

THE CANOE SPORT MAGAZINE FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

canoe focus

06-01

No. 131

£2.00

Kiwi

expedition training

Nepalese

safety boater

Marathon

world championships

World

surf kayak championships

All the latest competition news

The best kit - reviewed

6 pages of courses, accommodation and jobs

BY ENTHUSIASTS FOR ENTHUSIASTS - THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BCU



Visit the famous 'Desperate Measures' shop for

ESKIMO



THULE
EAD RACK SYSTEMS

GORILLAS

puranha

perception

WAVE SPORT PRISON

ROBSON Paddles

Reed



Savage

WERNER

LENDAL

P.P.H.
Sea Kayak

MOBILE ADVENTURE
Earth's Own Great Specialist

WILD-WATER

Dagger

JUMBO
by ZODIAC

BOMBER GEAR

Sauvage



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 today on 0115 981 6815
Open 7 days a week for your convenience



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
E-mail: info@bcu.org.uk
www.bcu.org.uk
ISBN 0953-010X

BCU Enquiries & Editorial to
above address

President
Albert Woods

Chair
David Gent

Chief Executive
Paul Owen

Editor
Roger St. Pierre

Annual Subscription Rate

UK inland: £16.00
Overseas: £20.50

Supplied free to BCU members -

adults: £24.50 basic
£30.00 comprehensive
under 18's: £12.25 basic
£15 comprehensive
family: £11.25 basic
£14 comprehensive

Publishing Contractors

2b Graphic Design
29 Greenfields, St. Ives,
Cambs. PE17 4HB
Tel/Fax: (01480) 465081
ISDN 01480 359956

E-mail: peter@canoefocus.co.uk
www.twobdesn.demon.co.uk

Advertising Sales
Anne Egan

Printed by
Warners, Bourne, Lincs

Colour Repro by
2b Graphic Design

Magazine Design
Peter Tranter

Magazine Illustrator
Richard O' Donovan

**Typesetting and
Page Make-up by**
2b Graphic Design

BCU DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES

More People
canoeing with
the BCU

More Activity
promoting more
canoeing activity

More Access
more access to
waterways,
facilities
and finance

More Coaching
improving the
quality and
quantity of
coaching

More Medals
winning more
international,
world
and olympic
medals

5 Comment

6 Noticeboard

12 Events

14 Rapid action

A safety boater in action

18 Access

20 World Marathon

Championships

They are coming to Britain

24 Competition slalom

News and results

26 Kiwi expedition

Antipodean wild water adventures

32 Youth news

Meet the new Paddlesport Development
Officers

34 Surfin' USA

World surf championship

36 Letters

Your points of view

37 Silversides

A reader's golden oldie

38 Old Father Thames

New vision for a favourite river

40 Members Classified

41 Obituary

Donald Bean

48 Paddler's Gear

All the latest paddling kit from Nookie, Yak,
Markat, Henkel, Sowester Simpson-
Lawrence, Chill Factor, Vagabond and Hartley
and Marks Publishers.

www.canoefocus.co.uk

Background picture by
Chris Weissenborn
chrisweissenborn@btinternet.com

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 its 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 JUNE 2001. Material arriving at FOCUS after this date cannot be included in the AUGUST 2001 Issue. 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.



**STARTER
PACK
KAYAK
PADDLE &
SPRAYDECK
£299.00**

**Dagger RPM
Legend**
The great all rounder for any level of paddles & water conditions. "Dagger's best seller"
Only **£450**

**Dagger
Redline
Legend**
The playboat with river running capabilities. Great straight line speed made manageable with extreme manoeuvrability.
Only **£450**

**Pyranha
Ina Zone
£20/230/240**
The freestyle boat designed to rip at any level and on any river.
Now Only **£450**

**Necky Jive
8' 10"**
Classic allrounder for both surf and rivers, suitable for any level of paddlers and water conditions.
Now Only **£399**

**Pyranha
Creek 280**
Classic creek boat suitable for any creek conditions with performance to match the name. Complete with full-plate footrest and back support.
WAS £441
NOW **£349.00**

Eskimo ZWO
Radical new Lap end play and rodeo machine. ZWO will take you further.
NOW ONLY **£439.00**

**Gul Breathable
Dry Trousers**
• 2 Layer breathable nylon PU fabric
• Dry latex ankle seals with over cuffs/protectors
• Cordura 600 wear areas on backside and shins/knees
• Neoprene adjustable waist seal
• Heat sealed seams
£89.95

**Gul Breathable
Semi-Dry Gaiter**
• 2 Layer breathable nylon PU fabric
• Neoprene waist, neck and wrists
• Front pocket with mesh drain
• Heat sealed seams
£59.95

**Palm Rivertec
Power Short
John**
2.5mm neoprene, flat-lock stitching. A non-restrictive wetsuit combining warmth and flexibility.
WAS **£40.00**
NOW **£29.95**

**Gul Breathable
Dry Gaiter**
• Twin seal
• 2 Layer breathable Nylon PU fabric
• Shock cord adjustable internal waist/body tube
• Dry latex wrist seals with over cuffs
• Neoprene neck seal
• Heat sealed seams
£79.95

Yak Tempest Gaiter
• Neoprene cuffs, collar and waist.
• Chest pocket
£24.95

**RoHo 3mm
Wetsuit**
longjohn Adults **£39.95**
Juniors **£32.95**

**Tribe
Zip-front
Strapped Jacket**
£37.50
Junior **£31.50**

Yak Stux
• Aids
• Removable OR harness
• Removable zippered pocket
• Removable chest inner panels
• The adventure paddling vest
£79.95

Gul River Vest
• All new comfort fit
• Rescue harness
• Front pocket
• Lash tab points for knife
£64.95

**Yak Centre
Type**
Nylon deck taped seams
• Webbing reinforced
• Adjustable fit
£19.99

**Wildwater
Foil
adjustable
Helmets**
£28.00

Yak I-Shock
• Latex shockcord system
• Superstretch waist
• Heavy duty release
• Abrasion resistant rim
RRP **£51.95**
£44.99

STOP PRESS!!!

PERCEPTION ARC	£399
PERCEPTION SARC	£399
RIOT GLIDE	£565
RIOT SUPERSTAR	£565
NECKY BLISS & GLISS	£570

**Gorilla
Paddles**
• River Play **£80**
• Rodeo X **£108**
• Rodeo X HPS **£130**
• Rodeo X HPS Carbon **£175**

**Edge Zip
Boot**
Hard wearing sole
£19.99



**Robin Hood
Watersports**

152 Leeds Road, Heckmondwike,
West Yorkshire
E-MAIL: canoe@roho.co.uk
WEBSITE: www.roho.co.uk

BEST PRICES FOR SCHOOLS, CENTRES & SCOUT GROUPS - WE CAN QUOTE FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS!

CARDIOSPORT



LIMIT CLASSIC

- ♥ Target zone limits settable in single beat increments
 - ♥ Upper and lower limit alarms
 - ♥ Time (12 & 24hrs) & Calendar
 - ♥ Daily alarm
 - ♥ Easy to remember button commands
 - ♥ Easily replaceable battery
 - ♥ Bike mount included
 - ♥ Water resistant to 60ft (18m)
- £49.99**



ADVANCED

- ♥ Target zone limits settable in single beat increments
 - ♥ Upper and lower limit alarms
 - ♥ Time (12 & 24hrs), Calendar, Daily alarm
 - ♥ Memory recall of time in, above and below target zone
 - ♥ Percentage of time in, above and below target zone
 - ♥ Electroluminescent back light, Stopwatch
 - ♥ Maximum heart rate programmable by age or actual value
- Bike mount included
£99.99



HEARTSAFE TZ

- ♥ Heart rate to ECG accuracy
 - ♥ Time of day
 - ♥ 10 hour stopwatch
 - ♥ Heart rate recording up to 2.5 hrs
 - ♥ Heart Rate Zone High and Low Limit in 1 beat steps
 - ♥ Time in Heart Zone (heart rate controlled stopwatch)
 - ♥ Water resistant to 20m
 - ♥ Features Contour Lite transmitter with our changeable battery
- £79.99**



PREMIER

- ♥ Target zone limits settable in single beat increments
 - ♥ Upper and lower limit alarms
 - ♥ Time (12 & 24hrs), Calendar, Daily alarm
 - ♥ Stopwatch
 - ♥ Easy to remember button commands for user friendly operation
 - ♥ Transmitter battery is easily replaceable
 - ♥ Electroluminescent back light
 - ♥ Bike mount included
- £69.99**

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

COMMENT

HRH Princess Royal to open the Marathon Racing World Championships

The Princess Royal has agreed to honour the BCU by attending the opening ceremony of the Marathon Racing World Championships to be held in Stockton on Tees during the weekend of September 1-2.

Although, the opening ceremony will take place on Friday August 31 racing will commence on Thursday August 30 and Friday 31 with the Masters World Cup. There are events open to everyone from young people with Lightnings and bell boats, races for adults including a 10km open challenge and the master's categories from age 35. The Senior and Junior World Championships take place on Saturday and Sunday and provide the weekend entertainment.

Special thanks to our sponsors and supporters in particular Stockton Borough Council, World Class Events (Sports Lottery Fund) and British Waterways. Further information about the championships is available on page 20 of this edition of *Canoe Focus*.

Donald Bean

It is with great sadness that I bring to you the news of Donald Bean's death. At 71 Donald had been a paddler for over 60 years. A member of Stafford and Stone Canoe Club, Donald was also a keen supporter of several youth organisations including the Boys Brigade, Scouts and Police Cadets. He was awarded the MBE in 1992 for services to the community. A full obituary appears on page 41, he will be sadly missed.

Carel Quaiffe

As reported in a previous edition of *Canoe Focus* Carel Quaiffe retired from BCU service in December after sixteen years service. His retirement was marked by a Sunday afternoon river cruise where 50 guests enjoyed tea and a trip from the National Watersports Centre to Gunthorpe. Both Geoff Sanders, BCU vice president and David Gent,



chair of the BCU board attended the event and were able to speak about Carel, highlighting some of the events that marked Carel's service both as an employee and as a volunteer. David Gent completed the afternoon by presenting Carel with a wooden model of a South Greenland kayak and Carel's wife Ann with a bouquet of flowers.

Paddlesport review

Under separate cover you will have received a questionnaire associated with the paddlesport review. This is the first major survey of paddlers view and interests that has been carried out for several years. Although, completing questionnaires are a pain the information that will be gained will be crucial to the future development of the BCU and in particular our desire to ensure that the organisation is paddler centred.

Laura Wood

One of our employees Laura Wood is currently very ill, she has fallen foul to a mystery illness, which has caused her emergency admittance to Hospital. Laura is a voice known to many members in her capacity as secretary to the Planning and Facilities Department looking after the Access Management Committee and the National Development Team. I am sure that I speak for all BCU members in wishing her well with a speedy recovery.

Membership Renewal's

A reminder for those renewing BCU membership: in addition to renewing memberships by post and fax the BCU offers an online service via its web site www.bcu.org.uk

National Canoeing Development Centre

An application for phase one lottery funding has been submitted to Sport England in order to take forward the BCU's aspirations to establish a National Canoeing Development Centre at Holme Pierrpont. If successful, the BCU plan to move towards a fully planned phase two submission later in the summer and it is hoped that building will commence during the early part of 2002.

Planning and Facilities Department

I am pleased to welcome Dr George Parr to the Access and Facilities Department. George, is an internationally renowned hydrologist and designer of several white water facilities including the three English artificial courses in Nottingham, Teesside and Northampton. George will strengthen our work in progressing the BCU facilities strategy.

BCU Development Plan 2001 to 2005

The BCU has commenced work on its new development plan taking the organisation forward from November 2001 until October 2005. The BCU plans to organise a focus group during the summer to ensure that the plan is reflective of our members needs.

World Class Funding

I am pleased to announce that World Class Performance funding for the BCU has been confirmed until March 2005. We hope that a similar period of World Class Potential funding will be confirmed shortly. Our bid for support from the World Class Start Programme has been submitted to the lottery panel and a decision is expected during June.

Paul Owen
Chief Executive

And finally,
On behalf of all BCU members, officers and employees may I wish our International teams well as they set off on the summers trail of international events.

Going by the books

Franco Ferrero has moved on. Although he is still maintaining his connections with Plas y Brenin, he has handed over the role of head of canoeing and kayaking to Loel Collins.

Franco will now be spending much of his time developing Pesda

Press, his publishing business, and is available for private coaching, safety and rescue, first aid courses and lectures.

Contact: Franco Ferrero

Tel 01248-602287

e-mail:

enq@pesdapress.com

www.pesdapress.com



New boats for polo

Stirling Canoe Club's polo team has launched a fleet of six new kayaks, bought with a £3,700 grant from Sport Scotland.

A new design manufactured by Double Dutch, the boats will be used by the club's teams that play in divisions two and four of the national canoe polo league.

Says Stirling club coach, James Fleming: "The team has become well established, making significant progress in the Scottish leagues. The new boats are a welcome step in taking us forward to a new level. They will also help us make sure the sport is attractive and accessible to far more people. The availability of decent boats and kit is vital to the sport's growth.

Adds Alasdair Dempster, chair of Sport Scotland: "We are sure these new kayaks will help the team build on their existing success and also serve to bring new people into canoe polo."

Schools minister Jacqui Smith has announced that around 14,000 of the nation's 16-year olds will benefit from challenging adventure activities this summer, from kayaking to learning survival skills.

The activities, part of a £10-million scheme, are designed to bridge the gap between secondary school and adult life and open up options for further or higher education, training or a job with training. The pilot will run through 47 schemes in England.

Each programme will offer a range of outdoor adventure activities, including canoeing, along with rock climbing, sailing, expeditions and other pastimes.

Good vs Bad!

For Sale: Riot Kayaks £250. Prankster, Trickster, Disco, Dominatrix 44's /47's (all brand new)

The above is a posting that appeared on the BCU Surf web bulletin board. Pretty interesting, I think you'll agree..... What a bargain? Do you fancy a cheap boat or smell something fishy!!!

When Peak UK received their latest 40ft container from Riot Kayaks in Montreal, they noticed that there were 12 boats missing from their order. As the security seal was still on the container, it was presumed Riot had miscounted the delivery.

Fortunately, one week later, our hero Mr X - called this for his own safety - alerted Riot and Peak UK of the above website posting.

Via the internet, a person from Merseyside (near to the port of arrival) was selling Riot kayaks at less than half price.

The boats they were selling matched the ones missing, they were based in Merseyside, and they placed the advert two days after Peak UK received the boats. Coincidence????.....

Matlock and Merseyside police forces were both notified and arranged to purchase two kayaks. Merseyside CID recovered nine of the boats plus an Alladin's cave of other items presumably also stolen from the docks. What a result.

As a gesture of Riot/Peak UK's appreciation to Mr X's honesty he was proudly presented by Pete Astles with a brand new Riot Disco Ultralite as a reward. Thanks Mr X, we love you!

Wanted 3,500 Paddlers to attend show at White Water Consultancy. Summer or Autumn paddling holiday

This two-day event will be 'one to remember' and is the first of its kind in the area. Due to Foot and Mouth and the majority of tidy water being closed we have decided to cheer everyone up by throwing a 'BASH'. In the time honered tradition of White Water Consultancy we are having a Party. We have got the following manufacturers coming, Palm, Perception, Dagger, Lendal, Wavesport, Mad River, Voyageur and Wilderness Systems.

The first annual Kayak Auction will take place outside the main building (in the car park) so bring your tidy old gear and we'll see if we can sell it for you (gotta be reasonable with the pricing though).

You can walk round our huge (10,000 sq foot) showroom and check out all the new boats and gear from (just about) everyone. So get of your butts and come visit us, you won't be disappointed, we've got it all baby and we want to show it to you. The fun starts on Saturday the 28th and continues on Sunday the 29th of July. Starts 9 a.m. sharp, be there or take up trainspotting.

P.S. Don't forget the wife, the kids, your wallet and remember a Kayak is for life not just for surfing.

For more info call 01267 223555 or E mail sales@wwc.co.uk

In need of a Summer or Autumn paddling holiday with glorious sunshine, superb whitewater and fabulous surroundings? Then contact Phil at Adventure Whitewater as they have spaces left on trips to Turkey, Peru, Nepal, and Bhutan for both kayakers and less experienced people who would enjoy rafting. Please contact him ASAP on 0870 443 0 240 or e-mail phil@adventure-whitewater.com

Learning to kayak?

Want to speed up that learning curve and maximise your skills on a kayak workshop in Nepal? They have an instruction programme devoted to your individual needs and skills with highly experienced, BCU trained instructors helping you to make the most of you ability.

There are a few spaces left on Phil's October workshop. Please contact him ASAP on 0870 443 0 240 or e-mail phil@adventure-whitewater.com

Advanced Kayaker?

Looking for that paddling adventure of a lifetime? Adventure Whitewater has an excellent New Zealand kayaking trip planned for February next year. Please contact them ASAP on 0870 443 0 240 or e-mail info@adventure-whitewater.com

www.adventure-whitewater.com

Welcome to Cornwall

Established in 1970, Shoreline Pursuits has been running kayaking and canoeing courses in North Cornwall for 22 years and offers both residential and day courses, being based at the successful family-run Atlantic House Hotel.

The family concerned comprises surf kayak competitor Simon Hammond and his wife Nicola, who took the business over from Nicola's parents in 1991.

Activities available to young groups or individuals include rock climbing, problem solving and most aspects of

paddlesport, with a specialisation in surfing and surf kayaking.

Simon is currently a level five surf coach and has recently returned from the world surf championships in California, where he placed 17th. To find out more, contact Simon or Nicola on tel: 01288 354039, or e-mail: shoreline@bude.co.uk, or if you are just going down to Bude for the surf, feel free to give them a call, when they will be very happy to pass on local information and point you towards the best beaches and surf in the area.

Bottom left: Instructor Robert Galley instructing kayakers in the surf

Below: Simon (right) with instructor Rory (left) working hard on a surf coaching course at Sandymouth beach



Enter the web

There's now a dedicated website at www.intcanoe.com, representing the interests of the BCU sailing committee, ICF sailing committee and the International 10-metre canoe class.

Selection alternatives

Due to the outbreak of foot and mouth and the BCU's subsequent action, the freestyle committee was faced with reconciling the situation and formulating a plan to select a national team for the world championships, which are due to be held in Spain from June 25 - July 1.

Following a meeting held in March, the committee agreed to take a stepped approach whereby if one action fails the next step can be enacted easily. This involves a variety of alternative selection methods which will allow flexibility should further events need to be cancelled because of the f & m crisis.

To keep paddlers informed of this issue, the Freestyle web site will be updated every week with any new information and will remain the chief source of contact on this matter, please bookmark (Ctrl D)

<http://www.ukfreestyle@westhost.co.uk/>

Child's play:

Perception's high-back child's seat is now available. The high-back gives smaller members of the family a chance to join in the fun, in comfort, and fits the Sierra, Kiwi 3 and Vista. It requires no fixings and clips easily under the front of the Sierra seat and in both the Vista and Kiwi 3 can be clipped into the front of either main seat or into the back of the front seat. (£20.00 rrp)



Gripping stuff:

A new comfort grip thighbrace is now being fitted to the Perception Carolina. This thighbrace gives added grip to more of the thigh without inhibiting access and exit from the cockpit. The new thighbrace will be fitted as standard from 1st May and is available as a retro-fit kit (£35.25 rrp).

www.perception.co.uk



Wanted: paddlers and paddles too

A number of clubs have now got together to promote racing canoe through training days and identifying a number of competitions to support, to ensure well-attended races, rather than just one or two paddlers at lots of events.

We are also trying to locate any C1's/C2's, paddles etc that are sitting in clubhouses, unused. Please contact **Steve Train: 01386 860675** or **Andy Train: 01386 860 951**

Improved waterways information

The Environment Agency and British Waterways have successfully bid for £300,000 from the Treasury's Invest to Save budget to jointly enhance on-line facilities for Britain's 50,000 boating customers, including canoeists.

The two organisations believe the projects funded by this money will improve on-line access to services available to all Britain's waterway network users; improve the business efficiency of the Environment Agency and British Waterways; and contribute to the delivery of joined-up government.

Part of the funding will be used by the organisations to develop and extend an e-commerce facility that will allow boat owners to purchase boat licenses on-line. Both organisations have already developed e-commerce services for their users' convenience: the Environment Agency has launched an on-line rod licence sales service and British Waterways already provides an on-line navigation licence service for its customers using the 150 miles of waterways in Scotland.

Although the joint e-commerce development allows only boaters to purchase on-line navigation licences, the site will also carry information and links of interest to the millions of other casual visitors to Britain's waterway network.

The rest of the funding will be used to develop a seamless, 'one stop' Internet-based waterway information system using the Environment Agency's and British Waterways' current web sites.

