

THE CANOE SPORT MAGAZINE FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

# canoe focus

02-02

No. 135

£2.00

**Nepal**

What have you  
done today?

**Scotland**

Plan A or...  
Plan B

**Austria**

Only for  
experienced youngsters

Phone and photo competitions

Surf, freestyle, wild water and youth events

9 pages of courses, accommodation & jobs

BY ENTHUSIASTS FOR ENTHUSIASTS -  
THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BCU

ICE Show Guide  
Pull-out inside



# Water, dust & shock resistant.



WHAT  
Cellphone  
Award of Excellence

Size: 115x43x25mm Weight: 170g Standby: Up to 160hrs Talk Time: Up to 480mins

Size: 118x47x22mm Weight: 125g Standby: Up to 180hrs Talk Time: Up to 300mins

**FREE R310s**

**FREE M35i**

If you demand the right tools for the job why compromise your choice of mobile? The Ericsson R310s & Siemens M35i have been designed for adventurous people like you. With tough rubber membranes & silicone gaskets these guys really are the 'all environment experts' - but surprisingly offer a wealth of sophisticated mobile features & specifications as good as the 'wimpy fashion phones'. Our offer to you is straightforward - **EVERYTHING IS SUPPLIED FREE** - you just choose a discounted tariff that suites and call us to arrange delivery!

- FREE CONNECTION**
- FREE CALLS EVERY MONTH**
- FREE MAINS CHARGER**
- FREE BATTERY PACK**
- FREE INSTRUCTIONS**
- FREE HANDS-FREE**
- FREE CAR CHARGER**
- FREE CAR MOUNT**
- FREE DELIVERY**

**BRING**  
your own number!  
In most instances it is possible to bring your existing number to your choice of new handset and service. Call us free today for an over the phone assessment.

**FREE**  
1 year subscription to  
Canoe Focus

## CHOOSE A DISCOUNTED TARIFF

TARIFF NAME	LINE RENTAL	MONTHLY TOTAL	INCLUSIVE CALLS	PEAK CALLS (NATIONAL)	OFF-PEAK (NATIONAL)	NETWORK
<b>Off-Peak User</b> + 50 FREE SMS per month	<b>£11.99</b>	<b>£13.99</b>	300 mins Off-Peak	30p	2p	vodafone
<b>Off-Peak Textsaver</b> + 50 FREE SMS per month	<b>£11.99</b>	<b>£13.99</b>	600 mins Off-Peak	45p	2p	vodafone
<b>Low Daily Anytime</b> + 50 FREE SMS per month	<b>£16.99</b>	<b>£18.99</b>	150 mins Anytime	10p	5p	vodafone
<b>Daily Anytime Plus</b> + 50 FREE SMS per month	<b>£22.99</b>	<b>£24.99</b>	250 mins Anytime	10p	5p	vodafone
<b>Crossnetwork 150</b> + 50 FREE SMS per month	<b>£22.99</b>	<b>£24.99</b>	150 mins Any Network	10p	10p	vodafone

Call today for details of our range of BTCellnet tariffs  
Inclusive calls are to standard UK landline and home network numbers.  
All prices are shown inclusive of VAT. Peak hours Mon-Fri, 8am to 7pm

phones Express part of 365

Call today to up date your mobile & tariff

All UK Models Stocked



**0800 833129**

**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](mailto:info@bcu.org.uk)  
[www.bcu.org.uk](http://www.bcu.org.uk)  
ISBN 0953-010X

**BCU Enquiries & Editorial to**  
above address

**President**  
Albert Woods

**Chair**  
Alan Laws

**Chief Executive**  
Paul Owen

**Annual Subscription Rate**

**UK inland:** £17.00

**Overseas:** £21.50

Supplied free to BCU members -

**adults:** £26.00 basic

£31.50 comprehensive

**under 18's:** £13.00 basic

£16 comprehensive

**family:** £12.00 basic

£15 comprehensive

**Publishing Contractors**

2b Graphic Design  
49 Greenfields, St. Ives,  
Cams. PE27 5HB  
Tel/Fax: (01480) 465081  
ISDN 01480 359956

**E-mail:** [peter@canoefocus.co.uk](mailto:peter@canoefocus.co.uk)  
[www.2bgraphicdesign.com](http://www.2bgraphicdesign.com)

**Editor**

Peter Tranter  
01480 465081

**Assistant Editor**

Debbie Colt

**Advertising Sales**

Anne Egan

**Printed by**

Warners, Bourne, Lincs

**Colour Repro by**

2b Graphic Design

**Magazine Design**

Steve Clarke

**Illustrations**

Richard O' Donovan

**Typesetting and  
Page Make-up by**

2b Graphic Design

[www.canoefocus.co.uk](http://www.canoefocus.co.uk)



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

**Contributors**

Canoe Focus would like to thank the  
following contributors for their articles and  
photographs:

Byron Lewis, Phil Blain, Phil Eccles,  
Chris Hawkesworth, Suzy Hornby,  
Peter Astles, Andy Jackson, Tim Sadler,  
John Fenna, Stuart McGinchley,  
Dave Manby and Jes Oughton.  
Good paddling to you all!

# Contents

- 5 Comment**
- 6 Noticeboard**
- 14 Queen's College trip to Austria**  
Fun in the Alps
- 16 Action on access**  
We need your help now!
- 18 Competition - surf**  
British Canoe Union British Surf Kayak  
Championships
- 20 Competition - general**  
news round-up
- 22 Competition - freestyle**  
The Hurley Rodeo
- 24 Nepal**  
The aim, a challenge of a lifetime and to raise  
awareness of the potential of ESN pupils
- 29 International Canoe Exhibition**  
Exclusive pull-out floor plan of all exhibitors
- 34 Scotland**  
Paddling on blue seas with good friends in front  
of the country's best mountain skylines
- 38 Access**
- 38 Photo competition**  
Sponsored by Nookie
- 39 Phone competition**  
Sponsored by Phones Express
- 39 Safety pilot scheme**  
Collect information about all the critical  
emergency information on our south west rivers
- 40 Events**  
Coming events for the new year
- 42 Youth news**  
Paddlesport development officers and events
- 44 Members classified**
- 45 Letters**  
Your points of view
- 46 Competition - wild water**  
Racing development weekend
- 56 Paddler's gear**  
All the latest kit from Prijon, Perception,  
We.No.Nah, Bush Mission Kit, Blizzard  
Protection, Whitby, Kogg, Outdoor Active,  
Jacstrap, Psalmgear and the BCU.

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. Photograph 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 FEBRUARY 2001. Material arriving at FOCUS after this date cannot be included in the APRIL 2002 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.



# DESPERATE Measures

Now in cyberspace  
(as well as Nottingham)

WW KAYAKS	GENERAL KAYAKS	CAUVET	PADDLES	RESCUE	COURSES
BUOYANCY AIDS	HELMETS	CAGE & TRUCKERS	CLOTHING	SPRAY DECKS	ACCESSORIES

[www.desperate-measures.co.uk](http://www.desperate-measures.co.uk)

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



[www.canoecentre.co.uk](http://www.canoecentre.co.uk)  
[whitewater@canoecentre.co.uk](mailto:whitewater@canoecentre.co.uk)

Tel. 44 (0)1932 247978

Fax. 44 (0)1932 241368

• PYRANHA • PERCEPTION • DAGGER • WERNER



**PADDLE  
SPORT**

PARK FARM ESTATE  
COMPTON VERNEY  
WARWICKSHIRE CV35 9HJ  
TEL: 01926 640573  
[info@paddlesport.co.uk](mailto:info@paddlesport.co.uk)  
[www.paddlesport.co.uk](http://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

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

• OLD TOWN • GORILLA • NECKY • STREAMLYTE •

• AINSWORTH • BUSHSPORT • PLAYBOATER

# COMMENT

**Paul Owen**  
Chief Executive

## Tablets of stone

The DEFRA/University of Brighton led research report entitled "Water Based Sport and Recreation; the facts" has now been published. The full text can be found at [www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/resprog/findings](http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/resprog/findings). The report is 136 pages in total and the Executive Summary pages vi-ix and the possible solutions pages 96-104 make particularly interesting reading.

This independent report covers all forms of the recreation on inland waters addressing availability of water space, its usage levels and the perceptions and aspirations of the various users. We are very grateful to all those members and clubs who completed questionnaires and especially to the Regional Access Officers who supplied so much data and assisted in the data checking.

The results of this research are now under consideration by government and it is expected that Margaret Beckett the Secretary of State for the Environment will be delivering their response during either February or March. This very comprehensive report will form the factual reference base for the next few years – very much the tablets of stone that we anticipated.

The access team and the BCU office have prepared a number of documents to support the campaign, however, MP's take notice of constituents and not corporate offices. Whilst we will continue to press the case and seek meetings with key ministers and their advisors we need fellow canoeists to lobby at a constituency level. In short canoeing needs your help to take time out and contact your Member of Parliament to draw their attention to the inequitable and unfair share of rivers.

The BCU are keen to capitalise on the research which supports our position but gives a number of potential solutions to the problems. These include several which have already been tried and proven to fail. The desired outcome of our lobby is to persuade the government to take action and in particular look at introducing an Inland Waterways Bill, hence we invite all paddlers to support the "Action on Access Lobby 2002". A full copy of "The case for an Access to Inland Waterways Bill" is printed in this issue of *Canoe Focus*.

## International Canoe Exhibition

It's that time of year again when the canoeing family gathers for the International Canoe Exhibition. With exhibition space fully taken up the show will once again be at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham on February 23 & 24. Incorporating an exciting and free lecture programme.

As a bonus, visitors to the exhibition will also be entitled to attend the National Boat Caravan and Leisure show and in addition, the Outdoor show from March 15th to March 17th, also at the NEC.

Tickets are available daily at the door and cost £10.00 for adults and £6.50 for children under 16 years of age and pensioners. Tickets purchased in advance are subject to a discount. The closing date for advance postal tickets is 15th February 2002. Advance booking can be made either via the advance booking notice on the enclosed flyer, in writing to the BCU office in Nottingham or via the BCU Website.

## Paddlesport review

As we close for press the initial findings of the paddlesport review have arrived at the BCU office.

The first part of the review undertaken with Manchester Metropolitan University was to involve collecting baseline information from individual BCU members. This had two specific aims: to examine the "position" and "picture" of British Paddlesport and to undertake a comprehensive review of current recreational and competitive coaching awards, and related activity within the BCU.

The response rate to the questionnaire circulated to members last year was exceptionally strong. The 33% response rate being well above the average for a participation based survey.

The initial findings have already enabled the BCU to provide factual and positive information towards the DEFRA/ Brighton University research on water based sport and recreation and are highlighting interesting and useful details of paddler activity and demographics as well as coaching activity. A full report will appear in a future edition of *Canoe Focus*.

## Coach of the year awards

Congratulations to Roland Lawler and Alan Edge who were both awarded the Mussabini medal by Sports Coach UK (formerly the National Coaching Foundation) at the Coach of the Year Awards. The Mussabini medal is named after Sam Mussabini who was an outstanding coach of his time. He is best remembered for his work with Harold Abrahams and their struggle to win what is now the 100 metres at the 1924 Paris Olympics. This was the inspiration for the Oscar winning film *Chariots of Fire*.

Roland and Alan's work with our athletes in flatwater racing and canoe slalom are well known and this award is justified recognition for their magnificent contribution to the sport. Only a very few Mussabini Medals are awarded each year to celebrate coaches of UK performers who achieve outstanding success on the world stage.

The award ceremony took place at the Café Royal in London and was carried out by HRH The Princess Royal

## Athens Olympic reconnaissance

Members of the BCU's Performance Department undertook their first visit to Athens to review preparations for the 2004 Olympic games. Work has commenced on both the sprint racing and canoe slalom sites with the regatta course showing signs of most progress. Unlike Sydney, the two canoeing sites are some distance apart with sprint racing taking place to the north east of Athens at Schinlas and the canoe slalom being sited at Glyfada to the south west.

It is clear that the Athens experience will be very different to Sydney with transportation between the venues being a particular challenge.

## BCU AGM 9 March 2002

The 22nd Annual General Meeting of the BCU will be held at Westminster Boating Base, Dinorvic Wharf, 136 Grosvenor Road, London, SW1V 3JY at 2.30pm – see enclosed papers.

## Devizes to Westminster canoe race

News from the Devizes to Westminster organisers indicates that all things are go for the forthcoming Easter event. The race has been besieged with problems during the past two years, with floods and then foot and mouth in 2001. However, the organising team have not lost their enthusiasm and this year's race should re-establish the annual event back on the calendar. Potential competitors should write, enclosing a SAE to: Janice Begent, Boscombe Forge, Church Road, Bookham, Surrey KT23 3JG for further information and an entry form.

## ICF Congress 2002

Latter this year the ICF will hold their 29th bi-annual congress and the BCU has submitted a special motion to seek ICF recognition for paddleability. We have asked the ICF to set up a working party to develop ideas on canoeing for the disabled and explore the possibility of recognising the sport at a world championship level, with an aspiration of eventual inclusion in the Paralympic Games. Additionally, Viv Kendrick, National Chair of our Disability Committee, has been invited to become technical delegate to European Canoe Association for disability canoeing.

## Darting about

The Nookie-sponsored Dart Webcam is now up and running. The cam shows a picture of Holne Weir on the

Dart, updated hourly, subject to light and ISP's, with a gauge reading corresponding to the EA gauge on the Loop. For non-locals, there are help pages to let you know what to expect at any given water level.

The webcam can be accessed via links at [www.aswatersports.co.uk](http://www.aswatersports.co.uk) or [www.dartaccess.com](http://www.dartaccess.com)

Nookie will allow any interested party to link to the entire webcam page provided that, if you want to do this, you first e-mail [webcam@nookie.co.uk](mailto:webcam@nookie.co.uk) to request permission. They do

not allow you simply to embed the webcam image in your own page and will transmit some deeply offensive replacement picture to any site that transgresses in this way – and you better believe they can do it!

If you have any queries about the Nookie Dart Webcam, please contact: [webcam@nookie.co.uk](mailto:webcam@nookie.co.uk) or [russell@dart-training.co.uk](mailto:russell@dart-training.co.uk)

## Youth Freestyle Program

Kayakojacko the whitewater and freestyle coaching and holiday provision specialist have just launched their latest inspiration: the Youth Freestyle Program. The courses will offer younger paddlers all the necessary skills to go on, compete in freestyle events and become the champions of the future. The younger paddlers will get the opportunity to paddle with world champions Deb Pinnagar, Mark Birkbeck and Tim Thomas, as well as the best up and coming paddlers on the freestyle circuit. For more details look at

[www.kayakojacko.co.uk](http://www.kayakojacko.co.uk)

## Blazing saddles... and paddles!

Teams from across Britain are preparing to take part in one of Britain's longest, steepest, highest and most demanding physical challenges.

