From the list below, find as many different paddlesport words as you can. They are hidden in straight lines, up or down diagonally.

- CANOE
- KAYAK
- FUN
- PADDLE
- COCKPIT
- HELMET
- SEAT
- BLADE
- BOW
- STERN
- LAKE



## Jumbled rivers

See if you can unjumble the names of these rivers.

1. SSMISSIIPPI
2. ZONAAM
3. FEFILY
4. NIHRE
5. SENIE
6. EVENRS
7. NRETT
8. NADUBE
9. EDE
10. MAHETS

## Your details

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

.....

## Quiz

Answer as many questions as you can about water.

1. What is the name of the longest river in the world?
2. Which Loch has a famous monster?
3. Which river flows through London?
4. What is the name of the longest rivers in Europe?
5. On which river is Victoria Falls?
6. Which is larger - the Pacific Ocean or Atlantic Ocean?
7. What is the name of the biggest waterfall in the world?
8. Which bridge has the biggest span in the world?
9. What is the name of the sea you cross when travelling to Ireland?
10. Where is Lake Superior?





Copyright -  
Derek Hairon,  
Gary Kemp and  
John Richardson.

# Roches Douvres Reef



Right:  
Gary Kemp. At  
times it seemed  
we were paddling  
in the sky.

Below:  
Roche Douvres  
Light-house. The  
jetty is constantly  
being rebuilt

The British Channel Islands lie 14 Nautical miles off the French coast. Most of the islands and reefs have been paddled to from Jersey at some stage. However, the Roches Douvres reef with its magnificent lighthouse 24 miles west of Jersey and exposed to the Atlantic swells had long been an illusive goal for paddlers intent upon stretching themselves to the limits.

Right:  
Lighthouse keepers with Gary  
and John to right of ladder

Far right:  
Minquiers reef. The most  
southerly toilet in the British  
Isles



**F**or Gary Kemp of the Jersey Canoe Club the wish to paddle to the reef had been a dream for over ten years. But it was not to be until the summer of 1997 that a combination of settled weather, time off work and the availability of another experienced paddler John Richardson made it possible for the dream to become a reality. Derek Hairon spoke to them about their remarkable journey.

Like the seamen of old who lacked the aid of modern technology in the form of engines, the sea canoeist must utilise the currents to the maximum. Around the treacherous waters of the channel isles with tides of up to 40 feet careful planning is vital to avoid being swept past the destination, or be pushed backwards. "We soon realised" commented Gary "that going directly from Jersey wasn't the best route. Instead, we chose to paddle down to the Minquiers and then get a more direct current to the Roche Douvres. "Lying 12 miles south of Jersey

the Minquiers reef at low tide is a mass of rocks of up to 30 square miles. At high tide

this is reduced to just a few rocks and the small islet of Maitresse isle with a few ancient huts once occupied by quarrymen and fishermen. It also boasts the most southerly toilet in the British isles. It is a regular destination for local canoeists." The visiting yachtsmen seemed stunned when we appeared and totally disbelieving that we could have got there in just 3 hours when it had taken them 2 hours by boat." remarked Gary. "When we told them where we were heading they thought it was a wind up."

"What they didn't realise," added John "was that though we were in small craft we had had over the summer built up a level of fitness. Being just two kayakers we knew we could travel fast. Moreover, we knew we could do the distance and do it safely."

Fortunately the two paddlers were able to obtain use of the customs hut on the reef and avoided the constant shrieking of the thousands of sea gulls. Though remote the reef had until the early 1950's been the cause of many territorial disputes between Jersey and France, which were only resolved in Jersey's favour following a ruling that the reef





handful of Jersey names and even the French seem to give the light a wide berth." Gary also noted the remoteness, "its very quiet, almost eerie in fact. Shipping rarely gets closer than two miles to the light, but there's is always a swell running." The keepers always seemed busy. "The lighthouse was immaculate," said John. "so much so that upon entering we were told to put on a pair of slippers and not to touch any of the polished brass work with our hands so as to save the keepers extra work."

In indoor pursuits the dangerous time is often the return journey when bodies are tired and elated with success. Mistakes are easily made. In spite of the favourable tide the paddlers choose to sleep on the reef rather than risk a night-time departure which would risk injury as they scrambled over wet and slippery rocks to reach the sea. However a day time departure would mean landing back on the Minquiers in the dark. Choosing to leave late the next afternoon the pair were faced with fog and less than one mile visibility. Hourly they checked their position with the GPS. "Reassuringly we were bang on course," said John "however with a Spring tide and no moon, approaching the Minquiers was difficult. We just could not see a thing.

It was all done on trusting one's feelings as you couldn't see the horizon."

With a swell running landing on Minquiers was traumatic. Gary remarked "This was the hardest part of the trip. In the pitch dark John decided to jump out of his kayak near the slip. In the process he nearly got washed onto a rock, but he managed to scramble safely ashore." After 6 hours of paddling the pair were finally back on familiar soil on a now deserted islet with just the shrieks of sea birds for company. The security of the Spartan customs hut offered a well earned rest away from the elements until the final paddle next morning back to Jersey - a routine three and a half hours back to Jersey. On landing at Ouaisne Bay John remarked "Maybe we should buy a double kayak and paddle around all the Channel Island! "Gary remained silent and headed for the pub.

deserted islet with just the shrieks of sea birds for company. The security of the Spartan customs hut offered a well earned rest away from the elements until the final paddle next morning back to Jersey - a routine three and a half hours back to Jersey. On landing at Ouaisne Bay John remarked "Maybe we should buy a double kayak and paddle around all the Channel Island! "Gary remained silent and headed for the pub.

was part of Jersey by the International Court of the Hague that the reefs were a part of Jersey.

"Waking next morning we were faced with a calm sea, but visibility of less than 5 miles," commented Gary. "Soon after departure we had less than two miles of visibility but with the spring tide behind us we were committed. You just felt complete isolation with no land in any direction." said John. "At one stage," said Gary "sea and sky seemed to merge. It was as if we were paddling in the sky. Only the drip of water from the paddles gave away that we were still on the sea".

At times like this it would be easy for paddlers to become disorientated, however not only had they plotted the course. but they had also taken a small Global positioning system satellite receiver. "This gave us our position to within 100 metres and was a big confidence booster" Said John. "It did however," added Gary "mean we also knew how many miles it was to our target. So we spent the time trying to work out just how many paddle strokes we would have to put in."

After 6 hours paddling the pair finally

approached the lighthouse. Landing proved tricky, even on a calm day there was a swell. Slipping and sliding over the rocks the pair were met by one of the three French lighthouse keepers who man the 28 metre tall light. "Not only did he speak English," said John "but he was also a sea kayaker." A tour of the light soon emphasised the remoteness of the reef. The light was destroyed by the Nazis in 1945 and it was not until 1954 that the rebuilding was completed. The walls are 8 ft thick at sea level with basement, while some distance from the light are sited two wind generators. One winter they produced enough electricity that the diesel generators were not needed. The light is a very windy place. The keepers explained how, though in theory they work a 3 week shift, in the winter storms have left them stuck for a further 3 weeks. "Viewing the visitors book," said John "it struck us just how rarely people land here. The book goes back to 1954, but there is little more than a

Left: Interior view of light

Below: Gary Kemp beside the light







Adrienne Garner previously paddled seriously in Sprint and Marathon from 1964-1970, her friend Margaret only took up paddling in her forties and in 1997 won the ladies vet trophy in the Devizes to Westminster.



# Adventures Happen Close to Home

Ever get that feeling that you want to "go somewhere" & "do something" but that you haven't quite got the time nor the money? One weekend in July a friend and I proved that adventures can be had close to home and that they don't necessarily need to be meticulously planned.

**W**e decided we would paddle the Grand Union Canal and as I live in Berkhamsted this involved a 2 minute drive down the hill to drop off the boats, 2 minutes back to leave cars at home and a short walk down to the launch site. First great feeling : no cars for 3 days !

Now you may think that a Cougar K1 can't function as a touring boat - well it does very well on flat water provided it's summer, you're

not fussy what you wear and you carry a credit card. We managed to put all we needed in small stuff bags that just fitted behind the seats without interfering with the rudder wires. I must admit I also carried a mobile phone ... just in case.

It was still raining as we set off - taking a moment or two to adjust to the unfamiliar weight at the back of the boats. 100 metres on and we had our first adventure : an encounter with a particularly viscious male swan - we weren't in any hurry so took the safe option and got out to portage.

## Chill out on the bank

The great thing about this trip was that after years of paddling as fast as we could in a straight line we could now potter along, talk to people, rescue floats for fishermen, chill out on the bank and generally "have a good time" When you have time it is amazing how much wild-life there is to see along the canal and how many inter-reactions you can have with other people.

All of our encounters were friendly, rewarding and interesting - except for one obnoxious man on a narrow boat who refused to give us any room and added insult to injury by informing us : "I'm a BCU senior instructor - you should stop!" In fact there is plenty of room for two boats to pass all along the canal and certainly room for a boat and a kayak.

When asked "where are you going" the reply was "as far as we get!". After gently paddling the Tring summit and portaging the 6 locks at Marsworth (feeling the extra weight in the boats) we decided it was time to stop at a Pub. Just after bridge 132 is the White Lion - on the Friday it was pleasantly quiet and we indulged in an excellent lunch. We spent a good 15 minutes talking to Derek Pearson who lives on his barge alongside the pub gardens - he was made redundant 10 years ago and now earns a living making sisal fenders. A mine of information he warned us that we were not going to find any B&B places along the banks - we'd have to go into Leighton Buzzard.

## 5 hours paddling, 2 hours R&R

Lunch and half a pint of cider do wonders for one's sense of wellbeing - and stability! After Marsworth the canal becomes more like a river with long pretty windy stretches going through the country side. We got to Leighton Lock at about 5.00pm - 5 hours paddling, 2 hours R&R. Asking around it seemed the best thing to do was leave the boats and walk into town. We always found that people wanted to help us and owe a big thank you to James at the Wyvern Shipping Company for letting us leave the boats on his premises. For future reference - he rents out beautiful long boats that come equipped with all-terrain bikes neatly stowed in the stern.

The walk from Wyvern to town seemed very long - but I think that was because we were tired, it certainly seemed shorter next day. We found the Swan hotel right on the



# SDS

## WATERSPORTS

**MASSIVE STOCKS & BEST PRICES**

Telephone **0114 248 8688**  
 Fax **0114 248 8689**

e-mail: info@sdswatersports.co.uk  
 http://www.sdswatersports.co.uk

**FOR OFFERS AND DETAILS FREEPHONE 0800 600 900 AND ASK FOR SDS WATERSPORTS 24HRS A DAY.**

111 Woodhouse, 55-57 STATION ROAD,  
 WETHERBY, WEST YORKSHIRE LS23 7GW, ENGLAND.

**0% FINANCE AVAILABLE**  
\* SUBJECT TO STATUS ON R.R.P.

## pyranha

### Master 2 & Master Lite

#### INSPIRED BY YOU - GREAT ALL-ROUND PERFORMANCE FEATURES

**A new breed of multi-activity kayaks for a new breed of Paddler.**  
*Innovative design suggestions from YOU, and an ever-growing demand, gave us the drive for these 2 exciting and versatile kayaks.*  
**Highly manoeuvrable yet highly directional and stable offering you a number of options for sport and fun...**

- ▲ **Skeg Up - Highly Manoeuvrable**
- ▼ **Skeg Down - Highly Directional**

- ✓ **Modern Hull Shape Technology**
- ✓ **Low Line Deck**
- ✓ **Sharpened Gunwhales**
- ✓ **Safe**
- ✓ **Comfortable**
- ✓ **Durable**

*The Master 2 - second generation design featuring many new exciting improvements and developments*

*The Master Lite - also features many of the same great ideas but its lighter and smaller - ideal for the smaller or younger paddler.*

**NEW CONCEPTS, NEW DESIGNS AT ICE '98, NEC 14TH - 22ND FEB**

*Master 2 at County Y.S.C. Upton Warren*

*Master Lite at Long Ridge Scouting Centre*

**MASTER - the art of paddling pleasure**

**GREAT IDEAS DRIVEN BY YOU**

**PYRANHA MOULDINGS LIMITED,**  
 Marina Village, Preston Brook, Runcorn, Cheshire WA7 3DW,  
 ■ Telephone: +44 (0)1928 716666  
 ■ Facsimile: +44 (0)1928 714399

## MOUNTAIN FIRST AID

BROUGHT TO YOU FROM THOSE WHO DO

**Euan Murray**  
 Ambulance Service Technician  
 Canoeist - Mountaineer  
 Ski Patroller

**INVESTOR IN PEOPLE**

**Sam Brooke**  
 Diver Alert Network  
 Canoeist - Mountaineer  
 Skier

**Jim Prince**  
 Emergency Medical Technician  
 Canoeist - Mountaineer  
 Ski Patroller

**LAKE DISTRICT, Patterdale**  
**20-22nd Feb 017684 82233**

GOVERNING BODY APPROVED COURSES  
 HEALTH AND SAFETY REGISTERED COMPANY

COURSES ORGANISED NATIONWIDE - DISTANCE NO OBJECT

Call Mahri Now On 019756 51312 Phone/Fax





market square and were impressed that the manager wasn't put off by the sight of two ladies in wet paddling gear with only a couple of stuff bags. We did have a credit card and soon had secured rooms with baths - OK we're no longer spring chickens and when it's available why not enjoy a little luxury?

Clean and reasonably dressed we discovered the local Italian Restaurant - Martini's - and had some fantastic food with lots of red wine. I was to regret' the wine next day but such is life....

#### **Market deliveries and church bells**

Saturday morning started out nice and sunny - Margaret was woken early by the noise of the market deliveries and church bells. We ate a good breakfast then walked

---

**We stopped at Fenny Lock to talk to a man and his son who were out on their BMX bikes - the son had quite a repertoire of skills that included biking across the lock gates and doing wheelies at the end.**

---

back to our boats and launched at 10.00am. This was to be the big day we'd go as far as we could get by lunch time and then turn round. Just after the 3 locks at Soulbury we came across an impressive converted Dutch barge and had a long conversation with the owner. We got to Great Linford outside Milton Keynes by 2.00pm. Another girlfriend on a bike was able to find us and we all had lunch in yet another good pub.

I'm always struck by how pretty it can be down on the canal even as one goes through quite industrialised areas.

We set off after lunch at about 3.30pm and it was interesting how the view looked different in reverse and fun to have people ask "how did you get on, where did you get to". Distances that seemed enormous before lunch (the last mile into Great Linford took forever) were now covered rapidly. We stopped at Fenny Lock to talk to a man and his son who were out on their BMX bikes - the son had quite a repertoire of skills that included biking across the lock gates and doing wheelies at the end. It was sad to hear from Dad that Tesco's had got planning permission to build the "biggest warehouse in Europe" just alongside the canal, destroying fields of poppies and ruining the views.

Many thanks to the bar lady at the 3 Locks pub who refilled our water bottles and to the staff at The Globe just outside of Leighton Buzzard who provided for my injured thigh. We also bought coffee there which, together with a few biscuits, gave us the extra lift for the last few miles. We left the boats at Wyvern again - so many people had warned us about not leaving them nearer town - it seems Leighton Buzzard can get pretty wild on a Saturday night.

We didn't get back to the hotel till 8.00pm. We'd paddled for 8 hours and taken 2 hours R&R - I'm not sure what the total distance covered was : not too far but then a major goal of the trip was to "take it easy". We ate in the hotel that night - the chef producing two amazing salads - and went to bed early.