Environment Agency head of navigation, Eileen McKeever, says the new Web site would provide customers with a better service: "Integrating, expanding and enhancing our respective web sites will offer waterway users a more efficient on-line

service, providing them with immediate and up-to-date information about what's on and where to go on the waterways"

British Waterways chief executive, Dave Fletcher, adds: "We are committed to improving access to our waterways for all users, in line with the government's policy document on inland waterways, Waterways for Tomorrow. This is an excellent example of how, through partnership, we are able to deliver on this pledge. The monies saved from this development will allow vital re-investment into the waterway network, helping to improve even further the facilities we provide to our 10 million visitors each year."

The Environment Agency and British Waterways are each contributing a further £50,000 to the project bringing the total budget to £400,000.

The Environment Agency's navigation responsibilities range from harbour and conservancy authority and deep water navigation authority to operational duties for navigation using land drainage bylaws.

The Agency manages more than 800km of river navigations, maintains and operates 126 locks and associated weirs and sluices and provides public access to these sites.

British Waterways is the country's largest navigation authority and was named Heritage and Tourism Organisation of the Year 2001 by the Good Britain Guide.

British Waterways works in partnership to regenerate and revitalise its network for the benefit of its 10 million visitors and the local communities that live close by.

ZEB FISH CULT

ANIMAL INSTINCT!

Mad Yaker

MADYAKER.CO.UK
01257 272575

Xtreme Carbon Paddles

UK Distributors for

We.no.nah Canoe

CANOES
Wenonah
Old Town
Mobile Adventure
Lettmann
Svetek

KAYAKS
Lettmann
Perception
Necky
Riot
Prijon
Current Designs

PADDLES
Kober, Lettmann
Wenonah, Grey Owl
Ainsworth, Lendal
Prijon

GEAR
Shockwave, Nookie
Yak, Rasdex, Peak

Contract terms for clubs and centres

Mail order service

2250 sq ft showroom and demo boats

tel : 01454 261058
fax : 01454 260179
sales@outdooractive.ltd.uk

Damery Works
Woodford, Berkeley
Gloucestershire GL13 9JR
1 mile from M5 Junction

Outdoor Active

SPF-40-1VUR
Around £140

- 100m Water Resistance
- Resin strap
- Auto-light switch
- Digital Compass
- Barometer (260 to 1,000 hPa/mb)
- Tide Graph
- Countdown timer with auto-start
- 100hr stopwatch
- Thermometer (-10 to 60°C)

anything but shallow

Everything is checked, everything has to be right. So why choose a watch that's superficial when what you need is one with a little more depth? Casio's superb, new SEA-PATHFINDER marine watches put vital information at your fingertips. Multi-sensor technology monitors directional, air pressure

and temperature data. Race timers, tide and moon graphs are charted on easy-to-read illuminated LCD displays. Check out the revolutionary new SEA-PATHFINDER. Each one is a masterpiece combining exceptional value with Casio's famous quality that only comes from 25 years of digital innovation.

SPF-50-1AVUR
Around £170

- 100m Water Resistance
- Resin strap
- Low temperature resistant (10°C/14°F)
- Barometer (460 to 1,000 hPa/mb), atmospheric pressure tendency graph
- Thermometer (-10 to 60°C) with 10 memories
- 1/100 sec. stopwatch
- Countdown timer
- 5 daily alarms

SPF-50-1AVUR
Around £170

- 100m Water Resistance
- Resin strap
- Low temperature resistant (10°C/14°F)
- Barometer (460 to 1,000 hPa/mb), atmospheric pressure tendency graph
- Thermometer (-10 to 60°C) with 10 memories
- 1/100 sec. stopwatch
- Countdown timer
- 5 daily alarms

SPF-50D-7A2VUF
Around £200

- 100m Water Resistance
- Stainless steel bracelet
- Low temperature resistant (10°C/14°F)
- Barometer (460 to 1,000 hPa/mb), atmospheric pressure tendency graph
- Thermometer (-10 to 60°C) with 10 memories
- 1/100 sec. stopwatch
- Countdown timer
- 5 daily alarms

SPF-50D-7A2VUF
Around £200

- 100m Water Resistance
- Stainless steel bracelet
- Low temperature resistant (10°C/14°F)
- Barometer (460 to 1,000 hPa/mb), atmospheric pressure tendency graph
- Thermometer (-10 to 60°C) with 10 memories
- 1/100 sec. stopwatch
- Countdown timer
- 5 daily alarms



CASIO
connect your wrist to the future

A selection of Casio Marine watches is available from F. Hinds, H Samuel, John Lewis Partnership and other leading jewellers, department stores and specialist sports retailers in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Depth indicators are based on static water pressure in accordance with ISO standards. For full details about other models in the Casio range call 020 8450 9131. Watches shown are not necessarily actual size.

Working holiday in France.

Looking for a great paddling holiday and the rare opportunity of getting paid for it? On offer to someone with coaching and leadership abilities is eight to 10 days of paddling on the Allier and the Dordogne in south western France to assess a Gold Duke of Edinburgh expedition for a school group. There are good rates of pay and it will be possible to bring a partner.

The group has been trained to three-star Canadian standard. Non-paddling teachers are also required to provide back-up for transport and food etc. Contact: **P Goodwin at Ellesmere College on tel: 01691 622331 or at home evenings on 01691624989** or e-mail PaulGoodwin@chateauvary.com



cooperation will enable them to continue to drive forward efficiency and quality, resulting in the very best value for money to their customers.

Mobile Adventure is a small and enthusiastic company, who has been designing and supplying open canoes and paddling equipment for over 18 years. It has grown in to one of Europe's strongest and most innovative open canoe brands. Led by owner and designer Colin Broadway who is himself a keen paddler.

Pyranha, who are driven to provide the very best products and after sales service that "make the difference" are a small team of enthusiasts led by owner and keen paddler Graham Mackereth. They will continue to grow and develop, without losing sight of the importance of being small enough to listen and enjoy what they do!

In 2001, new models from Mobile Adventure will include the 16ft. polyethylene Prospector, and the Tango, a short whitewater solo/double open canoe, whilst at Pyranha the 17'6" Hunter, a family touring canoe, is about to enter production.

Pyranha will also use their considerable and proven distribution network to supply the extensive accessory range developed by Mobile Adventure, who will continue to extend this range with further quality accessories.

With this love of canoeing and enthusiasm for "life" both Pyranha and Mobile Adventure will remain unique brands delivering the very best, run and owned by enthusiasts for enthusiasts.

Mobile Adventure and Pyranha join forces

Two unique and enthusiastic brands "Mobile Adventure and Pyranha" join forces.

Mobile Adventure and Pyranha are very excited to announce that they have joined forces to share in the development of the Open Canoe Market around the world.

Close co-operation in manufacturing and assembly, logistic as well as design and marketing will enable both these customer driven companies to remain jointly dedicated to producing ranges of quality open canoes, with the best outfitting options designed for every condition and user. This

Paddlesport diary

River Loddon Div.4/Open/beginners Slalom - Black Swan CC, 6/7 May

Elmbridge Regatta - May 5*

Barking & Dagenham Bellboat Regatta - Mayersbrook Lake, May 12

Mofesey Youth Regatta - Westel CC, June 9*

Westel Open Day - June 16

London Youth Games Regatta - Millwall Docks June 16

Shepperton Div.4/Open Slalom - Shepperton, June 16-17

Youth Regatta, Essex Series - Leaside, June 17

Wey Regatta - June 23*

Mini Slalom (coaching & Diamond Awards) - Islington, July 1

London Youth Games Slalom - Crystal Palace - July 7-8

Royal Youth Regatta - July 14*

Westel CC Tourist Trial - Basingstoke Canal, July 15

Addlestone Fun Slalom - Shepperton July 15

Reading Regatta - August 4

Treasure Hunt - Addlestone CC, River Wey August 12

Dorney Lake Regatta - August 27 (replaces Welsh Harp)

Bellboat Regatta - Islington BC, September 2

Fun Slalom - Westminster BB (no tide day), September 16

Canadian Time Trial - Wey Navig'n, Addlestone CC, September 23

Regional Slalom - Canalside, October 1/2 term, date tbc.

*Races that count for Grand Prix points

NB Due to Foot & Mouth precautions you must check dates and venues with organisers prior to the event.

Surf's up... again

The next Surf Kayak Competition is to be held at Freshwater West beach in Pembrokeshire on June 16/17. The organiser is Richard Berry, 49 Mynydd Newydd Rd, Penlan, Swansea, SA5 5AE, tel: 01792 542441, e-mail: rich.berry1@ntlworld.com

Newfoundland Sea Kayaking Odyssey 2001

KOGG along with Lendal Products and Bryson Garages, of Prestwick, are supporting a team of four paddlers on an expedition starting in June 2001.

The Expedition intends to travel to the rugged eastern coast of Newfoundland, in order to carry out a 14 day self supported journey by sea kayak and to use the trip as a vehicle to generate publicity and sponsorship for the Meningitis Research Foundation (www.meningitis.org).

The team will be taking with them the KOGG Tundra Open Water Cags, see them at www.kogg.co.uk, to protect them against the elements. The seas in this area see the coming together of the cold Labrador current and the warmer Gulf Stream. The result is unpredictable weather and a highly fertile sea, which attracts marine life such as the mighty Humpback Whale and Orca. Another common occurrence, affecting local weather patterns, are the huge icebergs that have made their way down from Greenland and the Arctic.

Check out their progress 'live' at

www.edrenalin.com

Surf's still up!

Despite the foot and mouth access restrictions, which have been playing havoc with the outdoor pursuits industry throughout the UK, the SurfLines team have been rolling up their sleeves and making the most of these difficult times. Their adventure sports shop in Llanberis remains open seven days a week and is an ideal source of information on the access situation throughout North Wales.

"Right now, paddlers can probably find the best access to the outdoors here in Snowdonia," says SurfLines' owner Nick Cunliffe, "Our coastal paddling has been largely unaffected, with unrestricted access to most beaches.

"We can surf, sea kayak and paddle the tide races without causing risk to the farming community. We modified our training programme at Easter and converted many river paddlers to the joys of tide races, surf and sea kayaking.

"Our SurfLines web site is now live and in addition to information about the shop and our coaching programme there is a great section on local paddling possibilities, a bulletin board and details of worldwide expeditions.

www.surf-lines.co.uk

Waste matters

Surfers Against Sewage are backing local Plymouth residents in their call for a public inquiry into the expansion of nuclear submarine facilities at Devonport Dockyard and the inevitable increase in radioactivity that will result.

American based company DML has applied to the Environment Agency to increase the amounts of radioactive waste it can discharge into the environment by a worryingly large amount. Tritium discharges into the River Tamar are set to increase by 700% as MOD submarines are brought into the dockyard for refitting. With a half-life of just over 12 years, discharged tritium is set to disperse within the river and along the coast.

DML executives believe that their proposals will not result in a health risk to local Plymouth residents or water users, yet scientists and campaigners are warning that tritium can cause genetic abnormalities and cancers. The matter is currently subject to public consultation, before the E.A. make a decision on whether or not they let the development go ahead as proposed.

Comments Vicky Garner of SAS: "This is a matter of grave concern for SAS as representatives of water users UK wide. Until it can be proven that the proposed increases in radioactive waste will not present a risk to health we will be pushing for the development to be scrapped.

"It is vital that a public inquiry is held so that a fair and balanced debate can develop. A public consultation exercise for a matter as serious and far-reaching as this is simply not good enough. SAS will now start lobbying Government to push for this to happen.

"It is ironic that we are being told that the proposed increases in tritium are perfectly safe yet at the same time we are being told that in 12 years time technology will have advanced to enable 80% of the tritium to be removed before discharge. If there is no health risk presented by tritium at the levels proposed, why is the nuclear industry spending time and money on researching the technology to remove it? It would appear that they are anticipating the time when the real risk from tritium can be accurately assessed!"

Anyone wanting to back SAS and local Plymouth campaigners such as CANSAR can download a letter from the SAS website at www.sas.org.uk and send it to the Sec of State for the Environment and the Sec of State for Health, asking them to call a Public Inquiry. For further info tel: **Vicky Garner at SAS on (01872) 553001**

WILD web

Hot on the tails of the Melissa virus which caused havoc in the Cyber country side - the real world Foot and Mouth virus has held the British countryside to ransom. As with cyber viruses, the internet has proven to be the major source of up to date information on foot and mouth. The truly switched on

organisations have maintained almost minute by minute updates of information, access rights and restrictions and offered their members and the public at large a superb resource. Sadly the canoeing world has been slow to use the great benefits of this cheap mass information medium and paddlers have been left confused and bored at weekends.

The main canoeing organisations have restricted their foot and mouth information to bland position statements and general updates which are technically accurate but not particularly informative. If you can be bothered check out www.bcu.org.uk/events/bulletin.htm, and www.welsh-canoeing.org.uk/waterinfo/news.htm. The Scots have been a little more informative at www.scot-canoe.org/fandmindex.htm. Only one river by river access page could be found at

www.mountainandwater.co.uk/footandmouth.htm by the Welsh CA access officer Pam Bell. If you know of any more Welsh areas that can be paddled then give Pam an e here: info@mountainandwater.co.uk.

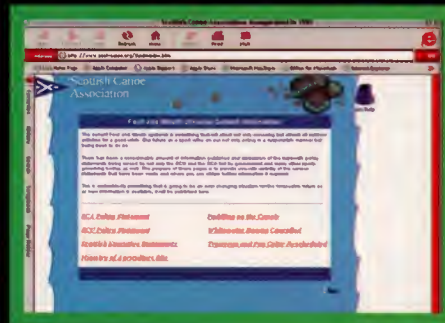
Reading between the lines on the Scottish site, and reading the Scottish Offices technical paper at www.scotland.gov.uk/agri/footandmouth/pubs/PFAccess1.pdf it appears that Scotland has been split into three areas, and access in the Provisionally Free area is almost back to normal. I struggled to find a map of these three areas, but the map at www.scotland.gov.uk/agri/footandmouth/maps.asp suggests that the Infected and At Risk areas are essentially in the Borders. The MCofS website (see below) states that the Free area is North of the Forth-Clyde line. Therefore the highlands are pretty much open provided you obey local signs and restrictions. Also take the advice of the Moray Canoe and Kayak club at

www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Gorge/7930/general/disease.htm.

Most of the National Canal network is now open. Check out www.britishwaterways.co.uk for more information. This site also lists sections of towpaths that can be cycled so why not dump your bikes at one end and do a paddle/peddle round trip this weekend.

If you cant paddle you could walk and climb. To see how FMD access pages should be run check out the BMCs at www.theBMC.co.uk. Many local councils are now opening paths in their areas, so consult your local borough/county councils site. The governments Open index is the best place to start at www.open.gov.uk. Click into their alphabetical list and look up your local council. For walking in Scotland check out www.mountaineering-scotland.org.uk. Theres a useful link to the come back code which should be read by all at www.mountaineering-scotland.org.uk/news/fam_progress.html.

If you have comments and suggestions please e-mail Steve Howie at steve@canoeocus.co.uk



GetOut! Canoeing

Wild Web is sponsored by www.getoutcanoeing.co.uk

All at sea

The great chalk cliffs of the Normandy coast will provide a dramatic backdrop for the 6th Randonee des Falaises sea kayak 'cruise' from Le Tilleul à Criel Sur Mer to Veulettes and Quiberville from Thursday May 24 to Saturday May 26. Details from **Guy Duponchel, la Demeure de Litteville, 76910 Touffreville sur Eu, tel: +33 (0)2 35 50 93 04.**

Alpine slalom challenge

The pre-world canoe slalom championships 2001 are set to take place at Bourg Saint Maurice Les Arcs, Savoy, in the French Alps, on August 17-19.

Organisers are the **Fédération Française de Canoë-Kayak, 87 Quai de la Marne, BP 58, 94344 Joinville Le Pont Cedex, France, tel: +33 (0) 1 45 11 08 50**
e-mail: ffck@ffcanoe.asso.fr

China calling

BCU members are invited to participate in the 1001 International Floating Festival in China's Hunnan and Yunnan province, from June 28- July 5.

One of the venues will be along the Sheshui river to Lake Dongjiang, in Hunnan Province, which is an ideal place for paddlers, with its clear, unpolluted water and stunning scenery.

The other venue is the Jingshaji river, one of the few paddling venues in the world to be located more than 3,000-metres above sea level.

For full details e-mail organiser **Wang Qi, of the Chinese Canoeing Association, at chncraft@yahoo.com.cn**

Padding into the exotic

Interested in paddling a really exotic location? The Scientific Exploration Society is currently looking for fit and active canoeist volunteers for its proposed expedition to Lake Malawi, in central Africa.

The kayak team will be carrying out predominantly qualitative work, including a general ornithological survey - the southern end of the lake being home to enormous numbers of the majestic African fish eagle and other birds. The team will also record and film the clawless and spotted otter and examine the habitat of these fascinating creatures.

Lake Malawi is an inland sea, where waves can reach 15-20 feet at times, so the kayaking promises to be a great adventure, if a bit hair-raising at times. Set for September 1-21, the expedition will involve over-night stays on uninhabited islands and the group will be cooking for itself and sleeping in tents most nights. Cost of participation will be approximately £2,850, which includes return air fare to Lilongwe and all accommodation, transport and food, plus comprehensive insurance.

For more details, contact **Anne-Marie Wilkinson, The Scientific Exploration Society, Expedition Basse, Motcombe, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 9PB, tel: 01747 854898** or e-mail: base@ses-explore.org or visit the web site at www.ses-explore.org

F&M takes its sporting toll

Among many cancellations due to the foot and mouth outbreak, West Fest is unlikely ever to be run again, according to Dave 'Hairy' Ayres, who was also forced to cancel the Eskimo Sunday League.

Down in Cornwall, the plastic surf competition scheduled for May 13 was also cancelled but in this case due to a date clash with the Cornish Open competition organised by Pete Blenkinsop.

Peak UK's River Gary wild water event in Scotland on September 29-30 is now off and has been substituted by an event on the river Nene white water course on the same date.

Another cancellation was the Boats On Show 2001 exhibition, scheduled for Pangbourne, on the Thames, in mid-May. Plans are now underway to set up a 'virtual' show on the world wide web and to reintroduce the annual extravaganza in 2002 when, hopefully, the aftermath of the epidemic will be behind us.

Not cancelled, but postponed until the last week in August is the Hebridean Challenge, sponsored by Western Isles Enterprise and Western Isles Council, which should have taken place in the first week of May.

An adventure sport race for teams of five, inclusive of back-up, the challenge is a multi-discipline event, involving hill and mountain running, biking on and off-road and sea kayaking - with entrants heavily vetted as to their suitability for the gruelling course.

The race will now start from the island of South Uist on English Bank Holiday Monday, Aug 27, and will finish in Stornoway, the Western Isles capital, on Friday Aug 31.

Entry details can be obtained from **Stephanie Sargent, on 01851 870716** or visit www.hebrideanchallenge.com.

A tale of three sports

Canoeing, orienteering and mountain biking are the three disciplines involved in the Keilder Water TriSport Challenge, due to be held at Northumberland's Keilder Water - the largest man-made lake in Europe - on Saturday June 23.

The event is open to teams of three and is a fundraiser for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Special

accommodation deals are available and there will be a big party evening for everyone taking part.

Contact **Catherine Kaye on, tel: 01423 881000** or e-mail: ckaye@rnli.org.uk.

Scottish polo titles

Scotland's canoe polo national championship for this year will be held at an outdoor venue at Castle Semple Loch, Lochwinnoch, Renfrewshire, and is expected to attract at least 40 teams, with around 500 spectators likely to attend.

Set for Saturday June 30 and Sunday July 1, the championship will offer national titles for youths, ladies and veterans, as well as the open event. Camping will be available and a ceilidh will be held on the Saturday evening.

Full details and entry forms can be obtained now from tournament organiser **Alistair McKenzie, at 19 Bullwood Ave, Crookston, Glasgow G53 7PL or on tel: 0141 883 9795.**

Masters: head for Hungary

The broad and current-free 2,100-metre regatta course at Lake Velence, in Hungary, is the venue for the first masters flatwater world cup programme on July 7-8.

The schedule will feature nine events, multiplied according to the ICF age groups, the youngest age group being for 35 to 39-year olds. All run over a distance of 500-metres, there will be K1, K2 and K4 women's races and K1, K2, K4, C1, C2 and C4 for the men.

Entry forms are now available from **MKKSZ (Hungarian Canoe Federation), Budapest, Latorca u.2. H-1138, Hungary, fax: +36 1 465 0095** or e-mail: www.canoemarathon.hu. Entries (at 60 DM per competitor or hard currency equivalent) close on June 21, though late entries will be accepted until July 3 at an increased fee of 90 DM.

Peak Whitewater Challenge 2001

This year Peak's Whitewater Challenge is going bigger and better, but staying with the same format of downriver mayhem, slalom/river-running section and freestyle.

Those fun lovin' folk at Pyranha have come on board for the weekends to run a secret fun event and provide more demo boats for you to try out.