The Wooden Spoon Society's gruelling Ford Great Lakeland Challenge will take place on May 17, 2002, in England's Lake District.

Up to 40 teams of four (three competitors and a driver) will paddle a canoe for 10.3 miles over Lake Windermere, cycle 25.5 miles over Wrynose and Hard Knott Pass and run eight miles up and down Scafell Pike – England's highest peak.

Around 20 teams have already entered the event and the Wooden Spoon Society has appealed for more teams of four to take on the challenge and help raise over £100,000 for disabled and disadvantaged children.

The event, which is in its sixth year, raised more than £103,000 in 2001 despite being hit hard by the Foot and Mouth crisis. Determined not to be beaten by the epidemic, organisers switched the event to Lake Annecy in the French Alps. Seventeen teams made the trip and were rewarded with a unique event which finished in the stunning mountain resort of Aravis (see April 2002 issue).

Wooden Spoon Society spokesman Geoff Morris said:



"Never mind blazing saddles, there will be blazing paddles too as the fastest and fittest team battle it out to be the first to complete this gruelling challenge. They should be under no illusions, this will test their minds and bodies to the absolute limit. However, it will be one of the most satisfying things they have ever done and they will have raised a substantial amount of money for needy children in the process."

For more information or for an application form please contact the **Wooden Spoon Society's Challenge office on 01889 582889** or email [challenge@eventsunlimited.co.uk](mailto:challenge@eventsunlimited.co.uk). Each team must pledge to raise at least £3,500 for the Wooden Spoon Society. In return, each team will be supplied with a Ford vehicle and a set of Karrimor team clothing.

## Top canoeing coaches win coaching award

Top canoeing coaches, Roland Lawler and Alan Edge have both won a prestigious Mussabini Medal, which will be presented to them by HRH The Princess Royal on Thursday 6 December at the Café Royal, organised by sports coach UK.

sports coach UK, the only organisation in the UK that is solely dedicated to raising the standards of coaching, will also announce the other inductees to the Coaching Hall of Fame 2001.

Each year sports coach UK awards two categories, the Mussabini Medal and Dyson Award. The Mussabini Medal recognises the contribution of coaches of UK performers who have achieved outstanding success on the world stage. The Dyson Award is for individuals who have made a sustained and significant contribution to the development and management of coaching and individual coaches in the UK.

Other notable highlights of the ceremony will be the presentation of the UK Coach of the Year Award, which this year is won by England football coach, Sven Goran Eriksson.

The awards will be presented by the Patron of sports coach UK, HRH The Princess Royal who comments: "I am pleased that the coaches of so many of our outstanding performers are honoured at the Coaching Hall of Fame Ceremony. As well as the bedrock of success, coaching is also the foundation of sport, this is the unique role that sports coach UK contributes to sport and I wish it well for the future."

Rowland Lawler has been a canoeing coach for over 30 years and helped prepare seven athletes for the Munich Olympics and accompanied them to the games as team coach. Roland then created Elmbridge Canoe Club to concentrate solely on racing; fifteen years on, the club is now the foremost club in the country and produces more team members than any other club.

Alan Edge won a gold medal in the 1979 world championships, kayak team event. Alan has coached several national squad athletes to world championship titles and attended the Olympic games in 1992, 1996 and 2000 as the Head Coach for the slalom team.

## Reminder to all Yorkshire BCU members!!

All BCU Affiliated Clubs will by now have received a request for information from the Yorkshire Regional Committee regarding their organisation and canoeing activities. The proposal is that the regional database is thereby updated to provide all members with relevant information via our website and additionally if a Regional Handbook is again produced.

It is most important that full details are provided including the composition of the club committees with addresses (including those for email where possible), telephone numbers etc. and regular meeting times like baths sessions, club nights and so on together with dates of club organised river trips which might be made open to all. Details of the coaching activities including those within the disciplines will establish hot spots of expertise, which will encourage new membership.

The format of the Regional Handbook is not yet finalised but advertising space will again be important to defray some of the costs of publication. Traders / retailers and centres / course providers etc. are therefore asked to contact us for details. The more the merrier!

Collating information will be: **Norman Taylor, tel 0113-2737393**, email [normanandpam-taylor@compuserve.com](mailto:normanandpam-taylor@compuserve.com) and **Dick Constable, tel 01132 668787**, email [Dick.Constable@talk21.com](mailto:Dick.Constable@talk21.com)

Finally please respond to this request personally. Please don't assume someone else will.

**Mike Twiggs, Regional Chair**

## Robinwood Activity Centre scoops special national training award

Robinwood Activity Centre has been awarded the first prize in the small business category at the National Training Awards in London. The National Training Awards are the UK's most prestigious accolade for exceptional achievement made through staff training and development and they received almost 800 entries this year.

Robinwood Activity Centre, based in Todmorden, Lancashire, were awarded the Investors in People Small Business Special Award. They offer a wide range of challenging outdoor activities including canoeing, climbing, gorge walking, kayaking, hill walking, raft building and various team work and problem solving activities.

"The teachers attending Robinwood always tell us it is the quality of our staff that makes our courses so successful, so we invest a lot in the training of our staff team to ensure their performance is the best it can be" said Hannah Constable, the Centre Manager at Robinwood.

All staff also receive one to one feedback on their activity session instruction, from Robinwood senior staff and independent experts. "One of the best ways in which staff are continually able to improve their performance, is through the one to one feedback that each of them regularly receives". said Jim Bowden, Chief Instructor.

Martin Vasey, Director of Robinwood Activity Centre said "Through training we have staff who are better qualified than ever and are committed to the highest standards of customer care for groups attending our centre. Their enthusiasm and dedication is admirable and their hard work is reflected in receiving this award."

## Environment Agency comes clean

Rivers and estuaries in England and Wales are probably cleaner presently than they have been since before the Industrial Revolution. The latest survey by the Environment Agency, published on its web-site at [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk), demonstrates a substantial improvement in the chemical qualities of rivers since 1990, with over 94% of UK rivers – a mileage of some 38,000 km – classified as being of good or fair quality in 2000, compared to just under 85% in 1990.

For the first time, the agency's annual survey includes and assessment of the aesthetic quality of rivers in England and Wales. A total of 452 river sites which are regularly visited by the public were selected for grading according to the presence of litter and other refuse on banks and in the river, the colour and smell of the water, presence of oil, scum, foam and dog fouling of banks.

Two thirds of the surveyed sites were graded as being of good or fair aesthetic quality, with the remainder described as of poor or bad quality, although the actual water quality in many cases was good. Litter, ranging from shopping trolleys to food and drinks' packaging and litter derived from sewers were the most common reasons of impaired quality. Foam and dog faeces were also common.

Commenting on the findings, Sir John Harman, chairman of the Environment Agency, said: "The billions which are being invested in cleaning up our rivers are bearing fruit and the overall quality of river water has improved dramatically over the past decade. As a result, otters, salmon and an abundance of fish and birds have returned to our waterways – and that includes many sites which are set in our urban and industrial heartlands."

## 150 canoeists compete in Richmond curtain raiser

One hundred and fifty athletes took part in Richmond Canoe Clubs recent annual curtain raiser to the new year the Luzmore Marathon.

The event, run annually in early January from Elmbridge Canoe Club to Richmond Canoe Club in memory of Richmond founding club member, Frank Luzmore, attracted canoeists from clubs throughout Britain.

The senior men's elite event was won by the Elmbridge crew of C. Holmes and S. Harris in a time of 1:27:36, though the most notable finish was that of the all female Richmond-Reading crew of T. Davey and A. Cattle, who finished in seventh place in the event in 1:33:53.

The men's B event was won by Norwich combination M. Crossfield and A. Toffield in 1:33:20. Most notable finish here was that of the Richmond team of H. Hendron and M. Pigott, who finished the course by bus and by car respectively.

The junior men's event was won by the Elmbridge-Reading combination of B. Brown and T. Daniels, who completed the course in 1:31:24.

Richmonds best result of the day came in the mixed event, where K. Gilbert and P. Kelley claimed second spot behind the winning Tonbridge combination C. Neal and Y. Ford with a time of 1:37:03.

Wokingham duo O. Harding and I. White claimed top spot in the veteran's event, winning their



category in 1:34:45.

Elmbridge paddlers J. Bates and R. Bates won the senior ladies event in 1:39:42, while Nottingham pair H Mason and H Farish beat the rest of the field in the junior ladies event in a time of 1:40:45.

Richmond Canoe Club actively promotes canoeing in the borough and runs a variety of courses for canoeists of all ages and abilities. It participates throughout Britain and Europe in racing events. The club was the winner of the 1999 team event title of the 125-mile Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race and was the winner of the 1999 National Interclub Sprint Racing Championships. The club has also produced a number of international and Olympic class athletes and coaches.

Roger Overall

## WILD ONE The All-Rounder



up to grade 4 ww



up to sea state 5  
(but not today)



up to 6ft surf



or just miles and miles  
of effortless touring

.....'handled like a dream'  
'beats any other competition'  
'versatility, looks,  
quality & performance'  
... 'the boat is a cracker'  
..... 'cool to paddle'  
.. 'this boat won by a mile'  
'he should be paddling  
a boat like mine'

3.3m x 0.62m  
260li 17.5kg

£280 - £325

Clubs, centres & groups quoted for

see us at the  
canoe exhibition  
stand A1

WILD THINGS  
01209 211977  
[www.wildthings-canoes.co.uk](http://www.wildthings-canoes.co.uk)

## Doh!

In the Dec/Jan edition, the 'All at sea' article credited Dave Pennant with organising the event and writing the article. It was in fact, Dave Evans, with a great deal of help from the Cwm Pennant Mountain Centre. Apologies from the editor and thanks for a very informative article.

## Help!

Can anyone help a level 3 (aspirant) inland kayak coach gain experience with groups on Grade 2 water prior to attempting his assessment? I am available April to August.

**Phone Archie Bowman on 01283 703576** or email: [archiebowl@aol.com](mailto:archiebowl@aol.com)

## The Midas touch

The Midas is the newest design to come out of the Mike Dalton design studio. Mike Dalton has been designing boats for the last 20 years, which have won all major titles like the worlds 87 "Extra" worlds 87, "Shoot" and most recently the "Retro" Europeans 98.

The Midas has a slightly kicked up front end which helps keeps the bow free, which in turn helps place the boat on top off waves and stoppers. The back end has good support just behind the cockpit and the thin tail helps complement the lose bows which helps the

Midas turn on a six pence. With the natural curves the boat runs quickly both on rough and flat water.

The Midas will soon be trying to turn to gold in the near future with Paul Ratcliffe and a number of other top European paddlers using it.

The Midas is available from Double Dutch, and other leading manufactures in the near future. Watch this space.

## Slip into something more comfortable ...

This is the first glimpse of Perception's 2002 Proline Outfitting Kit. The kit utilises Perception's proven outfitting technology and adds some natty new features to give true comfort and even greater control to paddlers.

Closer inspection reveals the plastic adjustable thighbrace has been replaced by a foam system. This "Comfort Thighmaster" features multi-position adjustability and is manufactured from a unique mix of foam and high strength materials, which makes it soft to the touch in contact areas but retains the structural integrity necessary for high performance white water paddling. Another new component is the modular hip pad kit that uses a shaped block with spacers and is held together by a protective cover to allow paddlers to choose the thickness of padding that they require for the best fit.

The complete kit, which also includes a seat pad and Pleasure Pod, will be supplied as standard in all Perception Proline 2002 kayaks (except Lucid) or will be available as an upgrade kit from your local Perception Proline stockist.

"When you sit in a kayak the first thing you notice is comfort." says Andre Goldsmith, Perception Sales Manager "In all modern playboats you are restricted on space because of the design criteria and when you start to pad out the



kayak you affect the way you sit. Putting just a shim of foam on a thighbrace will change the angle that your legs adopt in the boat, which makes a difference to your posture and even determines whether or not you can still sit in the boat in comfort. The Comfort Thighmaster removes that problem because it is already padded and so you don't lose any space trying to make it comfortable... it saves time too. The other elements of the kit are designed to work in conjunction with the thighbraces to give you total control over the way the boat is padded which in turn gives you more control over the boat."

## Boating Alliance

Now in its second year, the Boating Alliance had a major presence at both Labour and Conservative party conference exhibitions this autumn. The Alliance of Boating interests includes the BCU, the British Marine Industries Federation, the Inland Waterways Association and the governing bodies for Sailing, Rowing and Waterskiing. The Alliance relies on a simple message "there are some five million people in this country who regularly take to the water for their recreation. They value their freedom to do so with the minimum of fuss and bureaucracy and want to keep it that way".

## New boating facility in the north west

Exciting new plans are being put into action to bring an all round canoe and kayak facility to the north west.

The plans entail producing a short pool drop style course for people of all abilities to nurture and hone their white water skills. Ironically it is to do with our friends the fishermen that we may have this new facility.

The course is planned for a section of the river Calder in Padiham. For several years the river Calder has been too polluted for fish to thrive in and so fishing has been all but none existent. However, following major clean up projects the river is becoming inhabitable for fish and other wildlife once more. But the poor little blighters can't make it far enough up the river to do what ever it is they do to produce more little blighters, and perhaps more importantly for the fishermen to catch them, because of a whacking great ugly weir. Which is where several local canoe clubs, in conjunction with Environment Agency, step in. The height differentiation between the water above the weir and that below leaves plenty of scope for the project and technical,

financial and managerial plans are being put into motion.

The clubs involved are Clitheroe, Pendle, Burnley and Ribblesdale. They will be jointly managing the course when it is up and running. The Environment Agency are looking at the project costing £1.2 million, £600,000 has already been agreed, a lottery bid has gone in and it has one through to stage one of funding which means its stands very little chance of failing.

The contribution from local clubs has been set at £4000, which is where your help is needed.

## Competition

To help raise funds a competition is being launched- The Padiham weir consortium are asking you to come up with a catchy and professional name and logo that can be used to identify the site.

The prize for winning is a £50 voucher at Fell ad Mountain in Accrington (they can post products) and the pride and prestige of having your design fronting this ambitious and very beneficial venture.

It costs just £1 to enter and of course all funds go towards the project. If you are interested please contact Andy Noblett at [andyn@bluecarrots.com](mailto:andyn@bluecarrots.com). Deadline for the competition is 31st March or download an application for from the northwest website

[www.bcu.org.uk/northwest/caldercomp.doc](http://www.bcu.org.uk/northwest/caldercomp.doc)

**Martin Tapley**

## London Boat Show

Organisers of the London Boat Show have informed us that once they move the boat show to the Excel Exhibition Centre in east London where they will be including a greater focus on smaller craft, particularly canoes and kayaks. This will be in January 2004.