#### **luxury of the papers in bed with a cup of coffee**

Sunday morning - the luxury of the papers in bed with a cup of coffee and no danger of being disturbed. A relaxed breakfast and we are ready to leave. Absolutely no rush now - we launch at 10.50am and paddle through the town stopping to talk to three members of Leighton Buzzard Canoe Club who are just starting a training run (they were the only other paddlers we saw all weekend.) Apparently we had been noticed and they'd wondered who we were and what we were doing !

We'd decided to lunch at The White Lion again - apart from anything else it was good to see Derek once more it felt like we were greeting an old friend. The pub was packed but we managed to get a table and some excellent food. This time we were portaging the 6 locks at Marsworth uphill but fortified by a pint of cider it didn't seem that hard : the joys of not racing!

I felt really sad paddling the cut into Dudswell - we were nearly home. In fact it started to rain - for the first time since the brief shower at the beginning of the trip - so we were quite pleased when we got to Berkhamsted (no sign of the viscious swan). We pulled the boats onto the bank and set off up the hike to fetch the cars.

So there we are: we'd said we'd do it and we did. It was fun, a great learning experience, good for the soul - in fact an adventure. Next year: Lechlade to Reading !





# UK COVERS

## A Universal Car Seat Cover

- Water Repellent
- Stain Resistant
- Easily Fitted and Removed
- 2 Year Guarantee
- Washable
- Compact
- Protects Seats for Years
- Choice of Colours



## NOW AVAILABLE

Load liners to protect your boot interiors

Ideal for Watersport Enthusiasts, Canoeists.

Rear seat cover available to fit all vehicles

Glebe Farm House, Fringford, Bicester OX6 9RJ



**TELEPHONE 01869 242224**

(SAME DAY DESPATCH)



## BURTECH

Trailers for outdoor pursuits

**C6 Expedition Heavy duty Canoe/kayak trailer**  
 Designed specifically to stand up to the rigours of Centre use. £1700 + vat fully equipped  
**- NO HIDDEN EXTRAS**

Includes: full width accessory cage with lids, integral lights on telescopic mounting, jockey wheel, spare wheel, high-security coupling lock etc. Hot-dip galvanised for full protection.

Tel/Fax 01492 641905 for brochure/further details

## BURTECH,

Llanddoged, N.Wales, LL26 0DZ

Burtech also make the best bike trailer around! - ask us for details!

Don't Miss out in

# 1998!

New brochure available now.

Collect your copy at stand 31 of ICE '98

For more details call

Canolfan Tryweryn

National Whitewater Centre

Frongoch, Bala, Gwynedd LL23 7NU

## 01678 521 083

Water Information Line

## 01678 520 826

Also available of WhitSmith from Match



OUTDOOR CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT

## New Year, New Gear,



Field & Trek are delighted to announce the arrival of their 1998 Mail Order Catalogue.

For your copy, priced just £1.95, please telephone our World-Wide Mail Order Hotline on **01277 233122 (24Hrs)**, quoting dept. CF03.

Stores at:

Baker Street, London Tel: 0171 224 0049

Brentwood Tel: 01277 222230 Chelmsford Tel: 01245 283999

Croydon Tel: 0181 680 8798 Slough Tel: 01753 554 252

Canterbury Tel: 01227 470023 Gloucester Tel: 01452 416549

Please rush me my copy of the 1998 Mail Order Catalogue.

- I enclose a cheque, made payable to Field & Trek plc, for £1.95.  
 Please debit my VISA/MASTERCARD/AMEX/DELTA/CONNECT/SWITCH card

Card Number

Valid From /  Expiry Date /  Switch Issue No.

Title  Name

Address

Postcode  Tel: (Day)

Please send to: Field & Trek plc, 3 Wates Way, Brentwood, Essex CM15 9TB.

CF03

From time to time we select customers to receive carefully chosen mailings which we feel may be of interest. If you do not wish to receive such mailings, please tick here.

© Field & Trek plc 1998





Continued  
from page 12

Cooperation would be appreciated. The 'farm' is currently being redeveloped for housing, so call Jim Gibson, Adviser, for advice Tel: 01340 831455.

**River Spean** - At Mucomir power station, the takeout for the gorge, there is a private house and paddlers are requested not to change in view of the house. Best of all, change down the steps at the river bank which is both sheltered and private. Thanks and Good Paddling.

**Chris Dickinson, National Access Officer for Scotland.**

## Danger on the Enns - Austria

Probably the most famous wild water canoeing experience in Austria, the river Enns, looks like it is about to be drained out of the canoeist's guides and at the same time become an exceptionally dangerous stretch of riverbed to attempt to paddle.

The lower section of the Enns (check your river guides for 'Kummerbrücke and Gstatterboden') is now being restricted to a water level of 6-11 cumecs which effectively stops any paddling on this section of river. For those who do attempt to paddle at this low level a very high risk of injury arises due to the revealing of numerous undercut rock shelves, syphons and wedges - so please don't! Only in Spring, when flood water levels put the dam under pressure, will more water be released enabling the tourist paddler to experience the grade 3-4 rapids and drops of this 7km stretch of popular canoeing paradise.

The story behind the new regulation is an old one - but it is worth repeating. In 1994, the fishermen of the Enns area started a government funded study into the best possible water level for fish and flora on the lower Enns. In the autumn of 1996 the report was issued with a recommended level of 6-11 cumecs which is ideal for fish to prosper, rather than the 16 cumecs which was previously considered to be the minimum level. It may be no coincidence that the newly recommended levels are below that at which a paddler can safely attempt the negotiate the river, and effectively strikes the Enns from the list of 'exciting water to canoe' in Austria.

What can we paddler's do to help? This season, permission has been granted for water reduction trials (only on the Enns) with a review to take place next year. If paddler's don't respond now then these trials will become the new rules - which means that every paddler in Europe will have to rip out the river Enns pages from the Austrian river guide and stay dry!

Fax or email us your supporting comments, to **Chris Buckland AV Graz, Austria. Fax: 43 316 820819 Email: C-Buckland@vertical-global.com.** and copy to the local tourist office attention Hrn. Martin Wohlitz tel: 43 3612 24525 fax: 43 3612 25826. Help us to help you and save once of the best white water experiences in Austria.

**Chris Buckland**

## Halton Rapids - River Lune

Within half a mile of the M6, just north of Lancaster, Halton Rapids on the River Lune offers a fabulous stretch of Grade 1 - 4 water ideally suited to experienced and relatively novice paddlers alike.

Since 1989, when fishing rights to the Halton bank were sold, access to canoeists has been denied except from the beginning of November to the end of January when there is unrestricted access from the south bank above the bottom weir. In a unique initiative led by Ribble Canoe Club, over a dozen North West Canoe Clubs have recently agreed to provide first year funding to purchase an Access Licence for twelve consecutive Sundays commencing in February 1998. This initiative has the full backing of the BCU North West Region, and much appreciated support from the Environmental Agency for Fisheries and Recreation.

A small Management Committee has been formed to finalise the Access Agreement, provide publicity for the Rapids, and ensure the access arrangements become self financing for subsequent years. The Committee is made up as follows:

<b>Chairperson</b>	Mick Huddleston Ribble Canoe Club
<b>Treasurer</b>	Steve Maher Lancaster Canoe Club
<b>Secretary</b>	Derek Tetlow Warrington Canoe Club
<b>Publicity</b>	Gerry McCusker Friends of Allonby Canoe Club Jem Lees Clitheroe Canoe Club Ronnie Gardner Garstang Canoe Club

Each of the contributing Canoe Clubs will be allocated a specific Sunday during the access period and will be responsible for issuing bibs, and collecting paddling fees which will be used for purchasing the following year's Access Licence. Access to the Rapids will be available between 9.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on twelve

consecutive Sundays commencing 1st February 1998, and paddling fees will be £3 for Adults, and £2 for Children and Students.

There is strictly no access to the bottom and top weirs, and no paddling allowed within 50 metres of Forge Weir (the top weir) and the Fish Pass. However, between these weirs there are no restrictions on the river which provides flat water at the access point near the car park, and a series of rapids of increasing size the further up the river you go. In addition, there are a number of weirs, shoots, standing waves and holes to play on, or avoid, depending upon your skill level - something in fact for every level of paddler to enjoy.

Halton Rapids is well worth a visit at any water level. In low water there are a number of islands exposed with sufficient moving water between them to still make it interesting, and in really high water the islands are completely covered with massive waves charging down the centre of the river. In between these two extremes the river offers a really interesting variety of experiences and challenges.

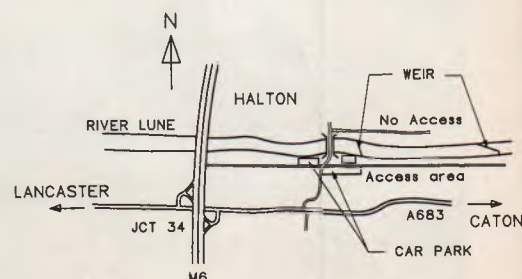
This is a superb stretch of river for experienced white water and slalom paddlers to simply enjoy or sharpen up their skills, and for novice paddlers under supervision to practice their moving water techniques and work towards their 4 Star/Proficiency qualification.

The site is within two minutes drive from Junction 34 on the M6 (see Map) and there are two Car Parks adjacent to the access point. For non-paddlers in your party there are very pleasant walks along both sides of the river and plenty of vantage points for taking photographs of colleagues on the river.

Carl Lowther of Rapid Canoe Supplies is Access Officer for the River Lune and is available to provide information on Halton Rapids between 9.00 a.m and 6.00 p.m., Monday - Saturday each week (telephone no. 01524 38850).

Why not give Halton Rapids a try, make it an official outing for your Club, or use it as an ideal moving water training venue? You will certainly not be disappointed.

**Gerry McCusker**







# THE COST OF LIVING'S JUST GONE DOWN.

If you're the kind of person who likes to pack your life full of adventure and excitement, we've got good news. At Plas y Brenin, The National Mountain Centre, we've



reduced the price of our kayak courses for the 1998 season. That means you'll be able to turn your dreams into reality for as little as £99.00 for a fully inclusive residential weekend.

Based at Capel Curig, deep in the heart of Snowdonia, we pride ourselves in high standards. Not only are all our coaches highly qualified, they're enthusiastic too, they love paddling just as much as you so they'll make sure you get the most out of your stay.

As for facilities and equipment, we make sure they're all top notch. With our own lake right on the doorstep and easy access to some of the best boating water in Britain, both inland and coastal and a heated rolling

pool, not to mention hotel-standard accommodation and bar, we've got everything you'll need to enjoy your paddling holiday.

That goes for the equipment we supply too. Our stores will kit you out completely, making sure every item is up-to-date and in perfect condition.

And you needn't worry about the level of your ability either, we run courses for beginners, recreational paddlers and coaches of all levels, so there's bound to be a course that's perfect for you.

If your idea of living is shredding up a thundering wave, crashing through the foaming white water of a mountain river or even paddling through the still waters of a highland loch, come to Plas y Brenin.

We guarantee you'll have the time of your life.

For a free brochure listing all our courses clip the coupon below, telephone 01690 720214, or check out our website on <http://www.pyb.co.uk>.

Please send me the 1998 Plas y Brenin Brochure.

Name

Address

Post Code

CF/A

**PLAS Y BRENIN**

National Mountain Centre Canolfan Fynydd Genedlaethol  
Capel Curig Conwy LL24 0ET Telephone 01690 720214 Facsimile 01690 720394





## Sluice - Weir: Canoe Pass

Many paddlers will already be aware that the Environment Agency is carrying out major engineering works on the Medway at Sluice Weir, above East Peckham. The works are part of a two year programme to upgrade the sluice gates and flood control. The first phase, to be completed by February 1998, will replace the right hand gate with a fixed weir.

This weir will include facilities for canoeists!! Designed in consultation with Dr George Parr (of Holme Pierrepont fame), the weir will include a canoe pass, shootable in most flow conditions....and a stopper that is user friendly and easily accessible. These concessions have been gained through discussions between the Medway River Project and the Environment Agency. They mark the Agency's recognition of the importance of the Medway's weirs and sluices as local whitewater venues, and their commitment to facilitating canoeing. **Please...Help The Environment Agency to help Canoeists.** Engineering works will introduce many unforeseen hazards. Unauthorized access may delay completion and accidents will damage the excellent reputation of canoeing... possibly leading to the loss of new opportunities for improved access.

Keep away from the Sluice Weir works site at all times. Weather permitting works will be complete in February 1998, giving canoeists the spring and early summer to play!

Do not attempt to use the weir until it has been declared by the EA as safe and open for use. I will ensure that all canoe clubs in the area are notified as soon as the site is open for use.

**Brian Smith - Project Manager**

## Canoeing access Information for Wales

WCA are running an access information pilot project. Information is currently available on the following: Canoe Access Line Wales 0891 0891 633424

Recorded message updated weekly giving rivers with access available, river level information and generalised surf report. WCA Access Internet Site ( Web site address TBA) Rivers, lakes, canals and popular coastal sites where canoeing is allowed. Details of launching/landing/charges /facilities available etc. Make your views known!

As part of the pilot project, WCA need to obtain the views of as many paddlers as possible on access issues. We are circulating a questionnaire to ALL interested canoeists who paddle in Wales. You do not need to be a member of any organisation to take part. To obtain a copy of the questionnaire (**Reply FREEPOST**) telephone 01678 521 199.

## River Dart

Icarus and Fiona Edmunds have informed the BCU office that a number of paddlers cars have been broken into recently in the car parking areas for the River Dart. Please take every precaution that you can to hide away your valuables, don't make yourself an easy target!

## Pounds from Paddlers Please!

Help purchase Symonds Yat Rapids for eternity! The internationally renowned Symonds Yat Rapids is up for sale and the Symonds Yat Rapids Preservation Group has been formed to progress the

purchase, improvement and preservation of this site which has been used by paddlers for over 40 years.

The Group are now preparing a bid to the National Lottery Sports Fund and support has already been received from the Environment Agency and English Nature. Donations for the purchase have already been offered by BCU South West Region, Wydean Canoe And Adventure Centre and the Cheltenham Canoe Club. The British Canoe Union, nationally, is financing the negotiations - i.e. paying for the team of experts behind the plans to redevelop and improve the site, especially access to and from the water.

We now ask for your help in the form of letters of support and, more importantly, donations to raise the vital partnership funding required for the Lottery bid to be successful.

Should the purchase be made it will enable paddlers to use this superb national stretch of water at no cost for ever.

Please send your contributions and letters of support to: **Veronica Westlake, 'Symonds Yat Rapids Preservation Appeal', 33 Golden Vale, Churchdown, Gloucester, GL3 2LU Tel/Fax: 01452 531218.**

All contributors should include their name and address and indicate if they wish to retain their anonymity. Should the bid not be made all donations will be returned.

Cheques should be made payable to 'Symonds Yat Rapids Preservation Appeal'. Credit card donations can be accepted over the telephone.



### Our first Top Performance Clubs are:

Viking (Derby) - Canoe Polo  
Chester Sailing & Canoe Club - Marathon & Wild Water Racing  
Notts Kayak Club - Sprint & Marathon  
Fladbury Paddle Club - Sprint & Marathon  
Wey Kayak Club - Sprint & Marathon  
Elmbridge Canoe Club - Sprint & Marathon  
Richmond Canoe Club - Sprint & marathon  
Friends of Allonby - Polo

### Our first Top Community Clubs are:

Soar Valley/ Leicester OPC Saturday Club/ Paddle Plus (Leicester)  
Lakeside Adventure club (Nottingham)  
Worcester Canoe Club  
Upton Warren Canoe Club  
Wyre Forest Canoe Club  
Hereford Kayak club/ Hereford Canoe Centre  
Fladbury Paddle club  
Riverside Adventure - Chester  
Peninsula Canoe Club  
Warrington Canoe Club



### Continued from page 21

introduction to the sport and the opportunity to try out & develop in at least 2 aspects of the sport - an example is Burton Canoe Club. The reasoning behind this idea is that youngsters are made aware of the broad experience that canoeing offers and there are other aspects that they can try out if they do not enjoy what they are doing. Some clubs that obtain TCC status do so in partnership with another club, centre or school. This means that a club that focuses on one aspect of canoeing can achieve Top Community Club status by linking with another club that offers a different aspect of the sport. That link, however, needs to be a quality link and would be scrutinised closely.