There will also be technique clinics available for playboating fanatics yearning for tips from the stars. This means more events, more fun, more prizes, more demos and more of a non-stop weekend of activities.

The Nottingham event, in June, already has a music fixture, with the mighty and very entertaining Burdock playing live Saturday evening. Check out the new id10t5 video to get a sample of their tunes.

The confirmed dates so far are; Tees Side April 28-29; Tryweryn May 12-13; Nottingham June 2-3 inc Burdock Gig; Nene Whitewater Course Sept 29-30; Oct 6-7 BCU Paddlefest. Nottingham.

Swanalong 2001

Weather and foot and mouth permitting, this year's Swanalong event will take place on Sunday September 9.

The Swanalong is an optional charity event and can be used for fundraising, or paddlers are welcome to just come along for a good day's paddle. There are three sets of locks on the paddle which can be used by canoeists.

A halfway stop at a café or pub has also been arranged.

For further information, contact **Steve Hutchinson on tel: 01905 29069 (24 hr answerphone)** or e-mail shutch2@yahoo.com.



CARLISLE CANOES

OLD RAFFLES PARADE
WIGTON ROAD
CARLISLE
CUMBRIA
CA2 7EX

TEL/FAX 01228 531703
E-MAIL jim@carlislecanoes.freemove.co.uk

OPENING TIMES
MON - FRI 9.30 - 5.30
SAT 9.30 - 4.30

SUN & BANK HOLIDAYS BY ARRANGEMENT



STIRLING CANOES

BLOCK 4 UNIT 2
MUNRO ROAD
SPRINGKERSE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE
STIRLING
FK7 7UU

TEL/FAX 01786 478820

OPENING TIMES
MON - SAT 10.00 - 5.30

THE NORTH'S PREMIER KAYAK AND OPEN CANOE SPECIALIST

KAYAKS IN STOCK

PYRAHNA
ESKIMO
NECKY
PRIJON
RIOT
SAVAGE
PERCEPTION
DAGGER
WAVESPORT



OPEN CANADIAN CANOES IN STOCK

MAD RIVER
DAGGER
PYRAHNA
COLEMAN
MOBILE ADVENTURE
OLD TOWN
CLEAR WATER

SEA KAYAKS IN STOCK

P&H
ROMANY
MEGA
PRIJON
PYRAHNA
DAGGER

PADDLES AND ACCESSORIES FROM ALL LEADING MANUFACTURERS

AINSWORTH
CASCADE
ORTLIEB
ROBSON
PRIJON
SCHLEGEL
PALM
NOOKIE
KOGG
SUZY
BUFFALO
PEAK
CREWSAVER
RAS DEX
PLAYBOATER
YAK
PHEONIX
WERNER
WILDWATER
GORILLA
ESKIMO
ROUGH STUFF
SUB ZERO

MAIL ORDER HOT LINE 0800 0747975 FREEPHONE
SAME DAY DISPATCH NEXT DAY DELIVERY



FOUR SEASONS

- Raft
- Canoe
- Kayak
- Climb
- Camp
- White Water Course
- Retail Shop
- Cafe



BCU Approved Centre

Teesside White Water Centre
Tel: 01642 678000

HAYLING TRAILERS

Established 1983

The UK's canoe & kayak specialist trailer builder



4 kayaks with 2 GRP boxes



10 kayaks

FOUR POSTER (From 1 - 4 layers - up to 6 kayaks or 2 Open Canadians can fit on each layer)



2 1/2 Layers and mesh box

The 6 trailers shown here are just a few of the options available. Each trailer is built to suit the customers requirements. Full details in the brochure

3 layer - Open box, drop tail & PVC cover

THREE KAYAK WIDE TRAILER max 7 high (21 kayaks)

15 kayak model with the aluminium Keepsafe

All boxes optional - GRP, Mesh & Aluminium boxes are lockable

THE MARK FOUR One Design (6 kayaks or 2 Canadians per layer 4 layers)



optional GRP 'Gearbox'

All models include lights & jockey wheel
All trailers are hot dipped galvanised
Full range of accessories including Security Wheel Clamps Number Plates & Straps
Mail order or collect direct

Opening hours
Mon - Fri 8.0 - 5.30 Sat 9.0 - 3.0

For free brochure price list & friendly professional service
Call 023 92 464176
Fax 023 92 463069
email haylingtrailers@btclick.com



254A Havant Road Hayling Island Hampshire PO11 0LW

F O C U S

Vario-Sonnar 1.8/4.2-42

Feature
NEPAL

RAPID A

Averting a near disaster in far-off Nepal: it's all in a day's work for the safety boater

Definitely earned my money as a safety kayaker as I saw eight people come rather too close to death for comfort." I wrote in my diary at the end of the day, it had been a long one.

The day had started like any other. The bright sunlight shone through the thin flysheet, waking me. All I could hear was the constant re-assuring roar of the Marsyandi thundering by just a hundred yards from my tent. I ran through the last few days in my mind.

The river had lived up to its reputation for me in all ways: it had been exhilarating, scary and hard all at once. At the end of the first afternoon I had been glad to finish. Three hours of continuous IV+ with the odd V full of huge munching holes waiting for the unwary kayaker was enough for me in a day.

I had to agree with the guidebook: it was far harder than any other grade IV I'd ever seen. The river's pace was phenomenal, giving the water a big-volume feel, but with tight lines normally expected on a creeking river. My boat had felt heavy and unmanoeuvrable against the raging torrent. I'd loved it.

I got out of the tent and, looking up to the kitchen area, realised the guides had been first up again and breakfast was almost ready.

Muesli-fruit curd, fried potatoes, sausage and toast. Who would self-support when you can have this luxury and have two rafts filled with clients for socialising and partying?

I was thinking how little rescuing I'd had to do on this trip. By the end of the day my view would be changed.

The technical difficulty of the river means rafts are unladen and no gear boat is taken. This means porters carry gear from camp to camp. By ten they had all been loaded up and were on their way, and the clients were starting to get into their rafts.

There were two rafts, one filled mainly with strangers to me and ably guided by Brother Love, an American guide. The other raft had my girlfriend and many other good friends from home and Nepal. K, my good friend was guiding. He was an excellent guide, showing the way down grade V rapids with amazing ease. His ten years experience as a Nepalese river guide obviously showed.

I broke in behind Robin, an excellent Nepalese safety kayaker, good friend and trip leader. The first rapid was a long hard four. I hoped I was ready, as the usual nice and easy warm-up starting rapids were out of the question.



CTION

I hit the first wave with spray covering my face. The second wave did the same. The river then became unclear as steam started forming on my glasses. I moved my hand to clear them, relaxing my concentration on my line and flipped. I cursed, rolling up, put a few strokes in and flipped again - my sight getting worse. By the time I had broken out at the bottom I had rolled a good eight times. I pulled my deck and hopped out to the side, laughing.

"Having problems?" asked K, looking slightly concerned as he joined me in the large eddy.

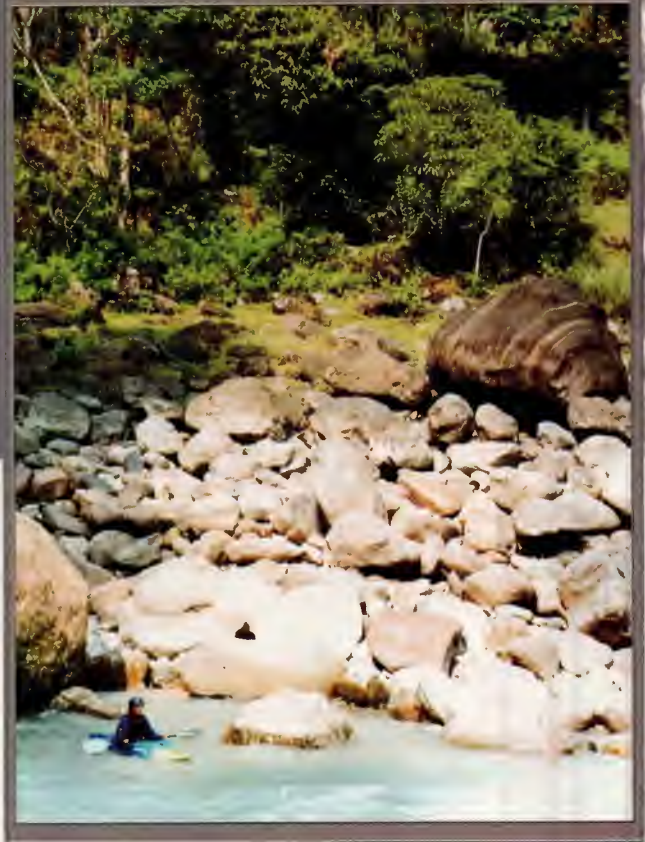
"Bloody glasses got fogged, so I did the rapid blind!"

"Mmmm, we could tell."

I dived into the back of my boat, dipped into my dry bag and switched the glasses I had on for another pair. The river sustained its difficulty but, with the added aid of good sight, my lines improved. Robin Santhos and I revelled in the on-sight raft speed running, relaxed and started to really enjoy the river.

K's raft was not getting its usual excellent lines. It seemed obvious to me that the paddlers were out of time and, despite having four kayakers on the crew, was desperately lacking in power, especially on one side.

"Nasty," drawled Brother Love, as five of us looked at the rapid. River left was a clear and easy line. Middle to right ended in a large terminal stopper. Behind it stood a house-size rock whose cushion wave fed back into the stopper, increasing its size and ensuring it was fed from above and below - leaving no means of escape except right,



with a chute feeding straight under the large boulder. Nasty was an understatement; hell on earth seemed wholly more appropriate.

I headed back to my boat, my heart beating fast, continuously looking back, to check the line.

"Easy line," I thought, "but if you get it wrong... Yuck."

I headed down, letting Robin go ahead of me, hugging the left bank. The drop was easy, as predicted, and the rafts bounced happily down after us. As the first raft appeared, I broke out and headed down the river now in the lead, with the rafts a good distance behind me. After a very brief flat respite, the river had a large collection of boulders on the right, creating a nice simple wide chute to the left. I took the chute and broke out right behind the rocks.





Upstream I could see the first raft - K's - was a reasonable distance away. I spun to look at the river ahead. There was another easy chute river right. River left was a large house-sized rock surrounded by many other smaller rocks. Most of the water fed into this collection of rocks, under the boulders and wove its way out into the boils below - not a nice place to be. My eddy, however, flowed happily down the chute on the right.

I spun the kayak back upstream to see how the rafts were doing. As I spun I looked up just in time to see K's raft sat on its edge. The left of the raft was under water and the right high in the air. It had cut too close to the rocks above me, creating my eddy, caught a cushion wave and had gone on edge.

The raft stayed on edge only very briefly before coming crashing down upside-down. Quickly, eight helmets appeared, their wearers hanging on to the safety line of the raft on the upstream side. K quickly leapt on top of the raft. I then felt a terrible fear go right through me. The raft was drifting straight for the horrendous collection of boulders at river left that created a block full of boulder chokes and siphons. "If they could just all swim right hard," I thought, totally powerless as they drifted towards the rocky trap.

Just as K got on top of the raft he looked up to the large house-size rock and enclosing horseshoe of rocks around it that he was about to hit. "Shit!" he shouted in a voice that had more than a hint of resignation in it - a full knowledge of what was about to happen and that he could do nothing at all about it.

The raft hit the collection of boulders and disappeared underwater, getting wrapped just under the surface. As the raft vanished from my sight I could see the helmets of swimmers all suddenly alone. The little yellow helmets moved quickly, being fed like sweets in a vending machine along the large rock and then suddenly one by one disappearing under it in quick succession.

My stomach felt sick and I was desperately worried as I broke out, paddling hard down the simple right chute to see what pieces remained below the rocky sieve. As I dropped, I glanced left and caught a glimpse

of two non-client helmets, which I presumed, to my relief, to be K and my girlfriend Zoe. I crashed with Robin going down the chute as we both raced through. Nothing was said, we had no time.

To my immense relief, swimmers started to appear the other side of the rocks, randomly bobbing to the surface from nowhere. One, two, three... it was looking bad - where were the others?.

"Swim left," I shouted at Ian and Frank, who were both looking confused, and I pointed to the nearest bank.

I paddled hard to the third yellow-helmeted swimmer, who looked in trouble. As I got closer I recognised her as Josie. She was not swimming and seemed confused and powerless as the current took her downstream.

"Grab my boat," I shouted. I shouted again, desperate for a response. The third time I virtually put the bow of my boat under her hand and she grabbed instinctively at the handle. Her erratic breathing came a bit closer towards normal as she began to regain control. She began to listen as I told her to kick and towed her to the right bank.

"Help!" I shouted to an American, who was already on shore, as I towed her into the shallow eddy. He waded out and helped her, still very unsteady, to shore. I ferried back to the other side of the river, unsure of Josie's actual condition, to help her boyfriend Ian who was stranded on a rock near the side, frantically panicking about Josie.

"She's fine," I said, getting him to the side, before pulling my own deck, throwing my kayak and paddles onto the shore and running upstream to where the raft was still trapped.

"How many have we got?" shouted K, frantically. He was stood on the upturned raft floor that sat just below the water. He kept feeling underneath, desperately searching for people. I counted the clients on the opposite shore, Ian and the people around me; I counted again to be sure and got the same number.

"Eight!" I shouted, much to everyone's relief. K relaxed and came off the raft to the shore. Everyone had made it through; five people had miraculously been fed through siphons and popped out the other side with nothing more than a few scratches, a dislocated shoulder and a good story to tell the grandchildren.

100% Washable

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

email wmcc@arrowmcc.demon.co.uk

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



EAST BARNBY OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE

A residential centre running Open Canoe and kayak, sea and inland courses at all levels

Multi-activity and canoeing weekends from **£72**. All inclusive of full board and lodging, equipment hire and fully qualified instruction.

For a brochure and details of all courses write to E.B.O.E.C, East Barnby, Whitby, N. Yorks, YO21 3SA or 01947 893333 phone and 01947 893467 fax.

Stop Press

21-23 Inland Canoeing/Kayaking Training and/or Assessment for 1,2 and 3 Star Awards

Oct 5-7 Sea Kayaking and Paddle Surf

1. 4 Star Sea kayaking Training or Assessment
2. Level 3 Sea Coach Training or Assessment
3. Level 3 Surf Coach Training

Professional Designs for Dedicated Paddlers

EXPEDITION SYSTEMS

01282 864576

Email: ash_gnu@hotmail.com

www.yak-paddling.com

+44 (0) 23 9252 8621

Sadly, not this year

Due to the foot and mouth crisis, and following consultation, it was with regret that the organisers of the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race have taken the decision to cancel the event, which should have been held at Easter.

There are no plans to run the Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race on an alternative date this year.

As a gesture of goodwill, and without prejudice, all entry fees will be refunded in full.

The decision to cancel the event was taken in order to end speculation amongst paddlers and to ensure the financial integrity of the event for the future. By taking this decision now, paddlers were able to comply with current British Canoe Union (BCU) advice on paddling during this critical period. This action contributed to the collective efforts of the canoeing world to contain the outbreak.

Further information on foot and mouth is available on the websites for the BCU, BWB (British Waterways Board) and MAFF (Ministry for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food). Other information on the cancelled event from

Sally Peake (DW Publicity Team Leader) on tel: 01380 818967
or e-mail

sally.peake@tesco.net

All at sea

Young paddlers who would like to sample life under a sea of sail will be interested in The Jubilee Sailing Trust's new youth scheme introduced in conjunction with the Leadership Trust Foundation

The JST Youth Leadership @ Sea Scheme is a unique challenge on a tall ship for all the adventure seekers out there. A week or two on a tall ship, working as an active member of the crew, day or night, is a totally different experience of friendships, teamwork and challenges.

To be selected for the scheme applicants must be 16-25 years old but don't need any sailing experience.

Each successful applicant will receive £300 towards their voyage fee. During the voyage, participants will have a mentor who will explain, assist and evaluate them!

All participants will be given a pack that includes an RYA logbook and a T Shirt. On completion of the course participants will be given a certificate as a record of their achievement.

By the end of the scheme the youngsters taking part will feel a great sense of achievement, will have made loads of new friends, have developed key life skills, had a lot of fun and of course it will look great on their CV!

The scheme has been launched on the website, where bookings and registration are available online.

For details, contact **Sophie Lloyd on tel: 023 8044 9108** or email: sophie@jst.org.uk

Pooling resources

Recently launched, Leicestershire Competition and Training Group has been created to attract new blood into the racing and competition side of kayaking.

The group is based at Leicester Outdoor Sports Centre, whose operators have been supporting the group in its start-up and development process.

Says Jes Oughton for the organisers: "We aim to attract both existing paddlers and youngsters not yet in the sport but who have an interest in white water racing, slalom, marathon or sprint events.

"They can be associated with a club or be independent. The aim is to pool the talent to provide an active base, enabling the individuals to benefit from the high level of coaching, facilities, fleet of boats and equipment available to us. The can continue to represent their existing clubs and hopefully take new wisdom back with them to pass on to others.

"The benefits of training as a dedicated group are obvious - participants will get expert advice on nutrition, training schedules and race co-ordination."

The group already includes national squad coaches, a current national junior WW racing champion, a GB junior slalom squad paddler, many paddlers who compete regularly at national level and beginners who show potential.

For information, contact **Jes Oughton, tel: 0116 267 3200 or 0777 552 2697** or **Angie Hampton at the LOPC on 0116 268 1426.**

ACCESS

Here's to tomorrow

The final recommendations from the Waterways For Tomorrow report make numerous proposals for the improving of inland waterways generally and propose that the Environment Agency should retain its navigation function.

Contained in the report is the following specific mention of our sport: "Canoeing is another 'quiet' activity which is generally accepted by environmental organisations as compatible with protecting biodiversity, and is a sport that can be practised by all, regardless of age, sex, race or ability. We have received several submissions from canoeing organisations. We are sympathetic to their concerns but many of the points made were relevant mainly to non-navigable rivers, which have not been a focus of this enquiry."

Comments AMC chairman Colin Kempson: "Thanks to all those who made submissions as you have raised the profile of the access issue once again at the highest levels. It is also very helpful for us to have an official statement which recognises our compatibility with the biodiversity issues."

'The Dirty Man of Europe'

A lack of up to date information has been blamed for the United Kingdom once again being branded as 'The Dirty Man of Europe'. While the Surfers Against Sewage action group acknowledges that the situation depicted by the European Commission is not the current one,

there is no denying that the UK is once again in breach of European legislation.

Said an SA spokesperson: "The reality is that we are still discharging raw sewage at a number of major seaside resorts around our coasts. At Torbay, five-million gallons of raw sewage are discharged every day. Brighton, with its population of more than 150,000, continues to discharge its sewage untreated and in Cornwall the sewage from the region's largest conurbation is still discharged through an outfall after screening only."

According to SAS, planning delays are much to blame for the delay in the present government's efforts to rectify the legacy left to them by the previous Conservative administration but urges that the whole process should be speeded up: "It is the UK tax-payers who will suffer if delays to schemes result in a breach of legislation and subsequent fines from EU Commission."

For further information call **SAS, tel: 01872 553001.**

Official changes

Eastern Region reports amendments to its list of LAOs (access officers). Now responsible for the Cam is May Block, 27 Gilbert Road, Cambridge CB4 3NX, tel: 01223 311715.

Dick Foyster, the LAO for the River Thet, in Norfolk, and also for the Norfolk Coast, has moved to: 'Haida Gwarii', 56 Hackford Road, Wicklewood, Wymondham, Norfolk NR18 9QJ, tel: 01953 606910, or e-mail: ali.and.dick@care4free.net

Discover Perfection

Let Your Mind Wander

Prijon has designed a superb collection of touring singles and doubles to meet every possible touring requirement. If you want stable and comfortable touring kayaks that are easy on the pocket try the Capri, Alz or Calabria. If you want high performance with unsurpassed durability and the rigidity of HTP (Blow molded plastic) try the Catalina, Seayak, or Kodiak. For the purists the Yukon-E and Millennium in Kevlar Carbon will be difficult to beat. All Prijon Expedition kayaks are world renowned for their large tanks and hatches.



Capri £399 - £449 NEW! Length 367cm



Alz £399 NEW! Length 440cm



Yukon Expedition £699 Length 440cm



Calabria £499-£549 Length 448cm



Catalina Expedition £499-£599 NEW! Length 464cm



Seayak Expedition £549-£649 Length 490cm



Yukon-E £799-£1299 Length 505cm



Millennium £799-£1299 Length 505cm



Kodiak Expedition £599- £699 Length 518cm



Odyssey K2 Expedition £669-£769 Length 490cm



Excursion K2 Expedition £669-£769 Length 518cm

AVONCRAFT **PRIJON**
ROBERT VARDY LTD

12 West Burrowfield Ind. Est.
Welwyn Garden City,
Herts, AL7 4TW

Tel: (01707) 330000
Fax: (01707) 333026
email: sales@avoncraft.co.uk
www.avoncraft.co.uk

Check out the adventures of Eddy in the new Yak Catalogue or surf with him at www.yak-paddling.com

Crewsaver House
Mumby Road
Gosport • Hampshire
PO12 1AQ • United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 23 9252 8621
Fax: +44 (0) 23 9251 0905
email: info@yak-paddling.com
www.yak-paddling.com

Outdoor Career?