Pssst... there's a whole load of new Yak stuff on-line at [www.yak-paddling.com](http://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](mailto:info@yak-paddling.com)

[www.yak-paddling.com](http://www.yak-paddling.com)



**OUTWARD BOUND**

*Kayak and Canoe the best water in Wales, The Lake District and Scotland with Outward Bound™*

*Star Tests and Coaching Awards throughout the year plus sea kayaking expeditions on the west coast of Scotland*

Tel: 0870 5134227

E-mail: [enquiries@outwardbound-uk.org](mailto:enquiries@outwardbound-uk.org)



[www.outwardbound-uk.org/skills](http://www.outwardbound-uk.org/skills)

# PRILON

Schools

One of the most comprehensive range of training kayaks available in the UK  
Standard version comes equipped with a saw-tooth footrest. Deluxe models include Keeper footrest and a centre backrest.



**Kaituna School: £339.99; Deluxe: £379.99**



**Fly School: £339.99; Deluxe: £379.99**



**Hurricane School: £299.99**



**Cyclone School: £339.99; Deluxe: £379.99**



**Tornado School: £349.99**

**AVONCRAFT**

ROBERT VARDY LTD

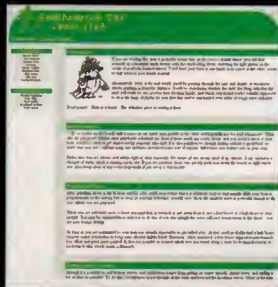
12 West Burrowfield Ind. Est. Welwyn Garden City, Herts, AL7 4TW

Tel: (01707) 330000, Fax: (01707) 333028

email: [sales@avoncraft.co.uk](mailto:sales@avoncraft.co.uk) [www.avoncraft.co.uk](http://www.avoncraft.co.uk)

# WILD web

Surfing is undoubtedly a favourite of many paddlers. You just need to stand by the local play-spot and count the number of boats waiting to hop onto "that big wave" to realise just how much. Surfing river waves is a poor little brother when compared to rip curling sea surf however. It could be said that paddle surfing is the ultimate in downhill sports. Catching the sloping face of a wave is better than skiing, better than sledging, better than a downhill run on a push bike. Get it right and you'll slide down the face of the wave with ease, but get it wrong and you'll be dumped on, spun around, and abandoned like a broken toy. Luckily the best surf beaches are associated with gently sloping sandy bays, so the dangers are usually relatively few, and Dad can amuse the kids whilst you battle with the frothy stuff. If you have never tried sea paddling then beginners should



take a look at [www.soton.ac.uk/~canoe/activities/surf.shtml](http://www.soton.ac.uk/~canoe/activities/surf.shtml) which is probably the best beginners guide on the web. [www.nswseakayaker.asn.au/articles/surfFAQ.htm](http://www.nswseakayaker.asn.au/articles/surfFAQ.htm) is another handy guide which asks and answers the obvious questions. It covers both handling surf in a loaded sea kayak as well as surfing for fun.

One of the great pleasures of surfing is that it can be done at any level. For beginners "bongo sliding" is both easy and fun, and for the experts there are many great moves to enjoy. Check out this beginners guide to wave moves on a surf ski [www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Stadium/5746/moves.htm](http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Stadium/5746/moves.htm). Most modern play-boats should be ideal for these moves, and even that old fibreglass lump in the back yard can give a great deal of pleasure.

When surfing with board surfers around you need to know the appropriate wave etiquette. Also remember that your sharp nosed slab of plastic can do serious damage to a soft, wet-suited body! Check out surf etiquette here [www.puddle.demon.co.uk/BCC/surf\\_rules.htm](http://www.puddle.demon.co.uk/BCC/surf_rules.htm).

The question next is when and where to surf. Essentially most west coast beaches with a gentle sandy slope and a clear run to the Atlantic are ideal. Surfing is best done when there is bad weather approximately 30 miles offshore. This pumps in some monster waves. Mornings are also good as the offshore morning winds prop up the faces of the waves, giving steep continuous surf. You can get UK surf predictions here [www.a1surf.com/surfcheck-soulsurfer.html](http://www.a1surf.com/surfcheck-soulsurfer.html) and here [www.surfsystem.co.uk/](http://www.surfsystem.co.uk/).

After some practise you'll no doubt consider yourself an expert, maybe even the best kayak surfer around. If so its time to test your ego. Details of surfing competitions can be found on the BCU site. [www.bcu.org.uk/disciplines/surf.htm](http://www.bcu.org.uk/disciplines/surf.htm)

One final item to note. Surfing can cause a condition known as "sniffilis", which is characterised by a sudden salty discharge from your nasal passages. This normally occurs as you lean forward to sup on your pint, having just finished a wildly exaggerated account of the day's surfing activities. The forward motion releases an airlock in your sinuses, which devilishly dump their warm salty contents into your beer.

**WAVESKI SURFING MOVES**

**The novice guide to wave-riding**

The rider must always be very relaxed, especially in the upper portion of the wave. The rider will find that the more relaxed the rider is, the more control they will have over the board. The rider should always be looking forward, not down at their feet. The rider should always be looking at the wave, not at the board. The rider should always be looking at the wave, not at the board. The rider should always be looking at the wave, not at the board.

**The Barrel (or Tube Ride)**

The barrel is the most exciting and dangerous part of the wave. It is a tunnel of water that the rider can fall into. The rider must be very relaxed and in control when riding the barrel. The rider must be very relaxed and in control when riding the barrel. The rider must be very relaxed and in control when riding the barrel.

## Prestigious summit

The World Wildlife Fund - Ocean Recovery Summit and The Edinburgh Declaration for Oceans Recovery took place at Our Dynamic Earth Centre Edinburgh on 23 October 2001.

The venue for this prestigious summit could not have been bettered. Situated just off Edinburgh's Holyrood Royal Park the 'Our Dynamic Earth' Centre is well worth a visit in its own right. Its lecture theatre was filled to capacity with invited guests to witness presentations in support of the WWF Oceans Recovery campaign. Contributions in person and by video were delivered by a great variety of experts in different fields from cabinet minister, Margaret Beckett to the celebrity chef Ross Burdon, who doubles as an active marine biologist.

Of particular current interest was the input from Martha Holms of the BBC Natural History Unit about the filming for the Blue Planet series, including many spectacular footage which did not make it to the small screen.

Competently chaired by Michael Grade CBE, the summit was followed by a buffet lunch in the centre's stratosphere area. Here, the opportunity was taken to lobby about the lack of support for cleaning up our inshore waters, demonstrated by some local authorities.

The Edinburgh Declaration in support of the Oceans Recovery Campaign was signed, on behalf of the Scottish Canoe Association and British Canoe Union, by the Association's Honorary President, Duncan R Winning OBE.

## Last piece of Teesside jigsaw in place

The Sport England Lottery assisted "North Bank" project was opened on November 20th by the Minister for Sport - Richard Caborn MP.

In his opening speech the minister praised the success of Teesside as a whole, the achievement of all river watersport interests in working together and the success of catering for all age groups, gender and ethnic backgrounds.

Run by a charitable trust with close links to Durham University's Stockton Campus, the North Bank project is intended to cater mainly for adult canoeists, dragon boaters, rowers and anglers. One of the bays of the building is dedicated to canoes and kayaks, with another for dragon boats.

Young people are encouraged into paddling at Castlegate Quay a mile or so up river, and white water paddlers can use the Tees Barrage White Water Course - one mile downstream. Castlegate Quay, opened just over a year ago has already had over 21,000 paddlers through its doors. The Tees Barrage continues to be very popular with nearly 25,000 users this year. Together, all three facilities make a tremendous cohesive asset for canoeing and the other watersports.

The BCU supported the Lottery Bids of both Castlegate Quay and North Bank and is working closely with British Waterways to make improvements to the Tees White Water Course. The North Bank on site manager is Shaun Rose. [sean@rtwc.co.uk](mailto:sean@rtwc.co.uk)



# Kayaks and Paddles

**10th Anniversary Mail Order Sale**  
**15th-24th Feb 02**

**www.kayaksandpaddles.co.uk**

Playboats - Kayaks - Sit On Tops - Inflatable Kayaks  
Canoes and Mountains of Kit

**Tel 01752 484004 fax 01752 484560**

The western hanger Lawrence Road Mount Batten Plymouth PL9 9SJ

**Open 7 days a week**

## Anglesey Sea Symposium Year 2002

**Main Event 4th May - 6th May**

**All BCU courses and general  
expeditioning 7th - 10th May**

**SEA KAYAKING FOR ALL LEVELS FROM  
BEGINNERS TO ADVANCED.**

Presented by:

**THE NORDKAPP TRUST**



**NIGEL DENNIS KAYAKS Ltd**  
and

**VALLEY**

For further information contact us on  
tel/fax 01407 762525

**A.S.S.C. W** Porthdafarch Rd, Holyhead,  
Anglesey, Gwynedd LL65 2LP



Higher Education at  
Cornwall College

COMBINED UNIVERSITIES  
IN CORNWALL

### Go to the Top

Higher National Diploma  
in Adventurous Activity  
Management including

Windsurfing, Sea & River Kayaking  
Sailing, Rock Climbing  
Summer Mountain Leaders Award  
European Study Tour

**FREE ACCOMMODATION &  
MEALS for 16-18 year olds**  
(subject to status) Further Education  
students studying:-

- Public Services AND  
Adventurous Activities
- Leisure, Tourism AND  
Adventurous Activities

Grants available for Golf courses.

For more information please  
contact Admissions

**Tel: 01579 372233**

Admissions@duchy.cornwall.ac.uk



**Duchy College**  
CORNWALL'S COLLEGE OF THE COUNTRYSIDE

## First big white water

Eleven students from Southeast Derbyshire College are currently preparing for a two week kayaking expedition to the remote mountain regions of northern Spain during Easter. They are looking forward to their first encounter with big white water against the spectacular backdrop of the Picos de Europa. They would like to say a big thankyou to their sponsors which include Desperate Measures and Pyranha. Watch this space for a full write up in a future *Canoe Focus*.

## Putting you to the test

Daz Clarkson and his team at Vagabond are looking for testers for their kit. Says Daz: "Sure, many boaters are 'free riders' and our small team needs an influx of skilled paddlers from all disciplines of canoe and kayak sport to gain a new world order bound by retro moves. "If you think you have the status to join the crack team of testers here at Vagabond then contact us with a reason why."

Daz points out that the retro ethos of the Vagabond elite is winning freestyle events and extreme down-river races all over the place: "Take young Ollie Castle, boy is he the C1 boater of our time, with a crop of European and national medals to his credit. What about the fact that members of the extreme party machine Team Fokiwa use Vagabond Anti-Freestyle wear. Perhaps it's the super strong dex that helps so many boaters stay dry while out having fun on their aquatic playground.

**Vagabond can be contacted on tel: 0775 22341763** or e-mail: [carve-vgb@hotmail.com](mailto:carve-vgb@hotmail.com)

## We need advice!

I wonder if you could help me? I am a physical training instructor in the Royal Air Force and as part of our foundation course we complete a 10 week adventurous training phase which includes a large percentage of kayaking.

Recently a colleague of mine, by the name of David Ledger, who you may have heard of, was tragically injured whilst on an overseas canoeing expedition. David was the No 1 RAF slalom canoeist and I believed ranked in the top 10 in the UK. He broke his neck just over 18 months ago and is paralysed from the chest down.

I am proposing with the remaining members of our basic PFI course (10 yrs ago) to kayak around the Isle Of Wight, Hampshire on 30th April 2002 to raise some funds to purchase a specially adapted bed for him. The majority of us have not paddled for some time, two of the girls having recently given birth and therefore I expect this to be more challenging than we think.

I am wondering if any of your members have done this or a similar challenge and would be happy to advise me on matters such as potential dangers and general advice.

Secondly, I am looking for sponsorship of any kind to assist with this event and finally I am asking if there is anyone who knows David who would like to meet up at the social following the event to wish him well.

I know it's a lot to ask for, but any help you could give in publicising this would be much appreciated.

Many thanks and I look forward to hearing from you,

**Mr Justin Scholes**

## The Dudh Kosi – Relentless River of Everest

25 years on.

On July 5th 1976 an overloaded Ford Transit left Dudley Road Hospital car park carrying passengers and kayaks on a 7,500-mile drive to Kathmandu. This was the start of the British Everest Canoe Expedition.

Twenty-five years later the six surviving members of the team gathered together for the first Llangollen white-water film festival sponsored by Pyranha Mouldings who had made the kayaks for the original expedition. Some of them even paddled on the Saturday and much retro gear was to be seen in the Chain Bridge car park.

Six different films or lectures were shown over the course of the evening showing the range and diversity of the sport. Scott Lindgren's 'Liquid Lifestyles' video opened the evening entertainment with footage including Allan Ellard and the White-Water Warriors paddling the upper Sutlej River in India, the highlight of Olaf Obsomner's video 'Sick Line II' was footage of Scream, Nitro and Spawn running incredible drops and pulling off the hottest moves. Mick Hopkinson who flew in from New Zealand, where he now lives, gave a 40 minute slide show of kayaking in New Zealand and the USA. Jerry Moffatt's film of climbing Mera Peak and paddling the Dudh Kosi in 2000 was followed by Julie Keller's slide show of her three-month river running and trekking trip to Nepal. But everyone had come to see the original Dudh Kosi film with the audience having the added bonus of the six surviving members who gave un-rehearsed and chaotic commentary to the silent Super 8mm film of the drive overland to Nepal, through Iran and Afghanistan. Leo Dickinson's promised unseen footage from the out-takes of the original film, turned out to be mainly footage from his ballooning over Everest but this did not detract from the headline film. The original 16mm film shown on a big screen has lost none of its impact and fully justifies being called a classic – it stands the test of twenty five years better than some of the team members!

## Action to improve canoeing

At the recent AGM of the Association of Canoe Trades, Bob Slee (Palm) and Pete Howard (Paddle Sport) were re-elected as Chair and Vice-chair respectively, with Dean Maragh re-appointed as CEO.

During the past year, the ACT have helped members to save money by increasing their awareness of environmental compliance, keeping on top of safety standards and gaining discounts on boatshows.

The ACT has also collaborated with the BCU and National Boatshows in creating the 'Southampton Rapids'; a feature which allowed almost eleven hundred people to experience paddlesport at this year's Southampton Boat Show. In addition, almost 6000 'Go canoeing!' information packs have been distributed throughout the year to newcomers to the sport (all bearing contact details of the BCU, SCA, WCA, CANI and ACT)

The ACT is looking forward to 2002 and an expansion of activities which will help its members increase their competitiveness and substantially grow the sport. Chairman Bob Slee said "It's good to be able to sit around a table where the smallest companies have an equal say with the biggest and come up with action plans which improve canoeing." Members of the trade wishing to learn how they can share in the success of the ACT should contact **Dean on 07050 645 272.**



## OBITUARIES

### Peter Clark

Peter died on Monday 9 July 2001 in his own bed surrounded by family and friends. Peter's funeral service took place at St Andrews in Hornchurch, Essex and he was cremated at South Essex Crematorium. Peter and his family owe deep thanks for all the care and support received from St Francis Hospice, Havering-atte-Bower.