Whilst the scheme has been piloted within the Paddlesport development officer areas, I am aware that other clubs outside these areas have expressed interest in Top Club status.

We are currently looking at a way that we can make Top Club happen across the country in the next 12- 18 months, so if you are interested, please contact us at the BCU.

### Paddlesport at the Exhibition

For the first time the BCU Youth Development programme will be represented at the International Canoe Exhibition. There will be games for young people and prizes to be won. See our section in the programme!



# NORFOLK MARINE

## Kayaks

Perception, Prijon, Ace, Dagger

## Canoes

Coleman, Old Town, Pyranha,

## Paddles

Schlegel, Yak, Perception, Ace

## Accessories

Yak, Palm, Marlin, Prijon, Perception

## Perception Test Centre

with large fleet Demo Kayaks

Waterproofs, lifejackets, buoyancy Aids, wet & drysuits with leisure clothing for all watersports

Plus full range of chandrey in our large shop



Mail order • Starter packs  
Discount for group purchases



Church Road, Wroxham, Norfolk NR12 8UG  
Tel: 01603 783150/783393

# NIGEL DENNIS KAYAKS Ltd.



THE ROMANY

## A.S.S.C.M

ANGLESEY SEA AND SURF CENTRE

SEA KAYAKS/COURSES/EXPEDITIONS

Tel/Fax 01407 762525



Watersports Instructors & Outdoor Activity Leaders Required To Work On American Children's Camps This Summer

Waterskiing • Sailing • Canoeing • Swimming • Windsurfing • Kayaking  
Diving • Climbing • Hiking • Camping • Abseiling • High/Low Ropes

**WORK AND PLAY IN THE USA ALL SUMMER!**

For more information, a brochure & application form contact:

Camp Counselors USA, 6 Richmond Hill,  
Richmond Upon Thames, Surrey, TW10  
6QX Tel: 0181 332 2952 Fax: 0181 332 2956  
Email: 100744.1754@compuserve.com



# REVENGE

## PERFORMANCE POLO KAYAKS

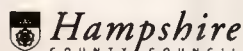
Revenge is part of the P&H Company, Station Road, West Hallam, Derbys. DE7 6HB. Tel: (0115) 9320155 Fax: (0115) 9327177  
<http://www.phcompany.co.uk> E Mail: [revenge@phcompany.co.uk](mailto:revenge@phcompany.co.uk)

The Solent's Premier Watersports Centre

# CALSHOT

activities centre

- CANOE COURSES AT ALL LEVELS
- COACHING, PERSONAL PERFORMANCE
- INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS
- ADULTS, CHILDREN
- SEA KAYAKING EXPEDITIONS
- WIDE RANGE OF OTHER WATERSPORTS/LANDSPORTS



FOR A FULL COLOUR BROCHURE RING 01703 892077 OR WRITE TO:

CALSHOT ACTIVITIES CENTRE CALSHOT SOUTHAMPTON SO45 1BR

## Canadian Wilderness Trips

The Canadian Wilderness... sparkling waters, rugged shorelines, sunsets, pine trees and the call of the loon.

Join us on a variety of scheduled all inclusive canoe trips throughout Ontario. Choose from flatwater and whitewater trips. Designed for the beginner to experienced.

Canadian Wilderness Trips  
243 College street, 5th FLR  
Toronto, Ontario  
Canada  
M5T 2Y1

Tel:(416) 977 - 5763  
Fax: (416) 977 - 4796

Email: [cwt@inforamp.net](mailto:cwt@inforamp.net)





Your opportunity to write in and comment on what is going on in canoeing today

sponsored by:



## The Marathon Race

"That's him", they said "standing over there"

All sinew, Lycra, and close cropped hair.

Eight months of training and now it was here

But I was fit, I was ready and nothing to fear.

He moved on the water with a certain grace

Total concentration, no smile on his face.

Dozens of kayaks were now moving upstream

No doubt this event had attracted the 'cream'.

Some sprinting, some chatting, some nerves all a quiver

I loved this scene of action on the river.

Warm up complete we were called to the start line

Slowly drifting down in weak morning sunshine

Looking around he was nowhere in sight

Then silent as a shadow he was there on my right.

The line was good, no noise now, just quiet

We had to go soon or there'd be a riot.

Arms were raised and blades were ready

It was difficult now to hold the boat steady

"Ready" and "Go" was all that I heard

Then the scene changed from sublime to absurd.

Blades raced round and water was boiling

Some paddlers were swimming, others were toiling

I started to wonder how long can this last

Giving nothing away the race was too fast.

We must settle soon or none would make it

I offered the front but no @\*@!! would take it.

Splitting still water like a half dozen knives

You'd think we were paddling to save our own lives.

From the others now we six had some space

Around the big bend we continued the race.

One mile gone and nineteen to go

It was at this point he began to show.

Smoothly he passed to take up the front

Acknowledging the effort with no more than a grunt.

Onto his wash, I was glad of the rest

But I had this feeling of being put to the test.

Around the next bend and the portage in sight

My first big mistake I should be on his right.

He had the water I knew I'd been caught

Only one thing for it I'll go in short.

Out of the kayak and already running

I had to admire his cool show of cunning.

Neck and neck we raced down the towpath

Why at this point had I started to laugh?

No change in position as we both moved away

Only four in the group now, two lost in the fray.

The pace was hot, we were moving quite quick

Then the man on my left was violently sick.

I felt sorry for him as he fell of the pace

Three men remained in one hell of a race.

A dozen portages now lay behind

Nothing had changed except that state of my mind

Through lack of liquid my head had gone numb

But that was nothing to the pain in my bum.

I must concentrate now only two miles to go

When would he move is what I wanted to know.

Then he dropped just behind me, this was my chance

I piled on the power, the kayak started to dance.

Cramp in my thighs now as I raced for the line

All that training and now the title was mine.

Yards to go then I caught sight

Of the nose of a kayak just on my right.

The crowd was screaming and stamping feet

After twenty miles could it be a dead heat.

I looked at the marshal, he didn't flinch

"Great race", he said "you lost by an inch!"

Second again I audibly cursed

Where the hell did he manage to find that last burst.

A cold hand reached down and pulled me out of the boat

This is it, I thought, he's come over to gloat.

I raised a heavy head and looked into his face

Hold on! This was not he that I'd come to race.

Where was he?, What's happened? This was not fair.

This guy had bloody great locks of black hair.

"Thanks for pulling me all that way"

"I trained for six months to race you today"

"Race me", I screamed, "what about him?"

"I know", he said, the I noticed the grin

"We knew you could think of nothing other

Than beating him, and he's my brother".

Then he came over and said, "don't make a fuss,

The reason we lost is that he's better than us".

"But to lose to him is no disgrace,

And you must admit, it was a hell of a race!"

By Ken Lincoln Lost Penguins Kayak Racing Squad

## Damaged Car French Expedition

Dear Canoe Focus

Please could anyone with any information on the following incident contact me:- Sunday 14 December 1997, Firbank, Sedbergh 10.30am-12.30pm.

A new car parked on the church lay-by was badly damaged by what is thought to be an earth moving type of vehicle. The vehicle concerned was driven away from the area without the driver reporting the accident.

Any sightings of such a vehicle would be welcome. Can you help? Contact **Bob Horne, Newfield, Firbank, Sedbergh, Cumbria LA10 5EN Tel: 015396 20621**

Dear Canoe Focus

As a member and a regular reader of Canoe Focus, I am writing to see if you may be able to offer us some advice. The Adventure Club which Louise Edwards and I run in the Borough are planning an expedition next summer which will be to the Pyrenees, with dual aims; to spend around three days on an open canoe trip (this will be somewhere on our journey down through France - possibly the Ardeche or nearby), and then to spend around four days on a mountain trip in the central Pyrenees.

We have contacted through the French Canoe Federation a number of local operations who will hire canoes to

us - but these seem to be exclusively of the 'Mickey Mouse' variety, and this has made us consider having to take our own fleet. We expect that there will be a number of groups of paddlers from the UK doing similar things to ourselves - and are wondering whether we can link up perhaps with another expedition to share boats and maybe some other kit too. Our needs are for eight open canoes from around the 2-4th August. Alternatively maybe there is perhaps somebody out there who we are not aware of who has some 'proper' open boats which they would be willing to hire to us - any ideas? Contact **Mick Bradshaw, St Helier Youth Centre Tel/Fax: 0181 646 8688**



LEIDAL

# Why Wait for ICE '98?

When the very best deals are available

# NOW

at Desperate Measures 1st Bumper Sale

Call in to our friendly & extensive showroom at  
39-41 Trent Boulevard

West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5BB

Try the latest demos from all the major manufacturers  
and walk away with a better deal than you ever  
believed possible!



Call John today on  
0115 981 6815

Open 7 days a week for your convenience



**perception**<sup>®</sup>  
ultimate performance



ESKIMO





# New from Nookie

**N**ookie's Alien Technology range has hit the shops. The Play Monster Buoyancy Aid £89.99, features the radical shape and retention system prototyped all summer by TeamXtreme rodeo paddlers, and a Cordura shell and zipped neoprene pocket. The Killer Alien cag, £104.99, features a new neoprene neckseal which has been

shown to offer performance comparable with latex seals. The arms of the cag have been Cordura reinforced in some unusual areas. Extensive research in the Nookie repairs department revealed that cags do not get damaged in the areas one might expect, such as the shoulders and elbows, and that heavy fabrics in these sports actually cause a lot of the problems. Instead, the new cag is strengthened where genuine damage has been found to cluster, on the upper arms and the underside of the wrists. For more information on the Alien Technology range, call 01822 618688 or check out the website at [www.nookie.co.uk](http://www.nookie.co.uk).



## Seac Direct: Witz "Shuttercase"



The Witz 'ShutterCase' is an ideal accessory for any canoeist or kayaker who wants to carry a camera on a river tour or white water blast, but does not own a waterproof model.

Measuring approx 16.25 x 10.5 x 7cm (maximum measurements) the 'ShutterCase' is the new big brother to other storage cases in the Witz range, such as the popular 'Keep-it-Safe', and uses a similar construction to protect your camera.

Basically the 'ShutterCase' is a robust, impact resistant plastic box with a water resistant 'O' ring type seal and a quick release clip closure. Inside the case a soft foam padding cushions the camera and absorbs shock from any knocks.

The case comes with a fully adjustable webbing shoulder strap - complete with an elastic film canister holder for spare film - and is designed to take an optional detachable clip.

Easy to attach to your canoe or buoyancy aid, the 'ShutterCase' will help keep your camera safe and dry (although I always put a little Vaseline on the seal for extra protection) while proving more convenient than a dry bag, as well as giving very much more impact resistance.

The only (very minor) drawbacks of the 'ShutterCase' that I can find are that it is not guaranteed 100% watertight for long immersion (how slow do you roll!), once wet the inner foam is a little slow drying and the case can prove a little bulky unless your buoyancy has roomy rear pockets.

All in all, however, I find the Witz 'ShutterCase' to be the best option for carrying a compact camera in my canoe that I have yet found. Fitting most models, it is tough, protective, very water resistant and easily opened for that quick snapshot. It even floats if you drop it overboard!

Coming in blue, green, yellow or black, all with grey tops, the Witz 'ShutterCase' costs around £17.95. More details from Seac Direct (UK) Ltd, Provincial House, Solly Street, Sheffield, S1 4BA, Tel 0114 270 1234.

Reviewed by John Fenna

## Sealskinz Waterproof Gloves

The end of cold, wet fingers is at hand. (Sorry!) I have recently been trying out the new SealSkinz Waterproof Breathable Gloves and have found them ideal for winter canoeing when wet hands equals cold hands, which equals uncomfortable paddling.

Made from DuPont's patented three-layer process, the gloves have an outer nylon/lycra mix fabric, a mid layer of MUT membrane (the waterproof breathable bit) and an inner layer of CoolMax which wicks moisture from your skin and out through the other layers to evaporate away.

The secret of the gloves' comfort is that they are seamless, so there is no bulky seam taping to cause discomfort, while the stretch fit and soft cuff make them feel like ordinary thermal gloves.

The SealSkinz gloves keep out all water, are windproof warm and do not cause a build-up of condensation either, while gripper dots on the palm and fingers offer great grip on your paddle for full control.

As an open canoeist I cannot reasonably use 'Paddle Mitts' but these gloves are all I need, while for kayakers the SealSkinz worn inside 'Paddle Mitts' would appear to be the answer to all wet hand problems.

Although the gripper dots seem to be wearing quite fast, the SealSkinz Waterproof Breathable Gloves are otherwise proving absolutely superb, offering a level of comfort, dexterity, grip and performance I have never come across in any other glove I have used for paddling. Coming with full care instructions, the SealSkinz Gloves are guaranteed waterproof and are available in black only, sizes M and L, at around £34.99.

For more details contact Truebell Plc, 202 Hagley Road, Birmingham, B16 9PQ, Tel 0121 454 9494, FAX 0121 454 1916.

Reviewed by John Fenna





# ALIEN TECHNOLOGY

## nookie

ONLY ON EARTH DO THE  
PERFECT CONDITIONS  
EXIST FOR KAYAKING



MOST OF YOUR MAJOR EARTH RETAILERS  
HAVE ALREADY BEEN ABDUCTED AND  
BRAINWASHED, BUT IN CASE OF  
DIFFICULTY OUR ALIEN TECHNOLOGY CAN  
BE ACCESSED USING ANY OF YOUR  
ARCHAIC MODES OF COMMUNICATION

MAIL NOOKIE KAYAKING EQPT.  
UNIT 4, OTTERBY TAVISTOCK  
DEVON PL19 0NS U.K.

E.MAIL [xtreme@nookie.co.uk](mailto:xtreme@nookie.co.uk)  
PHONE 44(0)1822 618608  
FAX 44(0)1822 618947

**WORLD DOMINATION  
IS NOW INEVITABLE  
RESISTANCE IS USELESS**



all talk  
action



Contact Yak at:  
Tel: +44 (0) 1705 528621 Fax: +44 (0) 1705 510905 email: [yak@crewsaver.co.uk](mailto:yak@crewsaver.co.uk)





## The Mini-Expresso Maker

RRP £14.99

### and Cup

RRP £3.99

## The Ortlieb Trekking Coffee Filter

RRP £ 4.99



If you are one of those people who HAVE TO HAVE real coffee at all times or you just want to treat yourself to a little luxury now and then, then here are two pieces of equipment for you.

The compact mini-expresso maker is ruggedly built from lightweight aluminium and its use is simplicity its-self. First fill the base reservoir with water, fill the filter funnel with your chosen blend of coffee, screw the unit together and place on the heat (open fire, camp stove or hot plate at home), put a cup under the brass stem and wait. Pressure builds up in the reservoir

and pushes the hot water through the coffee grounds and out into the cup. All there is to do is to sit back and drink from the beautifully shaped, double walled, stainless steel cup. The system can easily be removed from the heat as the brass stem is provided with an insulating plastic sleeve.

The system worked well at all times while camping using both open fires and camping stoves. The one cup model, which produces a meagre 28ml of great coffee, was annoying that I had to keep running through the



cycle to give a cup to a friend or to fully sate my thirst. A rapid re-run to produce a drink of coffee is made more difficult by the whole container remaining hot to the touch and therefore difficult to handle. However the miniexpresso

maker does produce a great cup of coffee, there are larger sizes available and looks so good that when it is not being used it can be used as an interesting ornament about the house; on the mantle piece or possibly as an addition to those coffee table books?