Get qualified?

HND Leisure Management
(Outdoor Activities)

BTEC National Diploma
Outdoor Education.

Full range of NGB
Awards.

Guaranteed
employment links.

For further information
contact:

Student Services,
West Cumbria College,
Park Lane, Workington,
Cumbria. CA14 2RW
Email: studentservices@wcc.ac.uk
www.wcc.ac.uk



WCC COLLEGE 01900 64331
WEST CUMBRIA

Preparing you for life!

Results from the 2000 World Marathon Championships

The British Team are hoping their names will top the 2001 honours list!

Men's K1

Manuel Busto
Spain

Men's K2

Santiago Guerrero/Jorge Alonso
Spain

Women's K1

Maria Santos Spain

Women's K2

Andrea Pitz/ Renata Csay, Hungary

Men's C1

Carsten Scales
Denmark

Men's C2

Attila Györe/
Edvin Csabai,
Hungary

World title racing

The best paddlers from around the world will descend on Stockton-on -Tees in August to compete in one of canoeing's major international events - the marathon world championships. There will be 30-plus nations attending, including Australia, South Africa, Hungary, Spain - to name but a few.

Britain for nearly 50 years has been running long distance (marathon) canoe races. The first races were the Bedford to St Neots and the Chelmer. Most weekends throughout the year, thousands of marathon paddlers up and down the country are out racing.

Britain has become known for its marathon paddling and has an outstanding record in this branch of the sport, standing second in the medal tables of marathon world championships, having won nine golds, seven silvers and one bronze since 1988.

Britain hosted the first world championships at Nottingham, back in 1988, and now has the honour of being the only country to run the title races for a second time. The event is currently being sponsored by Stockton Borough Council, The Lottery Sports Fund and British Waterways.

The World Cup held on the River Tees last July as a dress rehearsal, was so successful that the International Canoe

Federation has decided that the Stockton event will have the honour of being the first junior world championship as well.

Marathon is one of the most demanding disciplines in the sport. It combines the endurance of long distance racing with the explosive power of sprinting. It is also very tactical as groups of canoeists attempt to break loose from the chasing pack and individuals time their 'push' for the finish line.

The real drama is usually at the start line where the competitors are strung-out across the river for a mass start, and at the portage sites where the competitors have to leave the water and continue the race on foot, carrying their kayaks and canoes. However, the finish also proves to be spectacular as this is when tactical paddling comes in to its own and the strong contenders make a sprint for the finish in order to burn off the other competitors, thus resulting in a dramatic finish.

Last year the championships, which were held in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, saw the Spanish nation taking most of the major honours including the blue riband event of the men's singles kayak (K1). The competition was extremely strong, intense and very tactical and many of the competitors from last year are looking to reverse the honours list and take the championship titles home to their country.

In 2000, for the first time since the event began, Britain did not lift a senior championship medal. Our team is aiming to make amends on home waters and have the union flag raised on several occasions this time around.

Conor Holmes at the 2000 Worlds Nova Scotia. Copy right Barry Wainwright..



comes to Stockton

Watch out for our home grown talent...

Some names in with a shout...

Ivan Lawler from Surrey won a sixth world title at the 1999 world championships in Hungary to become the most successful British Canoeist of all time - breaking Richard Fox's tally of five canoe slalom world titles. Ivan was awarded the MBE in the 2000 New Year's Honours list.

Jenny Spencer, is from Hereford and won the gold medal in the junior women's K1 race in Canada in September 2000. This year she hopes to be competing in the first ever junior marathon world championships, hoping to carry off the first ever junior ladies world title.

Conor Holmes paddles at Elmbridge Canoe Club and he won the World Cup held in Stockton last year. He had a disappointing race at the Worlds in Nova Scotia but is very much looking forward to the competition being held on home ground this time and hopes to take the honours he missed out on last year.

Anna Hemmings paddles at Elmbridge Canoe Club and is currently studying economics at the Royal Holloway University, in Surrey. Anna gained the world canoe marathon title in 1999 but was unable to defend her title in 2000 due to competing at the Sydney Olympics. She has a good track record of competing at international level and as well as being world champion she, in the same year (1999), became European champion.

Steven and Andrew Train are from Fladbury and have been competitively competing in a canoe together since 1981. They have a host of titles, including three world championships, in 1988, (the first ever world marathon championships, held in Nottingham), 1996 and 1998. Andrew is in the front and sets the pace, while Steven steers.

The Event

This is the top competition for the best marathon racers from all over the world. Individual titles are at stake but there is also a team competition among the countries competing.

Each of the competing nations can enter two crews in each of the classes. However, only the first finisher's points count towards the team trophy. There are classes for senior men in K1, K2, C1 and C2 and for senior women in K1 and K2.

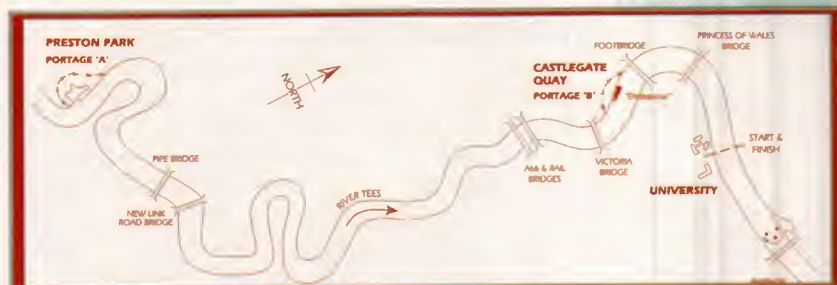
The races for junior men (under 18) are in K1, K2 and C1, and for junior women in K1 and K2. The distance raced is normally 35 km for seniors and 22 km for juniors.

Alongside the World Marathon Canoe Racing Championship the Masters World Cup races are held for those over the age of 35 and are categorised in to type of boat (K1/K2) and age range.

The course

Diagram - Course map...

The championship course starts next to the university, from a held start. Paddlers race through the centre of Stockton-on-



Tees for 8 km upstream to Preston Park. Here they portage for 350 m over grass. Returning towards the start area, they portage for 150 m around the replica of Captain Cook's ship Endeavour, before turning at the barrage for another lap to Preston Park and the long portage.

Returning to Stockton they again portage around Endeavour before the 1.7 km to the barrage, turn and final 600 m to the finish. The total length of the course is 35.8 km and will take from two-and-a-half to three hours.

Juniors will race one full lap up to Preston Park for the portage, back to Stockton, portage around Endeavour, to the barrage. Then a short lap will take them back to the centre of Stockton for another portage of the Endeavour, to the barrage and finish, giving a 22 km course which should be covered in one-and-a-half to two hours.

The masters course will be as for the juniors but without the portages.

Where to watch

The best spectator viewing points are at the start/finish area and the two portages where you can witness the action as these world class athletes leave the river to continue the race on foot, carrying their boats.

Access, parking and viewing at all these major points is free. In addition, much of the course can be followed by bicycle. There will be a public address system at the start/finish and at both portages to keep spectators informed of the up-to-the-minute race situation around the course.

Start/finish

This is located at the University, Stockton-on-Tees on the south side of the River Tees, some 600 m upstream of the Tees Barrage. It is easily accessible from the A19, A66 and Stockton town centre.

Portage A

This is within Preston Park, which lies on the east side of the A135 Stockton - Yarm Road, 1.3 km south of the A66 and just 3.5 km from the centre of Stockton. The large open parkland includes the Preston Hall Museum and aviary. It is an ideal location for a day out, a picnic and to watch the racing.

Manuel Busto (ESP) being chased by Istvan Salga (HUN) and Michael Leverett (AUS) racing in to the first portage at the Worlds in 2000.



Further details and entry forms from:

The Event Secretary Masters World Cup, Jim Rossiter, 101 Whyteleaf Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5EJ, tel: + 44 (0) 1883 346631; fax: + 44 (0) 1883 346631; e-mail: jimrossiter@bcuinternet.com

Portage B

Located at Castlegate Quay in Stockton and accessible off Riverside. The competitors will exit the water at the slipway to the new watersports centre and race around the replica of Captain Cook's historic ship HMB. Endeavour before putting back onto the water from the quayside.

For up to date information on what Nations are attending' who is who at the championships; what is happening when; race start times results; and local, national and international stories, visit our web site at: <http://www.worldcanoeamar-stockton.co.uk>

The Masters World Cup

Alongside the marathon world championships, the Marathon Masters World Cup is held. It is a competition in which Britain has been extremely successful. To become a veteran in the sport of marathon canoeing a competitor has to be 35 years plus and as the sport of marathon canoeing

suits all ages and abilities we have many veteran paddlers who compete at all levels of competition.

The actual Masters World Cup is a really exciting competition and provides the opportunity for experienced paddlers from all over the world to take part, as well as catch up with old friends and make new ones. The British Canoe Union is inviting all-comers to take part in this year's

K1 Lightning National Regatta will take place during the World Championships



Programme

Thursday, 30th August 2001

- 13.15 Masters World Cup singles
- 17.00 Local community challenge, bellboats

Friday, 31st August 2001

- 13.15 Master World Cup doubles
- 17.00 Local 5 km paddling challenge
- 19.30 World championships opening ceremony at Tees Barrage whitewater course

Saturday, 1st September 2001

- 09.30 Junior world championship singles
- 13.15 Senior world championship singles
- 13.40 Local youth competition finals, bellboats
- 16.45 Local Youth competition finals, canoe & kayak
- 18.00 Stockton 10 km paddling challenge

Sunday, 2nd September 2001

- 09.30 Junior world championship doubles
- 13.15 Senior world championship doubles
- 13.40 National lightning regatta, part 1 kayak
- 16.45 National lightning regatta, part 2 kayak
- 18.00 Medals presentation and closing ceremony

There are lots of events alongside the championships so people can come and watch and take part in a race too.



Steven and Andrew Train

event, which will be held on the Thursday and Friday before the 9th ICF Marathon Racing World Championships and first Junior Marathon Racing World Championships.

Entries will be accepted from any competitor who is a current member of their national federation and who celebrates their 35th birthday before January 1, 2001.

Racing Categories

There will be separate categories for men K1, women K1, men C1, men K2, and women K2

There will be eight age groups for each singles category :-

35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70 and over.

There will be four age groups for each doubles category :

35 - 44, 45 - 54, 55 - 64, 65 and over.

The age of each competitor will be taken as his or her age on January 1, 2001. Proof of age will be required.

For 2001 a paddler must have had their 35th birthday before 1st January 2001 to compete in the Masters World Cup. They must have had their 40th birthday before 1st January 2001 to compete in the 40-44 age group, their 45th birthday before 1st January 2001 to compete in the 45-49 age group and similarly for all the other age groups.

The class for a doubles crew will be determined by the age of the youngest crew member. Competitors from different clubs and different national federations may race together in doubles crews. A minimum of five entries are necessary for a separate class. If there are less than five entries the competitors will be moved to another class for which they are eligible.

Entry Fees

All competitors will be required to pay a single entry fee of £25. This will entitle them to race in both the singles races and the doubles races. There will be no other administration or accreditation fee.

Accreditation

Upon arrival at Stockton and payment of the entry fee, all competitors will be issued with their accreditation pass, boat numbers, body number and a provisional start list. All competitors should have the permission of their national federation to compete and should bring evidence of current membership of their national federation as well as proof of age.

Entries, together with the £25 entry fee per paddler, must reach the event secretary by August 10. Paddlers who have not determined their doubles partner will be allowed to make a late doubles entry, at the event, provided their singles entry has been received by August 10.

Story by Tamsin Phipps

Shepperton Marina, Felix Lane, Shepperton, Middlesex TW17 8WJ

WHITEWATER The Canoe Centre



Tel. 44 (0)1932 247978

Fax. 44 (0)1932 241368

www.canoecentre.co.uk
whitewater@canoecentre.co.uk

Approach™ Series

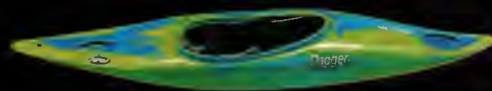
NEW



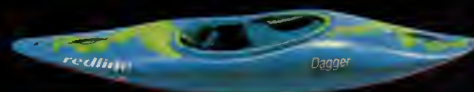
The Dagger Approach™ Series is designed to cater for paddlers of all levels of ability. The series provides beginners with a choice of stable, user-friendly watercraft suitable for flatwater fun. For intermediate and advanced paddlers, the series boasts several kayaks suitable for more challenging whitewater.

All the boats featured are roto-moulded in repairable, recyclable EXL™ super linear polyethylene to the same high standard as all Dagger kayaks. Each design is individually and expertly fitted out with the specification that you need to enjoy yourself.

Legend™ range



RPM LR £450



Redline LR £450



Blast LR £360

Original™ range



Crossfire £320



Response £300



Aqua Bat £280

For a free Approach Series brochure please contact Palm Equipment International Ltd on +44 (0) 1275 798100.

• PYRANHA • PERCEPTION • DAGGER • WERNER



**PADDLE
SPORT**

PARK FARM ESTATE
COMPTON VERNEY
WARWICKSHIRE CV35 9HJ
TEL: 01926 640573
info@paddlesport.co.uk
www.paddlesport.co.uk

- Canoes & Kayaks • Whitewater & Recreation
- Large Showroom • Expert Advice • Demo Lake

Group Buyers Package Deals

• BEST ADVICE • BEST PRICES • BEST SERVICE

EG. 6 kayaks + decks + paddles + buoyancy aids from £1710 inc VAT and delivery.

Interest Free Credit

12 months to pay (details on request)



BEGINNERS & INTERMEDIATE COURSES
BCU 1-3 Star

WORLDWIDE MAIL ORDER
01926 640573



Open 10.00 - 5.30 Mon-Sat
Sundays & Bank holidays phone for times

AINSWORTH • BUSHSPORT • PLAYBOATER

• PALM • NOOKIE • YAK • WILD WATER • PEAK • RIOT

• OLD TOWN • GORILLA • NECKY • STREAMLYTE •

Swapping silver for gold!

Get on the tour!

Are you a dedicated C1 who was under 16 on January 1st this year? If you are in division two or above, or maybe in the top ranks of division three and only just missed promotion, this could interest you. We have a dedicated C1 coach and want to improve our C1's in GB canoe slalom - and we are looking at C1s for the summer tour to Eastern Europe. Interested? - then Contact Jim Croft GB, U16 team manager, on email jim.croft@ntlworld.com or tel: 01582 651615

Paul Ratcliffe takes national slalom title

Olympic silver medallist, Paul Ratcliffe confirmed his outstanding talents by winning the UK canoe slalom championship in great style.

27-year old Paul, from West Bridgford in Nottinghamshire, is now rated as number one in both the UK and the world. Heather Corrie won the ladies event in the championship, whilst Rob Turner was the only competitor to win all of the three race series.

Leading the UK championships with two wins from the two races at Bala, in North Wales, Paul Ratcliffe had a maximum 60 points to win the UK title and having been pre-selected for the World championships and World Cup races decided not to race at Holme Pierrepont due to flu.

Sue Janes, slalom committee chair comments: "This year began with the cancellation of the Welsh International as a result of the foot and mouth outbreak. The Holme Pierrepont Premier race was cancelled due to flooding and the changes made to the selection races forced the Scottish Canoe Association to cancel the Grandtully International.

The UK champion paddlers are decided on the basis of three races early in the season - the final of the UK championships and Great Britain team selection taking place at the artificial slalom course at Holme Pierrepont, on Easter bank holiday Monday.

Paul Ratcliffe revealed: "Last year I concentrated on the Olympics and the World Cup. I then took a long break and have decided to focus on preparing for Athens in 2004. The challenge this year is the world championships, which will take place in the US in September, and I will be looking to

improve on my previous bronze medals." The Nottingham race ran in windy conditions and produced anxiety down to the last run, especially in the ladies event. Local Holme Pierrepont Canoe Club paddler Heather Corrie and Laura Blakeman, Sydney Olympian, tied on points but Heather took the

national title on the basis of the technical detail of the tie.

Paul Ratcliffe, Stuart McIntosh (C1) and Smith/Bowman (C2) had been pre-selected to represent Great Britain at the 2001 World Championships in Georgia, USA, in September. This was due in part to their respective top-ten performances at the 2000 Olympics.

UK Champions

Kayak Single Men

Paul Ratcliffe, Llangollen Canoe Club

Kayak Single Ladies

Heather Corrie, Holme Pierrepont

Canadian Single

Rob Turner, DOUP

Canadian Doubles

Green & Green, Llandysul Paddlers

Individual race results

Bala race 1

Mens kayak singles

1st	Paul Ratcliffe	Llangollen Canoe Club	207.65
2nd	Tim Morrison	Peak UK	213.69
3rd	Neil Buckley	Shrewsbury CC	214.92

Ladies kayak singles

1st	Heather Corrie	Holme Pierrepont CC	241.10
2nd	Kimberley Walsh	CR Cats/ Peak UK	247.41
3rd	Laura Blakeman	Stafford & Stone	249.78

Canadian singles

1st	Robert Turner	DOUP	229.07
2nd	Craig Brown	CR Catsa	240.25
3rd	Andrew Nicoll	Sandhurst	245.20

Canadian doubles

1st	Green/Green	Llandysul Paddlers	265.68
2nd	Roden/Roden	Stafford & Stone	266.40
3rd	Moore/Matthews	Halifax	297.01

Bala race 2

Mens kayak singles

1st	Paul Ratcliffe	Llangollen Canoe Club	225.57
2nd	Campbell Walsh	Double Dutch/Rasdex	226.29
3rd	Anthony Brown	Peak UK	226.76

Ladies kayak singles

1st	Laura Blakeman	Stafford & Stone	255.23
2nd	Heather Corrie	Holme Pierrepont CC	261.36
3rd	Michelle Patrick	Warrington CC	262.28

Canadian singles

1st	Robert Turner	DOUP	244.53
2nd	Daniel Goddard	South Avon	253.61
3rd	Andrew Hamilton	Stafford & Stone	259.90

Canadian doubles

1st	Green/Green	Llandysul Paddlers	266.64
2nd	Roden/Roden	Stafford & Stone	276.24
3rd	Turnbull/Turnbull	Newhaven & Co Int Ltd	329.71

Holme Pierrepont race 3

Mens kayak

1st	Tim Morrison	Peak UK	221.72
2nd	Tim Baillie	Aberdeen	222.15
3rd	Anthony Brown	Peak UK	223.69

Ladies kayak

1st	Helen Cardy	Rasdex	257.64
2nd	Laura Blakeman	Stafford & Stone	258.19
3rd	Heather Corrie	Holme Pierrepont	260.48

Canadian singles

1st	Rob Turner	DOUP	242.77
2nd	David Florence	Forth	250.21
3rd	Andy Hamilton	Stafford & Stone	250.56

Canadian doubles

1st	Smith/Bowman	Peak UK	246.66
2nd	Roden/Roden	Stafford & Stone	265.01
3rd	Green/Green	Llandysul Paddlers	268.82



Pictures by Chris Weissenborn
chrisweissenborn@btinternet.com

KNOYDART
KAYAKING SYSTEMS
 Kayaks from Valley, Kajak-Sport
 and Feathercraft



Sea Kayaking Specialists

For mail-order catalogues:
 Tel: 017687 75519 Fax: 017687 75005
 e-mail df@knoydart.co.uk
 or visit our online shop at:
 www.knoydart-kayaking.co.uk

WILD ONE
 DESIGNED FOR BEGINNERS



SUITABLE FOR EXPERTS



Unique Graphics
 New Ultra-Tough plastic

ALL-ROUND EXCELLENCE

Sport spec £325 Fullplate footrest
 Backrest
 (Club spec £280) Foam padded thighbrace
 Drainplug

WILD THINGS
 01209 211977
 www.wildthings-canoes.co.uk

DON'T GO SHOPPING



GET OUT CANOEING
 www.getoutcanoeing.co.uk

Our aim is to deliver the best canoe courses in the country
 Kayak courses also available - please ask!
 Call 017684 82233 and speak to Ian Ray or Dave Watkinson
 Patterdale Hall, Glenridding, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 0PT
 IanRay@PatterdaleHall.org

Courses that are different
Patterdale Hall

Canoe 5 star assessment 6 - 9 Dec (Scotland)
 Canoe L 3 Assessment 24 - 25 Nov
 Canoe Level 3 training 19 - 20 Nov
 Canoe 'traditional skills' 17 - 18 Nov
 Canoe 3 star assessment 16 Nov
 Canoe 4 star assessment 15 Nov
 Canoe 3 star and 4 star training 5 - 6 Nov
 Canoe 5 star training 29 Oct - 2 Nov (Scotland)
 "the sign of quality and adventure"



canekayaktrailers.com

Play Boat and Old School Friendly

from £600.00 + vat



Flat trailers

ALL GALVANISED WITH LIGHTING BOARDS/SPAREWHEEL LOCKING HITCH



Small Trailers For Small Vehicles
 -Storage Box
 #As big or as small as you like

Small box convertible trailers

Box trailers



from £1,200 + vat

Folding trailers

#Folds Down Flat
 #Stores Against Wall
 #Holds 12/14 Kayaks
 #Or 6 open Boats

£995.00 + vat



01257 272575

CHILL FACTOR



Aspiring intermediate kayakers often view expedition paddling as a black art, leaving it up to the experts to make videos about. The unpredictable nature of remote expedition paddling requires additional knowledge and skills, without seemingly straightforward river descents become potentially hazardous.