**Sally Clark (Mrs)**

### Peter Williams (1943 - 2001)

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Peter Williams. Peter better known to canoeists as Colonel Peter Williams of the Royal Engineers, was well known to marathon canoeists as one of the men behind the successful Royal Engineers canoe teams of the 70s. Paddlers under Peter's command achieved great success in the Devizes to Westminster race, as well as major International honours in sprint and marathon races.

# RAS DEX

**Bliss-stick & Rainbow Kayaks**  
**Double Dutch & Gala Sport Paddles**  
 plus a full range of kayaking accessories



Rangiteiki River, NZ



Rangiteiki River, NZ

The new Bliss-stick  
**Flipstick**

2m long 165 litres  
 (will fit size 12 feet!)

[www.rasdex.co.uk](http://www.rasdex.co.uk) [info@rasdex.co.uk](mailto:info@rasdex.co.uk)  
 The Adrenalin Shop 100 Trent Boulevard Nottingham NG2 5BL

For your nearest stockist  
**0115 981 3323**

**Aasiaat Tourist Service**

**Welcome to experience –  
 Welcome to Aasiaat**

Aasiaat is situated in a charming archipelago area in the southern corner of the Disco Bay. Well-protected by a vast number of islands, makes Aasiaat an area perfect for kayaking. Aasiaat is also known as – ‘The town of whales’. Imagine experiencing this beautiful nature from a kayak whilst icebergs pass quietly by on the still water. Choose between 1 – 12 days of kayaktrips and experience a holiday of a life time. We have kayaktrips on different levels. Even the inexperienced can join a kayaktrip for a shorter or longer time. Our 9 – 12 day trips requires good kayak experience and physical condition. Our local kayak guides make sure that you get the optimum enjoyment of your holiday – under safe conditions.

Please contact Aasiaat Tourist Service for further information.

It is your holiday – we will help you with all necessary arrangements – we are there for you.

**Tel: +299 89 25 40**  
[www.greenland-guide.dk/aasiaat-tourist](http://www.greenland-guide.dk/aasiaat-tourist)  
 email: [aasiaat.tourist@greenet.gl](mailto:aasiaat.tourist@greenet.gl)




**a new  
 focus!**

[www.thefamilyboatshop.co.uk](http://www.thefamilyboatshop.co.uk)  
 tel/fax: 07092 - 091575

A new Internet store specialising in safe family fun

- ~ A great range of canoes, kayaks and pedal boats from Pelican International
- ~ Buoyancy aids, lifejackets and clothing from Baltic Safety Products
- ~ Roof-bars, boxes and boat carriers from Thule
- ~ Simple family dinghies and boat trailers

[info@thefamilyboatshop.co.uk](mailto:info@thefamilyboatshop.co.uk)

**T  
H  
E** **F  
B  
O  
A  
T  
S  
H  
O  
P**  
[www.thefamilyboatshop.co.uk](http://www.thefamilyboatshop.co.uk)



Our premises are not open to the public

As sole UK Agents for Pelican International we welcome trade enquiries



# Fun in t

## Queen's College Austria



**What do you do when you have a group of youngsters who have gained a reasonable amount of experience on UK rivers? The answer is to introduce them to the Alps.**

And so it was that at the start of July a group of 10 teenagers and assorted adult instructors undertook the delights of an 18-hour minibus journey to the Landeck area of Austria. Crossing the final road bridge to the campsite in Prutz it became obvious that the late snows meant that the Inn was flowing at a high level (although not anything like the levels that the recce party had faced in May). Tents were quickly erected and shirking off the tiredness and aches of the journey we were all soon ready for the first river. The Inn section above the Imst Gorge may not appear in the guidebooks but it provides an ideal introduction into large volume paddling. Whilst only a Grade II, the speed and power is always a shock to the first timer to the Alps and there were a few apprehensive looks as the groups headed off downstream. It wasn't long, however, before grins spread across faces and everybody was chasing waves and play spots. On the way back to the campsite everyone agreed that they would be up for the Imst Gorge. The step up in grade didn't seem to be too much of a problem and everybody was hitting the eddies. A British University group was having less fun – and there was no shortage of swimmers or boats to rescue!

A morning break from canoeing allowed the group to head to one of the local winter resorts. After a ride over the snowfields on a cable car everyone enjoyed the downhill run/slide back to the bottom. Having cooled down it was time to hot things up again. The Grade IV Landeck Gorge may be reasonably short but its rapids are pretty continuous. A swim would be a long swim and so half of the group headed for the shops in Landeck whilst the more experienced paddlers eased themselves gingerly into the flow. It took just 24 minutes to complete the 11km section – what a blast. Once more the group was split the next morning – the Tosens to Ridl section of the Inn is a short Grade IV paddle. Big and bouncy and, just before things ease off, a big undercut wall add to the flavour. From Ridl down to Prutz may only be Grade II – but it is worth the paddle just to play on a fantastic green wave that forms on a broken weir.

The Sanna provided the opportunity to move from high volume to technical river – however the levels were too high for the whole group. We moved to the Trisanna to provide us the opportunity to dodge a few rocks. Some days things just don't go to plan and, within the first couple of hundred meters we already had two swimmers. Things didn't get much better over the next hour and as the river grade increased it was decided, just before a Grade IV section to call it a day. The group had, at least, seen a few different rescue techniques!



Warren



Dave



Henry



John



Mark



Mary



Neenan



Scanlon

# The Alps

## canoe trip, summer 2001



Ed



Gideon



John



Laura



Megan



Michael



Simon



Trisanna

We revisited the Sanna the next morning and half of the group ran the river. For some this was the highlight of the week. The Sanna is a river which seems to have a bit of everything on offer – tight and technical in places, some great play holes and a few more serious sections that, if you are to avoid some big holes and pour overs, need inspection. What's more the river is a fantastic aquamarine colour – rather than the milky grey of the more silt-laden high volume rivers.

Once more it was time to take advantage of some of the other delights of the area – the campsite owner had arranged a couple of hours of guided mountain biking. Whilst not technically demanding, our guide put us through our paces and we were soon high above the Inn valley. The views from our vantage were stunning – but most of the group were thinking about the single track section which was to provide a rapid descent to the village far below. We only had time to scratch the surface of available trails and, with a good ski lift system in place, there is scope for some more extensive rides.

Back to the canoeing. The 40-minute to the Schuls gorge, just over the Swiss border, was on the cards – the only worry was that there might be too much water. Having paid an additional Swiss road tax we were relieved to find the river at the perfect level for the group. There is no real warm-up on the river – its straight into a grade IV section. However the rapid is easily protected and reasonably friendly. Laura even managed to survive running the river wide stopper backwards! After the initial excitement the river settles down for a while and gives you the opportunity for your senses to be bombarded with stunning sights, the smell of pine and the thundering rush of water. It's not long, however before the valley walls close in and the pace picks up once more and your focus switches to the river once more. A couple more grade IV sections round off a great paddle – definitely worth the short journey over the border.

In the evening the buzz of the river was topped up with a visit to a purpose built bridge spanning a 100m deep gorge. The group soon put their lives in the hands of others and a bunch of elastic string. Screams of excitement (aka terror) echoed around the valley as individuals launched themselves off the bridge and ticked off bungee jumping on the 'Done That' list.

The last evening of the trip saw us in both a celebratory and reflective mood. The trip had given everyone the opportunity to develop their paddling skills and to enjoy everything that the area has to offer. For their part the youngsters, aged from 14 to 18, had tackled all that been thrown at them with enthusiasm and determination.

A final morning before the long journey home and there was no stopping the group run one last section. Everyone was up for the Landeck Gorge. The level had dropped a little and some of the bigger holes were a little less intimidating – that didn't stop Mary from dropping into one, getting back-looped, roll, back-loop again and then finally roll out. The short flat section, just before entering Landeck, allowed everyone to grab their breath and then face up to a couple of 2m high standing waves that mark the final dash to the get out. Grins all around and then the reality sinks in – the trip is over and we have 16 hours of driving ahead. At least the journey back to the UK gives us time to start thinking about next summer – Iceland seems to be on the cards. ●

**Byron Lewis**

# Action on access

## The case for an Access to Inland Waterways Bill

### Background.

**The legal situation regarding access to water in England and Wales is different from other countries in the world, where canoeists are generally able to paddle large and small non-tidal rivers without seeking permission, as the beds of these rivers are not privately owned and not vested in riparian owners. Under these much more equitable regimes there is very little, if any, conflict between land ownership, angling and navigation interests, each having rights to the use of the water.**

### The current position.

A substantial mileage of lowland flat water is managed by a number of navigation authorities. However when compared with the large number of waterways that do not have access or navigation rights (paragraph 6 below) it is simply in-equitable and highly restrictive to a water based activity that needs access to water to pursue its activities.

### The current position can be summarised as follows.

Rivers and canals that all canoeists, whether BCU members or not, can use if they pay a prescribed charge.

2456 miles (3951 kms)

Rivers where navigation rights exist and which can be enjoyed without payment.

180 miles (290 kms)

Private or disputed rivers **with** negotiated canoe access agreements.

376 miles (605 kms)

3012 miles (4846 kms)

Other private or disputed rivers **without** access agreements.

10411 miles (16754 kms)

13423 miles (21600 kms)

**Access is therefore only available to about 20% of the canoeable rivers in England and Wales and about 3% of the private or disputed rivers.** The restricted nature of these agreements is such that the real figure is closer to 1%.

'Private' waters represent the best canoeable rivers in England and Wales offering both challenging moving white water and calmer recreational water.

Both Labour and Conservative governments have consistently recommended that canoeists seek more access through negotiation on a waterway by waterway basis. Local negotiation has been well tried but has not succeeded in delivering any significant increase in access to and along water.

The clear conclusion is that negotiated access is not a viable way forward to achieve a fair and equitable share of water space. The BCU has concluded that this is predominately because riparian owners are not obliged to negotiate agreements and that established angling interests sometimes actively discourage canoe access agreements.

Local authorities, which have powers of persuasion, have not made any orders under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

The BCU can only conclude that gaining access by voluntary and negotiated agreements is not effective. The only way forward is an access to inland waterways bill.

What has the BCU done to try and improve the situation?

The BCU has been actively seeking further access for over fifty years.

The BCU was established in 1936 and in the early years canoeing took place on most rivers without conflict.

Due to conflict arising from the increase in canoeing and organised angling, as access problems became more numerous, the BCU established a separate Access Committee. The first meeting on the 26th May 1965 decided that the terms of reference of the committee would be 'to establish contact with the Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR), Ministry of Leisure and Sport, Department of Education and Science, Ministry of Land and Natural Resources and River Board representatives so that the problem of

access to waterways might be emphasised'.

In June 1965 the BCU sent a letter to the CCPR referring to a previous meeting with them and detailing conflicts. By July 1965 the BCU Access Committee was in correspondence with the Minister of Land and Natural Resources. The committee had clearly taken positive steps to promote the actions above.

Within the next year the BCU Access Committee had set up a network of local river advisers to promote agreements at a local level. (This later developed into the present River Information Service with over 180 members covering the majority of rivers in England and Wales.) They had set out a water users code of behaviour and extended the brief to include lobbying Local Authorities and the Press. They also submitted detailed memoranda to the Outdoor Activities Committee of the CCPR and the Sports Council.

In 1967 the BCU Access Committee submitted amendments to the Countryside Bill, to no avail. Meetings had started with the Country Landowners Association (CLA), the Association of River Authorities and the National Anglers Council (NAC). Landowners had requested identification of canoes and this was subsequently introduced for waterways with agreements by means of the BCU membership registration sticker.

A meeting in November 1969 at the National Sports Council with CLA and NAC present proposed that the BCU 'prepare a national draft licensing scheme' and that the other bodies 'should recommend to their constituent bodies and/or area bodies that canoeists be permitted by license to use certain rivers.' A scheme was prepared in detail and endorsed by the above national bodies but failed at local level.

Section 16 of the Countryside Act (1968) was tested and found unable to deliver equitable access to water for canoeing.

In 1982 the BCU appointed a full time National Access Officer to handle the ever-increasing amount of work. Development and support of the local network of access officers and more intensive lobbying was sustained.

In the 1970s a National Anglers Council Canoeist Access Committee was established. In 1987 this was replaced by the Angling Canoeing Liaison Group (ACLG), which still operates today under the Chairmanship of the Environment Agency (EA).

A 'Statement of Intent' was drafted in 1983 under the chairmanship of the Sports Council to promote access agreements; this was ratified by the BCU, but not by all the other key parties. In 1999 a guide 'Agreeing Access to Water for Canoeing' was agreed by all members of the ACLG and was launched on its behalf by the Environment Agency. In 2000 the ACLG/EA also produced a Technical Report W266 'Effects of Canoeing on Fish Stocks and Angling' which concluded that canoeing does not have an impact on fish stocks but does disturb anglers.



In 1991 the Labour Charter for Sport gave a commitment to protecting and extending rights of access to water and land and specifically mentioned canoeing. They have still to implement the undertaking with regard to access to water.

The BCU supported the CLA Access 2000 campaign that set out to show that they could deliver more access to the countryside by voluntary means. They included access to two rivers in this exercise and in both cases these initiatives failed at local level.

After 50 years of negotiating and achieving little, the BCU concludes that the only way forward is an access to inland waterways bill.

### Recent government action.

In March 2000 BCU officers had a meeting with Chris Mullin MP, Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions; this meeting followed lobbying by BCU officers and members aimed at securing access to and along waterways under the Countryside and Rights of Way Bill.

The BCU had amendments to the Bill put down in both houses of Parliament; these were not successful. However Chris Mullin acknowledged that there is an access problem, which needs to be solved, but he and the Minister (Michael Meacher, MP) agreed that an amendment to the Bill would not be appropriate.

An amendment, to extend the right to access to inland water, tabled in the House of Lords by the Earl of Mar and Kellie on 3 October, was withdrawn. In arguing against the amendment Baroness Farrington of Ribbleton recommended the use of voluntary agreements to enable access to inland water. BCU experience has shown that this solution does not work.

In October 2000, the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions (DETR) now the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Sport England, the Environment Agency, British Waterways, the Countryside Agency and the Countryside Agency for Wales announced a jointly funded research project to establish the current state of access to water for sport and recreation in England and Wales. The findings of their research were released on the 30th October 2001.