Information about other sizes and colours from **Rosker Ltd, 13 Quay Lane, Gosport, Hants. PO12 4KJ**

The Ortlieb Trekking Coffee Filter is produced from a polyester fabric which has been treated so that it can be used for drinking water. It folds flat when not in use, will hold a standard-size filter paper but can be used without a filter. To use you just boil up some water, place the holder over a pot and hold in place with some tent pegs or sticks which tread through the sleeves provided, then your favourite coffee (with or without a filter paper), and pour on the water. Then wait for the fresh coffee aroma, the taste and finally that great feeling of being at one with yourself and everyone else on the planet. Not bad from a small piece of plastic coated fabric!

Both the products make great coffee but if it's aesthetic beauty you want and you're a connoisseur then there is no contest but to get the GSI Compact Mini-Expresso Maker but if its quantity and easy packing you require then go for the Ortlieb Trekking Coffee Filter.

**Ortlieb Stockists, www.ortlieb.de or Lyon Equipment Ltd, Rise Hill Mill, Dent, Cumbria**

## Eskimo Powers Into 1998



Eskimo are marking the new year with an impressive array of promotions and products.

They have assembled a team of the finest

whitewater and rodeo soul boaters, who will represent them under the name 'Eskimo Playboater Proteam'. The team's skill and karma will be on display at a series of Eskimo dealer events around the country during 1998.

Twr-y-Felin outdoor centre in St Davids, Pembrokeshire, has been set up as an official Eskimo test centre. All the models in the Eskimo range are available for paddlers to try out, either on the whitewater of the Bitches or one of the many surf spots along the Pembrokeshire coast.

Recently, many manufacturers have been concentrating on new boats for rodeo paddler's and somewhat neglecting whitewater boaters. Eskimo have put this right with the CERRO, the

most advanced steep creek and technical water boat available. The Cerro is manufactured using Eskimo's new 'COEX' blow moulding process. The COEX process uses the very latest machines and newly developed technology, more advanced than conventional blow moulding. COEX produces fast, light and stiff kayaks.

Also manufactured using the COEX process is the GECKO, the world's lightest plastic polo kayak, which will bring a new dimension to Europe's fastest growing kayak sport.

For an Eskimo brochure and details of your nearest dealer contact - **System X - Playboater Tel/Fax 01189 321 449 email systemx@compuserve.com**

## New for 1998

From Dave Crooks at Endless River is an exciting range of canoe and kayak accessories, all available by mail order (Credit cards now accepted):

**Paddles:** 'Deluge' - a light weight white water canoe paddle. 'Allrounder' - a duralen multi purpose canoe paddle. New additions to the



existing range of traditional wooden canoe paddles.

**Portage Trolley:** The Endless River portage trolley folds completely flat. Its 12" diameter wheels are detachable and make light work of rough terrain canoe portaging.

**Dry Bags:** Heavy duty and medium weight bags available in a range of sizes. 'Wanderer' - weekend/day trip bag with shoulder straps and carrying handle. 'Traveller' range of bags featuring a full length window so that you can find what you want quickly without having to take everything out. A full list of all the new products is available from Endless River on 01562 827065 and will be on display at the NEC stand number 52.





NEW RANGE OF CANOES PADDLES



**ENDLESS RIVER**

**NEW FOR 1998**

**New wider range of endless river canoeing accessories**

**Mail order - credit cards accepted**

- \* Whitewater canoe paddles
- \* Range of new and traditional dry bags
- \* Heavy duty air bags
- \* Portage trolley's
- \* Specialist open canoe courses

**Visit our Stand 52 at the Canoe Exhibition or contact 01562 827065 for brochure**

TRADITIONAL STYLE AFFORDABLE PRICES

# RASDEX

Rasdex has moved to new premises which includes a large retail shop. We have our full range of products on display including the new bank wear range of fleeces and jackets. Demo kit will also be available including the revolutionary Thermal-Stretch by Polartec.

**100 Trent Boulevard, West Bridgford, Nottingham**

Tel: 0115 904 0505

www.rasdex.co.uk

**Members advertisements: Sell, Sell Sell!**

Please forward all adverts to appear in the Members Classified direct to: BCU HQ in Nottingham. MEMBERS ADS FREE

**For Sale**  
 1 Acrobat 300, yellow, multi-art, well looked after, proper back rest £300 ono Call Ben 0524 75641/0625 66878 North West.  
 1 Mountain Bat, lime green, full white water spec, excellent condition £250 contact Paul on 0125 626878 Fleet, Haris.  
 15R Grumman Aluminium Canadian, life vests, paddles, (electric outboard), seat cushions, all in unmarked condition £350 Tel: 01233 840 549  
 222 man Euro Kayak touring kayaks £50. 2 x 8 months old Conquests £200 1 x Peace River Harmony 18ft £475. Contact Chris 0299 406893 or 0378 339666  
 3 Double Canoes, 1 Tasman, 18ft by 24ins beam £250, VGC. Accord double, 2ft by 21ins beam good condition £80. Composite double by Twickenham canoes 18ft by 21 ins a beautifully made boat £500. Tel: 0572 822300 Leics  
 6 x M1 48 Polythene kayaks with spraydecks & skegs (not fitted). Reasonable condition £500. 2 x Pijon T Canyon kayaks only £50 each. 1 x fibreglass K2, 1 x fibreglass Ki £25 each, 4 x old fibreglass kayaks £50 the lot. Tel: Geoff Hunt 01937 29288 Day.  
 Acrobat 270, blue, 1 yr old, complete with airbags and full plate footrest. Good condition £350 Also Perception Corsica Overflow, blue, 1 yr old, hardly used. Very good condition £360 Tel: 0929 400779  
 Acrobat 270, blue, 1 yr old, complete with airbags, full plate, 6 hip pads, good condition £350.  
 Corsica Overflow, blue, 14 months old, hardly used so very good condition £360 Tel: 0929 400779  
 Argo Plastic Kayaks 3.5m long (general purpose high volume slalom) full length foam buoyancy, adjustable footrest £65 each or £300 for five boats. ex scout club. 4.4m GRP Canoe (Holecraft Duette) unusual collectors craft, good sound condition £50 ono. 4.5m GRP touring single kayak 'Pawnee' type, foam buoyancy, very good condition £85 ono. Tel: 0793 25295 Southampton  
 As good as new Freefall Lt, black/yellow are, bow cap, and airbags £300 for a quick sale. Possibly deliver to Trwynem or Notts Tel: Chris (Chester) 01244 37730 or 0411 354163  
 Baracuda K2 good condition stored indoors. Fast, stable boat, £200 ono. Tel: 05394 43648 South Lakes Ask for Adam.  
 Bill Mason style Northern Prospector, diolen/kevlar construction with wood trim. Professionally built £350 ono Tel: Mike 0524 78306 or Pam 0524 78337 (Cumbria)  
 BMW 3 Series Roof Rack, Mint condition, New £200 asking £25 Tel: 017 272 6681  
 Buoyancy Aid Palm Canyon size L/XL. Hardly used and in superb condition. Perfect for white water kayaking, instructing etc. Must sell. Ring Nic on 0395 279939 for details (Devon)  
 Coleman jr canadian open canoe, fitted 3 fixed seats, plus temporary child seat, ideal family boat £450 ono Tel: 0793 82609 Wilts.  
 Corsica vgc £225 to include neoprene spray deck. Lazer waxeski, suit heavier paddler/ novice VGC £75. Hooker Surfing/estuary kayak. Good sea level £25 vgc Tel: 0873 33349 South West.  
 Corsica Overflow purple, full plate footrest, plug and back support, 3 yrs old VGC £275 ono. Contact Geoff (Kidderminster) 0562 2008  
 Corsica, good condition, green with airbags and deck lines, stored indoors £275 Call: 0937 573082 James or David.  
 Corsica, red, good condition, ideal for the larger paddler £80. Tsunami wave ski (excellent condition) plus large water steamer £200. 2 slalom kits, one Nomad Mystique, carb/kevlar £75 and a Nomad Extra £75, both good condition. For more details contact John Harris 0222 2344 Cardiff  
 Corsica, red, good order, with backrest, paddle and spraydeck £50 Tel: 0480 29207 Huntingdon  
 Corsica 280 ww spec - playboard deck £200. Lendal Nordkapp asymmetric paddle RH 220cm, 70 degree feather, modified crank £80. Nookie Sei Cag, aqualar, hood, wrist seals, fleece lined, size M (used only once) £50 Wild Water combi helmet. Tel: Archie 0612 4278 (W) Cleveland  
 Corsica 280, red, full ww spec, excellent condition, only 6 months old. Gorrilas 2 Rodoo HPS carbon suit paddle, vgc, 6 months old only £150 Tel: 0980 66479 Salisbury  
 Corsica 280, yellow, ww spec, with backstrap and airbags, Pijon paddles and neoprene spraydeck £400 Tel: Wendy 0959 57362 (Greater London)

Creek 280, Little used, back rest, air bags, mint neoprene deck inc, excellent boat £330 Tel: 01889 502394 after 6pm  
 Cypher, full ww spec in aqua. Well looked after, only 12 months old £230 Tel: Nigel 01244 346141 (Cheshire)  
 Dagger Freefall LT Good condition, full ww spec, air bags, back rest, full plate footrest etc. £350 Tel: 0625 86099 (Macclesfield)  
 Dagger Freefall LT, excellent condition, used three times. Must sell for winter fun, therefore open to offers. Tel: 0625 860 738 eves or email-hairy\_boater@compuserve.com  
 Dagger Ocoee the playboat of the open boat world, comes with saddle, bow and stern airbags, paddle, fully padded out with mini-cell. Reluctant sale due to lack of cash £950 ono. Coleman Ram X 15ft, canadian duo, Micro 230 Multart, black and purple, stored indoors, very little use £300.  
 Palm Canyon buoyancy aid size large £35. Peak vest size large £5 could meet if you want to buy call Liam home (never in) 0457 864 265 or the phone that's always on 0370 662804  
 Dagger RPM, blue & purple multart, full ww spec. An ideal river running and playboat. Only used four times! £450. Available to view at Holme Pierrepont Tel: Matt on 0673 885736  
 Dagger Reflection 16, open canoe, cane seats fore and aft and centre kneeling thwart, good condition £350 Tel: 021 460 1454 (B'ham)  
 Discovery 16B (Old Town), excellent condition with wooden paddles. Hardly used, genuine reason for sale £50 Tel: 0865 84134 Oxon  
 Enigma plastic squirt kayak, pink. Good condition, not folded 175 or offers. Tel: 0786 85665 (Central Scotland)  
 Eskimo Topoline (orange), good condition £300 Sheffield 011 266661 ask for Pat Durant.  
 For 'Sal' Old Town canoe in very good condition. Geared for sailing but can easily be changed to other uses. Full range of buoyancy bags, Tel: 0926 850776 after 8pm (Kenilworth, Warks) £400  
 Free Dagger Freefall LT, ww spec, air bags, back rest, bung, stored indoors, black fading to red colour, only used for 10 minutes in 1997, very light use, would suit paddler of any weight, an excellent big water boat or just ww touring. If you buy a P3 neoprene spray deck to fit the above price £375 own. Can travel within a reasonable distance of Sheffield. Tel: 021 641036 please leave message if not in.  
 Freefall LT, only one weeks use £45. Full plate footrest & fittings, unused £40 Tel: 01424 44150 Hastings E Sussex  
 Jura Sea Double, red, 3 hatches, stern rudder control, fast and sturdy, excellent condition and good value at £650. Ideal for daytrips and sea touring can be seen at kayaks & paddles (Plymouth) Tel: Colin w/e eves 0264 66457 or kayaks and paddles on 0752 33576  
 K2 Pacer Sprint ideal DW boat with handles (no seats) £75 ono. Ki Lazer (no seat) £70 ono Tel: 061 300 697  
 Kestrel Ki, w/s rudder. Excellent condition (hardly used) £250. Jaguar Ki, w/s rudder. Good condition £200 ono Tel: 01600 74464 (Gwent)  
 Kivi 2, an excellent condition 2 seated canoe, blue with red trim, only occasionally used on a canal. It comes with a roof rack which has never been used, 2 buoyancy aids and 2 paddles. For the price of £125. Contact Chad at The Copse, Maple Bridge, Stockport SK6 5JQ  
 Mad River ME Open Canoe, 6ft heavy rocker, 60" air bags, saddle and foot braces. Excellent white water boat £495. Tel: 01634 84839.  
 Magic Bat vgc, airbags, good general purpose boat £240 ono Also Impact Surf Ski, good condition, paddle leash and quick release belt £200 ono. Cardiff 0222 69045.  
 Medium sized Canoe Trailer £50 ono Tel: Rob 0216 44346  
 Migo Discovery, red, excellent condition. Ideal stable touring boat. To include Amstrong paddle and buoyancy aid £200. Also Spraydeck, 2 new nylon 'Chang' design covers 10 each. AP2000 helmet (new) £10. Tel: 0793 496436 Southampton  
 Migo plastic canoe in good condition with full plate footrest, backrest and spray deck - stable general purpose boat, suit beginner or intermediate paddler £200 Tel: 01493 602621 or 0502 677630  
 Microbat full art spec, air bags front and rear, good condition £350. Acro 300 full art spec, air bags

front and rear, good condition £250. Corsica Overflow, paddled 4 times, full ww spec £290, Peak breathable dry suit, worn once, Large £500. Tel: 01472 31696  
 Nookie Cag, taped seams, neoprene cuffs, neoprene adjustable neck, double waist layer for excellent spraydeck sealing, rubber covered draw cord at waist, green and purple, hardly worn and in perfect condition, occupant grown too big £65 new £35 now Tel: 0202 540952  
 Nordkapp HM stored inside, vgc £550 Also Ace Europa 195 Ring 0766 800552 (Gwynedd)  
 Nordkapp Sea Kayak £300, hatches, pump, paddle, spraydeck and roof bars, recently refitted at Valley. Reynard Classic open canoe £400 17' 6" kevlar/mahogany, sliding bow seat and paddles. Reynard Summerson open canoe £400 16' solo touring - sliding seat, fast touring efficient padding, fitness training Tel: 05242 6147 Lancs area  
 Nordkapps, fleet of 10, good condition, extra large cockpit £1,000 for the lot, buyer collects. Contact South Mere Boating Centre, SE London 0181 300 2452  
 Old Town Canadian canoe, 2 paddles and life jackets £500 Tel: 013 275 5524  
 Old Town Canoe Moore 71, Discovery with paddles. Suggested price £25, good condition, colour, green. Tel: 01460 87650  
 One Topo Spud £350, 1 Eskimo Gattino £50, each almost new. Also Pirouette Super Sport, used only at HPP £300 contact Dave at Perth 0738 828707  
 Open Canoe, H2 Pro (Old Town) 13ft, excellent whitewater boat, full air bags fitted front and rear, saddle fitted, colour white, vgc, £350 ono or swap p/x for Prospector open canoe or similar. Tel: Cornwall 0126 27300  
 Perception Dancer XS yellow, good condition £200, might consider exchange for Dancer or similar 0954 23818  
 Perception Whip-it, yellow, nearly new condition, plus unused foam fitting kit, plus Playboarder spray deck £420 ono Tel: 0243 37854 Emsworth, Nr Portsmouth.  
 Pirouette S, red, hardly used, excellent condition £400 ono. Tel: 0483 28382 Guildford, Surrey.  
 Pirouette SS white granite, 1 yr old, hardly used, excellent condition £350 ono Tel: Stephanie 017 909 106 Bristol  
 Pijon Gattino full ww spec, much loved old friend now retired £600 or nearest offer: 01822 61087.  
 Perception Pirouette S profile, full ww spec, 1 yr old, v.lght use hence VGC, firecracker red £350 or nearest offer. Donna Tel: 01822 61087  
 Pijon T- Slalom Kayak, good condition £275, Schlegel 'Topline' paddle £35, Pijon Wooden paddle (excellent condition) £45 Tel: 081 346 6679 North London.  
 Pijon T Slalom, yellow, excellent condition, full ww spec, nose cap £250 ono Tel Mark 0438 716009  
 Pyranha Acrobat 270, blue, excellent condition, full ww spec etc, just over 3 yrs old, £325. Pyranha Stuntbal, green/black multi colour, good condition, full ww spec etc £295 Tel: Eric or Tom 01422 84394 (Hull) Possible delivery to Pierrepont, Teesside or Bala.  
 Pyranha Acrobat 270, blue, full ww spec. Excellent condition with neoprene spraydeck £350. Topoline Spud, black, good condition £350 Tel: 0392 266688  
 Pyranha Acrobat 300, Artline multi, yellow/red/blue/black/green. Full WW spec, good condition £200 ono Tel: Andrew 0506 43523 West Lothian.  
 Pyranha Creek, full ww spec, red artline. £250. Protec helmet, small and black. Hardly used £20. Nookie extreme whitewater vest, small £40. Thule roofrack for guttered car, £40. Call Sue on 01654 76545 (Powys)  
 Pyranha Magic Bat, red, excellent condition, ideal first boat £350 Tel: 018 954 1327 Reading  
 Pyranha Magic Bat, Yak deck, Kober blades, Goretex £50, ww b-aid, throwlines. Going overseas forces sale, all v. cheap Bedford 0232 826162  
 Pyranha Master boat yellow, footrest + airbags £50. All worn twice - Wild Water blue helmet £20 Typhoon pump £ black M Longhorns (incl Aquafix) £65 Wild Water neoprene Pogies blue outer black inner £8 Gull overboots black and grey size 7/8 plus net bag £2 Tel: 01484 862993 (Huddersfield)  
 Pyranha Mountain 300, yellow, multi art design, full ww spec, little used £300. Tel: 0278 75391  
 Pyranha Stuntbal full ww spec, full plate footrest, back rest, hip pads, drain plug, good condition £200 Tel: Martin on 01977 64169 W Yorkshire