Kiwi flipin, at its best



River leadership, group management techniques, swift water rescue drills, medical skills, weather forecasting knowledge, emergency contingency planning awareness and navigation skills are but a few of the talents needed by expedition leaders.

Having grown tired of waiting to be invited on an expedition to begin the apprenticeship, I felt it was time for me to adopt a more proactive stance. It is for this reason nine intermediate Royal Navy and Royal Marine kayakers with little overseas' boating experience visited New Zealand to attend an expedition training camp.

One drizzly evening last November, the wannabe expedition unit flew out from the UK to the South Island of New Zealand. with just 14 days to complete an extremely ambitious training programme, hosted by Mick Hopkinson, of Blue Nile, Dudh Kosi, Karnali, Nevis Bluff etc fame, at his New Zealand Kayak School.



expedition training



Mick's aim was to take us from comfortable grade-three paddlers to grade-four plus boaters, equipping us with all the relevant expeditionary skills along the way.

Most kayakers have heard of this boating mecca, in the Southern Hemisphere, called New Zealand. However, unless you have been there it is difficult to comprehend how good it really is.

New Zealand is split into two Islands of similar size, the North and South Islands. North Island is a rugged volcanic strip of land with beautiful surf beaches, remote uncontaminated rivers, sub-tropical forests and the country's nucleus, the lively city of Auckland.

South Island is characterised by a huge and unspoilt alpine range, capped by lofty Mt Cook - and the West Coast of South Island is where it happens, with



literally hundreds of creeks cascading out of the Alps, many of them still unexplored.

Access in most cases is by helicopter, with pilots charging ludicrously low prices for this adrenalin-pumping class-five shuttle. The paddling season is pretty much year-round if you don't mind the cold. But, if you want blue skies and predictable rain showers topping up the rivers, then September to February is the time to visit. With access

freedom, friendly people and unlimited paddling opportunities, I cannot think of a better place to begin the expedition apprenticeship.

A knock on the bedroom door at silly o'clock, calling all team members to the pool, characterised the commencement of the four-day personal skills phase.

Working on the general premise that your troubles don't really begin until you are swimming, strong and weak side rolling was hammered,

Adventure-Whitewater



Tel.
0870 443 0 240 (UK)
E-mail.
info@adventure-whitewater.com
Website
www.adventure-whitewater.com

Adventures the world over!

Adventure-Whitewater
Agent for ATOL 3348



As well as our regular departures, private group trips can also be arranged



Southwater Watersports Centre
Cripplegate Lane, Southwater,
West Sussex RH13 7UN
Tel: 01403 734424
Fax: 01403 738710

Kayak & Open Canoe Training
1, 2, 3, & 4 star training/ assessment
Canoe Safety Test
Level 2 Coach Training
Level 2 Coach Assessment
First Aid Training
River Journeys Kayak & Open Canoe

info@southwatersports.co.uk www.southwatersports.co.uk
www.ukkayaking.co.uk Online Shop

**2 acquire send 4x firstclass stamps 2 :
nookie, ottery business park, tavistock, pl19 8ns**



products, pictures, movies

cdrom catalogue



until abdoms felt like poppadoms.

Following a leisurely break for breakfast, the next session took place on the slalom course. Mick's new adage was slalom gets you around holes, rodeo is what you do when you end up in them!

The day always ended with a river section at class-three plus, hammering home the points outlined earlier in the day. Murchison, our base camp, is blessed with 14 class three-four river sections within a 20-km radius. From technical creek runs to big water paddling on the River Buller, we were never bored.

Phase-two began with a distinct shift in emphasis from individual

paddling to developing group skills. Pool sessions became voluntary, rodeo sessions crept in and the majority of the day was spent on the river. Swift water rescue training and river leadership took prominence. Self-sufficiency was now the order of the day, as a lost boat or poor judgement leading to injury, could lead to an epic two-day walk out from the mountains.

Suddenly, an air of seriousness crept in. The rivers we were now running were test-piece rivers and only on successful negotiation of them would we be allowed to graduate to the West Coast.

No advice was given by our guides as to whether individuals should



Better Range Better Prices Better Ring

Brookbank

Canoes







The Specialists for Canoeing Equipment by all the Major Manufacturers

- Canoes
- Kayaks
- Wetsuits
- Buoyancy Aids
- Accessories
- Mail Order Service Ring for a free catalogue
- Contract Prices for Groups, Centres, Clubs etc
- Large Well Stocked Showroom
- Demo/Hire Boats

Unit 23, Meadow Industrial Estate, Water Street, Stockport SK1 2BX (Call for directions)

CALL US FREE 0800 542 6782

OR IF LINE BUSY: 0161 474 1499

www.brookbankcanoes.co.uk
 e-mail: mark@brookbankcanoes.co.uk
 Fax: 0161 474 1411

We Stock the Lot!

Call us FREE, then call us unbeatable!



run various stretches of these river: the emphasis was on individual and group responsibility.

When things went wrong, the group had to sort it out, not look to our guides for inspiration and direction. The huge earthquake slips on the Buller and Matakītiki, combined with the steep continuous Glenroy, marked a quantum leap in our ability level.

Before we had a chance to dry our kit, the six-day West Coast expedition phase was upon us. Helicopters booked, big volume boats packed, kit checked and food distributed - all we had to do was drive to the helicopter landing site, normally a deserted road, and wait for the pilot.

Over the next five days we ran the Landsborough (class three-four), Hokitika (class four plus), Wanganui (class four-plus) and Whataroa (class four-plus).

We encountered steep continuous and committing gorges, with beautiful clean emerald-coloured water, pool drop rapids dwarfed by alpine ridges, unspoilt beaches and not a single person the entire time. Quite literally we were allowed this white water playground to ourselves. The rivers changed constantly throughout; from tight, technical 'must make' boofs to committing large-volume pushy ferry

info

The Kiwi Flip training camp and expedition was sponsored by:

New Zealand Kayak School
(nzks@callnetuk.com)

Rasdex
(info@rasdex.co.uk)

Nomad Paddleworks
(nomad@paddleworks.co.uk)

Avalon Adventure
(mick@outdoorpursuits.co.uk)

Performance Kayaks
(performance@kayaks.co.uk)

glides. Expedition paddlers need to be able to paddle outside their comfort zone when the situation arises: the groundwork for this had certainly been laid.

Throughout this phase, our guides watched, intervened when absolutely necessary, and provided the safety net giving us the confidence to try things we would surely not have dared tackle otherwise.

The learning curve had been steep, we had been coached individually and as a group, completing two UK seasons' worth of paddling in 14 days.

Are we now ready to undertake our own expedition challenge? The answer is we don't know; ask us when we get back from India!

Jez Hunter





FREE Colour brochure

ENDLESS RIVER ADVENTURE

WEBSITE SPECIAL OFFERS
www.endlessriver.co.uk
 email: dave@endlessriver.co.uk
 PO Box 699, Worcester, WR2 6ZL
 Tel 01905 640003 Fax 01905 640003

The Solent's Premier Watersports Centre

CALSHOT
 ACTIVITIES CENTRE

- BCU 1-3 Star courses
- BCU 4 and 5 Star Sea Kayak courses
- BCU Instructors Courses
- Private Lessons
- Canoe Training Pool
- Residential Courses for adults & young people
- Group enquiries welcome

For a brochure, contact:
 Calshot Activities Centre, Calshot Spit, Fawley SO45 1BR
www.hants.gov.uk/calshot

Tel: 023 8089 2077

Hampshire County Council


A.S.S.C.
 ANGLESEY SEA & SURF CENTRE

Nigel Dennis Kayaks Ltd
Specialists
 Equipment/Courses

Tel/Fax 01407 762525
www.assc.org.uk




Unbeatable Paddling

Whatever your passion, whatever your aim, our dedicated team of talented paddling coaches combined with an incredible range of courses and kayaking equipment will set you up for an unbeatable paddling experience.

Whether you're new to paddlesport, want to gain coaching qualifications or join an expedition, there's a course to suit all levels. With easy access to some of the best sea kayaking in Britain and the whitewater rivers and lakes of Snowdonia on our doorstep, our courses offer the ultimate paddling adventure.

- Beginner and Improver weekend and 5 day courses
 - Freestyle, Whitewater, Sea & Surf courses to get you started & develop your skills
 - BCU star tests & coaching qualifications
- NEW** New expeditions to Ireland and The Orkneys

For details, ring
 01248 670964
plas.menai@scw.co.uk
www.plasmenai.co.uk

The National Watersports Centre
 Caernarfon, Gwynedd
 LL55 1UE



PLAS MENAI



Contact Len
Hartley at tel:
0151605 1834
or e-mail:

scapaddlerone@aol.com

Les is the man

If you're young and looking for watersport action, there are lots of exciting events for youth paddlers planned for the summer months - check with your local paddlesport development officer for details - culminating with the Bellboat national championships on October 6 at the National Watersports Centre, Nottingham.

We now have eight BCU paddlesport development officers (PDO's) supporting youth development throughout the regions.

Over the next few issues of *Canoe Focus* we will be running a series of profiles of our PDO's - kicking off this time out with Len Hartley, who has recently been appointed as PDO to North West and Yorkshire regions.

"I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the newly-appointed paddlesport development officer for the Northwest Region," says Les, "My background in the sport stems from my initial introduction whilst working with the National Children's Home in the early 80's. It became clear that the sport had so much to offer and I embarked upon developing my own personal and coaching skills.

"My local canoe/kayak club provided me with access to slalom and sprint racing events and that enabled me to understand the value to be gained from competitive events. I have been fortunate to work alongside some great coaches who have contributed to my own personal

development as a coach and I am currently a level-five sea coach and at level-four inland.

"Paddling in its various forms has involved some great locations and experiences for me: French Alpine rivers, the south east coast of Australia, the eastern seaboard of the USA, paddling with dolphins in the Florida Keys and not least the British Isles.

"I qualified DPHE Youth/Community-Cert Ed Teaching and my experience in youth & community work has further reinforced the benefits of paddlesport in my work with young people from various backgrounds.

"In my position as PDO I am only too aware of the need to ensure young people are provided with opportunities that enable them to participate in paddlesport in all its various forms. I am fortunate that within the region there are a great deal of resources to draw upon - and these include those many enthusiasts working with young people within local clubs, centres, schools, and uniformed organisations.

"The focus of my work will be the Manchester area - whilst the remainder of my time will be spent supporting the other sections of the North West Region and Yorkshire. As part of my work in Manchester, Paddlequest Northwest 2002 is scheduled to take place prior to the Commonwealth games, which are being hosted in Manchester in 2002.

"Paddlequest will provide an opportunity for young people to take part in various disciplines, including individual and team events. This will be a golden opportunity to celebrate the diversity of the sport and the achievements of young people.

"I believe the key factor in maintaining and increasing the numbers of young people in paddlesport is dependent upon a collective will and the ability for us all to work together. I look forward to your support as well as the support I can give you. In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information."

National Bellboat Championships

**Venue: National Watersports Centre,
Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham**

The third National Bellboat Championships will again form part of the BCU Paddlefest weekend together with a special youth programme of events on the Saturday. Interested? Why not enter a team and join in the fun?

Event guidelines

Teams - 8 paddlers - mixed teams (4 boys and 4 girls) are encouraged. Helms will be provided if necessary.

Age groups - Teams can be entered for either U12, U15, or U18 (by 1 September)

There will be a prize in each age category for the fastest Scout/Guide team.

We will also run a VIP race for adults and helpers.

Entry Fee - £24 per team (£3 per individual) - this includes entry to all Youth Programme events .

Buoyancy Aids - all teams should bring buoyancy aids (we can arrange buoyancy aids for teams who do not have their own but please let us know in advance).

Each team will race a minimum of 2 times against other teams over a distance of 250 mts. All teams will be timed and the fastest teams will qualify for the finals.

Entries - are restricted so get your entry in early!

An information pack will be sent out to entrants prior to the event and details will be posted on the BCU web site - www.bcu.org.uk. Closing date for all entries 29/9/01

Drawing Competition - Why not have a go at drawing your own picture representing your Bellboat experience - there will be a prize for the best ones at the regatta.

Other activities

There are lots of other activities to enjoy over the whole Paddlefest weekend for all paddlers and a special youth programme of events on the Saturday to include:

- Diamond Slalom Challenge
- Lightning Regatta
- Come and Try - different boats
- Ergo Paddle Machine Challenge

Full details of these activities will be sent out in the Team Leader's Information to all entrants - or check out the Youth Programme site on the BCU Web Site.

Send entries to:
British Canoe Union
John Dudderidge House,
Adbolton Lane, West
Bridgford, Notts NG2 5AS
Tel: (0115) 9821100
Fax: (0115) 9821797
E-mail: info@bcu.org.uk
www.bcu.org.uk



Polo at the Palace

More than 100 young paddlers participated in the regional youth polo event at Crystal Palace in March, an event supported by an Awards for All grant. Alongside the main competition, coaching was provided by Paul Hammond and Andy Pumphrey to help teams improve their game. Results as follows:

Under 18's: 1st Tandrige Tadpoles, 2nd Lea Valley Piranhas. Under 16's: 1st Blackwater Swan; 2nd Brambletye Old Boys. Under 14's: 1st Addlestone Hawks; 2nd Brambletye School.

Thanks go to Paul, Andy, Mark Preddy and his team of referees and Dulwich School and Tandrige for provision of equipment.

<http://www.bcu.org.uk>



Surfin' USA...

English surf kayak championship team member Simon Hammond gives his slant on California dreaming

Do you know the way to San Jose? It was the first cliché of the English Surf Kayak team's trip and would have sounded cool if only Gary Adcock could have correctly pronounced 'Jose'. Still it made us laugh, again and again and again.

The trip had got off to a great start and by the Saturday night of the first weekend the whole of the English surf kayak team had assembled in Santa Cruz, south of San Francisco (and San Jose) in preparation for the world surf kayak championships.

Gary Adcock and Pete Evans had been in town for a couple of days before the rest of us arrived and had already sampled the delights of Steamer Lane - the world-famous righthand point break five-minutes walk and a 20-minute paddle out from our hotel.

According to them; It was awesome! It was huge! It was terrifying! It.... it had already smashed Justine C. and her boat to pieces! And if that wasn't enough to give you nightmares then the thought of getting up at 5 am next morning in darkness to surf this formidable challenge certainly was!

Did I laugh and joke as we paddled out along the point next morning? No. Was I sprinting ahead in my little Riot Boogie to catch the first wave? No.

But when we got there and the morning light shone on the kelp-filled waters did I have the biggest grin on my face? You bet I did.

This wave was fantastic, the adrenalin buzz was

extreme, if only half of the world's population could surf this wave we'd have world peace. You may wonder why Californians are such a happy lot? I'll tell you, because they've got the 'Lane'. Its got to be one of the best righthanders in the world and that morning I surfed it with Gary, Pete, Blenks, James, Andrew and Chris and we were the happiest people alive.

And that was just the start! Over the rest of the weekend we got accustomed to the Californian language and way of life. Awesome! Have a nice day! Enjoy your meal, enjoy your stay, enjoy your allen keys! Bizarre it may be, but it created a very welcoming and relaxed atmosphere.

Even our inept driving and navigational skills were instantly forgiven by the locals and when Pete jumped yet another red light the driver he'd inadvertently cut up simply leant from his window and yelled: "Go man go!".

Dennis Judson from Adventure Sports, in Santa Cruz, organises a surf kayak contest every year. This year he hosted the world championships. Paddlers had arrived from all of our home nations, including the Channel Islands, plus Spain, Germany, Brazil, Costa Rica, Australia, USA East coast and West coast.

Tiva were one of the most visible sponsors, with a knack for running a mean BBQ and dispensing freebies at the drop of a hat. But, when it comes to parties Dan Crandall and his family take some beating.

I couldn't have eaten another chicken if I'd have tried. I certainly couldn't have drunk another drop and after being musically challenged on the dance floor I was ready for bed. It was at this point that team manager Andrew Hawker suggested another 5 am surf!: "It might be the best wave in the world," I excused myself, "But sometimes you just have

A delighted Simon Hammond with his trusty Riot Boogie.





Far left: Peter Blenkinsop returns to shore after surviving Manresa on Big Wednesday.

Left: That's what you call a roof rack.

Below: Typical Californian transport.

to let it go."

After a party recovery day spent with Joey, Bill and Ted out whale-watching, the competition started in earnest. Its knock-out structure wasn't the only thing that was cut throat. The Surf conditions at Manresa Beach, contest location for the first two days, got harsher by the minute.

Now, being the new boy in the team, I had a secret weapon: it wasn't the fact that I was surfing one of the only plastic boats in the event, it wasn't even my belief that singing during a heat would help me to calm down. No, my secret weapon was... sheer ignorance!

One name sounded pretty much the same as another to me and as I had only ever surfed with the great Nigel Holland from Jersey I knew that whoever I was drawn against in the first round I wouldn't panic because I just wouldn't know how good they were!

An asset like this was my key to success, if only I could keep.... my.... mouth... shut!

But keeping my mouth shut has never been one of my strengths, "So who is this Dick Wold character?" I asked a smiling Nigel Holland, "Oh really... an ex-world champion! And what's that: you're in my heat as well!!!"

Well that was Plan A for staying calm shot down in flames. I'd just have to come up with a good song, like "Do you know the way to San Jossy..."

When I found out that I'd beaten Dick, and would be progressing to the next stage with Nigel, that Steamer Lane grin came back in full. However, the real excitement started on the second day when someone was stupid enough to utter that evil curse: "You're ok guys, its nice and small today".

Smaller than what? I wondered - the Empire State? It was huge and definitely not nice. To call it a close-out wave didn't do it justice. Within 20 minutes Gary Adcock had had his arm ripped from its socket, Dan Crandall swam in with his boat in tatters and by lunch time three more boats were smashed, 15 of the worlds top paddlers had taken a swim and two more paddlers were seriously injured. But did the organisers flinch? Not for a second. Do you really think they would!

After indulging in Thai, Mexican and the Californian national dish - Kentucky Fried Chicken - we were ready once more for Steamer Lane and the team part of the contest.

A mere \$70000 buys this venue for three days, and it comes with its own bouncers, traffic officers and cops. Those who were unhappy about the arrangement - a couple of individual surfers - were busted.

Now Peter Blenkinsop may have had balls-of-steel at Manresa but it was left to our girls, Sara and Justine, to show us true grit at the Lane. Both ended up in the rocks and both came out fighting, eventually winning their heats.

But the main thing was to stay relaxed. Jenny Blenkinsop, binoculars at the ready, became the local sea otter and dolphin expert, Gary found a second job as a TV commentator, Chris moved into the scooter wrecking business - managing to break five hired bikes in less than

an hour - Andrew 'Fanny-Pack' Hawker filmed and praised anything that moved, while Pete strutted around in his Speedos, looking mean and threatening. This left me just talking and talking and talking to anyone who would stop and listen.

We stayed as cool as Californians, which was ironic, as the Californians themselves got increasingly stressed. Their poor junior, Brett, first in the water on the final day, faced not only difficult surf conditions but also the instructions his entire team were shouting from the cliff-top.

"Go left! Go right! Catch that wave! No, paddle out! What are you doing kid! Paddle! Stop! No, paddle!" - The crazy thing was that they knew they weren't helping Brett, but they just couldn't stop. As the day ended, we were relaxed and content, we were sunburnt and surfed out and we'd done our best. We'd had a fantastic competition and had enjoyed great surf, great experiences - and had made some great friends. We had also come fourth in the world!

California was a cool place to be, full of cool people who made us feel welcome and pleased with our efforts. I'm still buzzing from the experience and am sure to return to Santa Cruz.

But that's for the future and this story is almost at an end, apart from mentioning the naked team meetings in the hotel's hot tub and the final night party where Peter Hawker pulled the best looking waitress you've ever seen and congratulating Jersey for winning the team event and the way in which we all acquired those Tiva caps and thanking Virgin for flying us and our kayaks across the world and.... well, if you want to know any more I'll be happy to have a quick chat.



info

The Team members were:
 Andrew Hawker - manager; Peter Blenkinsop - captain; Jenny Blenkinsop; James Hawker; Gary Adcock; Peter Evans; Chris Milbank; Justine Curgenvin; Sarah Read; Malcolm Pearcey; Simon Hammond.