The findings support our figures and substantiate our long held argument for a fairer and more equitable share of access to water. The government is currently considering the report.

The research carried out also indicates that there are a further 50,000 kms of minor rivers which have not been included above, but many of which are physically practical by canoe, which makes the percentage available even smaller.

The BCU affirms that a fair, equitable and secure share of inland water can only come about by an access to inland waterways bill.

Proposals for a change in primary legislation: An Access to Inland Waterways Bill.

## Concerns of interested parties

### Landowners

Landowners are likely to perceive public navigation rights as yet another erosion of their private property rights. The arguments against access to rivers are less strong than against access to land. Water itself is incapable of ownership.

Opposition to access to inland waters is generally based on the interference it would cause to angling and wildlife. There is also concern about their occupier's liability. This is addressed below.

### Angling interests

There is a fear that the passage of un-powered craft is incompatible with angling rights. Where there are existing navigation rights it is possible to accommodate both interests. It is a perception, not a proven fact, that the passage of canoes causes any significant interference with fishing and angling rights. Restrictions could be imposed in sensitive areas at certain times of year. This would be similar to the restrictions regime being proposed by the Countryside and Right of Way Bill (CROW) Act 2000 for the management of statutory access land.

### Environmentalists

Conflict with environmental interests is more perceived than justified. Concerns have been expressed about the disturbance of wildlife that could be caused by the passage of non-mechanically propelled craft. Most users of such craft are keen to protect the environment, using a non-polluting and renewable form of propulsion. The passage of such craft creates only a short-term disturbance and leaves no trace of passage. Restrictions could be imposed in a particularly sensitive area at certain times of year.

The Environment, Transport & Regional Affairs Committee of the House of Commons recently stated that 'canoeing is another quiet activity which is generally accepted by environmental organisations as compatible with protecting biodiversity'. The canoeist leaves nothing behind, not even footprints.

## Proposals

### Right of navigation

The BCU proposes that there should be a right of navigation for non-mechanically propelled craft on access waters. Access waters are naturally flowing inland waters which are capable of passage by such craft at some time in the year and to which the public does not have any navigation rights under common law or by virtue of any existing legislation.

### Means of access to access waters

Access to access waters will be from public highways of any description, including footpaths and bridleways. Access will also be available from any land to which the public has access, including statutory access land (open country). Where there is no such access available, permission will be needed from the landowner or creation orders could be made under the Highways Act 1980.

### Obstructions

Where there are existing obstructions, whether man-made or natural, there will be an ancillary right on foot to carry the craft round the obstruction. New obstructions will be subject to a statutory procedure for their removal. There will be a defence where the obstruction is part of an authorised work for flood defence or drainage.

### Restrictions on navigation rights

The navigation rights should be exercised in compliance with regulations preventing activities such as nuisance, noise and pollution and in accordance with codes of conduct published by the Environment Agency. The Act will include procedures for temporarily suspending the passage of boats and/or angling during important competitive events, or during certain periods of the year for justified conservation reasons. It may also be necessary to provide for limitations on the passage of boats and/or angling where engineering works are carried out, or for other river catchment management reasons.

### Liability of landowners

There will be a reduced liability on landowners under the Occupiers Liability acts 1957 or 1984. Landowners will be liable if they do any act aimed at preventing or deterring the public right of navigation.

The BCU calls on the government and all the associated bodies to address the issue of access to inland water and to promote primary legislation to provide a fair equitable and secure share for canoeing.

## The BCU calls on the government and all the associated bodies to address the issue of access to inland water and to promote primary legislation to provide a fair equitable and secure share for canoeing.

*This article applies to England and Wales as the law in Scotland is different and already allows shared access. ●*

# BCU British surf kay

## Jersey Surf Kayak Club St Ouens Bay

The British Canoe Union British Surf Kayak Championships took place in Jersey's St Ouens Bay in October. A total of 13 paddlers from the UK came to the island to compete with an equal number of local kayak surfers. The British Championships sees the best of the best compete for the coveted title of British Surf Kayak Champion in seven different categories.

Conditions were challenging in the first few rounds of the event. A very large shore dump meant the competitors had to keep their wits about them. Picking the right wave was paramount. As the day went on the surf cleaned up but was still very powerful which gave the paddlers excellent opportunities to show off their talent. Jersey Junior Robert Hearne once again showed his daredevil style taking the "wave of the event" in true Hearne fashion to the delight of the crowd on the beach!

The organiser chose to use the recharge system, which gives competitors knocked out in the first round a chance to get back into the second round. So everybody gets to paddle again if they were not properly "warmed" up in the first heat. Two paddlers from each of the first round heats go through to the second round with the two unsuccessful paddlers go through to the reps. The winner of the rep heat then gets to go through to the second round.

By the semi final round of the HP, four Jersey paddlers were up against four visiting paddlers battling for a place in the final. After two great heats in large powerful waves Stuart McGlinchey, James Robertson and Nigel Holland were out along with Ben Thomas from Wales, leaving only Paul Perchard to fly the Jersey flag in the final against

Darren Bason and James Hawker from England and Richard Berry from Wales. The international category was the biggest contested event with a total of 21 competitors filling the places in the first round of six heats.

The recharge system was welcomed by both Tim Rowe and Stuart McGlinchey who both won their way into the second round by that route.

Again the top names surfed their way through to the semi finals. Jersey men Holland, Perchard and Hearne were to take on Gary Adcock, James Hawker, Pete Blenkinsop, Darren Bason and Ben Thomas

to fight for a place in the International Final.

Holland, Hearne, Hawker and Blenkinsop were to miss out on a place in the final, leaving only Perchard again to take on Gary Adcock and Darren Bason from England and Ben Thomas from Wales.

With Jersey paddlers filling seven places in Sunday's finals the possibility of Jersey producing a British champion was high. The surf had dropped off quite alarmingly by Sunday which although far more enjoyable, with no wind and perfect sunshine, did lead to some frustrating times between sets, but with only two and a half hours of competition to be run the organiser was able to start the finals at the best stage of the tide.

Jersey's first British Champion came in the form of Jersey's top lady surfer Ailsa McDougall, who in the now somewhat intermittent surf won the ladies HP final from Sarah Read. The tables were turned in the International Ladies event when Read took the title from McDougall after what was by far the closest fought heat of the day.

The second local paddler to take a British title was Robert Hearne who, after a fantastic effort in the open, making it to the semi finals, was full of confidence for his Junior International final, which he won comfortably from Chris Milbank.

The master event followed. Chris Ollivier was competing for the British title in the international class and Len Van Halm in the HP class. Up against past champion Gary Adcock, Ollivier surfed some great waves only to be pushed into the runner up position by Adcock, but in front of Chris Bray (England) and Phil Carpenter (Wales). Len Van Halm



# ak championships



put in a great performance in the Masters HP and placed third behind Bray and Carpenter.

In the International Open, Perchard took some great waves but could not match the style or performance of current champion Ben Thomas. Thomas took the title from Adcock with Perchard placing a respectable third in front of Bason.

Not so in the HP Class. This time there was no stopping Perchard. The waves had begun to improve and with great

wave selection and some excellent long rides he stormed the final in style to take the British High Performance title, from Bason, Bery and James Hawker.

At the trophy presentation the BCU Surf Committee Chairman Andrew Hawker congratulated the Jersey Surf Kayak Club and especially Nigel Holland for his superb organisation resulting in a fantastic event ending with sunshine and great waves. ●



### Intermediate/Advanced package

**Ina Zone 220/230/240**  
**Schlegal N20**  
**Yak L-shock Deck**

RRP £594.90  
Package Price £519

### Eskimo Kendo Sport

The Kendo has amazing potential for play & sport racing. Great all round riverplay performance.

New Price **£399**

### Perception 3D Classic

Our most advanced classic line kayak. A flat splining hull and sleeky ends mix river running with play performance for progressive intermediates.

was £599 now **£399**

### Sick

An ultimate performing and stable giving design to tackle the hardest situations.

was £569  
**£450**

### Necky Jive 8' 10"

Classic allrounder for both surf and rivers. Suitable for any level of paddlers and water conditions.

Now Only **£399**

### Gorilla

Riverplay £30  
Rodeo X £109  
Rodeo X HPS £130  
Rodeo X HPS Carb £175

### Werner

Freestyle £199  
Wenatchee £189  
Carbon (full) £269

### Schlegal

Duralene £59  
Topline extreme N20 £99

### Yak Styx

- Max movement
- Removable OR harness
- Removable zipped pocket
- Neoprene chest inner panels
- The adventure paddling vest (Don's tail not included)

**£81.95**

### Gul Centre vest

- Compression straps over shoulders & sides
- waistband
- easy access zip
- very low volume for easy movement.

**£39.95**

### Wildwater Expression

- Neck and cuff latex seals
- Twin seal
- Wild skin skirt
- Breathable ripstop fabric
- Fleece zipper neck
- Neoprene overcuffs

RRP £120 now **£79.95**

### Eskimo Salto

Eskimo's new creeker the Salto

was **£629.00**  
now only **£539.00**

### Eskimo ZWO

Radical lap and play and rodeo machine. ZWO will take you further.

was **£630.00**  
now only **£399.00**

### Peak R5 Freestyle

Aqua out track supremo with twin seals on wrist & waist.

**£95.00**

### Yak Tempest Cag

- Neoprene cuffs, collar and waist.
- Chest pocket

**£28.95**

### Wildwater

Form adjustable Helmets

**£28.00**

### Yak Throw

15m **£24.95**  
20m **£26.95**  
25m **£28.95**

### Palm River Tec

- Maximum movement
- Front pocket
- Side and shoulder adj
- The adventure extreme paddling vest

**£80.00**

### Yak Centre Tube

Nylon deck taped seams

- Webbing reinforced
- Adjustable fit

**£19.99**

### Yak L-Shock

- Latex shockcord system
- Superstretch waist
- Heavy duty release
- Abrasion resistant rim

RRP £51.95  
**£44.99**

### Riot

Tekno, Olsco, Dominatrix, Big Dom, Booster, Grind, Boogie, BigGun Expedition ALL **£699.00**

### Necky

Switch, Witch, Zip, Bliss, Blunt, Gliss, Jive 8'10" FROM **£399.00 - £600.00**

### Pyranha

InaZone, H2, Micro Bat, Acro's, Master's, Flow 300, Ina CK200, Ina RX300 FROM **£299.00 - £699.00**

### Perception

Amp, 3D, Arc, Overflow, Full Tilt, Spark, Whip It, Whiplash, Java, Dancers, Squirts, Lucid, Five O, Methods, Shock, Sonic, Spin, Supersonic FROM **£250.00 - £699.00**

### Dagger

G Force, Ego, Super Ego, Ultrafuge, Centrifuge, Redline, RPM Max, CFs, Dynamo, Piedra, Animas, Crossover, Vampire Bat FROM **£450.00 - £699.00**

## Robin Hood Watersports

www.rohu.co.uk

152 Leeds Road, Heckmondwike, West Yorkshire

visit website for full stock

0113 271 1111 www.rohu.co.uk

**11.11. ORDER HOTLINE 0113 444 888**

**BEST PRICES FOR SCHOOLS, CENTRES & SPORT CLUBS - WE'LL BEAT YOU FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS!**

The team comprised: Ben Farrell, Elmbridge; Andrew Kelly, Royal; Ed McKeever, Bradford on Avon; Becci Hunter, Royal; Jenny Spencer, Hereford, with coaches Claudine Le Roux and Trevor Weatherall, physio Claire McLoughlin and team manager Laurence Oliver.

# GB Juniors shine in Brazil

Small in numbers but high in quality, Great Britain's Squad at the ninth junior world racing championships, held in Curitiba, in south east Brazil, comprised three junior men kayakers, two junior women kayakers, team coaches and a handful of supporters.

This was the first major sprint racing event to be held in South America. Even though it was still late winter in the southern hemisphere and Curitiba is at 900 metres

altitude, the competitors experienced temperatures in the high twenties Celsius. However, on the first day of racing the maximum temperature never exceeded 17°C and the thermometer had dropped to 11° by the end of the day. The improvement in the weather was considerable over the next two days.

The Brazilian organisers were anxious that everyone should enjoy their time in Curitiba and go home with many happy memories. All organisational problems were resolved in time for the racing which was cheered on by thousands in true extrovert Brazilian style.

At the end of the heats on day one, the Brits had reached one final and all the semis. Jenny Spencer had an impressive race in the 500 m junior women kayak singles to win her heat, beating the Spanish paddler by 0.045 sec and thus qualifying directly into the 'A' final.

On day two, the 1,000 m semi-finals and finals were run off and by mid-day the Great Britain team had qualified for two 'A' finals and a 'B' final.

Jenny Spencer again raced superbly and took a thoroughly deserved bronze medal in the 1,000 m. Ed McKeever and Ben Farrell excelled themselves to reach the doubles 'A' final where they came ninth – tribute to the hard work they had put into pre-event preparation and their focus during the regatta. Andrew Kelly was eighth in the singles 'B' final.

Day three saw the 500 m semi-finals and finals. Jenny Spencer had already qualified automatically for the 'A' final, in which she finished eighth. She then teamed with Becci Hunter for the doubles where they finished fifth in their semi but only the first three pairs qualified for the final.

Andrew Kelly narrowly missed making the 'A' final, however, his second place in the 'B' final was some consolation and saw him produce the seventh fastest time overall. Ed McKeever and Ben Farrell made the 'B' final in the doubles, going on to finish eighth.

All the team members can be proud of their efforts. This splendid achievement of making three 'A' finals and winning a bronze medal at a junior worlds has only been surpassed once – in Japan, back in 1995, when Tim Brabants and Paul Darby-Dowman won the junior men 500 m doubles and Tim won bronze in the 1,000 m singles.

Out of the 38 nations competing in Brazil, 13 won medals and Great Britain was joint 12th in the medal table.