## Birmingham School of Canoeing

Beginners to Advanced Coaching Course  
Open Canoe & Kayak **BCU APPROVED CENTRE**



**MIKE PHILLIPS,**  
**01299 401872**  
21 Heathfield Road,  
Bewdley,  
Worcs DY12 1JT



*Go with the flow  
with Current Trends!*

1998 Kayak and Canoe course programme now running.

From Novice to Advanced, improve your skills and leadership with first class coaching, from some of the countries finest Coaches.

**BCU 1-5 \* Award Kayak and Canoe \* BCU Coaching Courses, Levels 1-4 \* Whitewater Safety and Rescue \* Aquatic First Aid \* Assessor Training days \* Coaching Processes Course.**

Improve your Boating with Current Trends.  
For dates and booking call us at

*Current Trends*

Adbolton Lane, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 5AS  
**Tel: 0115 981 8844 Fax: 0115 982 2033**



## Get serious! Rodeo

coaching from



**DESPERATE MEASURES**

Nottingham 0115 9816 815

### THE OUTDOOR TRUST

A full range of BCU courses  
B.C.U. 1-5 Star Awards  
Coach Level 1-4  
Training & Assessment in:  
Inland/Sea Kayak  
Open Canoe & Safety Tests  
Expeditions, guiding & holidays.  
Contact: The Outdoor Trust,  
Windy Gyle, Belford, Northumberland,  
NE70 7QE  
Tel: 01668 213289  
Email: [trust@outdoor.demon.co.uk](mailto:trust@outdoor.demon.co.uk)

ULTIMATE ADVENTURE

10 Day Activity  
Holiday £599  
includes... Ferry,  
Travel,  
Accommodation  
**Austria 1998**  
W/W/RAFTING  
BIKING  
CANYONING  
PARAGLIDING  
Min AGE - 16  
Fon. 01332 874972  
Fax. 01332 873937

**KAYAK CONTROL**



**PARAMOUNT PURSUITS**  
BCU APPROVED

For Novice to Expert Training an Coaching courses in Canoe and Kayak  
One day trips and weekend camps • Clubs and Groups catered for • **NEW BROCHURE OUT NOW**  
Contact **Christopher Perry (01299) 402683**  
Tower Farm Longbank Bewdley DY12 2QT

**hydro ACTIVE**

- Coach 3 Canoe/kayak - March
- Wilderness Trips
- Multi-activity breaks

Call Andy for the details of these and other exciting events.  
**Tel: 01332 383698**  
**Mobile 07050 383698**  
Email [hydro.active@virgin.net](mailto:hydro.active@virgin.net)

OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

**Sea Kayak Outer Hebrides**

**UIST**  
Outdoor Centre

"The finest sea kayaking coastline in the world"

Guided tours and expeditions.  
Introductory/Intermediate  
Full range of courses.  
Accommodation. Details:  
**Uist Outdoor Centre, Lochmaddy,**  
Isle of North Uist, HS6 5AE  
Tel 01876 500480

# EQUATOR EXPEDITIONS NEPAL

*Exploring Wild Himalayan Mountains and Rivers*



### RAFT GUIDE INSTRUCTION COURSE

A 5 month course based in Nepal, will lead to the formal qualification of Himalayan Raft Guide". After an intense 2 month period of training you will be guiding Class IV rivers under the instruction and supervision of world class guides. The remainder of your time will be spent gaining essential experience running commercial trips. You will

learn to be a guide expedition leader and work in a team on the greatest rivers in the world.

**Dates:** 20 January - 31 May 1999 **Cost:** £2800. This includes instruction, equipment, food, accommodation and assessment.

**Cost: \$35. Includes:** entry, T-shirt, use of equipment, food, camp and transport to and from Kathmandu.

### 3RD HIMALAYAN WHITE WATER RODEO 30-31 OCTOBER 1998

Join us for fun and entertainment on the Trisuli River. (Sponsored by Ainsworth, Eskimo and Palm)

**30th Oct** Private bus from Kathmandu to the Trisuli - lunch on the beach. The action starts with the novice and intermediate classes all afternoon. Wild Boar Bar B.Q party. (Sponsored by Nepal's local drinks company...say no more)

**31st Oct** Advanced and Nepali Class and Grand Final. All proceeds and sponsorship goes to sponsoring the top 2 Nepali kayakers to the 1998 World Rodeo Championships in New Zealand.

**10% discount on all Equator trips for entering the rodeo.**



### Rafting & Kayaking

If you would like to run one of the top ten rivers in the world, you can take your choice of at least 5 in Nepal. Rafting allows total novices to enjoy the adrenalin of class IV and V rapids in safety. Our 100% safety record over the last 9 years of commercially running the hardest rivers in Asia is testimony to this.

We also have a Kayaking School for 3, 7 and 10 day courses. Advanced kayakers should come and join our expeditions which range from 3 to 11 days.

**Our travel agency can arrange any transport, accommodation or safaris in Nepal. Contact our head office with any questions.**

### Mountaineering & Trekking



Our 4 week mountaineering instruction course in the Everest region will lead you to the summit of two Himalayan peaks - Island Peak (6189m) and Mera Park (6419m). Your professional instructor/guides will cover all basic mountaineering skills, including crevasse rescue, glacier travel, belaying and much more. The last week involves leaving the support team of cooks and porters behind to go on a self support expedition across the Mingbo La to climb Mera Peak.

**Trekking:** We can organise groups and individuals for remote or regular treks.

For further information on anything in Nepal, contact our head office:

E-mail: [equator@mos.com.np](mailto:equator@mos.com.np) Website: <http://www.equatornepal.com>

EQUATOR EXPEDITIONS NEPAL, P.O. BOX 8404, THAMEL, KATHMANDU, NEPAL. TEL: 977-1-424944 FAX 977-1-425801



## THE COURSE FOR THE REAL OUTDOORS

## GNVQ Advanced Leisure & Tourism with OUTDOOR PURSUITS

Holme Lacy College estate has 600 acres including River Wye frontage, national standard orienteering facilities & cross-country. In the heart of the country with easy access to Symonds Yat, the Welsh Mountains, Brecon Beacons etc, we are well placed to offer an adventurous, action-packed unique course with an opportunity for placements abroad. We specialise in mountain & watersports. Lots of trips and expeditions.

It's a great way to get a job in the industry or to go on to higher qualifications & degrees.

Places limited for 1998 so call  
Admissions now (01432) 870316

Holme Lacy College, Holme Lacy,  
Hereford HR2 6LL



HOLME  
LACY  
COLLEGE



### Kayaking Courses 1998

1-3 Star Jan, March, April, May, Aug, Sep,  
Oct res - £90 non-res £55  
Intro to kayaking 4 day £220, 5 day £290  
White water introduction - improver  
Topo Duo white water trips  
Guided paddles instruction for beginners

### Kayak Surf Courses

4 star training and assessment

### Multi Activity Programmes

for schools, groups, individuals and companies run throughout the year.

### First Aid (Mountain and Outdoor)

2 day courses res £120. Feb, April, Sep.

### Instructor Training Course October 1998

Six week course

Covering Mountaineering skills, Rock Climbing, Kayaking and Caving

For more detailed information please try out our website  
[www.mountainwaterexp.demon.co.uk](http://www.mountainwaterexp.demon.co.uk)

## Mountain Water Experience

The Courtlands Centre, nr. Kingsbridge,  
South Hams, Devon, TQ7 4BN,  
Tel/fax 01752 347 415

E-MAIL:

MWE@mountainwaterexp.demon.co.uk



ALPINE OPTIONS Whitewater and Adventure holidays in the French Alps. Courses and Packages all Summer with apartment or campsite reservations including le Shuttle or Jerry. Canoe rally in May, Whitewater Experience in June plus Whitewater and Adventure weeks in July and August. Details: 01932 828668

BY FAR THE BIGGEST CLASSIFIED  
IN THE CANOEING WORLD  
CALL ANNE ON  
01480 465081

# TRAINING PATHWAYS IN THE OUTDOORS

Gain up to 5 National  
Governing Body  
Awards

**NEW**

through our Professional  
Diploma in Outdoor  
Adventurous Activities.

Choice includes:

**BCU Coach Awards Level 1-4;  
ML (Summer); SPSA;  
BOF; RYA; BETA;  
First Aid (HSE approved)**

plus

**NCF Coaching courses  
NVQ Level 1 Sports & Recreation**

(subject to pre-requisites being met)

Programme is based on weekend  
attendance; start when you like;  
locations across the country.  
Quality Residentials in Majorca,  
Belgian Ardenne & Spanish Pyrenees

**NO TUITION FEES**

This is an English F.E funded course

**Part -  
Time**

**HNC**

**UK 1st**

**Outdoor Adventure  
Management**

(University of Greenwich)

Residential blocked programme at  
venues across the country.  
Next intake Feb & Apr '98  
Enquiries now being taken from  
outdoor practitioners & aspirant  
managers.

(Fees notifiable on application)

Direct taught & flexible learning  
programmes available for a range of  
NVQ's including Modern Apprenticeships  
& National Trainingships.

Through our TEC & FE partners

**Modern Apprenticeship  
places available April '98**

**Contact us TODAY - DON'T DELAY**



Training  
&  
Paramedical Services

Inter Action Leisure  
Churchill House  
6 Castle Hill Road  
Dover Kent CT16 1QN  
Tel: 01304 213457  
Fax: 01304 213352  
Email: 100276.3370@compuserve.com.uk



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Career in the...

# Outdoor Industry?

The Nationally recognised

## DIPLOMA IN OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES...

A one year full time course for mature students with the aim of preparing you for a career in the outdoor industry. MLTB, BCU, RYA, REC & AMI recognised, the course covers training and/or assessment in a variety of NGB awards.



Subjects include...

- \* Mountain Leadership
- \* Climbing
- \* Dinghy Sailing
- \* Kayaking
- \* Canoeing
- \* Orienteering
- \* Winter mountaineering
- \* Ecology
- \* Physiology
- \* Philosophy



Four days per week are spent on practical sessions throughout the UK Also available... Certificate in Outdoor Pursuits for 16-18 year olds For further details contact Information and Admissions on...

(01553) 761144 ext.271

## NORFOLK COLLEGE of Arts & Technology



TENNYSON AVENUE KING'S LYNN PE30 2QW



ACCOMMODATION

### GLAN - Y - BORTH

Nestles on the banks of the River Conway in the heart of Snowdonia. Ranging from 2-8 berth Bungalows. 20 fully equipped Self Catering Bungalows. Offers home from home comfort.

Please Phone Bill  
01492 641543

### Anglesey, Rhoscolyn.

Group accommodation, up to 36 in 8 bedrooms. Self or full catering. All facilities for year round use. 300 yds from beach and outstanding coast. Ideal base sea tours, surfing, overfalls. Camping available.

Phone: 01407 860469

### BURRS BUNKHOUSE -

Situated in a Country Park next to the River Irwell Grade 2/3. 28 bed, full kitchen, common room. £120 per night. Burrs Activity Centre 0161 764 9649

### GREY CORRIE LODGE

#### ROYBRIDGE

For the Highlands Mountaineering, Skiing Hill-Walking, Canoeing

On A86 - Fort William 12 miles Adjacent to Roybridge Hotel. Private bunkrooms for 2, 4 or 8 persons. Complete self-catering with heating, showers, toilets, drying rooms, all bedding and log fire.

All inclusive in price  
Tel: Spean Bridge 01397 712236  
Fax: 01397 712241

ACCOMMODATION

### Lanterns Inn. River Dart Canoeing

Near Holne. En-suite accommodation, family room available. Groups welcome. Drying facilities. Food available 7 days. Spacious free parking. Special accommodation rates available to canoeists with this ad. Packed lunches available. Big groups welcome. Anything is possible!!!

Knowle Hill, Ashburton  
Tel 01364 652697.

DEVON - 1/2 MILE FROM HOLME BRIDGE, Ashburton. B&B, B&E Evening Meal. Drying facilities and ample parking. Call Sue for rates. Reductions available for groups. Popular with Canoeists. Tel: 01364 631273

INCHREE CHALET & BUNKHOUSE, Onich, Fort William, Inverness-shire. Tel/fax: 01855 821287. Situated in the midst of the finest white water. Suitable all grades. Pub restaurant on-site.

BALA. N.WALES. Bunkhouse Heated, showers, Drying room. Sleeps 20, (2, 4, 6, 8), £7.00pn s/c. The Coach House, Bala. LL237HD Gwynedd. Brochure. (016578) 520738

FORT WILLIAM - Self catering for Paddlers - sleeps 22. Good drying room, comfortable beds, hot showers, close to many pubs! Alan or Sue Kimber (01397) 700451

COMPETITION

### WEST CORNWALL SEA KAYAK EXPERIENCE

Sunday 24th May, 1998, Hayle.

For entries, all classes S.A.E. to Doug Sims, 63 Mellanear Close, Hayle. TR27 4QU

EQUIPMENT & SERVICES

CANOEING FABRICS, Breathable Waterproofs, Wetsuit Neoprene Pile, Polartech Fleece, Neoprene Coated Nylon, Buckles, Webbing, Zips, Shock Cord, Velcro. Patterns for outdoor gear, Camping and Climbing Equipment. Discounts up to 50%. Shop open 10 - 5 Tues - Sat. For mail order catalogue please send 4" x 9" S.A.E. TOR (cf), 42 Widnes Road, Widnes, WAB 6AL.  
CANCARVE DESIGNS, Hand made wooden canoe models and trophies. For details write or telephone 5, Shanklin Place, Beaconhill Green, Cramlington, Northumberland, NE23 8HA. Tel + Fax: 01670 73640

EQUIPMENT & SERVICES

**POLY TUBS**

**19" x 15"**  
Watertight (ex food)  
Containers with screw on lid and handles.

1 tub £8.50    2 tubs £16.00  
5 tubs £30.00  
price includes p & p (UK)  
Please send cheques payable to:

**TUBS**  
78 High Street, Boston  
Lincs PE21 8SX  
Tel: 01205 366044

**NOW IN BIGGER AND BETTER PREMISES**

**CHILL FAGOR**

KAYAKS, CANOES, CAMPING, WALKING, CLIMBING.