Text and photos supplied by
 Simon and Nicola Hammond
 Shoreline Outdoor Pursuits
 11a Crooklets Beach
 Bude, Cornwall EX23 8NE
 Tel 01288 354039

LETTERS

Your chance to put forward your point of view

Email: letters@canoefocus.co.uk
Or send to Roger St. Pierre, Editor
Canoe Focus
Beauval Road,
Dulwich, London
SE22 8UQ

Let's behave

Paddlers should try to maintain a good image when out and about in the countryside.

There are a few characters who tarnish our sport with their behaviour and attitudes, making it very hard for us to improve river access and the public's opinion of us as people who act responsibly both on and off water.

Please put your litter and fag ends in the bin, not all over the car park (Bigbury, sea kayaker); don't play your stereo overly loud while waiting at the river car park (River Dart paddler from Slough), and use the toilets, not the roadside or riverbank.

Drive considerately when on narrow country lanes and respect other countryside visitors and the local residents.

Devon paddler and BCU coach

You can't keep a good firm down

I recently e-mailed many of our suppliers and customers in response to a rumour circulating that we had gone bankrupt!

This is far from the case and we are working hard to get through what has been a difficult period for everyone in the countryside.

I have attached a press release (see news pages) relating to our attempts to secure improved access in the Snowdonia area, our launch weekend and the launch of our website (www.surf-lines.co.uk).

Nick Cunliffe

Surf-Lines, Llanberis, North Wales

Put your shoulder into it...

I wonder if there are any engineers or biomechanists out there who can help me. I am trying to find out about the biomechanics of the freely-held paddle blade in boat propulsion.

I think I have worked out what happens to dislocate the shoulders of paddlers but I'm not sure if it is correct.

I am also trying to get information on the incidence of injuries in different paddling disciplines, so if anyone in a position of authority in the competition disciplines would like to help me to distribute my questionnaire, I'd like to hear from them. Contact me at: Wiggo Cottage, 135 Main Road, Wybunbury, Nantwich, Cheshire CW5 7LR

Dr. Paul Schur
Nantwich, Cheshire

Looking for outlets

We are an Italian multimedia company which deals with multimedia services for business and with multimedia publishing. We have produced Whitewater Adventures, a spectacular interactive CD-ROM that explores canoeing and kayaking on wild rivers all over the world and we are looking for retailers and distributors in the UK and all over Europe.

A CD-ROM review has been published by *Canoeist* (January 2001 issue). Other reviews will be soon published by *Paddler Magazine* and *Canoe and Kayak Magazine* in the US.

Whitewater Adventures was created under the supervision of Francesco Balducci, a skilled canoeist and explorer who

holds the world record for the highest number of run rivers.

The CD-ROM covers four main topics: itineraries, equipment, how-to, and tips and tricks.

It contains about 140 river runs in 20 different countries (Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, France, Corsica, Honduras, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Reunion, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, Venezuela etc) complete with interactive maps, 600 photographs, and 40 minutes of exciting digital video. Great for all outdoor enthusiasts and fans of adventurous travels!

Serious kayakers will find important information on getting to put-in and take-out points, difficulty classification, and more - all of which can be printed in a handy river report. Also included are links to 50 of the best kayaking websites on the Internet.

For more information, please go to www.dreamslab.it. The CD-ROM can be directly purchased on our web site (our on-line shop is 100% safe secure guaranteed; the methods of payment are based on advanced protection system (SSL).

Is anyone out there interested in promoting our CD-ROM to the general canoeing public via the wholesale or retail trade or to members of a club or association?

The end-user unit price is US\$19.99 (we sell on line at this price). For more information, please don't hesitate to contact us via e-mail or via phone.

Rosalba Brizzolaro, Marketing & Sales Director
Dreams Lab, Via Nuova Italia 14/1, 16033 Lavagna (GE), Italy. tel: +39 0185 397018; fax: +39 0185 397370; internet: www.dreamslab.it e-mail: info@dreamslab.it

Foot and Mouth issues

When I received *Canoe Focus* I was quick to open it and find out more about Foot and Mouth issues. On scanning through the contents I was more than disappointed to find that there were no articles dedicated to this subject at all. I was shocked to find that there were no letters regarding the topic either. There was merely a three paragraph statement giving a quote from Jim Scudamore and then telling us what we already knew: "canoeing has been restricted".

Foot and Mouth is a current and fundamental issue regarding all of the BCU development strategies. Foot and Mouth has affected everyone in the outdoor industry. It has affected every canoeist professional or recreational. What about a background article with the facts. What about including relevant opinions in the editorial. What about an article informing us on what the BCU is doing about these issues. What about some stories concerning how it is affecting us.

Let's not bury our heads in the sand like an ostrich and avoid these issues. Let's not nod in agreement with the most limiting access we have ever had. Let's not be satisfied with regardlessly "being seen to be doing the right thing." Let's obtain the facts, debate the issue and concur reasonable and logical restrictions. The ramifications of not doing this is clearly that everyone will be rushing to "freeze" their memberships or worse still give up on the BCU totally.

Mary French.

Silversides - my golden oldie

Tony Scott has a little piece of history in the back of his home. Actually, quite a lot of pieces....

It wasn't a storm that ended the last voyage of my Klepper Aerijs, a Rolls Royce among canoes. It was me. The place was a rocky bay off Rhosneigr, on the south-west coast of Anglesey.

The time was mid-afternoon. A westerly wind broke the tops off the swell and cracked the sails.

Sails? Didn't I mention that this canoe has sails? It does - or rather it did.

I was sailing the canoe across the bay, sitting up on a seat across the coaming and leaning out to balance her, while the leeboards sliced cream furrows through the green sea and the canoe's length flexed to the chop. Then a gust broke open a clip that held the top spar of the sail to the mast. The top third of the sail flapped wildly.

The canoe lost way. Granite rocks punched spray from the water, 300 yards downwind. If only I can reclaim the spar, I thought, pushing the tiller to turn the canoe into the wind. I stood up, reached up... and lost my balance. I toppled sideways, falling against the mainsail. The sail tore. I fell right through it into the sea, dragging it and the canoe over on top of me. The canoe filled with water, then rolled sluggishly back upright as I floundered clear of a spaghetti of stays and sheets and halyards.

Getting back in was easy. The top of the cockpit was at water level. And thanks to built-in buoyancy tubes along the gunwales, there was no danger of it sinking. But with only the foresail left, sailing across the wind to clear the rocks was out. Bailing was out, too: waves washed in faster than I could scoop.

I was sitting up to my waist in water, paddling wearily, when some well-meaning soul on the beach, a mile away, took it upon themselves to send out the inshore rescue boat and get me towed in. So much for dignity.

Silversides - the family nickname for the canoe - entered my life in the early 1960s, when I'd just become a teenager and was living in the USA. As the Cuban missile crisis boiled towards war, the good citizens of Washington DC became aware that they were Red Target number-one. They panicked.

All over town, people sold off assets at fire-sale prices and poured money into building supposedly nuke-proof survival shelters in their backyards. My father, a British soldier on liaison duty with the Pentagon at the time, recognised a buyer's market when he saw one. As he said: 'If Krushchev calls Kennedy's bluff, a hole in the ground isn't going to make any bloody difference.'

So he bought this gleaming near-new collapsible two-seater canoe for a pittance. It fitted together immaculately. Seven and nine-ply marine plywood frames, beech and pine struts, all held without a single screw: just spring-clips and German design thinking. The two ends of the frame, once assembled, slid easily into a skin of rubberised silver canvas, which was reinforced and stitched to a royal blue topside. The frame ends clipped together for the final fitting of seats and backs and cushions. Inflating the buoyancy tubes that ran the full 6m length of the canoe made the skin drum-tight.

That summer, we played with Silversides on lakes in Tennessee. She got dragged at speed behind a powerboat, and we paddled her up creeks to collect firewood, which we towed back on a tractor innertube behind the stern. She happily took five - two adults on the seats; my kid sister between; and my brother and I straddling prow and stern.

We even bought a crossbar, which clamped across the coaming to allow the canoe itself to be fitted with an outboard motor, so that we could cruise the Virginia coast without even having to paddle.

A couple of years later, back in Europe and heading for a camping holiday near Venice, the family invested in a sailing kit as well. A pine mast and gaff spar, deep marine-ply leeboards to keep her stable under sail, a rudder and foot-operated tiller. All that summer, and for three more, my siblings and I sailed

her in the blue Adriatic Sea or the Mediterranean proper - or paddled out to sea at dusk to swim from her and drink beer in the cool of evening.

She felt very special. After all, not long before, a Frenchman had sailed a Klepper Aerijs identical to ours right across the Atlantic. We planned trips across the Channel... up French canals... along the Rhine.

20 years later, my parents retired to Australia, and I acquired the canoe. I paddled it down Dorset's rivers, leapt a weir in it outside Blandford, fought the surf off Lulworth Cove in it. One long weekend, I took my two small children - then six and four - up the Thames from London in it. My young son helped to paddle, in between bouts of fishing. My younger daughter sat on a large icebox between the seats and waved at anglers on the banks as we passed. The three of us even took it through the river's locks - no joke when you're only a few feet from the lock gates and only a few inches above the boiling water.

But those inflatable tubes meant that she was extraordinarily stable even in rough water - and even under sail in a strong wind. She'd roll until the leeward tube nestled into the water, then refuse to tip further. With a little care, it was even possible to dive into deep water from her, then climb back in over the side without coming close to capsizing.

Silversides still went together impeccably... and still needed no screws. In all those years, only one aluminium fitting needed repair, and that merely took a couple of small stainless steel bolts. For the rest, a little talcum on the rubber in autumn, a light rubdown and revarnishing of the wood every four years or so was all she needed.

Then, one summer, we took her on holiday to a campsite in the Vendée, along the Atlantic coast of France. With us was my kid sister, now with two kids of her own and a bearded Aussie psychologist for a husband. The psychologist and I went surfing in Silversides one day, so that he could compare the power of Atlantic breakers with the Pacific swell of his native Sydney.

With the two of us paddling and steering, we whooped down a dozen mighty two-metre waves, riding them into shore, bursting back out through the breaks for more. Then we caught a real monster. It lifted the stern high. The bow rushed forward and down - and caught on a sandbar underwater.

With the unstoppable force of the wave rearing behind us, and the immovable object of the sand ahead, we had nowhere to go. Silversides somersaulted end-over-end, spilling both of us into the sea and thumping my brother-in-law on the head as she fell on top of him. There was no damage, except to our egos. Freed of our weight, Silversides simply floated on in and grounded gently on the beach.

But the next time we took her out on the Thames at Shepperton, some of the skin's seams wept a tear or two of water after an hour or two afloat. Over the next few years, the skin went on weeping. We used Silversides less and less. The rubber tubes along the gunwales came adrift - and I took to sending the children into the ends of the skin to push the tube-ends back into place each time we reassembled her. One of the valves got lost, so we resorted to using a whittled stick as a cork on the rubber pipe that fed the tube.

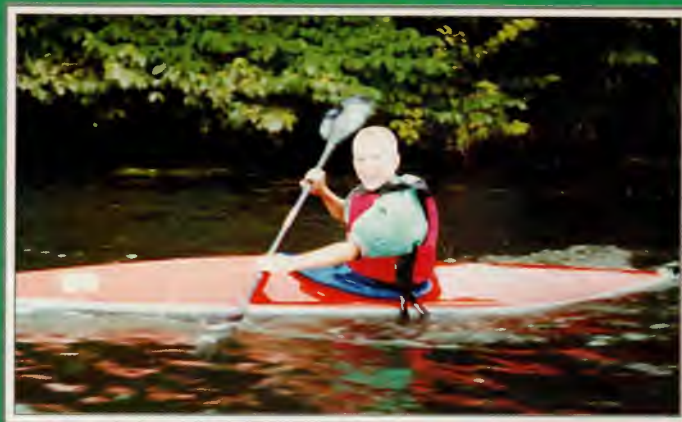
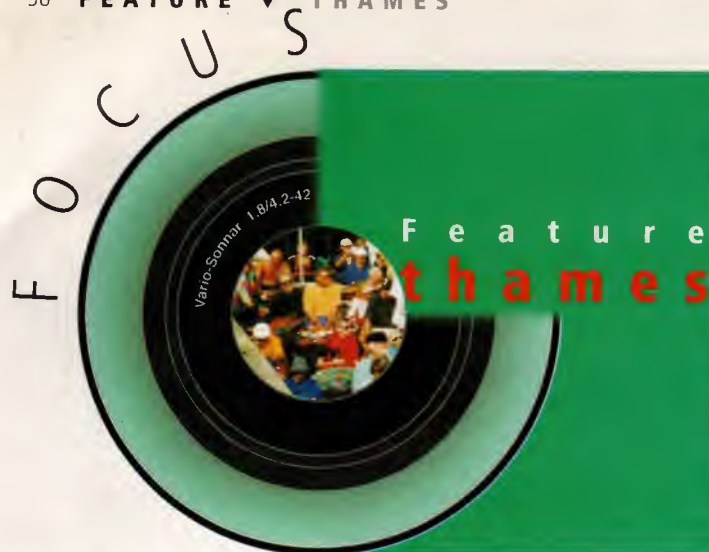
But all the pieces still fitted into three canvas backpacks. The skin in one bag, frames in a second, long struts in the third. The sailing kit, including the mast and motor arm, fitted in a long sailor's kitbag. Then came that last voyage off Anglesey, and the indignity of being towed back in.

Today, Silversides looks distinctly grey. The wood hasn't warped or twisted or cracked in 37 years. But the skin needs restitching. I've been a little forgetful about the talcum powder.

The four bags sit in the utility room at the back of my house in North London. I don't have time for paddling at weekends any more, or for sailing, even if I could bring myself to get the sails replaced. And my children these days are older than I was when I first met Silversides. Paddles don't turn them on any more. Parties do.

So Silversides sits and waits for a new dreamer, a new home - a new set of adventures. She waits still. Any offers?

Tony Scott used to be a Fleet Street journalist and is now a business consultant. If you'd like to buy Silversides, or simply find out more, call him on: 020-8444-8800 or 07973-829-209 or fax: 020-8444-3666.



New vision for Old Father Thames

Peter Kent looks at plans for our busiest river's better future

A clearer focus for river users and a higher profile for navigation on the Thames have been announced by the Environment Agency. A new top level position of waterways manager will take responsibility for all activities on the river, including navigation and recreation, and managing the 113 staff who, up to now, have reported into different local area offices.

Reporting to the director of the Thames Region, the waterways manager will also be responsible for driving forward the new Thames Ahead partnership initiative, launched last November to develop navigation and leisure facilities and find new partnership funding for the infrastructure of the river.

Chris Birks, director of the Environment Agency's Thames Region comments: "We know that many of the businesses and clubs along the river have wanted a clearer line of communication with the agency and to feel that navigation is being represented at the highest level. This new post, managing all aspects of the waterway from Cricklade to Teddington, will, on a very practical level, make that happen."

Says Barbara Young, chief executive of the Environment Agency: "The Thames Ahead initiative is an important project for the agency, designed to ensure this great river is managed in partnership and so can be enjoyed by future generations. Our decision to appoint a Waterways Manager on the Thames will provide the impetus to carry the project forward at the highest level."

The new position will be responsible for: business support, covering licensing, business planning and budgeting; operations, covering lock staff, inspectors, patrols, water level management and recreation; asset management, covering capital expenditure and the maintenance programme; and business development/Thames Ahead, covering leisure strategy development, partnerships and external funding, marketing and communications, local planning and Local Environment Agency Plans (LEAPs).

Introducing Thames Ahead

Thames Ahead is an initiative from the Environment Agency, Thames Region, designed to develop navigation and leisure on the non-tidal Thames.

Developed in close collaboration with the boating trade and river users, including canoeists, Thames Ahead aims to bring together all the players along the river to develop a blueprint for sustainable leisure development, to improve facilities and to increase investment in the river's infrastructure. The Thames is already one of the most intensively used and managed rivers in Europe, and the non-tidal stretch, partly due to strict Conservancy Acts, maintains a green corridor through a densely populated part of the country.

But the Agency has become increasingly concerned at the ongoing under-investment on the river, the deterioration of many of the facilities and at the fact that there is insufficient government funding to address the huge backlog of maintenance in locks and weirs.

At the same time the pressures from leisure users - there are 10-12 million visits to the river every year - and the expectations of tourists are increasing and these need to be managed in such a way that the environmental balance of the river is sustained for the future.

The Agency employs a policy of integrated river basin management to ensure that the delicate balance between flood control, water abstraction, leisure use and conservation is maintained. But there is currently actually no one body responsible for planning on the river, no overall environmental leisure strategy for the Thames and no mechanism for encouraging partnership investment in its future.

The agency itself has a limited government grant of £1m a year to manage the navigation infrastructure of the river, which it supplements with £3m from commercial and statutory sources and by lobbying for additional one-off grants to tackle the backlog of maintenance in locks and weirs. But there are many others who are also actively involved in or interested in the future of this great river, such as local authorities, parish councils, and thousands of businesses, tourist attractions and landowners.

Thames Ahead is, therefore, a commitment from the agency, launched publicly in November last year, that it will work to bring interested parties to the table, to drive forward a sound and sustainable environmental leisure development plan for the river and an investment mechanism that provides for improved infrastructure and leisure services.

The aims

Thames Ahead is in its early stages and, as with all partnerships, its success will depend to a large degree on the priorities and commitment of other players along the river. During last year, in order to establish the initial parameters for Thames Ahead, the agency set up an advisory group, consulted widely amongst user groups, clubs and the marine trade and researched attitudes to use and development of the river, commercial funding opportunities and provision of facilities. Three initial clear priorities have emerged.

Firstly, revenue must be raised to improve the infrastructure of the river and the environment for all leisure users. The Agency will continue to press government most strongly for increased funds to address the backlog of lock and weir maintenance on the river. It will also explore other avenues more vigorously, for example: developing its own small land holdings and leisure facilities; exploring with partners where, for example, new marine developments or facilities for canoeists, anglers and rowers can take place; exploring opportunities for marketing partnerships; and looking at raising other sources of revenue from business and the voluntary sector to invest directly in the river.

Secondly greater use of the river will be promoted. Research shows that there is a low awareness among both local communities and visitors of the sorts of leisure activities available on the river.

While the last few years have seen a growth in walking, camping, cycling, canoeing and the use of electric boats, there has been a general decline in the number of registered powered craft. This decline affects both the Agency's revenue and the livelihood of the trade along the river.

The Agency will work to raise awareness of the river's leisure opportunities, and in particular to promote the river to target markets who may be interested but have not yet tried boating and to encourage past boaters back onto the river.

Thirdly, the scheme will increase partnership activity to improve leisure provision. The Thames receives millions of land-based and water-based visitors every year. They need more slipways, moorings and boating facilities, more public toilets, car parks and access points, and better signage.

The Agency will work with local authorities to encourage planning proposals to incorporate opportunities for leisure facilities, recreational space, transport links and access to the river; to ensure that river views are protected and that a planning blueprint for the river for the long term can be developed.

Commercial tourism operators and other businesses along the river will be encouraged to enhance their financial contribution to the upkeep of the river; to develop partnership marketing and tourism promotion initiatives; to encourage higher standards of service among operators and to ensure that the needs of the boater and walker are recognised.

Presentations are being made to all riparian local authorities and other key stakeholders, such as government agencies, funding and development bodies and tourist boards, asking for their views and to share in the vision for Thames Ahead.

An updated and comprehensive database of all clubs and operators on the Thames is being set up. This will provide an overview of all recreation and business activity along the river, give information on funding and operations, and enable the Agency to provide useful information for businesses, clubs, local authorities and tourism operators.

The Agency recognises that the splitting of the management of the Thames has been unpopular with waterway users. While the agency needs to maintain the very close operational links between navigation and flood defence - that is where the efficiencies come from - it recognises that those who use the river need a single focus with a clear structure, and with senior level reporting. The agency is currently looking broadly at all agency activities and has focused its attention so far on environment protection.