Below: The Great Britain team



## UK Freestyle Calendar 2002

Jan 12-13	Peak UK Winter Whitewater Challenge. Llangollen <a href="mailto:events@peakuk.com">events@peakuk.com</a>
Mar 2-3	*Hurley Rodeo inc Selection <a href="mailto:shaun@hurleyweir.com">shaun@hurleyweir.com</a>
Mar 23	Tryweryn Selection - Top Hole <a href="mailto:gbfreestyle@mac.com">gbfreestyle@mac.com</a>
Mar 24	Tryweryn Extreme Race - Bala Mill <a href="mailto:nomad@paddleworks.co.uk">nomad@paddleworks.co.uk</a>
Apr 13-14	*Peak UK Whitewater Challenge. Tryweryn <a href="mailto:events@peakuk.com">events@peakuk.com</a>
Apr 20-21	Nottingham Selection <a href="mailto:gbfreestyle@mac.com">gbfreestyle@mac.com</a>
May 18-19	*Peak UK Whitewater Challenge. Tees Side <a href="mailto:events@peakuk.com">events@peakuk.com</a>
Jun 29-30	*Nottingham Freestyle/Peak UK Whitewater Challenge <a href="mailto:events@peakuk.com">events@peakuk.com</a>
Jul 13-14	*Norfolk. Swanton Morley <a href="mailto:richard@suescanoes.co.uk">richard@suescanoes.co.uk</a>
Sep 7-8	*Kayako Jacko Boulters Freestyle <a href="mailto:freestyle@kayakojacko.com">freestyle@kayakojacko.com</a>
Sep 21-22	*Peak UK Whitewater Challenge. Nene <a href="mailto:events@peakuk.com">events@peakuk.com</a>
Sep 29	*Northern Freestyle Tees Side <a href="mailto:austen@a-f-farm-services.freesevice.co.uk">austen@a-f-farm-services.freesevice.co.uk</a>
Oct 5-6	*Peak UK Whitewater Challenge. Nottingham <a href="mailto:events@peakuk.com">events@peakuk.com</a>
Oct 26-27	*Peak UK Whitewater Challenge. Llangollen. Provisional <a href="mailto:events@peakuk.com">events@peakuk.com</a>
TBA	*Bitches
TBA	Washburn Fun Event
National Ranking Events * Ranking for 2002 will be based upon paddlers best six out of eleven events.	

### 2001 National Champions:

After the eighth and final event of this year's National Freestyle Championships at Hurley Weir in November, National Champions have been awarded based upon the paddlers best five results.

Pete Astles (PeakUK/Riot) took the men's title, followed very closely by Richard Chrimmes (PeakUK/Pyranha) as top junior. Paula Floyd (Pyranha) took top lady, Lowri Davis (PeakUK/Riot) junior lady with Lee Pyke (Prijon/Reed) top C1 and Jamie Burbeck (Pyranha) top Oc1. Full ranking available at [www.ukfreestyle.westhost.com](http://www.ukfreestyle.westhost.com) soon.

### Selection for the GB freestyle team for the Pre-Worlds/European Champs 2002:

Dates: March 2-3 Hurley Rodeo;  
March 23 Trywern. Bala;  
April 20-21 Nottingham Selection.

Three selection events with the best two results counting. Points will be awarded at each event for each category as follow: 1st 30; 2nd 27; 3rd 25; 4th 23; 5th 22; 6th 21 etc. down to 26th 1.

In the event of a draw paddlers non counting event result position will be used.

All competitors wishing to be considered for selection must register with the team manager Su Ottoline

([gbfreestyle@mac.com](mailto:gbfreestyle@mac.com)) either in person or in writing by midday on Saturday 2nd March 2002 and pay a £20 entry fee.

For more info checkout:

[www.ukfreestyle.westhost.com](http://www.ukfreestyle.westhost.com) or contact: **Su Ottoline. 26 Castle View Drive. Cromford. Derbyshire DE4 3RL** [gbfreestyle@mac.com](mailto:gbfreestyle@mac.com)  
**Pete Astles. BCU Freestyle**





**CARLISLE  
CANOES**  
OLD RAFFLES PARADE  
WIGTON ROAD  
CARLISLE  
CUMBRIA  
CA2 7EX

TEL/FAX 01228 531703  
E-MAIL [info@carlislecanoes.co.uk](mailto:info@carlislecanoes.co.uk)  
[www.carlislecanoes.co.uk](http://www.carlislecanoes.co.uk)  
OPENING TIMES  
MON - FRI 9.30 - 5.30  
SAT 9.30 - 4.30



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

TEL/FAX 01786 478820  
[www.stirlingcanoes.co.uk](http://www.stirlingcanoes.co.uk)  
OPENING TIMES  
MON - SAT 10.00 - 5.30

SUN & BANK HOLIDAYS BY ARRANGEMENT

**THE NORTH'S PREMIER KAYAK AND OPEN CANOE SPECIALIST**

**KAYAKS IN STOCK**

PYRANHA  
ESKIMO  
NECKY  
PRIJON  
RIOT  
PERCEPTION  
DAGGER  
WAVESPORT

**INFLATABLES**

GUMOTEX  
EURORAFT

**OPEN CANADIAN  
CANOES IN STOCK**

MAD RIVER  
DAGGER  
PYRANHA  
MOBILE ADVENTURE  
OLD TOWN

**SIT ON TOPS**

PERCEPTION  
COBRA  
OCEAN KAYAKS  
PYRANHA

**SEA KAYAKS  
IN STOCK**

P & H  
PERCEPTION  
PRIJON  
PYRANHA  
DAGGER



SEA KAYAKS  
& OPEN  
CANADIAN  
CANOES  
FOR HIRE

**PADDLES AND ACCESSORIES  
FROM ALL LEADING MANUFACTURERS  
VISIT OUR WEB SITE FOR SPECIAL OFFERS**  
[www.carlislecanoes.co.uk](http://www.carlislecanoes.co.uk)

**MAIL ORDER HOT LINE 0800 0747975 FREEPHONE**  
SAME DAY DESPATCH    NEXT DAY DELIVERY

**HAYLING TRAILERS**

*Established 1983*

The UK's canoe & kayak specialist trailer builder



4 kayaks with 2 GRP boxes

THE TWO KAYAK WIDE TRAILERS  
From 1 - 5 layers high  
(2 - 10 kayaks)



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](mailto:haylingtrailers@btclick.com)



254A Havant Road Hayling Island Hampshire PO11 0LW

**FOUR SEASONS**

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



BCU Approved Centre

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

Article by:  
Kayakojacko,  
the whitewater  
and freestyle  
coaching and  
holiday  
specialists.

[www.kayakojacko.com](http://www.kayakojacko.com)



Photos by  
Tim Sadler of  
Playak.com



# Hurley Rodeo

**After a cancellation of the event earlier in the year due to foot and mouth, the Hurley Rodeo had a cloud of expectation hanging over it, that unfortunately did not provide any rain. This meant that the hype was flowing and gossip had us all believing the conditions would provide a number of different formats.**

In the end, Brian the lock keeper pulled out all the stops and with the assistance of his fellow lockies managed to hold the river up and provide a one and a half gate format for the heats and a two gate format for the finals. This was using the two corner gates against the wall. This proved a challenge for all the paddlers, as hardly any had been on this format before.

So with everything in place and the spirited canoe lifeguards who supplied the safety cover in position it all kicked off at 10am on Saturday with a training session. This was a chance for paddlers to get a few tips from the experts. On Hand were Shaun Baker (event organiser) and Jacko (Kayakojacko) along with Mark Birkbeck (former world champion) and Ant Perkins (Thames weir old boy). The training went well with everybody learning something and smiles complementing the sunshine.

The competition then began with the large novice field. Many of the paddlers as usual, could have competed in the main class and done well. Standards continue to improve year on year and through the four heats of novices the spectators experienced some great skill, courage and spirit. These guys really worked it hard with the top eight making it through to a super final.



Ollie Castle  
(3rd CI)

Louise Wigmore  
(Ladies Winner)

Mark Birkbeck  
(Men's Junior Winner)

James Weir  
(Men's Open Canoe Winner)

Next up were the juniors. Watching these guys gives us older paddlers hope as the numbers of highly talented youngsters encourages me to think that the sport is doing something right. The show put on was limited by the conditions but demonstrated that the youngsters firmly understood how to achieve the best out of the scoring system. Danny Noblett came of age and led for the first time at a major event.

Squirt boaters followed. This year this class was fairly small but this did not detract from the level of competition. A few quick controlled ends and then down they go. Local boy Adam White showed form to lead the way and take first place, he was closely followed by Raphael Munton in second and the ever improving Chris Jones in third.

Decked C1 up next and former world silver medallist and prem slalom boy Andy Nicholl better known as Nice Boy stormed in to a victory. Andy fell out of the hole during one of his rides and showed the quickest paddling ever to make it back to the hole to throw more ends. Next in was Perception Pro Team member Matt Byham and closely following was Nene paddler Oliver Castle.

Following this was the open boaters where James Weir the world ranked number three showed his form and took first place. The gate format definitely did not suit these guys and although the skill level was great scores were low. James was followed by Jamie Burkbeck in second and Jon Lovell in third.

The Novice finalists charged onto the weir for their go and an ever-improved level of boating eventually ended with a victory for another local boy Will Hatt. His score more than doubled his nearest rival Andy Milton who had a much closer battle with third place Ian White.

Nearly the end of the day and time for the juniors to have their final. Gate format changed as the half gate became a full gate and the standards picked up with

demonstrations of the most dynamic freestyle move regularly on display. Every paddler threw down great stuff but former world champ Mark Birkbeck showed real form and charged into first place with a score that more than doubled his nearest rival. Local knowledge may have played a part as last years men's and junior Hurley champion Richard Crimes was beaten into second. More local talent Carl Leahy came in hot on his heels in third.

Last on for Saturday was the Duo fun event where all placings were taken by local paddlers. Despite the now impending darkness and cold it was a 'give it your all' competition with Simon Gray and Scott Simmonds proving to be the perfect combination scoring good points and managing spins and nearly a single end of a cartwheel, next year boys we want deck running.

Sunday dawned and muggy heads appeared from sleeping bags. As usual, the evening entertainment was excellent, unfortunately the usual dismal side effects in the morning followed. I was sure the exuberant lifeguards would not be smiling today as they had showed an excellent standard in pub rodeo, it has to be said though they were at the weir first thing and looking remarkably healthy.

Sunday kicked off with the ladies where there were three heats. The girls pulled some good stuff but struggled a little with the one and a half gate format. Local girl Louise Wigmore showed her form and came through as the first finalist. The girls who represented GB in Spain 2001 quickly snapped up the next five places for the final.

Following this, we were straight into the men's event where eight heats proved the ongoing popularity of this event. The judges churned through and were a little surprised that many of

the competitors did not pick up on doing some of the easier moves that were achievable on this feature. Many of the big names dropped by the way side and the final had a few new names coming through.

Midway through the heats a near disaster struck as the weirs electrical system fowled up and the half gate suddenly became a whole gate. Things were changed a little and the judges quickly made a decision to compensate the situation.

For the finals two gates were open and the ladies were first in a five competitor super show. Cartwheels, roundhouses and a variety of other moves followed. The crowd on the bridge had built and cheers came when local Wiggy got it together and threw the best two rides. She took top place but a battle royal unfolded for second with GB ladies Flee Jarvie and Paula Floyd in contention. Paula eventually did it with Flee trailing by just .85 or one flat spin to you and me.

The men's event is often billed as the main event and this one proved to be just that. The crowd on the bridge had got to its biggest level so far and tension was rising. The expectation was that the French champion and world number five, Nico Chasing, would school the Brits but our boys put on a good show with high scores. Local Boy Carl Leahy put a sting in the tail of his third in the junior, and put together two great runs to take the Hurley event in fine form. Nico took second and Matt Tidy took third.

The canoe lifeguards were kept quiet throughout the event but in the end the Marlow youngsters took a swim just to give these guys some action. Danny Noblett won a boat as the best un-sponsored junior as did Dave Lambley (clown) as the best un-sponsored paddler. Other prizes given out to top three placing were cash, canoeing goods and of course trophies. ●

Thanks must go to the Environment Agency, SAS, Red Bull, System X, Shaun Baker, the organisers of the Hurley event and of course the lifeguards. The next event is on 2-3 March 2002 and details can be found on

[www.hurleyweir.com](http://www.hurleyweir.com)

**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](http://www.brookbankcanoes.co.uk)  
e-mail: [mark@brookbankcanoes.co.uk](mailto:mark@brookbankcanoes.co.uk)  
Fax: 0161 474 1411

**We Stock the Lot!**  
Call us FREE, then call us unbeatable!



**I am lucky enough to have done many things in my life that have made me feel good. But standing at almost 16,000 feet on the plain at Lhonak, dwarfed by the huge snow capped peaks of Kanchenjunga with the 'A' team, made me feel mightily proud of their achievement and my involvement with that.**

Nepal 2000 grew out of an original idea by two head teachers of special needs schools. They believed that their pupils deserved the same opportunity as mainstream young people in outdoor education and more importantly could achieve greater personal and social skills via this medium. As their outdoor provider, I agreed with this and project Snowdon was born. We would conquer the longest river and the highest mountain in Wales and then undertake a trip abroad, descending a river that crossed as many countries as possible to publicise our cause. We ticked the Severn from source to sea, and ascended Snowdon, but the trip abroad eluded us. A change of head teacher with a similar vision, a committed member of staff, support from the Governors and Wolverhampton Education Authority and Nepal 2000 became a reality.

The expedition team was to include four young people with severe learning difficulties from Green Park School, Wolverhampton. The venue Nepal - the aim, a challenge of a lifetime and to raise awareness of the potential of ESN pupils. It had to be special, out of the ordinary, requiring commitment that would make people sit up and notice. The trek was to be to the base camp of Kanchenjunga, the river, the mighty Tamur. So many people I respected tried to put me off this challenge, but we fully understood the difficulties ahead. With training and a committed team I felt we had a good chance.

A team of six youngsters supported by many volunteers and staff began an intensive training programme which included a week in Austria, assessing the team's water capabilities under the watchful eye of Rob Hind. When we arrived Rob with his experience of the Tamur was apprehensive. After spending the week with the team we were finalising plans and Rob had volunteered himself as trip leader. The difficult decisions of selection had been made. Of the six who began the training, Lee Smith, Karl Taylor, Lee Benyon and Gareth Stevens made the "UA Team". All that remained was to raise the cash. The Winston Churchill Trust got the ball rolling making Gordon a Fellow and making a significant donation as testimony to the ground breaking nature of the expedition. The BCU Expedition Committee and the Jubilee Canoeing Foundation concurred and then Pete Knowles gave the original painting from his

White Water Nepal guidebook front cover, half the proceeds to a Nepalese charity of our choice. Mammoth fund raising events and many generous individuals and organisations enabled us to raise enough to get to Nepal.

#### **Black kites wheel around the sky**

Kathmandu was a new and strange experience for the lads. Black kites wheel around the sky diving to scavenge the many piles of rubbish. Competition for food is fierce between dogs, cows and people. One person's rubbish is someone else's fortune and whilst the smell is strong the piles slowly disappear. The lads watch with eyes wide open as a young boy squats in the street, there is a need to be careful where you walk, you don't see this in Bilston. We had linked with Dave Allardice's Ultimate Descents International and headed out from Basantapur on the 27th October for the start of the 24 day trek. Prior to this we had visited the Navjotia Special Needs School in Kathmandu to donate the 25,000 Rupees raised from the painting.