**GOOD PRICES GIVEN FOR SECOND HAND KAYAKS**  
Buy any new kayak £500 or over receive £70 of free kayaking accessories  
211 A BLACKBURN RD, HEAPEY, LOWER WHEELTON, CHORLEY.

Tel/fax: 01254 831592  
or 0589 183458

JUNCT 8 M1 TAKE A54 TO BLACKBURN, 1 MILE, THEN LEFT AFTER RED CAT PUB, CARRY STRAIGHT ON INTO LOWER WHEELTON VILLAGE.

**WEIRWOLF**

Canoe & kayak builders and repairers.

**THE 'FANG'**

Super marathon C2 available as plans, pre-cut panel kit or completed boat in ply, fibreglass etc. Other boats built to commission at realistic prices. Repairs in GRP, Kevlar/Epoxy, polythene, ply, stripwood. Plastic welding service also available. Call for details and quote on your boat  
**Iain Hutchison (01594) 826273 (Glos)**

**PEAK**

**PADDLING WEAR**  
<http://www.bluedome.co.uk/peak/>

Unit 23  
Cromford Mill  
Mill Lane Cromford  
Matlock  
Derbyshire DE4 3RQ  
Tel 01629 825133  
Fax 01629 825833

**SITUATIONS VACANT**

SITUATIONS VACANT

**KAYAK INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED...** to commence early May at Multi Activity Centre. Must be BCU qualified to at least Level 2 Coach, with experience of instructing teenagers. This is a unique island-based Survival-training Centre, offering a good wage, and wonderful wild paddling all around. Apply with c.v. to Wild Island (CF), Solwaybank, Canonbie, Dumfriesshire DG14, 0XS.  
**QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED** at outdoor centres in North Devon. Vacancies from March to October. Activities include climbing, kayaking, surfing, and water-skiing. Phone 01237 477637 for application.

**BRADWELL ENVIRONMENT & OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE**

**SAILING/CANOEING/MULTI-ACTIVITY INSTRUCTORS**

**SEASONAL VACANCIES APRIL - OCT 1998**

from £4.42 per hour accommodation available  
Skills required include dinghy sailing, canoeing, archery, climbing  
**RYA/BCU/GNAS an advantage**  
For further details apply by early February to:  
The Manager  
Bradwell E & OEC  
Bradwell Waterside  
Southminster, Essex CM0 7QY  
or phone: 01621 776256

**Canoeing Instructors**

Seasonal vacancies at two BCU approved centres providing a wide range of courses for adults & children.

**Horseshoe Lake, Sandhurst, Berks**  
**Boldermere Lake, Wisley, Surrey**

**Senior Instructors**  
BCU Senior Instructors required for full-time non-residential positions  
June-Sept & July-August vacancies (7-12 weeks)

**Instructors**  
BCU Instructors & Supervisors required for full-time residential & non-residential positions during summer school vacations (July-August)

Telephone for further details & application form  
**01263 579771 (24hrs)**

**FREETIME**

**NEWLANDS ADVENTURE CENTRE**

**THE LAKE DISTRICT**

Instructors required for the 1998 season. Applicants require a minimum of 2 valid NGB qualifications. Interviews in February, positions available from March.  
For application details contact  
**Instructor Recruiting, Newlands Adventure Centre, Stair, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 5UF**  
Tel. 017687 78463

**YMCA**

**National Centre, Lakeside**

Outdoor Activity Instructors required  
From 23rd March to 30th September 1998  
Applicants with Level 2 Training or Assessment especially welcome  
Telephone 015395 31758 during office hours for details.

**WANTED!**

**WATERSPORTS INSTRUCTORS**

We have numerous opportunities for enthusiastic and energetic young people to work as Watersports Instructors. Challenging and rewarding jobs starting anytime from January onwards at residential centres throughout the UK and Holland.

Canoeists, Sailors and Climbers are needed; Canoeists ideally should be at least Level 2 Coach Trainee (Canoe or Kayak) but if you are enthusiastic and have experience, Superchoice will organise BCU and RYA training and assessment courses.

All instructors receive comprehensive training leading to other NGB qualifications.  
Join the team. Call **SUPERCHOICE** now for a recruitment pack and application form.

**Tel: (01305) 835966 (24 Hours)**



# SKERN LODGE

## TUTORS/INSTRUCTORS

Skern Lodge delivers courses for companies, colleges and schools, providing educational and personal and management training using the outdoors. With over 21 years of experience we pride ourselves on our safety, quality and exceptional customer care.

We are looking to increase our team from next year and are offering seasonal contracts from March to November and April to August.

Applicants should hold a current First Aid and Life Saving qualification and at least three NGBA's at Instructor level. You will be over 21 and preferably hold a PCV licence.

Applicants who do not have an activity background, but have experience and qualifications in development training and are willing to develop technical skills, are also encouraged to apply.

For more information and an application form please send your Curriculum Vitae with an SAE to: Operations Manager, Skern Lodge, Appledore, Bideford, North Devon, EX39 1NG



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

## CROFT - NA - CABER

"Scotland's Premier Watersports Centre"

Croft-Na-Caber requires instructors and assistants for the 1998 season.

Applicants for instructional posts should be highly motivated and qualified in at least two of the following activities which we provide.

Archery/Canyoning  
Canoeing/Kayaking  
Power boating  
Sailing/Waterskiing  
Windsurfing  
White water rafting  
Parascending

For further information or an application form please contact

Reggie Gough  
Activities Manager  
Croft-Na-Caber  
Loch Tay  
Kenmore  
Perthshire Scotland



CROFT-NA-CABER

Croft Na Caber  
Loch Tay  
Kenmore  
By Aberfeldy,  
Perthshire  
PH15 2HW

Highland Hotel  
Restaurant  
Coffee Shop  
Lochside Log  
Chalets

Scotland's  
Premier  
Watersports and  
Activities Centre

Activities  
Reception:  
(01887) 830588  
Fax:  
(01887) 830649

Main Reception  
Tel:  
(01887) 830236

## SEASONAL OPPORTUNITIES OF A LIFETIME FOR INSTRUCTORS & ASPIRANT INSTRUCTORS

### Working Adventure

WORK WITH ACORN VENTURE FROM APRIL 1998

- ★ Comprehensively Approved Throughout
- ★ Top Money
- ★ NGB Training Opportunities For All Staff
- ★ Professionally Run Centres
- ★ Established In 1982
- ★ No Compromise On Safety

"You really make a difference to the people you work with!"

ACORN VENTURE LTD

ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES IN THE UK, FRANCE, ITALY AND SPAIN

For An Information Pack, Send Your C.V. & Covering Letter To: The Operations Manager (Recruitment Training), Acorn Venture Ltd, Acorn House, Waterloo Road, Hagley, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY10 1AA

TELEPHONE: 01562 887260 FAX: 01562 887261  
E-MAIL: [recruitment@acorn-venture.com](mailto:recruitment@acorn-venture.com)



## Allnatt Centres

Providers of Outdoor Education based in Swanage, Dorset require

Instructors with BCU level 2 and / or MLTB SPA/SPSA

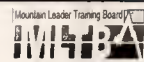
Please Contact James Farrell on  
01929 422122/3 ASAP

### SITUATIONS VACANT

1998 Season

(Work based in S.East England, North Wales and Wye Valley).

Applications are sought for the following posts:-



Approved Centre

Freelance and short term instructors required between May-October

Combinations of the following qualifications needed: SPSA, MLTB summer, BCU Level 2 Coach (kayak and/or canoe) minimum, BOF, First Aid, Driving essential. One to ten week appointments available. Applicants should have a range of instructing experience and expertise. Applications to include names of 2 references.

#### Assistant Instructor Post

One or two vacancies for enthusiasts with high levels of motivation, commitment and some National Governing Body award training. NGB training and assessments provided free as part of the job, as is accommodation. Candidates should be available between mid April and October 1998



Apply in writing, with C.V. to Fourth Dimension,  
13 Eskbank Avenue, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 8SL.  
Job details available on written request.



KAYAKING  
HIGH ROPES

CLIMBING  
WINDSURFING

### INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED FOR 1998 SEASON

Qualified/Experienced Multi Activity Instructors Required  
Season starts January ends October  
Individual Instructor Training programs running throughout  
the season

Apply to: Personnel (Dept 4)   
Hyde House Activity Centre  
Hyde, Wareham, Dorset BH20 7NX  
Tel: 01929 471847

ARCHERY  
BIWVI

SAILING  
FIELD STUDIES

## UK SAILING ACADEMY

REQUIRE  
QUALITY  
WATERSPORTS  
INSTRUCTORS

TO WORK IN  
BARBADOS  
& COWES

UKSA

- Can you deliver an inspirational Experience to Highly Motivated and Demanding students?
- Would you like to join our team of Professional Instructors delivering at the cutting edge of your industry?

We are seeking Multi Disciplined instructors with Dinghy Senior / Advanced Instructor, Windsurfing Level 3 and Canoe Instructor qualifications or Dinghy Instructor, Windsurfing Level 1 Instructor and Canoe Instructor qualifications.

To work on Professional and/or Youth courses.  
Both in **Barbados** and **Cowes**.

Apply in writing with C.V. to Simon Davies, Vice Principal  
UK SAILING ACADEMY  
WEST COWES, ISLE OF WIGHT PO31 7PQ

## Crystal Schools

**INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED**  
For watersports sites in the south of France and Spain during the Summer of 1998

NGB qualifications preferred  
Training provided  
Wages & full board included

**TEL. CRYSTAL SCHOOLS ON  
0181 241 5151  
FOR APPLICATION AND  
FURTHER DETAILS**



Sit back and relax.  
Why tear your hair out this winter trying to recruit staff for your centre?  
SPARES will find and train the right people for you.

For all your recruitment needs.....  
Contact SPARES on



0800 7318312  
111 Hagley Road, Edgbaston,  
Birmingham B16 8AB

Sports and Recreation  
Employment Services



The Frantic  
Recruitment Manager  
Midnight Oil Outdoor Centre  
Recruitment office  
Shrenfilledd Road  
Redeye

## The Scottish National Sports Centre GLENMORE LODGE

Following the completion of a £2 million redevelopment at the National Training Centre at Glenmore Lodge the Scottish Sports Council is continuing its investment in mountaineering, canoeing and other outdoor sports with its ongoing provision of the high quality training courses offered at the Lodge. Applications are invited for the following full time posts:

### SENIOR INSTRUCTOR (Grade H10)

Salary range £20,587 - £25,232  
inclusive of All Hours Worked Allowance and pension contribution

### INSTRUCTIONAL OFFICER (Grade IO) 2 POSTS

Salary range £18,596 - £22,332  
inclusive of All Hours Worked Allowance and pension contribution

The successful candidates are likely to be experienced mountaineers/canoeists holding BMG, MIC and/or BCU Coach qualifications. The start date will be around the end of April 1998.

Short-term contracts of 3 or 6 months covering the summer or winter seasons may also be available and anyone interested is invited to forward their CV.

Please address your letter of application and CV to  
**Nigel Williams, Head of Training,**  
Glenmore Lodge, Aviemore,  
Inverness-shire, PH22 1QU

Closing date for applications - Friday 13 March 1998

## Hertfordshire Young Mariners Base Outdoor Education Worker

£216.45 per week

3 to 4 months June to September 1998

This post has been crafted to work alongside the current Outdoor Education team to deliver a flourishing programme of activities using the newly opened facilities including a climbing tower and caving complex.

You will be expected to work with a wide range of school, youth and adult groups including substantial evening and weekend work.

Minimum qualifications are a National Governing Body Award in one of the following watersports; Sailing, Canoeing, Windsurfing.

Experience or qualifications in climbing, caving or orienteering would be an advantage.

Opportunities also exist for volunteer and paid sessional Outdoor Education Workers for evening, weekend and occasional daytime duties.

Please send a letter of application and C.V. to: **Head of Centre,**  
Herts Young Mariners Base, 231 Windmill Lane, Cheshunt, Herts  
EN8 9AJ. Tel 01992 628403 Fax 01992 632654

## OPPORTUNITIES IN IRELAND

- Ireland's leading Adventure Organisation
- Require Qualified and Trainee Instructors in Kayaking, Sailing, Windsurfing, Rockclimbing and Multi Activity
- Work in a fun yet professional environment with a Multinational team of instructors
- Centre is set amidst the spectacular scenery of Connemara in the west of Ireland (Europe's last great wilderness area?)
- Positions include accommodation and skills training
- Corporate/Adults/Children's programmes on offer

Please Send C.V., Photo, and copies of certification to:

Personnel  
Delphi Adventure Holidays  
Leenane  
Co. Galway  
Ireland

**delphi**  
ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS

## Keen Canoeists...

If you're a competent paddler then why not train and qualify to BCU level 2 Coach (and beyond) before living and working as an instructor at one of our children's adventure centres in Britain, France or Spain?

Training courses will take place between February and May 1998 and you will work right through to early Autumn.

In addition to your accommodation, meals, training and weekly wage, we are offering a terrific chance to build on your qualifications and gain valuable work experience.

Contact the Recruitment Department now:  
PGL Adventure, 820 Alton Court, Penyard Lane, Ross-on-Wye, HR9 5GL. Telephone: 01989 767833.



**NEEDED NOW!**

Leisure Services

### SEASONAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT

Coombe Country Park

LS/9/98

Scale 2 Point 1 £10,449 per annum

Seasonal Posts commencing 23 March 1998 - 13 September 1998 inclusive  
We are looking for an enthusiastic individual to assist the Education Ranger during a busy summer period. You will be responsible for organising and leading outdoor adventure and environmental activity sessions for groups of all ages and abilities. You should have experience of teaching outdoor activities and an interest in the environment.

Possession of a clean driving licence and the relevant outdoor activities qualification is essential i.e. British Canoe Union Instructor Award.

Hours of work will be 37 each week and will include occasional weekend working.

This post is subject to the Protection of Children Regulations.

For Further Particulars

Telephone: (01203) 832407 or 832449d

Closing Date: 23 February 1998

**NORTH YORK MOORS ADVENTURE CENTRE.** Park House, Ingleby Cross DL6 3PE instructor required. Min. BCU Level 2, over 21, driving licence. Residential. Other NGB awards advantage wage tisp  
p.w. send C.V.

**QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS/TRAINEES** required for 1998. March - October. Activities include: Caving, Kayaking, Archery, Mountain Biking, Abseiling, Climbing, Rifle Shooting. Cheddar 01934 - 743775.

## EAST MERSEA YOUTH CAMP

### Chief Instructor - Full Time JNC Rates

A well motivated person to head up a team of up to 15 - 20 full and part time instructors. Must have at least two N.G.B. qualifications in Outdoor Pursuits.

### Senior Instructor - Full Time JNC Rates

To assist Chief Instructor, at least two N.G.B. qualifications required in Outdoor Pursuits e.g. S.P.S.A., B.C.U. Instructor, RYA Power Boat Instructor.

### Multi Activity Instructors required from May to September 1998

To work with young people.

One or more of the following qualifications desired:-  
SPSA, BCU Level 2 Coach, GNAS Leader, BTF Coach, RYA Power boat Level 2, Judo Instructor, RLSS Bronze medallion.