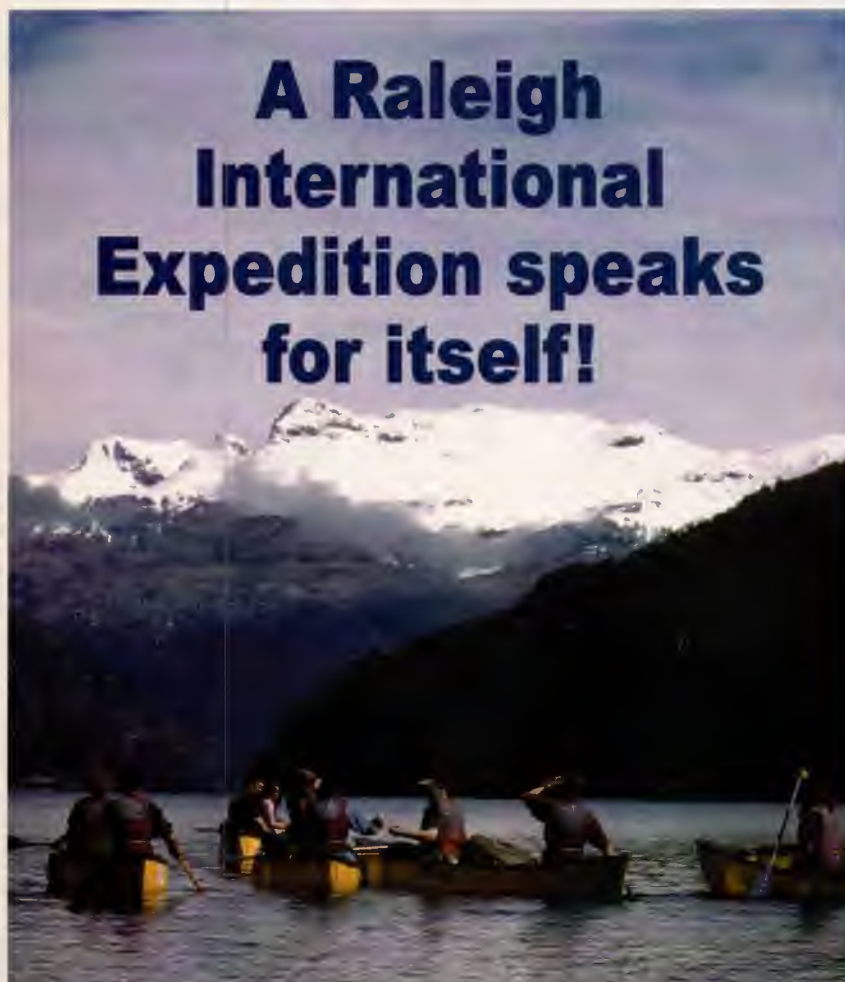
THE BIRCH CREEK CANOE
fast, light and manoeuvrable

Birch Creek, Canarth,
Ceredigion, Wales SA38 9JU
Tel: 01239 710391



In the event of manual sickness, wear

KOGG
KAYAKING



**A Raleigh
International
Expedition speaks
for itself!**

As Project Manager for Raleigh (Kayak leader), I can tell you that if you are looking for a serious paddling experience in remote locations and if you get any satisfaction from seeing young people in your charge enjoy what will probably be one of the most exciting and challenging experiences of their life, then look no further than Raleigh International.

They will make it happen.

JOHN RAMWELL — PROJECT MANAGER

**Canoe/Kayak (or other Outdoor)
Instructors required for 3 month
volunteer posts.**



**E-mail: staff@raleigh.org.uk
Tel: 020 7371 8585**

www.raleighinternational.org

Raleigh International Trust is a registered UK charity No. 1047653

Donald Bean 1920 – 2001

Tributes have poured in following the loss to the pastime of one of its great characters. Andrew Preston sums up the feelings and memories of all who knew Don

Where do you start when writing about a man who lived life to the full and had a personality which was always engaging, generous and genuine. Once met, never forgotten, Don breezed through life, impressing others who invariably moved on richer for the experience. Stories involving him are numerous and legendary: a slightly built, elderly man arriving to go canoeing in his suit and trilby hat; the experience of taking a swim and having Donald effortlessly paddle to you to explain the virtues of well-practised, defensive swimming – the memories will always stay with me.

As my paddling progressed he demonstrated these techniques more frequently and, as my anxieties increased, he was never fazed and always continued paddling with that infectious smile.

Donald knew how to make an occasion out of a canoeing day. He assisted me coaching a group of adult offenders over a number of years and gave substance to their achievements however small – with the net result that all grew in confidence and self-esteem and many were able to mature and put their anti-social behaviour behind them.

I know numerous groups would express similar sentiments – Scouts, Stafford and Stone Slalom Club, Staffordshire Police and others, both home and abroad. He gave freely of his time, energy and enthusiasm and said he fed off the excitement of the participants.

Donald's influence extended beyond canoeing. He volunteered his time to charity to such an extent that, in 1992, he received an MBE for services to the community. He was born in the house he died in and was well known in the town of Stafford. The local corner shop should



remember not to order so many cakes and biscuits and the local paddlers are already looking thinner.

Donald enjoyed life and never shied away from a challenge. One year, he decided to run the London marathon and thought he should have his one and only practice run in the early hours of the morning. Once changed, he felt cold so put on his old mac and trilby before leaving the house. The Police were very understanding.

I hope I have conveyed to the reader the enormous respect and affection Donald commanded from all who knew him. He was honest, genuine, energetic and generous. Those who were fortunate enough to know him are richer for it. I'm sure the spirit of DB1 will endure.

Andrew Preston



Bishop Burton COLLEGE


HND SPORT & ADVENTURE MANAGEMENT

Designed for people wishing to work in the expanding adventure industry

- Gain skills & knowledge that are required by today's employers
- Opportunity to gain NGB awards
- Study at the College with the national reputation for quality

Bishop Burton · Beverley · East Yorkshire HU17 8QG
 Telephone: +44 (0) 1964 553000 · Fax: +44 (0) 1964 553101
 enquiries@bishopb-college.ac.uk · www.bishopb-college.ac.uk





Coleg Powys

Brecon LD3 9SR Llandrindod LD1 5SE
 Newtown SY16 4HU

'The College for the Community'

OUTDOOR EDUCATION HIGHER NATIONAL DIPLOMA HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF GLAMORGAN

A two year course in Outdoor Education covering the knowledge and skills needed in the outdoor industry. The course is set in the Brecon Beacons National Park and has immediate access to mountains, rivers, caves and open water. The college has its own outdoor education base and emphasis is placed upon national governing body awards and industrial experience.

For further details please contact Sian Bourton Tel: 01874 625252 ext. 401



Cartwheel
 Wavewheel
 Get real!

DESPERATE MEASURES

Rodeo

Coaching Courses

Tel: 0115 9816 815

MANOR Adventure

**DO YOU WANT TO BE AN
 Outdoor Adventure Instructor**

We will employ and train up to 60 personnel. You will be part of a close-knit team of young, friendly, like minded-people.

- Full training given
- Full board and accommodation
- Uniform provided

A leading Independent Activity Centre, is offering opportunities to work with child or adult groups, both in the UK and their brand new centre in Northern France.

Call 01584 861333

Practical, jargon free

First Aid Training

for remote area activities.



Open courses in the Peak District.
 Groups at your own venue.
 HSE approved REC course.


tel/fax 01298 71827 www.mediact.net

GREEK ISLANDS

Affordable Sea kayak holidays,
 for experienced paddlers -
 Kayak rental, accommodation,
 daily transport to paddles sites.

MILOS, GREECE

www.seakayakgreece.com



ACTIVITY LEADERSHIP

1 year course leading to:
 BCU and RYA coaching qualifications
 Basic Expedition Leader Award
 National Pool Lifeguard Qualification and
 much more.
 Includes paid residential work experience.

Also other 1 year and 2 year full-time Outdoor Recreation courses.
 For further details and a College prospectus write to:
Kingston Maurward College, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 8PY
 or telephone 01305 215000

COME CANOE AT SLENINGFORD

A superb riverside camping/caravan site in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales

- Excellent on site grade 2/3 canoeing on the River Ure
- Camping/caravanning by the riverside
- Changing and other facilities for canoeists
- Day visitors also welcome

SLENINGFORD WATERMILL CARAVAN PARK
NORTH STAINLEY, RIPON, N. YORKSHIRE, HG4 3HQ

Tel: 01765 635201



HNC/D Business & Outdoor Education @ Northumberland College

Looking at a career in the Outdoor Industry?

Want to manage your own facility or develop your role in a large outdoor pursuits organisation?

This course is ideal for you!

- Options include:**
- Marketing
 - Countryside & Environment
 - Sport Coaching
 - Water Based Activities
 - Event Management
 - Business Strategy
 - Adventure Tourism

Call Freephone (0800) 16-2-100 for the HNC/D Business & Outdoor Education leaflet.



Northumberland College, College Road,
Ashington, Northumberland NE63 9RG
Tel: (01670) 841 200 Fax: (01670) 841 201
www.northland.ac.uk



Edale Activity Centre



Introduction to Canoe Sports

Introduction (1), Intermediate (2), Advanced (3) - Kayaking and Canoeing

Introduction to Moving Water - Kayaking and Canoeing

Coach Level 1 and Coach Level 2 Training and Assessment

Plus courses in navigation, Climbing, Caving, Mountain Biking, Paragliding, SPA Training and Assessment, M. Training and Assessment, and a range of Multi-Activity courses/holidays.

NOTE: we can provide all inclusive (transport, qualified instructors and all equipment) watersports sessions of any duration, March - October for any group.

For further details contact:

Edale YHA Activity Centre, Rowland Cote, Nether Booth, Edale, Hope Valley, S33 7ZH
Tel: 01433 670302 Fax: 01433 670243



CANOE CANADA

TEMAGAMI, LAND OF PURE WATER & ANCIENT FORESTS

Canoe/hike Getaways • Learning Vacations
Art & Culture Escapes • Canoe outfitting
Gourmet Organic Cuisine • Charming Lodgings

Smoothwater Outfitters • www.smoothwater.com
temagami@onlink.net / Fax: 00-1-705-569-2710

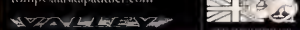


BRITISH SEA KAYAK SPECIALISTS
ALASKA CANOE BASE
Introduction • Trips • Adventures • www.alaskapaddler.com • Home

Self-hire & guided adventures
Prince William Sound • Kenai Fjords
& Kachemak Bay

Wilderness paddling at it's best
Whales, tidewater glaciers, bears & more
BCU trained guides

P.O. Box 3547, Homer, Alaska 99603
tel: 907 235 2090 USA
tomp@alaskapaddler.com



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



Wilderness Spirit canoeing adventures

Wilderness canoeing adventures on Canadian Shield and tundra rivers in Manitoba and Nunavut, Canada. 7-16 day canoeing adventures on the Canadian Heritage Bloodvein, Hayes, Seal and Thelon rivers. For novice and accomplished paddlers. Wildlife, natural history, exciting whitewater, tranquil flatwater, wilderness solitude.

Contact: Jim Broad, Runwick cottage, Hyde Hill, Chalford Hill, Stroud,
Gloucestershire, GL6 8EQ. 01453 731233, Mobile: 07989 745909,
email: jim_broad@hotmail.com www.WildernessSpirit.com

"FREE this Winter"

A free training course for a career in outdoor education or the leisure industry. However you must satisfy the funding criteria.

Surrey County Councils Outdoor Education Centre, Thames Young Mariners offers a 22-week residential training course starting in October 2001 for people over 16 years of age seeking employment in this industry. All training and assessment are suited to the individuals experience and ability. This course is European Social Funded for people that meet their criteria.

You could achieve the following qualifications on this course:

British Canoe Union - Kayak Level 2 Coach
Open Canoe 4*

Royal Yachting - Association Dinghy Sailing Instructor
Windsurfing Level 2
Powerboat Level 2
RYA First Aid
VHF Licence
Diesel Engine Maintenance
Safety Boat

British Orienteering - Federation Teacher Leader

National Vocational - Qualification NVQ Level 2

Experience in High/Low rope courses and climbing walls.
Personal / Social education, Communication and Leadership skills.



For more details contact Thames Young Mariners

Tel: 020 8940 5550

Fax: 020 8940 7052

E-mail: tym.tym@virgin.net

SOUTH AFRICA

Guided warm water adventure & coaching



**Whitewater
& Sea Paddling
Canyoning**

Individual itineraries. BCU Coaches

Tel: 01286 870908

Email: happyhippos@virgin.net

Web: www.wildsa.com

WILDERNESS SA

WINDOWS
ON THE
WILD

HOLIDAYS WITH A
DIFFERENCE

Enjoy the challenge of canoeing and rafting some of Canada's or Mexico's rivers and lakes. Holiday's to suit all skill levels,

WINDOWS ON THE WILD
2 Oxford House, 24 Oxford
Road North, London, W4 4DH
Ph. 020 8792 1556
Fax: 020 8747 4331
CAA ATOL 2966
www.windows-on-the-wild.com



SEA
KAYAK



FIORDLAND
NEW ZEALAND

NZ's last great wilderness area

Milford, Doubtful,
Dusky and Breaksea
Sounds; Lakes
Manapouri & Te Anau.

Freedom rentals and
guided tours.

Call us for brochure
and information pack

Bill and Daphne

Fiordland Wilderness Experiences

66 Quintin Drive TE ANAU NZ

Ph NZ 64 3 249 7700

Fax NZ 64 3 249 7768

email:

fiordland.sea.kayak@clear.net.nz

web: fiordlandseakayak.co.nz

PERSONAL

CONTACT MAG for adults: over 900 photos.
APPROVAL copy from: MATCHMAKER, (T71),
Chorley, PR7 4BS. Or ring: 01257-483335 (24 hours).

ACCOMMODATION

GREY CORRIE LODGE AND ROY BRIDGE INN HOSTEL For the Highlands

Two independent hostels located on the A86 in the village of Roy Bridge, Fort William 12 miles to the west. Private rooms for 2, 3, 4 and 8 persons. Complete self-catering. Heating. Showers. Toilets. Drying rooms and All bedding provided. All inclusive price. Bar on site, live music some Saturdays.

ACCESS VISA & SWITCH ACCEPTED
Tel: 01397 712236
Fax: 01397 712241

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

Fort William

Self-catering - Home comforts
 Excellent drying rooms - Twin and four-person bedrooms - Parking for trailers - Ideal for club meets or individuals

£9.00-£10.00 per night.

Tel: 01397 700451
 mountain@guide.u-net.com

River Dart, NewBridge

Riversmeade B&B offers quality ensuite accommodation, ample parking and drying facilities. Open all

Tel: Joy Hasler
01364 631224

Tyddyn Bychan

Deluxe Bunkhouse
Edge of Snowdonia

15 min drive to Tryweryn

Excellent quality bunkhouse accommodation for up to 24 people from £7.50 per person per night, including hot showers, heating and bedding. Can be fully self catering or we can provide delicious homemade meals in the licensed dining room within the farmhouse. Drying room.

Call Lynda Parker on 01490 420680

CANOING 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 15%. Shop open Tues - Fri 10 - 5, Sat 10-1. For mail order catalogue please send 4" x 9" S.A.E. TOR (cf), 42 Widnes Road, Widnes. WAB 6AL. Tel: 0151 424 2225

INCHREE CENTRE - Onich, Fort William, Highland. Classic whitewater location, Well-equipped Chalets, deluxe Hostel, all ensuite, Bunkhouse available for exclusive canoe group use. Bar & Bistro on site, drying facilities. Tel/fax: 01855 821 287. Web: www.canoe-scotland.com

DARTMOOR Close to River Dart. Camping Barn at Holne (0.S.SX 706 696) Cheap and cheerful. Showers, toilets and cooking facilities. Sleeps 16. Tel Katie (01364) 635444

SMALL BUNKHOUSE - Sleeps party of 4-5 plus one single room. Comfortable and clean, shower, full English breakfast. tiz.sopp. Tel: 01691 778016

EQUIPMENT & SERVICES

CANARVE 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 713640

EQUIPMENT & SERVICES

Canoes - Kayaks Direct

Best Prices Free kayak delivery

Tel-07720 955427

Fax-08701 638201

<http://www.canoesdirect.co.uk>

Email: sales@canoesdirect.co.uk

TREVOR STEELS TRAILERS

KAYAK - CANOE - WINDSURF - TRAILERS

ALL TYPES STANDARD OR CUSTOM BUILT

HIGH SPEC GALVANISED ROAD LIGHTS

PHONE/FAX FOR COLOUR BROCHURE 01430 860882

www.trailers.freeserve.co.uk



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



Holt Fleet,
Nr Worcester, WR6 6NW.

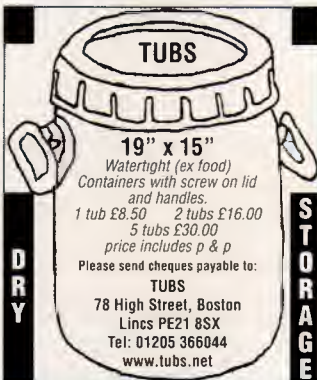
Tel: (01905) 455311

Fax: 08707 400258

[HTTP://www.joelwatersports.co.uk](http://www.joelwatersports.co.uk)

[email:sales@joelwatersports.co.uk](mailto:sales@joelwatersports.co.uk)

Located off A4133, adjacent to river bridge



CANOING 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 15%. Shop open Tues - Fri 10 - 5, Sat 10-1. For mail order catalogue please send 4" x 9" S.A.E. TOR (cf), 42 Widnes Road, Widnes. WAB 6AL. Tel: 0151 424 2225

SITUATIONS VACANT

OPEN CANOE & KAYAK COACHES

Seasonal vacancies at great locations.

BCU approved centres providing a wide range of courses for adults and children

Bembridge, Isle of Wight
Horseshoe Lake, Sandhurst, Berks.

BCU Senior Coaches

BCU senior coaches required for full-time residential & non-residential positions

April - October, June - September or July - August

BCU Coaches

BCU coaches required for full-time residential & non-residential positions during summer school vacations (July - August). Local BCU instructors also required for part time work throughout the season



Telephone for further details

& Application Form

01252 871808 (24hrs)

SITUATIONS VACANT

SUMMER SEASON ACTIVITY INSTRUCTORS WITH CANOE/KAYAK QUALIFICATIONS

At Christian Youth Centres located in Northants and Shropshire.

Permanent position available in Shropshire

For more information

contact:

Chief Instructor,

Pioneer Centre,

Tel: 01299 271217

E-mail

pioneer@actioncentres.co.uk

At Frontier Centre,
Northants

Tel: 01933 651659

E-mail

[hwhittakerlodge@](mailto:hwhittakerlodge@actioncentres.co.uk)

actioncentres.co.uk



Mill ON THE Brue

Outdoor Instructors

Begin June - Nov 2001

Mill on the Brue, Somerset

Tel: 01749 812307

millonthebrue@compuserve.com

SITUATIONS VACANT



AVON TYRRELL ACTIVITY CENTRE
The activity and residential centre in the New Forest

We require BCU Level 2 Coaches for the year 2001. Climbing, Archery, Lifeguarding and Ropes Course an advantage. Long and short term contracts available with the possibility of a modern apprenticeship scheme.

We are a growing centre which offers activity holidays and breaks for a diverse range of age and ability groups. For details please write to:

Mike Paine

Avon Tyrrell Activity and Residential Centre, Bransgore, Hampshire, BH23 8EE
Tel: 01425 672347 Fax: 01425 673883

INSTRUCTORS:

We require BCU Level 2 Canoe or Kayak Assessed or Trainee's to work at one of our 9 Multi Activity Adventure centres in the UK, France, Italy or Spain. We will provide you with an opportunity to broaden your coaching skills and experience whilst working in the 'Great Outdoors' on Rivers, Lakes or the Sea.



RIVER LEADERS/ SENIOR INSTRUCTORS:

We require Level 3 Canoe Assessed holders to Lead groups down the grade 2 Ardeche Gorge in the South of France.

Alternatively we require Level 3 Inland Kayak, Surf or Sea holders to work as Head of Paddlesport at one of our centres. These positions are challenging, rewarding and provide very competitive remuneration and benefits.



Acorn
Adventure

For a full information pack please contact our recruitment team
Tel: 01384 446057 Fax: 01384 378866
E-mail: topstaff@acornadventure.com

ActivDays

We organise outdoor adventure activities for 8-16 year olds throughout the year, for Birthday Parties, School/Youth Groups and Holiday Camps.

Instructors/Trainee Instructors

We are seeking BCU Level 2 Canoe or Kayak Assessed instructors or trainees, to work at Wimbledon Park Watersports Centre SW19. RYA qualifications welcome. Work is available from now until Sept-full or part time. Fantastic opportunity to develop your experience and enjoy a long hot summer outdoors.

Activity Leaders

We are seeking highly motivated, professional staff with a passion for working with children. You will be an undergraduate on a sports related course or hold a governing body qualification in any sport. Work is available at our three centres in Esher, Surrey, Croydon and Wimbledon.

Please contact

Nicky Francis, 22-26 Upper Mulgrave Road, Cheam, Surrey SM2 7AZ Tel: 020 8408 7124. Fax 020 8408 7122. E-mail: enquiries@activdays.com or visit us at www.activdays.com

ADVENTURE INTERNATIONAL

Instructors Required Summer Season

Competitive Rates of Pay,

Accommodation available. Excellent uniform package. Immediate start.

Phone for details and an application

form to: Tracy Joslyn, Personnel Manager, Adventure International,

Belle Vue, Bude,

Cornwall, EX23 8JP

Tel: 01288 355551

www.adventure.uk.com

ADVENTURE
INTERNATIONAL



Instructor / Careworker

Due to the demand for our resources, Corvedale Care are currently expanding their staff team. We are looking for enthusiastic highly motivated staff who will be required to work with young people who present challenging behaviour. All applicants will be police checked. Sessional work available possibly leading to full time positions.