Support on the trek was provided by six sherpas and nearly fifty porters as everything has to be carried into the region, no Coca Cola teahouses on this trip! The first few days gave us spectacular views of Makalu. Early starts were the order of the day before the clouds rolled in each afternoon to obliterate the view. Above Dobhan and the Tamur valley we were treated to a fantastic view of the Kanchenjunga massif above the clouds. It seemed so far away. All the height that had been gained was then lost as we descended into Dobhan for the first time. We were due to return here after the trek to meet with the rafts and start the descent of the river. Our trek from here ascended alongside the river. The first few days were a kayaker's nightmare. Most people who canoe the Tamur start from Dobhan, but the upper Tamur has the potential for an excellent, though very difficult, run. The trail follows the river forever going up and down and in some areas is incredibly exposed. If the fall didn't kill you then the river certainly would have finished the job as it raged and surged below. The next few days continued... to the junction of the Ghunsa Khola.... Mentally I had

ticked my next trip, the upper Tamur is a must. From here our route followed the Ghunsa Khola and after two days of very steep ascent, we arrived at Ghunsa, a beautiful Tibetan style village at 11,050ft.

Thankfully, the lads were quite fit as the route continually steepened. While the mountain tops glowed in the sun, we froze in the valley. Only the young locals seemed oblivious to the cold, running around with bare feet, truckers bottom and the inevitable nose candle.

Whilst the steepness of the ascent and the altitude





# you done today?



proved a strain, the wonder of the unfolding view was an invigorating and healing prescription. Snowy peaks and glaciers dominated the skyline, radiating brilliant white in the sun. We eventually arrived above the cloud and the scene was awesome. A huge flat alluvial plain, a lunar landscape embroidered with a braided stream meandering through and across. All dominated by the glistening peaks of the Janak Himal. Tucked under a cliff at nearly 16,000 feet was the village of Lhonak. Huts peppered with holes and draughts, fire blackened but sturdy, shelter for the summer yak herdsman and welcome hospitality for any travellers or trekkers who pass that way. The team stood spellbound, Gareth and Lee speechless for once and Karl still free from his rocking gait as they took in their surroundings. Standing in their smart jackets, warm and happy, I felt really proud of them. They may not have realised it, but what they had achieved so far was inspirational. They had taken everything in their stride. Going to bed in minus 13 degrees with ice forming inside the tents, the crystal clear clarity of a starry night sky illuminated by a full moon indicating it was only going to get colder, gave no cause for concern. Gareth removed a fleece off and complained of being too warm in his sleeping bag!

## Sad to say goodbye

Our return to Dobhan heralded the next stage of the adventure. We exchanged sherpas for river guides and walking boots for Tevas. We had forged a good relationship with the sherpas over the last 24 days and were sad to say goodbye, but the river guides immediately established an excellent rapport with the team. It was good to link up with Paul Fessi who had trekked in with the rafting gear to bolster our team for the river section of our expedition. We split into two paddle rafts, two gear rafts and kayak support from Paul and Rob. The bridge above the put in was full to overflowing with locals giving us a rowdy send off as with plenty of High Fives and slapping paddles we headed off.

The rapids, though not too difficult, came thick and fast. Big boulders and pour overs with spouting drops. Ganga, our guide, steered a good course making sure we responded to his instructions and paddled together in time. We soon pulled into the side to inspect a rapid. It was long and hid a couple of nasty holes. The drops were not too steep but the line was important. We had two of the 'LA' team in each raft and a water confident adult behind each with clear instructions - "keep them in the raft". We had done swim and flip training

but we were still on a fine line for safety and couldn't really expect the team to make sensible decisions if they were swimming. Barring a flip, we needed to keep the lads in the raft. My personal grading system for rivers is Tevas on or Tevas off. Tevas off means there is a likelihood of a swim, and losing your Tevas is no joke. We would have to use a similar system. "Team in" or "team out", any likelihood of a major swim and we would portage the team.

So "team in" and Ganga took it well. A well-drilled raft team paddling to instructions nailed a perfect line. A few High Fives and we continued on our way. Predictably, it was the small rapid that created our first problem. We caught a rock and spun sideways into a hole, ejecting a few unsuspecting bodies. But the "A" team stayed dry and aboard, that was all that mattered.

Dave Allardice had said only the best guides were on this trip, and he was right. In close flotilla Mahindra and Ganga steered a faultless course in the paddle rafts followed by Manesh and Kumar oaring the gear rafts. It was a confident and happy team that pulled in to the campsite for Tongbas and a big meal.

Next day it was my turn in the kayak. After negotiating with a fisherman for our evening meal we headed off. Even before we could warm up, it was inspection time. I had not kayaked for a while and it was a rude awakening to be told to scout after ten paddle strokes! The entry was a large wavetrain hiding a wicked looking fall into a terminal hole, followed by a massive block impeding progress on the left. A route to the right was chosen and it was "team in", kayaks to be in support below. So... If I was supporting, what was I doing running the rapid backwards? There were good indicators above the drop to line up on. Over confidence? Half asleep? I had accidentally spun at the wrong moment. Forward sweep, sideways, power on and I hit the hole sideways with sufficient momentum to pull me through and into the ultimate camera breakout.... Well I meant to, didn't I? The rafts nailed the beast perfectly, I had no doubt we would have been looking at a catastrophe had they got it wrong. Well done the lads! The rapids followed thick and fast but the next major event was the evening meal. fish curry, Nepalese style, wow! a great day and a classic finish.

## Rollercoaster ride of excitement

The team had trained long and hard for this trip and they were paddling with energy and enthusiasm. It did mean us old farts could relax a bit. A few days of very scenic river had us heading into Mulghat and the start of an

excellent piece of white water. The day to the Sun Khosi is excellent. Continuous rapids provide a rollercoaster ride of excitement and interest. Far too many rapids to describe but the previous days had honed our skills and Ganga piloted the raft with consummate skill whilst still hitting sufficient holes to give the team a good dunking and to keep the adrenaline levels buzzing. Gareth's face was a picture of excitement and tension, looking down the river and responding to the paddling calls as we ran the rapids on sight. The flotilla was well managed with signals exchanged before each run, Rob Hind leading the way, rafts supporting each other and anticipating problems. There was apprehension when the rafts pulled into the side to inspect a rapid. You mean they get harder?

A large wavetrain would need to be followed by an eddy out on the left, to allow a cross above a sweeping drop that fell quite neatly into a massive hole, Ashrans! The camber was not too healthy and the cross needed to be precise with the added bonus that the rapid continued into the distance. Ganga and Mahindra had moulded us into a good team and they felt confident of success. There had been no "Team out" up to this point so the decision was made to keep the lads in. Rob and Paul headed off and it was with some surprise that I saw Rob go left instead of making the cross. Paul followed, only to kiss the hole, pack his bags and opt for the no return fare! He was well and truly munched, and digested before being spat out in bits. Nowt like a bit of excitement! Concentrate on the job.

Our raft pulled into the current and straight away I knew we had it wrong. We were too high. We made the cross, but not the camber. In slow motion we hit the hole, Ganga was paddling so hard his extended body went quickly over



the side. I called high side left, grabbed Gareth and started to clamber up the raft that was being bucked and buffeted in the raging maul. Carol was hanging well out when Tom, who was also on the left, tumbled over my head and into the water. A quick glance revealed our plight and the inevitable flip. This was a big hole. A change of direction, I started back down the raft with Gareth otherwise we would be under when she flipped. Out of the corner of my eye I saw Joe and Lee

disappear. Then over she went. My grip on Gareth's buoyancy aid tightened as I clawed my way from under the raft. We surfaced and looking directly into Gareth's eyes I told him we were fine, to hold on, and to listen to me. Gareth visibly relaxed as he replaced the water in his lungs for air and placed his trust in me. Where were the others? Ganga appeared on the top of the upturned raft. I saw Paul standing on the side. Gareth was comfortable and it seemed the right solution so I told him to swim hard for the bank. With my help pushing, and a timely helping hand from Paul, we stood spluttering on the bank. Bodies appeared above the rocks as the rest of the crew appeared out of the water. Carol had stayed with Lee until he was towed ashore by Rob and then had a big swim close to the upturned raft, which she eventually mounted. A long way down the river we all met up as the raft was righted. Two paddles and a teva sacrificed to the river gods, but the team was ok and after a quick shake down we headed down the river. A big sandbank proved a respite for food and the opportunity for everybody to tell their story. It was also an opportunity for the return of a paddle and teva that a local had chased and rescued from the river. What service! He was rewarded with big hugs and a good lunch. Carol would have missed her Teva!

The river maintained its excitement and the team its adrenaline levels. Big

[sales@outdooractive.ltd.uk](mailto:sales@outdooractive.ltd.uk)

**BOATS AND KIT FROM ALL MAIN MANUFACTURERS**

**EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO BE OUTDOOR ACTIVE**

**Great Prices**

**Outdoor Active**

**tel : 01454 261058**

Damery Works, Woodford, Berkeley  
Gloucestershire GL13 9JR  
1 mile from M5 Junction 14

**WIDE CHOICE OF CANOES and KAYAKS AVAILABLE IN OUR SHOP**

Ok, let's paddle faster

Dad, I can see the pub from here

**ENDLESS RIVER**

Prices and quality you can trust.

**COME AND SEE US AT THE ICE**

[www.endlessriver.co.uk](http://www.endlessriver.co.uk) email: [dave@endlessriver.co.uk](mailto:dave@endlessriver.co.uk)

PO Box 699, Worcester, WR2 6ZL

Tel 01905 640003 Fax 01905 640003

info



I would like to thank the following, Wolverhampton Education Authority, The Winston Churchill Trust, BCU Expedition Committee, Jubilee Canoeing Foundation, Paul Van Der Mollen Foundation, Peter Knowles, Dave Holloway of Adventure Kit UK, The Co-op Bank, Birmingham Midshires Bank, Thorlo Socks, AC Interactive, Marley Building Materials, UK, Fuji Film, 5.10, Real PR.

bouncy wave trains and holes that required a lot of respect kept everyone on their toes. Then it was inspection time again. The river plunged through an impressive rapid with some evil looking holes waiting to engulf any offline wanderers. The central line looked good but difficult. We ran right. It was an awkward line to spot from above and the centre would have been even more difficult to judge. Good decision. All too soon, the river enters a short but magnificent gorge with bat caves and sheer rock walls, which spills you out into the Sun Khosi. An impressive end to a fantastic river.

**So what have these young people achieved?**

Kanchenjunga Base Camp trek and the River Tamur are not easy options. Both require a high level of fitness and commitment and are major undertakings for the majority of adults. Lee Smith, Gareth, Karl and Lee

Benyon have severe learning difficulties with associated physical difficulties. They have achieved a personal Everest and are an example to all young people with special needs and their carers. We hope this expedition, the first of its kind, will raise awareness of what these youngsters can achieve given support, encouragement and most importantly the opportunity. ●

*Discover the World ...*  
**of Cobra Kayaks**

[www.cobrakayaks.co.uk](http://www.cobrakayaks.co.uk)  
 Tel: Keith Harris 07831 718789

**WIPE OUT**

7 Park Hill, Swallownest, SHEFFIELD, S26 4UN  
 Tel: 0114 269 5757 OR Tel or Fax : 0114 269 2739  
[www.wipeoutwatersports.com](http://www.wipeoutwatersports.com)  
 Email: [sales@wipeoutwatersports.com](mailto:sales@wipeoutwatersports.com)  
 Tues – Sat 9.30am – 6.00pm

Specialists in canoe and kayak equipment by most major manufacturers. Fully stocked shop including: buoyancy aids, paddles, kayaks, spraydecks, wetsuits, dry gear, helmets, rescue / safety equipment, and anything else you may need for a leisurely paddle or full on playboating session!

Also full range of kid's watersports equipment for any age

★ Call us now for our latest price list. ★

CONTRACT PRICES FOR CLUBS, CENTRES, AND SCHOOLS.  
 EASY PAYMENT TERMS BY: ACCESS, VISA, SWITCH  
 0% FREE CREDIT; ASK FOR DETAILS.

DON'T GO SHOPPING



GET OUT CANOEING

www.getoutcanoeing.co.uk

Sunday 24 March 2002  
Bala Mill, River Tryweryn

by Andrew Ratcliffe by Andy Miles

**Nomad Reed Cup**

for info email: [nomadpaddleworks@aol.com](mailto:nomadpaddleworks@aol.com)  
or tel: 01678 520808

**Kent Canoe Services** Superstore  
2,000 Sq. ft

showroom full of boats and kit.  
Contract Prices for Scouts,  
Guides, Sea Cadets, Centres

B.C.U approved Canoe School.