4 Weeks Instructor Training and Assessment period during April 1998

Food & Accommodation available if required.

Catering and Domestic staff also required from May.

Apply to:-

East Mersea Youth Camp  
Rewalls Lane, East Mersea  
Colchester, Essex CO5 8SX

Tel: 01206 383226 Fax: 01206 385598





## The Ackers Outdoor Activity Centre

Require the Following

1 Permanent Instructor (from March 1998) & Sessional/Seasonal Staff  
Must have NGB Qualifications i.e. BCU, SPSA, LCLA, BOF, MLTB, ESC etc.

Please send covering letter with current CV to :  
The Ackers, Golden Hillock Road, Small Heath, Birmingham. B11 2PY

### Longridge Scout Boating Centre

Require Qualified Canoeing Instructors from May to September to help run canoeing courses together with general work around the centre. Applicants should preferably be BCU Level Two Coaches (Kayak)

For more information please contact:

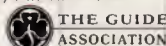
The Manager  
Longridge Scout Boating Centre  
Quarry Wood Rd  
Marlow SL7 1RE  
Tel/Fax 01628 483252

### BLACKLAND FARM

#### INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED

Candidates should be over 18 years of age and hold BCU T1 or BMC S.P.S.A training as a minimum. Activities include canoeing, climbing, abseiling, archery and skiing. Details available from The Guide Association, Blackland Farm

Tel. 01342  
810493



### INSURANCE

# N. W. BROWN

### INSURANCE BROKERS

Insurance available for:-  
Canoes and Equipment,  
Activity Centres, Travel.

For details contact Shaun at

N W Brown Insurance,  
Brokers, Richmond House  
16 -20 Regent Street,  
Cambridge CB2 1DB  
Tel: 01223 720200  
Fax: 01223 353705

## Members advertisements: Sell, Sell Sell!

Please forward all adverts to appear in the Members

Classified direct to: BCU HQ in Nottingham. MEMBERS ADS FREE

**Pyranha Stunt 300**, purple, 5 months old, full ww spec, hardly used, VGC, additional equipment available on request. £30 Tel: 0976 366520 Devon/ Cornwall.

**Red Gatino**, ww kayak, front and rear airbags, palm back rest 125. Perception Dancer in VGC, with spraydeck, 1/2 aid, helmet and Ainsworth paddle 175, Coleman Ram X5, converted for solo white water paddling. Large front and rear airbags, saddle, 2 paddles 1300 Tel: 0442 73936 (S Wales).

**Rotobal Lvo**, Moqul Polo canoe c/w spraydeck and polo paddle 160, Falchion c/w thigh brace, VGC, L20, Snipe (fibreglass) L20 Tel: 0725 52616 (Salisbury)

**Rotobal WW 175**, Rotobal welded 160. Acrotal 300 1275, Mountain 300 slight damage seat 1300. T Canyon L50 Creek 1300 0639 844294, Swanssea Area.

**Rotobal full ww spec**, in VGC, yellow. Includes full plate footrest, backrest and airbags 1200 (Herts). Contact Paul on 0442 242323 ext 3247 (day) or 0952 69391 eves/ansaphone. (Beds)

**Sea Kayak free to good home 6ft** Tel: 093 449 0069 Mob 0140 867891 (Liverpool) to arrange collection.

**Sea Kayak Sea King 20ft**, orange with black trim, two very large watertight hatches fore and aft allowing stowage or even the bulkiest equipment with ease. Full decklines and pump, knees and thigh bars, rockered hull combined with effortless straight running, adjustable footrest. A fast boat with high performance superb condition for the asking price of 1500 Tel: David, Chorleywood 0923 28504

**Sea Kayak**: Hebrides Expedition kayak with new hatch covers, seams, decklines, elastics, 2 bulkheads and towing system, red and yellow, fast and comfortable with loads of room for gear. Very good condition 1750 for quick sale. Contact Richard on 0983 728 95 or 089 838 447

**Secondhand and Out of Print canoe and kayak books** for sale, please send sae for long list to: Davis, 9 G Burrow Rise, Northam, Bideford EX39 1TB Slalom Ki, (Blitz/Derwent) fibreglass, excellent condition, would suit enthusiastic paddler. Call eves to Phil 089 5694 (Berks) L50

**Topino Spud** - black, excellent condition with neoprene spraydeck. Full ww specification 1350. Slalom Ki, carbon kevlar, excellent condition with new neoprene spraydeck 1300 090 Tel: 0929 256688 Devon

**Wetsuits (1)** Sleeveless long john Aqua Pro UK M(L) 3mm. 130 black lime yellow patches. (11) 1/2/1/4/5 detachable sleeves 150 front top lime yellow/black, will split Tel: 0277 652550

### Wanted

**Acrotal 270**, good condition, reasonable price paid, will meet to collect. Possibly slalom kayak for exchange (Blitz Derwent) Call 089 5694 ask for Phil.

**Andy Toro**: Canoeing an Olympic Sport, book (Olympian Graphics) Tel: 0642 342371 Day 0642 254393 eves. Stuart Taylor  
**Canoe Fleet (6-12 no)** suitable for beginners/intermediates inc/ exc, trailer. Tel: Mark 0672 862555 Cornwall.

**Eurokayak Conquest**, (full ww spec) will pay up to 1200 depending upon condition. Buyer can collect Tel: Andrew 0733 205577 (Kent)

**For Long Distance marathon racing**, any fast touters such as Kirton Kayaks Barracuda or is anyone has a mould of such a kayak. Please ring as we are prepared to hire it, Contact John on 0973 25356 any time. Fair price paid for the right kayak.

**Gaybo Javelin Ki** in good condition (or other high volume Ki to suit 95kg paddler) Call 0125 33941 eves.

Half a broken Shlegal Allround paddle to make a set of spits. If anyone has one and has no use for it please contact Richard Tel: 0468 43029

**Ki Spartan** - good condition, any offers considered, Midlands area preferred

Tel: 0203 343935

**Ka Stable and Cheap**, required for husband and wife attempt at DW next year. Any reasonable condition considered. O/S rudder preferred. Will travel to see. Tel: Kevin 0268 54446 Essex.

**Open Boat 16-16"** for reasonable price 1300 max, can collect. Topolino Spud, cheaper the better, maximum 1300 can collect. Contact Richard on 0983 728 95 or 089 838 447

**Sea Kayaks** - and equipment. Tel/fax: 0935 40243  
**Skerry** preferably in Scotland will travel down south if necessary i.e. Yorkshire Tel: Bonita 0959 701889

**Stunt Bat end caps/grab handles**, please ring Alex 0743 243896  
**Stunt Bat** or similar in ww spec, required for youngster. Must be in reasonable condition. Contact Bob on 0276 476760 N W Surrey

### Lost/Found/stolen

**Found** on the River Dee, downstream of Town Falls at Llangollen on Saturday 29.11.97 - An Ainsworth paddle. Ring 0733 552000

**Lost large metal flask** with BEV written on it, on Dee Tour Saturday 5th November. Willing to repay any expenses for its return, please phone Bev on 0484 430695

**Lost** on the 29th November on the River Ullswater a set of carbon asymmetric paddles. They are black, right handed, and made by Nomads but they don't have nomad written on them. If anyone has found these blades please contact Richard Tel: 0922 47677

**Lost 25m Palm Bark Rescue Bag** throwline, Sunday 30 November, River Ullswater, North Wales, just above Bench falls. It is marked with my name and post code. If found please contact me on 079 20 237 (w) or 079 352 5988 (h) to arrange its return. Thank You.

**Lost kayak**, Eurokayak Conquest, after capsize on Town Falls, Llangollen, Sat 29 Nov 97. Purple with yellow nose cone. Scout registered: Cambs 2977/999. Plus dry bag containing personal belongings. Tel: 0733 205977

**Lost/Stolen** I was on the Eze Descent race when I retired from the race near Thornton, where I left my boat, equipment and paddles near a barn on Sunday 23 November 1997. The boat was a green Cypur, Ainsworth paddles, black dry bag clothing, green dry bag repair kit, first aid kit, flask.

**Stolen overnight on Sat 29 November** from a car parked in Church Street Llangollen. An Eskimo Gumbler blue with yellow graphics, 1/1 1686 and a Pyranha Stuntbat aquamarine 1/1 LDTX9CMA. Both are marked and identifiable. Also 4 paddles. If you have any info. Call local police and quote North Wales Police Incident No: Llangollen 31 of 30.11.97 or call 0865 82097.

**Stolen**, Pyranha "Blade" kayak, red. Almost new. Stolen in Seaton, Devon, in the early hours of Saturday 22 November. Reward for information leading to the safe return of the boat. Contact the Police or 0932 256688

**Miscellaneous**  
Turkey - Conur River grade 4, warm white water, June, July 1998 10 days paddling rapids every day all day sunshine great scenery, mountains, castles, gorges. Further details contact Dave Manby 21 Mayfield Park, Shrewsbury SY2 6BD email dave@manby.demon.co.uk

**Thinking about organising a white-water expedition abroad?** Have you considered Turkey? The rivers are wild and beautiful, unspoilt and uncrowded, and warmer than Europe! We can assist private expeditions with advice on when and where to go, kayak hire, transport and accommodation. We are based in SW Turkey but have experience of rivers throughout the country, including the Conur. Sea kayaking also possible. Contact Vedat or Julie Tel/fax 00 90 252 413 3208. e-mail alterm@supernline.com.

## TRADE

Leading Canoe Shop in Somerset

# PERFORMANCE KAYAKS

Telephone: 01934 613612

Fax: 0117 923 5961

Canoe and Kayak Specialist Suppliers

Phone or Fax For Our

New Comprehensive Mail Order Price List

Brokerage Service Available

Demo Boats & Local Demo Lake

Try us First for a Competitive package

66 Uphill Way, Uphill Village, Weston-Super-Mare BS23 4TN

Credit/Debit Cards Accepted



### South East

## MAKING WAVES

The new mobile shop for Kent and Sussex. For information on equipment, prices, brochures, or to arrange a visit just ring:

0411 096180 or 01223 732374 (eves)

### Essex

## NUCLEUS

The Essex Superstore  
Big Big Stocks. Best Prices  
for Kayaks or Canoes.

Nucleus Watersports  
204 Frinton Road, Holland-on-Sea, Clacton  
01255 812146 or 0410 375560

### North West

Rapid Canoe Supplies  
Stockists of all leading  
equipment and accessories.

OPENING TIMES  
Mon - Sat: 9.00 am - 6.00pm  
Sunday and bank Holidays: By appointment only

01524 388850  
Unit 8, Lansil Industrial Estate,  
Caton Road, Lancaster  
Lancs LA1 3NX

### Norfolk

**NORFOLK SCHOOL OF CANOEING**  
Unit 9, Bure Valley Business Centre,  
Lanham, Buxton, Norfolk NR10 5AF  
http://www.canoeing.co.uk/norfolk  
01603 279979

Coaching Courses  
CST/Rescue Award  
1-4 Star Courses  
Supervisor to Senior Instructor  
Activities for schools and groups  
Open Canoe and Kayak  
Equipment Hire

### Worcestershire

#### POLY PIPPIN 14

The original polythene open cockpit  
kayak (ideal for beginners)  
**THE 'BELL BOAT'**  
A totally new approach to teaching  
paddlesport.

For details contact Steve Train  
T.L. Elliott & Co Ltd, Wolverton Hall, Peaporton,  
Pershore, Worcs, WR10 2AU  
Tel: 01905 840813  
Fax: 01905 840002

### South Yorkshire

**SPLASHPOOD**  
KAYAKS & RESCUEWAIR

We only stock the best  
All enquiries welcome  
310 Thorne Road, Wheatley Hills,  
Doncaster DN2 5AL  
Tel: 01302 344403

### Middlesex

**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: 01932 247978

### Suffolk

#### STANLEY PADDLES

Individually crafted paddles in wood/epoxy.  
Canadian paddles for all classes of  
canoesport and touring.

The unique wood/ epoxy laminated Wing  
paddle for kayak sprint, marathon and  
touring.

Wood racing seats for all racing kayaks.  
For details please ring,  
Tel/Fax/Answer 01502-711376

### South West

#### THE SOUTH WEST'S BIGGEST CANOE SHOP.

Beside the Exe for easy demos. For  
friendly professional advice call into our  
new modern shop

**ADVENTURE EMPORIUM**  
HAVEN RD, EXETER. 01392 421831/219600

### Wiltshire

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

**HAZE ENTERPRISES**  
25 Primrose Hill, Tockenham,  
Wootton Bassett, Swindon, Wilts  
Tel: 01793 852904

### Hampshire

## Woodmill

Canoeing & Outdoor Activities Centre  
Woodmill Lane, Swaythling,  
Southampton SO2 2JR Tel: (01703) 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

### Greater London

CANOE RESCUE EQUIPMENT AND  
ACCESSORIES INCLUDING  
GREEN SLIME THROWBAGS

MAIL ORDER  
SERVICE  
AVAILABLE

CONTACT: SUZY, 2 VICTORIA CLOSE,  
EAST MOLESEY, SURREY, KT8 9SQ  
TEL/FAX: 0181 941 2714

### North Wales

**DEE KAYAK & CANOE  
SCHOOL**

65 Harwood Lane, Rossett, Wrexham.  
Clwyd. LL12 0EU

Tel: 01244 570157 (24hr Ans)  
Courses for beginners.  
New White Water Rafting Courses  
Send SAE for full programme.  
All BCU Coaching awards

### Scotland

Equipment, accessories,  
river information and more.  
Mail order & contract  
orders welcome.

**Highland Canoes**  
7, Myrdefield, Grampian Road,  
Aviemore  
Tel: 01479 810116





Article by  
Neil Dixon  
Photos by  
Neil Dixon and  
Thomas Heath

**T**he water roared above my head, and I recalled the distant memory of a cold February morning when Tom's Nova was desperately trying to pull us up the motorway to the NEC. As the wipers struggled against the persistent drizzle, Tom said to me 'So Neil, fancy going somewhere cool this summer?'. I thought he meant the Alps. That would have been good enough.

Five months later, my loaded Transition seemed to be jammed under a large rock. It was also upside down, with me still in it. Thus I had learned that it is a bad idea to lean onto cushion waves in big volume grade IV water. Beyond this minor crisis were two full days of relentless white water before we got to the next bridge. It was OK for Tom, I reflected, wriggling desperately; he had paddled rivers whose names I couldn't even spell, in five different continents. Dan wanted a break from Premier slalom, so bought himself a 'proper' boat and came on holiday. And Darryl? Well, in my opinion, anyone who paddles a Kendo on multi-day self-supported big volume river trips has to be good. Bod and I, however, were more than a little nervous.