Please contact Simon Rouse
On 01694 724488



THE GUIDE ASSOCIATION

Incorporated by Royal Charter

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED FOR 2001

We are a youth organisation with three centres in the UK looking for enthusiastic instructors who are able to work with groups of all ages. Candidates should preferably hold at least one of the following: BCU Level 2 training, SPA Training or GNAS Leader Award. Training may be available leading to NGB qualifications.

Activities include kayaking, open canoeing, climbing, abseiling, archery, rope courses, team building activities and mountain biking.

Contracts available for full or part season.

Modern indoor accommodation available.

Good rates of pay.

For an application pack, please contact Personnel on 0207 592 1836 (answerphone)

Deadline for full season contract: 31 January 2001

Deadline for part season contract: 28 February 2001

Charity no. 306016



Opportunities in Ireland

Instructors and SI Kayak/Canoe Instructors and Water Site Manager required for Irelands leading adventure organisation.

- Kayaking, Sailing, Surfing, Rockclimbing & Multi-Activity
- Work in a fun yet professional environment
- Multinational team of staff
- Centre is set amidst the spectacular scenery of Connemara
- Positions include full board, skills training & wages
- Corporate / Adults / Childrens programmes on offer

Visit our websites at: www.delphiadventureholidays.ie
www.delphitraining.ie

Phone for details, send CV or email us at:

Personnel

Tel: 00353 95 42336

Delphi Adventure Holidays

Fax: 00353 95 42303

Leenane

Email: delphigy@iol.ie

Co. Galway

Ireland



Instructors Required

Longridge SBC is a multi-activity Centre situated on the Thames near Marlow and Hurley. Our users include scouts, guides, schools and corporate clients.

We are seeking to recruit people with BCU and/or RYA qualifications who are also enthusiastic and flexible, available between Easter and September. A competitive salary is paid for these residential posts. In addition there will be opportunities to obtain further NGB qualifications.

Further details from:

Longridge S.B.C Quarry Wood Road, Marlow, Bucks SL7 1RE
 Tel: 01628 483252 E mail: Jobs@longridge.org.uk
www.longridge.org.uk

Endeavour Training.

We are looking for a committed and qualified Outdoor instructor to assist with development training courses for unemployed young people. The position is Leicester based. Applicants should have a DI mini-bus entitlement, ideally they will hold at least two of the following, SPA, BCU level 2 coach, summer ML.

Salary is up to £15987 dependent on qualifications and experience. Closing date for applicants is the 31st of July.

Further information and an application form from:

Steve Turner,
ENDEAVOUR TRAINING LTD.
 Sheepbridge Centre, Sheepbridge Lane, Chesterfield S41 9RX
 Tel No. 0870 770 3250 Fax 0870 770 3254
www.endeavour.org.uk info@endeavour.org.uk

YMCA FAIRTHORNE MANOR

Senior Duty Staff – Multi Activity Instructors.
 YMCA Payscale 3 (£7915 - £9596)

YMCA Fairthorne Manor is a leading outdoor education and children's work specialist. We deliver innovative programmes to 14000 children and young people of all abilities each year.

We require multi-activity instructors to join our expanding Senior Duty Staff Team. NGB awards are desirable with a preference for RYA and BCU coaching qualifications. Permanent contracts, residential and non-residential posts available.

Also

Instructors and Play Scheme Leaders required for summer holidays, please ring for details.

For an application form please contact:

Personnel Department, YMCA Fairthorne Manor, Curdridge, Southampton, SO30 2GH Tel: 01489 785228
 E-mail: info@fairthorne.co.uk www.fairthorne.co.uk



STUBBERS ADVENTURE CENTRE

Upminster, Essex

Vacancies for 2001 season

Instructing and support staff

required for a busy multi activity centre that provides for a wide range of clients. All activities are within 130 acre site with 3 lakes. Close to London

More details on website: www.stubbers.co.uk

Applications with CV to Bob Edwards (Centre Director) at:

Stubbers Adventure Centre, Ockendon Road, Upminster, Essex RM14 2TY

Or email: admin@stubbers.co.uk

Charity No. 1080941



WATERSPORTS STAFF NEEDED IN KINGSTON UPON THAMES

SEASONAL / SESSIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR
 R.Y.A. AND B.C.U. INSTRUCTORS/SENIOR
 INSTRUCTORS

AT

Albany Park Canoe and Sailing Centre

Rates of Pay £5 - £7 per hour depending on qualification

For an application form contact
 Fiona Hutchison on 020 8547 6715 or email
fionah@rbk.kingston.gov.uk



KAYAKING INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED...

...to help us celebrate our 26th year at our island-based Multi-Activity Adventure and Survival Training Centre.

Must be at least Level 2 Coach, with extensive experience of instructing teenagers. Starting in May, finishing in September, we can offer you full board and accommodation, a good wage and excellent wild sea paddling all around, including the Corryvreckan Whirlpool nearby.

Please apply with your CV to Wild Island (CF), Solwaybank, Canonbie, Dumfriesshire, Scotland DG14 0XS.

MANOR Adventure

HEAD of CANOEING

Manor Adventure, one of the UK's leading independent activity centres offers opportunities for lively, enthusiastic, committed individuals who enjoy working with groups of children and adults in the great outdoors both in the UK and their brand new centre in Northern France.

Minimum Qualifications required
Level 3 Coach Training

- Training towards other NGB awards
- Full board and accommodation
- Uniform
- Salary based on experience

For more information, call The Manor on

01584 861333

Email: manoradventure@lineone.net

River Leaders Required in the South of France

NST Adventure are currently looking to recruit River Leaders for our activity centre in the South of France for the 2001 season. This position requires a minimum of BCU Level 3 Open Canoe qualification.

We require L2 Canoe and Kayak Coaches to work as Multi Activity Instructors. We provide:

Full training, NGB course opportunities, Competitive Wages, All Meals, Free Uniform, Excellent Chalet Accommodation, Comprehensive Insurance, Return travel to the UK. A variety of positions at our other centres available from January to early December: Activity / ICT Instructors, Group Co-ordinators, Catering, Cleaning / Maintenance and Driving. Senior staff positions also available.

For further information please contact:

Recruitment, NST Adventure, Chiltern House, Bristol Avenue, Blackpool, FY2 0FA

Tel: 01253 503011 Fax: 01253 356955

e-mail: recruitment@nstgroup.co.uk www.nstgroup-travel.com/adventure.html

NST

ADVENTURE

TAG Europe Ltd

(www.tageurope.com)

needs qualified mature freelance outdoor staff to work part time and full time in the UK and abroad. Events range from under 18 to corporate events. Send your CV to outdoorstaff@tageurope.com



Caledonian Discovery

Friendly outgoing staff required to work on our highly renowned activity holidays. Scottish Highlands, June to October. **Instructor.** Open canoeing essential. additional outdoor skills an advantage. For details telephone: 01397 772167 or email: fingal@sol.co.uk



Excellent training. **Competitive wages.**

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

robin wood

We need residential instructors to start in late August 2001.

For details; tel: 01706 814554 or e-mail: staff@robinwood.co.uk

Activity Centre
Good staff conditions.
Reasonable workload.

Foundry travel insurance

Comprehensive cover for canoeing/kayaking and many other adventurous activities
1 week European white water cover only **£22.50**

0114 2755806

www.foundrytravel.com

N. W. BROWN

INSURANCE BROKERS

Insurance available for:

- ◆ Canoes & Equipment
- ◆ Activity Travel
- ◆ Activity Centres
- ◆ Personal Accident

For details contact us at:-

Richmond House
16-20 Regent Street
Cambridge
CB2 1DB

Tel: 01223 357131

Fax: 01223 353705

Email: canoe@nwbrown.co.uk

Web: www.nwbrown.co.uk/canoe

Specialist Canoe Insurance from



FOR INSTANT COVER

01708 385500

MON - FRI 9am - 6pm. SAT 9am - 1pm

FREEPOST NORTH HOUSE, ST EDWARDS WAY, ROMFORD, ESSEX RM1 3PP

www.canoefocus.co.uk

TRADE

South West



HAVEN RD, EXETER. 01392 219600
Full range of equipment for all aspects of the sport. Playboating, Fun, Surf, Touring, Racing.
www.aswatersports.co.uk

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

South Wales

WATERFRONT

Adventure Gear Discounts
Wetsuits * Canoe Mart * Plastic welding * Hire/Sales
Canoe packages from £50.
Tel/fax 029 20692108

Essex

NUCLEUS

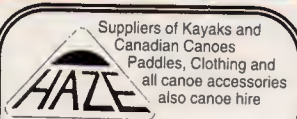
The Essex Superstore
Kayaks, Canoes or Sit-ons
www.nucleuswatersports.org.uk
01255 812146 or
07710 375560

South Yorkshire



Try us for mail order or come along to the new bigger shop. All enquiries welcome
300 Thorne Road, Wheatley Hills, Doncaster DN2 5AJ
Tel: 01302 344403

Wiltshire



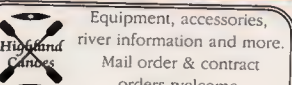
Suppliers of Kayaks and Canadian Canoes
Paddles, Clothing and all canoe accessories also canoe hire
HAZE ENTERPRISES
25 Primrose Hill, Tockenham, Wootton Bassett, Swindon, Wilts
Tel: 01793 852904

Somerset



66 Uphill way, Uphill Village
Weston-super-mare BS23 4NT
Tel: 01934 613612
Fax: 0117 9235961
Email: performance@kayaks.co.uk
Website: www.kayaks.co.uk

Scotland



Equipment, accessories, river information and more.
Mail order & contract orders welcome.
Highland Canoes
7, Myrtlefield, Grampian Road, Aviemore
Tel: 01479 810116

Yorkshire

HITCH UP • RIG UP • HOOK IN



For more information and online brochure Phone/Fax 01437 583882 anytime
www.kayaksales.co.uk

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

Gloucestershire

WEIRWOLF

Canoe & kayak builders and repairers.
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)



Mat finish...

This disturbingly sensible neoprene changing mat, from Nookie, is made from 12mm (wow!) Supratex neoprene and features a rap-style

reminder of why you shouldn't stand on the rest of your kit, as well as a large friendly foot-graphic for the hard of reading. Available from all Nookie stockists (£8.49)

Get your nookie!

Best known for their radical hardcore softwear for whitewater boating, Nookie Kayaking Equipment have this year brought together a comprehensive range of products aimed at the more moderate paddler - and ideally suited to entry level and centre use, too.

They haven't quite managed to break the habit of using hi-tenacity materials like Cordura and 240gsm nylon oxford, but these super-durable materials have been sympathetically integrated into some simple, flexible and attractively executed products at most economical prices.

Available items include the NKE Jacket Buoyancy Aid (PFD) CE approved to EN393 (£49.99); NKE cagoule in nylon polyamide (£34.99);

NKE Centre Cagoule in nylon polyamide (£39.99); NKE Nylon Spraydeck (£24.99); NKE Reinforced Spraydeck (£32.99).

Nookie has a new CD-ROM catalogue which contains photos and descriptions of all the company's products as well as a gallery of boating pics and some previews of forthcoming Nookie movies. The CD has the advantage that it will be updated at regular intervals, unlike a traditional catalogue which most

manufacturers can only revise once a year.

But in order to make sure you really want one, Nookie ask that you send them four first class stamps along with your address as a gesture of your desire to own one. If you are outside the UK, check the Nookie website for details of your local distributor and give them a call.

A load of pants

Nookie dry trousers have been best-sellers since their introduction in 1993, but since the company was pretty whitewater-orientated, they never followed up with legwear for less extreme activities. Until now, that is.

Check out these breathable salopettes with velcro neoprene ankles, Cordura reinforced seat and knees, with optional removeable padding, and two big combat-style cargo pockets! The waist is elasticated at the back to give a comfortable and flattering fit, and the whole design incorporates the usual Nookie things, like pre-bent seat and knees, pocket drains, and full adjustability - all for the not-too-frightening sum of £84.99, from all Nookie stockists.

Or check out these lightweight breathable trousers, with the same fit as the salopettes but finished at the waist with a simple elastic waist-belt so you can use them on or off the water and for crossover/multisport activities. £44.99 from Nookie stockists.

Nookie: 01822 618688

www.nookie.co.uk



Stuck up!

Henkel Duck Tape, that ever useful canoeing accessory, has just become even better, with the introduction of Power Duck Tape - 50% stickier and with a totally weatherproof finish.

Though easily torn by hand, with no knife or scissors required, the newcomer can be used effectively even on notoriously difficult surfaces like plastic.

Duck Tape hit the UK boating world two years ago, effectively mending such flexible materials as waterproofs, footwear, sails and canvas.

Some use it for temporarily keeping things in place in rough waters or as a barrier against the weather. For others, it is ideal for cushioning splintered oars.

Power Duck Tape has a triple-layer composition - a waterproof outer, toughened fabric in the centre and super-strong adhesive for maximum grip. The grid-like structure of the central fabric gives it strength in both directions while allowing tearability.

Available now in silver and black from good DIY shops, 25-metre rolls of Power Duck Tape cost £5.73.



Look the part

Canoe equipment specialists, Yak manufacture an extensive range of cags to suit most paddling disciplines, from entry level up to extreme white water.

The Zephyr is a hi-spec recreation cag, ideal for the open-boat touring market. Construction is of nylon ripstop fabric - unique to Yak, who travelled the world to find it - that is both abrasive resistant and fully breathable.

Engineered for comfort and performance, the Zephyr has taped seams, stretch fabric collar to provide a superb seal, and a venting neck system with touch-and-close fastening.

For extra comfort, the Zephyr has Neoprene adjustable waistband and cuffs, is designed to co-ordinate in both colour and performance with other Yak paddling gear and is available in four sizes, from small to XL and in two colourways (red/navy and arctic/navy).



Experts only

Designed for extreme white water experts, Yak's U-Band deck offers total protection for even the roughest of conditions.

It is made from heavy-duty 3-mm double-lined Neoprene, with seams glued and blindstitched for strength. The rubber gasket is bonded to the Neoprene to give the highest level of strength, dryness and security.

The U-Band Deck is available in S/M, L/XL waist sizes and small, keyhole and big deck fittings. Due to the unique gasket fitted, the U-Band should only be used by experienced paddlers, who should test the deck-release prior to use.

Contact Yak on tel: 023 9252 8621 or e-mail: yak@crewsaver.co.uk.

www.yak-paddling.com



Keep it safe

Keeping your keys and cash afloat should they accidentally be dropped in the water, Kaymaster (£10) is one of a range of Aquapacs which, with their unique Aquaclip seal, will protect mobile phones, pagers, cameras, PDAs, hand-held radios and even documents.

Contact MarKat, on tel: 019358 15424 or e-mail: Marcus@MarKat.co.uk.



Get a quick fix

Magellan's latest Map 330 GPS receiver is claimed to be the only receiver in its class to offer a massive 16MB of inbuilt memory.

From the canoe, to the car, to the backpack - the Map 330 provides an ideal navigation solution for all outdoor enthusiasts, its extremely detailed database containing roads, parks, waterways, cities, train stations and lots more information.

Light, small and eminently portable, the Map 330 is built to stand rough usage and features GPS satellite lock-on for use in harsh environments like white water, providing position fixes which are accurate to around 10-metres.

Contact: Sowester Simpson-Lawrence, tel: 01202 667700.





Madyaker designs

The Madyaker design crew have come up with some new designs to complement the popular Red Yellow (RY) Paddle that has changed the look of paddles. These new designs are even funkier and are all of full carbon construction, on the new rip pole shaft which supercedes the skypole shaft. The blades are now unbelievably light for their thickness, and take some stick. Don't forget folks, Madyaker xtreme paddles are made in the UK.

For further information telephone: 01257 272575

Vagabond on deck

From experience, we all know that spray decks are not all the same. Some are prone to pop-off when in that sticky hole while others are difficult to put on.

After extensive testing in Norway, Nepal and Europe - working closely with professional coaches, safety boaters and activity company directors - Vagabond believe they have produced the ultimate dex for all boating needs, successfully combating the weaknesses found in other brands.

With a super strong and sticky latex coating on the top and underside, extra seal and durability is ensured. Made of neoprene and latex, the Vagabond Dex retails at £65.

Vagabond also offers a range of chic and affordable boating clothing featuring hoodies, girlie vest tops and tees.

Contact Vagabond on tel: 01924 359801 or 0775 2234173 or e-mail: carve_vgb@hotmail.com.

Building skin-on-frame boats

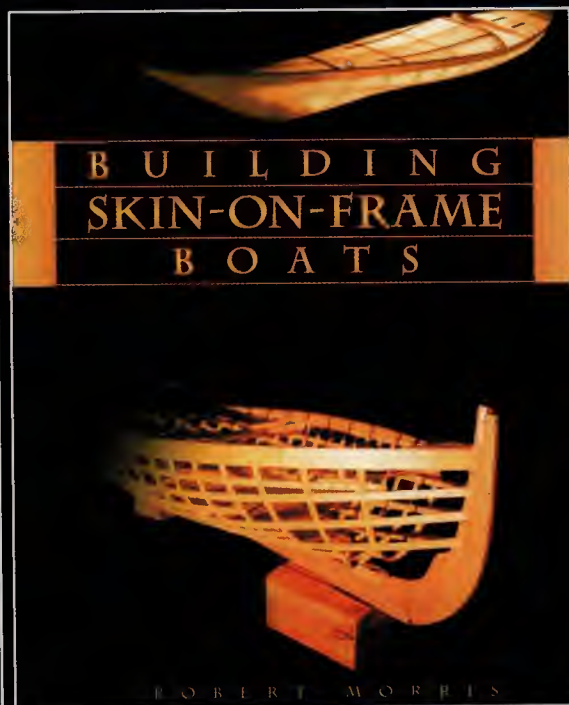
Hartley & Marks Publishers
Box 147
Point Roberts, WA 98281
ISBN 0-88179-191-X

Skin-on-frame boats are beautiful, functional, adaptable, and relatively inexpensive to build. In some places in the Arctic it took builders up to a year to build a skin-on-frame boat using traditional tools and materials. Today, with the ready availability of wood, fabrics suitable for skinning, and high quality tools, a skin-on-frame boat can be built in a matter of days, even by an amateur builder. The resulting boat will combine thousands of years of tradition and the technological advances of the modern age.

Author Robert Morris guides readers through every aspect of building a skin-on-frame wooden boat using step-by-step instructions, as well as hundreds of illustrations and photographs. Readers will learn how to build and customise a boat perfectly suited to their unique needs and tastes. Using the Greenland kayak as the basic guide to skin-on-frame boat building, Robert Morris also shows how to use the technique to build several other boats, including the Aleutian kayak (baidarka), Netsilingmeot kayak, North Alaska recovery and retrieval kayaks, pram dinghy, Providence River boat, Canadian canoe and Upper Yukon River canoe.

Building Skin-on-Frame Boats is for anyone who has ever dreamed of building a handmade boat, anyone intrigued by the genius of traditional building methods, and anyone who has ever wanted to move beyond the commercially available versions of life and leisure.

Robert Morris saw his first kayak while spending part of his childhood in the Arctic. He is now the owner of Brewery Creek Small Boat Building Shop in Vancouver BC. Educated as a fine artist and designer; Robert devotes most of his time to researching, building and teaching skin-on-frame boat building. For more information contact Susan Juby at Hartley & Marks 01-604-739-1771



Prepare yourself for another wet weekend



perception[®]
ONE WITH WATER



WHETHER YOU'RE GOING TO YOUR LOCAL RIVER, THE BEACH, A LAKE OR YOUR FAVOURITE PLAYSPOOT, PERCEPTION HAS A KAYAK FOR YOU. WE BOAST THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF KAYAKS AVAILABLE AND AN UNRIVALLED REPUTATION FOR QUALITY DESIGN AND MANUFACTURE. WHEREVER YOU PLAN TO GO FOR YOUR WET WEEKEND CONTACT US TO FIND OUT HOW PERCEPTION CAN HELP YOU TOUCH THE WATER.

www.perception.co.uk

Perception Kayaks, Bellbrook Business Park, Uckfield, East Sussex. TN22 1QQ • Tel: 01825 765891 • email: info@perception.co.uk



UNRIVALED VERSATILITY. GUARANTEED.

At Mad River Canoe, we believe the canoe is the most versatile paddlecraft ever created — and every Mad River Canoe is the most versatile made, crafted from top-quality materials, based on the best designs, and executed with uncompromising craftsmanship.

Built to last a lifetime and guaranteed to do just that.

 **Mad River Canoe®**

AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD DEALERS

WHITEWATER CONSULTANCY, BRONWYDD, CARMARTHEN, WALES SA33 6BE TEL: 08000 151520 WWW.WWC.CO.UK