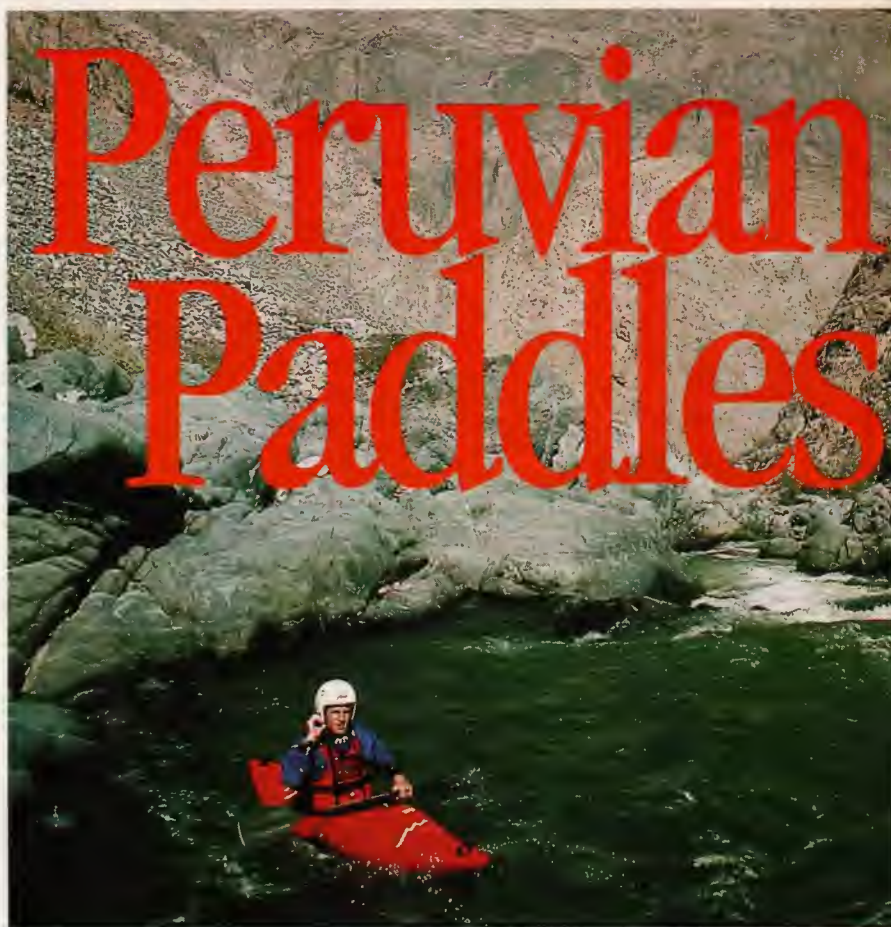
Finally, managing to push myself free with one hand and bobbing up downstream of the rock I was able to roll up just before I ran out of breath. As the others looked on in laughter, I realised that this was going to be one hell of a trip!

#### Professional beggar

This five week expedition to the Peruvian Andes was the result of months of planning. Tom and I had written about 45 letters asking companies if they wanted to give us free equipment. I was pleasantly surprised when Peak Performance and North Cape said yes. Specsavers opticians offered Bod and me the perfect solution to our near blindness in the form of daily disposable contact lenses. These proved to be invaluable, but unfortunately I could no longer blame my terrible choice of line on short sightedness! And finally, refusing to spend any of my own money unless it was absolutely necessary, I applied to about twenty trusts and bursary funds for financial help. (I have considered leaving university to become a full-time professional beggar, but my mum says she simply won't allow it.)

#### Grade VI boulder-chokes

We paddled on through the beautiful valley as the sides of the gorge rose steeply in broken rock, scattered with Texan style cacti and grazing llamas. The vivid blue sky was too bright to look at but at over two thousand metres above sea level, when you entered the shade it was freezing cold. Ahead of us, the grey-green river disappeared in a tremendous roar as it fell between huge boulders. The advice from Ben, our friendly guardian angel (local raft guide) was to walk around this one. Good advice too, as grade VI boulder-chokes don't do much for your health. During the arduous portage we were attacked by the voracious sandflies, but didn't miss an



The Rio Apurimaca is the longest tributary of the Amazon. Its name translates to God Speaker. As I tried to wriggle my boat out from under a large rock, I wondered what I had done to upset him.

opportunity to get some photos of Dan and me in the new Peak kit. Despite protests from the others, Dan and I refused to relinquish our Peak gear for them to play with.

#### This is what living is about

Slowly, my long forgotten paddling skill came back to me, and I gained confidence on the powerful water. My unbelievably heavy boat actually went where I wanted it to go, although with less precision than Dan's and more buoyancy than Darryl's. In my capacity as one

of the photographers, I watched the others shoot a grade V section called Space Odyssey. Bod's swim did nothing to convince me that it would be alright to run the section so I decided to walk around it. Better humble than dead, I always say! At the end of our first day, we cooked over a driftwood fire in the barren desert canyon and then slept in mosquito nets on a beach of sun-baked sand under the stars of the southern hemisphere. My diary entry ended with the sentence "This is what living is about".



for further  
information  
contact  
Neil at

2 Pensford Way,  
Frome, Somerset  
BA11 2YE or in  
term time at  
Robinson  
College,  
Cambridge  
CB3 9AN

#### Team members:

Victoria Arnold  
(Bod), Dan  
Corner,  
Neil Dixon,  
Thomas Heath,  
Darryl  
Sergisson.

Many thanks to  
the expedition  
sponsors:

Peak  
Performance,  
North Cape and  
Specsavers.  
And thanks also  
to Suzy,  
Lifesystems and  
Performance  
Kayaks.





**Was God having the Last Laugh?**

The water got more serious the next day, and we came across the two hardest rapids of the section. Tom, Dan and Darryl ran the first one, called Toothache, while Bod and I felt that it was our duty to sacrifice our own pleasure and take photos for the sponsors. Wise choice it turned out, as we watched our more experienced team mates get backlooped in the various holes.

Shortly before the get-out at the end of another exhausting day, we got to a rapid aptly named Last Laugh. With one of my contact lenses swimming around somewhere on top of my eye, I courageously steered my kayak towards Bod's empty boat sitting in a huge stopper and skilfully bounced over the top of it to avoid a similar fate. 'Nice move' I lied to myself. Bod was fine, but a few minutes earlier another paddler had been eaten by a neighbouring hole and recirculated for over a minute while everyone could only look on helplessly. Luckily, she was flushed out. We stopped for a while to check everything was okay, before paddling the rest of the trip in a subdued silence.

**Entertaining the locals**

I had survived my first Andean river, this was a huge achievement. After a few nights spent enjoying the kickin' nightlife in the town of Cusco, Tom, Dan, Bod and I set off for a section on the Rio Urubamba. We spent the







first day drifting down grade II rapids peering round each corner waiting for the IIIs and IVs we had been promised. It didn't turn up, so we spent the night sleeping on the floor of a house built of mud bricks in a tiny dusty village. The local children were completely amazed by our appearance, and until that evening I had never imagined how much fun could be had with a woolly hat and an inflated airbag with a face drawn on it.

#### The Sacred Valley

Tom and Dan ran the Urubamba for a further nine kilometres as it dropped deeper into the Sacred Valley of the Incas, where it eventually runs below the famous ruins of Machu Picchu. Leaving the village as grade II, the river quickly works up to continuous V. After dark, Tom and Dan returned to the village in a small bus tastefully furnished with fluffy pink seat covers.

Having lost Darryl early in the expedition to his pursuit of bigger rivers and more extreme boating, the remaining four decided to split after our second river. Tom and Dan travelled South to Arequipa and did the Cotahuassi Canyon, possibly the deepest gorge in the world. They also walked part of the famous Inca Trail to Machu Picchu and did the Rio Tambopata,

while Bod and I took the train to Machu Picchu (less energetic, but probably slower and definitely more dangerous) and hooked up with a bunch of Americans to do the Rio Tambopata with full raft support over a lazy thirteen days.

#### David 'Tarzan' Attenborough

The Tambopata has been described as the world's most biodiverse river ecosystem and from our experiences during the 120 mile journey, it certainly lived up to this. After a two day drive over the barren altiplano, crossing passes at 4 600m, we found the river in a warm cloud filled valley. We got in at a small muddy town, and quickly disappeared into the dense cloudforest. The rafts found the technical grade III rapids tricky, but we

chasing the amazing butterflies and watching toucans swoop from tree to tree.

#### Tropical thunderstorms

Our North Cape thermals made the extreme humidity bearable, even though they remained damp for the whole fortnight. Often, the sky would turn rapidly from bright blue to sullen grey, signalling the approach of another tropical storm. The air seemed supercharged as lightening sparked across the forest canopy and the sky took on a pink hue. Huge raindrops pounded onto the kayaks and rafts and the river grew brown and swollen with water from the flooded streams feeding it. The storms always passed quickly though, leaving spectacular rainbows and a steaming forest.

The river slowed and widened as we left the cloudy green hills behind and meandered onto the flat jungle plains. We met up with the motorboat that we had arranged before leaving Cusco and loaded the rafts, kayaks and bodies onboard. Two days later we arrived at the jungle town of Puerto Maldonado, where the Tambopata joins the Madre de Dios. Since this was to be our last night before our flight back to Cusco, we hit the town.

#### '¿Quieres bailar?'

I couldn't begin to describe the music, but spurred on by our raft guides I ventured to ask a local girl if she wanted to dance. (I learnt how to ask that in Spanish before I could say 'Where are the big rivers?'.) I had a limited amount of success, but was put to shame by Ron, our forty year old raft guide from Costa Rica. I put this down to his knowledge of more than ten phrases in Spanish and the fact that, unlike me, he wasn't wearing a pair of Ron Hills and Tevas.



canoeists had a great time playing our unladen kayaks. Oh, the joys of raft support!

The river wound its way down the foothills of the Andes and changed remarkably over the next few days the rapids became less technical and more powerful. During our frequent excursions into the forest we discovered surreal tree ferns, processions of leafcutter ants, huge spiders, rare mammals, and the most amazing birds I have ever seen. We were even bombarded with nuts thrown by spider monkeys in the canopy above us. I felt halfway between David Attenborough and Tarzan as I swung from another huge vine and hoped that this wasn't to be my first encounter with a jungle snake. We took every opportunity to explore the cool green creeks that fed the Tambopata, swimming through the pools and scrambling up the waterfalls,

#### Reunion

At Lima airport we met Darryl, who had returned victorious from his river running crusade. The next day we found Tom and Dan surfing the Pacific waves at Waikiki Bay and swapped stories all the way home.

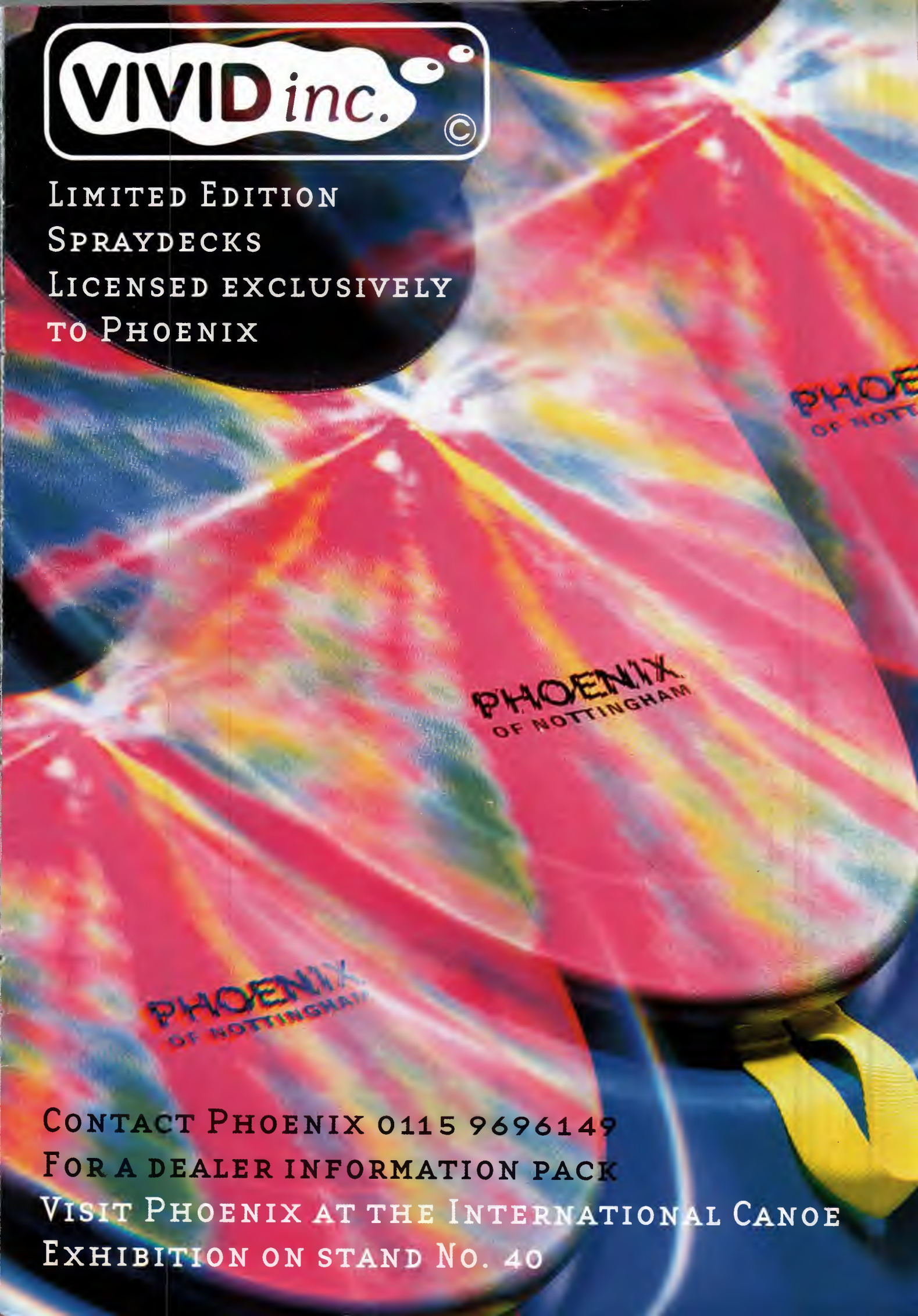
Those five weeks were the most incredible ones of my life. Looking back to the cold February morning when it all started, it was hard to believe that I had really been a part of this expedition. But with the thought of a whole new student loan reaching my bank account in October, I was already planning for next year...







LIMITED EDITION  
SPRAYDECKS  
LICENSED EXCLUSIVELY  
TO PHOENIX



CONTACT PHOENIX 0115 9696149  
FOR A DEALER INFORMATION PACK  
VISIT PHOENIX AT THE INTERNATIONAL CANOE  
EXHIBITION ON STAND No. 40



TOTALLY  
CHARGED UP,  
FREESTYLING

&

CARVING  
HARD

Technician Andy Phillips dialled in and shredding

*Palm*<sup>TM</sup>

river tec

AVAILABLE FROM DEALERS WORLDWIDE

RiverTec @ Palm, Harbour Rd, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 7BL

Tel: +44 (0) 1275 842740 Fax: +44 (0) 1275 842262

<http://www.palm-equipment.co.uk> e-mail: [info@palm-equipment.co.uk](mailto:info@palm-equipment.co.uk)

INTRODUCING

**river tec**<sup>TM</sup>  
advanced kayaking equipment

EXCLUSIVELY BY *Palm*<sup>TM</sup>

THE NEW RANGE OF CUTTING EDGE  
WATER WEAR - AVAILABLE NOW

## FREESTYLE SHELL



- 1 Super Composite Skin<sup>TM</sup> (S.C.S.) neoprene neck seal for a precise, water excluding fit, added insulation & extended lifespan
- 2 X.P.70<sup>TM</sup> coated shell fabric provides optimum performance for white-water sports giving unequalled breathability & durability
- 3 Velcro<sup>®</sup> neoprene double waist pull system aggressively sandwiches the spraydeck body tube to prevent unwanted water flushing
- 4 A revolutionary new inner waist seal provides lower back & kidney insulation & keeps water out

## COMBINATION PANTS



- 1 2mm neoprene insulation vest combined with breathable semi-dry trousers allow you to layer garments underneath, helping to keep your core body temperature stable in any weather
- 2 Double waist drawcord system to give an effective seal with the Freestyle Shell top creating a highly versatile two-piece semi-dry suit
- 3 500 denier Cordura<sup>®</sup> reinforcing on seat & knees for ultimate durability
- 4 Single seam leg sections & loose fit for minimum restriction & maximum movement



RiverTec<sup>TM</sup> is a trademark of Palm Equipment International Ltd