Ring: (01732) 886688  
Surf: [www.thecanoeshop.co.uk](http://www.thecanoeshop.co.uk)  
for directions and opening times  
New House Farm, Kemsing Road, Wrotham,  
Kent TN15 7BU

The Solent's Premier Watersports Centre

**CALSHOT**  
ACTIVITIES CENTRE

- BCU 1-3 Star courses
- BCU 4 Star Assessments (Sea)
- BCU Instructors Courses
- Private Lessons
- Canoe Training Pool
- Residential Courses for adults Et young people
- Group enquiries welcome

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

Hampshire County Council  
BRITISH CANOE UNION APPROVED CENTRE

**Tel: 023 8089 2077**

**NOMAD**  
[www.paddleworks.co.uk](http://www.paddleworks.co.uk)

**See us at the Canoe Exhibition on Stand T3**

**Paddle specialists for:**  
Freestyle, Surf, Slalom, Play, Polo,  
Canadian, Racing, Sea Kayaking and  
Touring

**Email: [nomadpaddleworks@aol.com](mailto:nomadpaddleworks@aol.com)**

# INTERNATIONAL CANOE



Saturday & Sunday 23rd & 24th Feb

# EXHIBITION 2002

NEC

For all enquiries Tel: 0115 982 1100  
or Fax: 0115 982 1797 or visit [www.bcu.org.uk](http://www.bcu.org.uk)

NATIONAL EXHIBITION CENTRE  
BIRMINGHAM • FREE PARKING

PULL-OUT  
Guide



## British Canoe Union

John Dudderidge House,  
Adbolton Lane,  
West Bridgford, Notts NG2 5AS  
Tel: (0115) 9821100  
Fax: (0115) 9821797  
[info@bcu.org.uk](mailto:info@bcu.org.uk)  
[www.bcu.org.uk](http://www.bcu.org.uk)  
Stand Location: Link Pavilion

### CANOE ENGLAND

Adbolton Lane  
West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5AS  
Tel. (0) 115 982 1100  
Fax. (0) 115 982 1797  
[info@bcu.org.uk](mailto:info@bcu.org.uk)  
<http://www.bcu.org.uk>  
Stand Location D1

### AC CANOE PRODUCTS (CHESTER) LTD

PO Box 62, Chester, Cheshire CH1 3JX  
Tel. +44 (0) 1244 311711  
Fax. +44 (0) 1244 318890  
Stand Location C3

### AINSWORTH

76 The Green, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 5AG  
Tel. +44 (0) ) 208 898 4839  
Fax. +44 (0) ) 208 755 0981  
[Ainsworth.uk@virgin.net](mailto:Ainsworth.uk@virgin.net)  
Stand Location E4

### AVONCRAFT

12, West Burrowfield  
Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 4TW  
Tel. +44 (0) 1707 330000  
Fax. +44 (0) 1707 333026  
[sales@avoncraft.co.uk](mailto:sales@avoncraft.co.uk)  
<http://www.avoncraft.co.uk>  
Stand Location L4

### BICTON COLLEGE

School of Outdoor Leisure Management  
East Budleigh, Budleigh Salterton, Devon EX9 7BY  
Tel. +44 (0) 1395 562400  
Fax. +44 (0) 1395 567502  
[enquiries@bicton.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@bicton.ac.uk)  
<http://www.bicton.ac.uk>  
Stand Location H3

### BLISS STICK EUROPE

P.O. box 2347, 5600 CH Eindhoven  
The Netherlands  
Tel. +31 (0) ) 40 844 9153  
Fax. +31 (0) ) 40 280 0717  
[info@blissstick.com](mailto:info@blissstick.com)  
<http://www.blissstick.com>  
Stand Location A5

### BROOKBANK CANOES

Unit 23, Meadow Industrial Estate,  
Water Street, Stockport, Cheshire SK1 2BX  
Tel. +44 (0) 161 474 1499  
Fax. +44 (0) 161 474 1411  
[mark@brookbankcanoes.co.uk](mailto:mark@brookbankcanoes.co.uk)  
<http://www.brookbankcanoes.co.uk>  
Stand Location P2

### CANCARVE DESIGNS

5, Shanklin Place, Beaconhill Green, Cramlington  
Northumberland NE23 8HA  
Tel. +44 (0) 1670 713640  
Fax. +44 (0) 1670 713640  
Stand Location A7

### CANOE CAMPING CLUB

25, Waverley Road  
South Norwood, London SE25 4HT  
Tel. +44 (0) 208 654 1835  
Stand Location R2

### CANOEIST

4 Sinodum Row, Appleford,  
Oxon OX14 4PE  
Tel. +44 (0) 1235 847270  
Fax. +44 (0) 1235 847520  
[mail@canoeist.co.uk](mailto:mail@canoeist.co.uk)  
<http://www.canoeist.co.uk>  
Stand Location R3

### CARLISLE CANOES

Old Raffles Parade  
Wigton Road, Carlisle, Cumbria CA2 7EX  
Tel. +44 (0) 1228 531703  
Fax. +44 (0) 1228 531703  
[info@carlislecanoes.co.uk](mailto:info@carlislecanoes.co.uk)  
<http://www.carlislecanoes.co.uk>  
Stand Location F1

### CHRISTIANS IN CANOEING - THE BOYS BRIGADE

59 Rensburs Street  
New Bridge Road, Hull HU9 2NL  
Tel. +44 (0) 1482 705323  
Stand Location T2

### DESPERATE MEASURES / PHOENIX LIMITED

39 - 41, Trent Boulevard  
West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5BB  
Tel. +44 (0) 115 981 6815  
Fax. +44 (0) 115 981 6815  
[sales@desperate-measures.co.uk](mailto:sales@desperate-measures.co.uk)  
<http://www.desperate-measures.co.uk>  
Stand Location G4

### DUCHY COLLEGE

Stoke Climsland, Callington,  
Cornwall PL17 8PB  
Tel. +44 (0) 1579 372233  
Fax. +44 (0) 1579 372200  
[admissions@duchy.cornwall.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@duchy.cornwall.ac.uk)  
<http://www.cornwall.ac.uk/duchy>  
Stand Location J3

Sponsored by Canoe Focus, official magazine of the BCU

**THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD**

Gulliver House  
Madeira Walk, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1EU  
Tel. +44 (0) 1753 727400  
Fax. +44 (0) 1753 810666  
info@theaward.org  
http://www.theaward.org  
**Stand Location A6**

**ENDLESS RIVER**

PO Box 699,, Worcester, Worcestershire WR2 6ZL  
Tel. +44 (0) 1905 640003  
Fax. +44 (0) 1905 640003  
dave@endlessriver.co.uk  
http://www.endlessriver.co.uk  
**Stand Location H1**

**ENVIROMENT AGENCY**

Rio House, Waterside Drive,  
Aztec West, Bristol BS32 4UD  
Tel. +44 (0) 1454 624400  
Fax. +44 (0) 1454 624030  
enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk  
http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk  
**Stand Location G5**

**JOHNSON OUTDOOR WATERCRAFT**

Unit 2, Morton Peto Ind.l Estate, Morton Peto Rd,  
Capton Hall, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 0LT  
Tel. 01493 651007  
Fax. 01493 651006  
**Stand Location Link Pavilion**

**EUROCRAFT (GB) LIMITED**

112, Clydesdale Place  
Moss Side, Leyland, Lancashire PR26 7QS  
Tel. +44 (0) 1772 622856  
Fax. +44 (0) 1772 622857  
eurocraft@airtime.co.uk  
http://www.airtime.co.uk/eurocraft  
**Stand Location P4**

**GEE - FORCE**

1 The Kennels, Ivybridge, Devon PL21 9PD  
Tel. +44 (0) 1752 893395  
Fax. +44 (0) 1752 698310  
pete@geeforce.co.uk  
http://www.geeforce.co.uk  
**Stand Location N4**

**GEORGE BANKS ARTWORKS**

92 Ribblesdale Road, Streatham, London SW16 6SE  
Tel. +44 (0) 20) 87690351  
g.t.banks@btinternet.com  
**Stand Location A2**

**GUL INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

Callywith Gate Ind. Estate, Bodmin PL31 2RQ  
Tel. +44 (0) 1208 72382  
Fax. +44 (0) 1208 75218  
gul@gul.co.uk  
http://www.gul.co.uk  
**Stand Location N3**

**INTERNATIONAL SEA KAYAKING ASSN**

5, Osprey Avenue,  
Westhoughton, Bolton, Lancashire BL5 2SG  
Tel. +44 (0) 1942 842204  
Fax. +44 (0) 1982 842204  
jamwell@provider.co.uk  
**Stand Location T1**

**ISLAND KAYAKS**

The Green, Portree,  
Isle of Skye IV51 9BT  
Tel. +44 (0) 1478 611073  
Fax. +44 (0) 1478 613338  
benvia@itmin.com  
**Stand Location D2**

**JAG INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

Pensilva Industrial Estate  
Pensilva, Cornwall PL14 5RE  
Tel. +44 (0) 1579 363444  
Fax. +44 (0) 1579 363168  
sales@jagwetsuits.co.uk  
http://www.jagwetsuits.co.uk  
**Stand Location K2**

**JAMESON LIFFEY DESCENT**

43, East Hatley, Sandy,  
Bedfordshire SG19 3JA  
Tel. +44 (0) 1767 650312  
Fax. +44 (0) 1767 650725  
international.adventure@btinternet.com  
http://www.international-adventure.co.uk  
**Stand Location S4**

**KOGG OUTDOOR CLOTHING**

12 Acorn Business Centre  
Arran Road, Perth PH1 3DZ  
Tel. +44 (0) 1738 622010  
Fax. +44 (0) 1738 622889  
info@kogg.co.uk  
http://www.kogg.co.uk  
**Stand Location H4**

**LAZEE LIZARD LIMITED**

4 Derwen Close,  
Waunarlwydd,  
Swansea SA5 4QQ  
Tel. +44 (0) 1792 873681  
info@lazeelizard.com  
http://www.lazeelizard.com  
**Stand Location L3**

**LENDAL PRODUCTS LIMITED**

30, Hunter Street, Prestwick,  
Ayrshire KA9 1LG  
Tel. +44 (0) 1292 478558  
Fax. +44 (0) 1292 671293  
info@lendal.com  
http://www.lendal.com  
**Stand Location B3**

**MARKAT**

34 King Road, Sherbourne,  
Dorset DT9 4HU  
Tel. +44 (0) 1935 815424  
Fax. +44 (0) 1935 815424  
Marcus@MarKat.co.uk  
http://www.markat.co.uk  
**Stand Location R1**

**MARSPORT LIMITED**

Wokingham Waterside Centre  
Thames Valley Park Drive, Earley,  
Reading RG6 1PQ  
Tel. +44 (0) 118 966 5912  
Fax. +44 (0) 118 935 2484  
marsport.ltd@virgin.net  
http://www.marsport.co.uk  
**Stand Location K1**

**MEGA INTERNATIONAL GROUP**

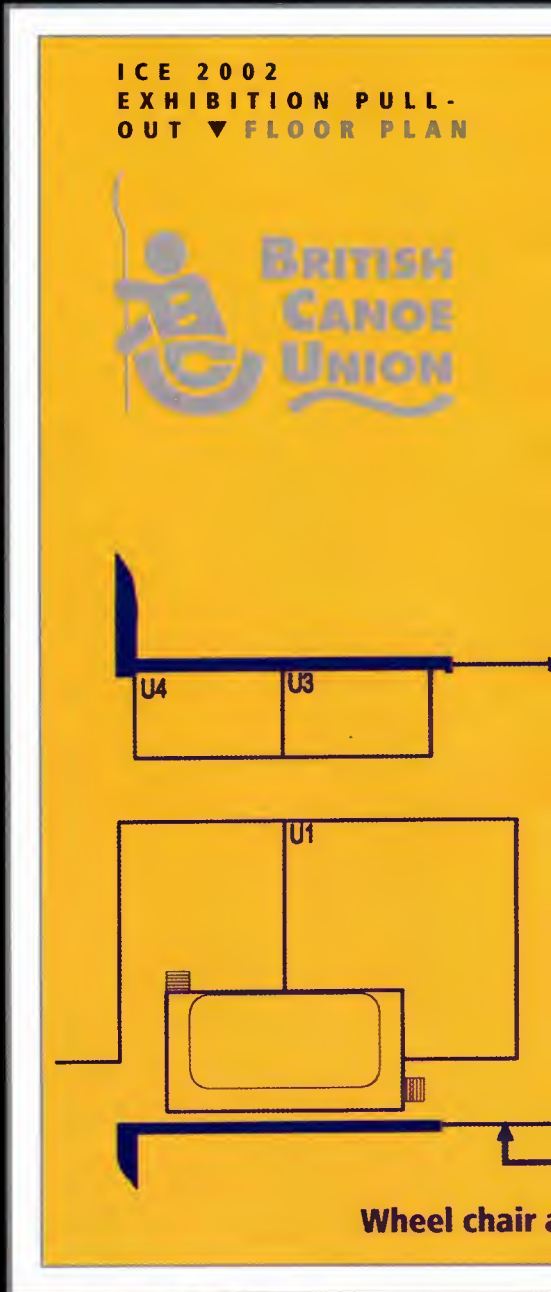
Unit C4, Ford Airfield Industrial Estate  
Ford Nr. Arundel,  
West Sussex BN18 0BE  
Tel. +44 (0) 1903 717150  
Fax. +44 (0) 1903 717150  
kayaking@pavilion.co.uk  
http://www.mega-kayaks.co.uk  
**Stand Location B1**

**MOBILE ADVENTURE**

Marina Village, Preston Brook, Runcorn ,  
Cheshire WA7 3DW  
Tel. +44 (0) ) 1928 716 666  
Fax. +44 (0) ) 1928 714 399  
**Stand Location L2**

**NIGEL DENNIS KAYAKS**

Porthdafarch Road, Holyhead, Anglesey LL65 2LP  
Tel. +44 (0) 1407 762525  
Fax. +44 (0) 1407 762525  
nigeldennis@angleseyseasurf.com  
http://www.nigeldenniskayaks.com  
**Stand Location P3**



**NOMAD PADDLEWORKS**

Bala Mill, Ffrydan Road, Bala, GWynedd LL23 7RY  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1678 520808  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1678 520808  
 nomad@paddleworks.co.uk  
 http://www.paddleworks.co.uk  
**Stand Location T3**

**NOOKIE KAYAKING EQUIPMENT**

Ottery Business Park  
 Ottery, Tavistock, Devon PL19 8NS  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1822 618688  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1822 618947  
 kayaking@nookie.co.uk  
 http://www.nookie.co.uk  
**Stand Location J1**

**NORFOLK MARINE**

Church Rd, Wroxham, Norwich, Norfolk NR12 8UG  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1603 783150  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1603 782471  
 sales@norfolkmarine.co.uk  
 http://www.norfolkmarine.co.uk  
**Stand Location G1**

**NUCLEUS WATERSPORTS**

204, Frinton Road  
 Holland-on-Sea, Clacton,  
 Essex CO15 5SP  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1255 812146  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1255 812360  
 sales@nucleuswatersports.org.uk  
 http://www.nucleuswatersports.co.uk  
**Stand Location J4**

**OPEN CANOE ASSOCIATION**

1st Floor Apartment,  
 12 Orwell Road, Dovercourt,  
 Harwich Essex CO12 3LD  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1255 503813  
 lucylyne2@netscapeonline.co.uk  
 http://www.opencanoe.org  
**Stand Location S1**

**OPEN CANOE SAILING GROUP**

110 Heacham Drive, L  
 eicester, LE4 0LG  
 Tel. +44 (0) 116 2353532  
**Stand Location P1**

**OUTDOOR ACTIVE LTD**

Damery Works  
 Woodford, Berkeley, Gloucestershire GL13 9JR  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1454 261058  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1454 260179  
 sales@outdooractive.ltd.uk  
 http://www.outdooractive.ltd.uk  
**Stand Location N1**

**P & H COMPANY**

Station Road, West Hallam, Derbyshire DE7 6HB  
 Tel. +44 0115 932 0155  
 Fax. +44 0115 932 7177  
 email@phcompany.co.uk  
 http://www.phcompany.co.uk  
**Stand Location A3**

**PADDLES MAGAZINE**

Freestyle Publications Limited, Alexander House  
 Ling Road, Tower Park, Poole BH12 4NZ  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1202 713639  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1202 733969  
 paddles@freepubs.co.uk  
**Stand Location H2**



**PALM EQUIPMENT-DAGGER EUROPE**

Kenn Business Park, Kenn Road, Clevedon BS21 6TH  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1275 798100  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1275 798110  
 info@palm-equipment.co.uk  
 http://www.palm-equipment.co.uk  
**Stand Location M1**

**PEAKUK KAYAKING COMPANY,**

Harveydale Quarry  
 Dale Road, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3PP  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1629 581222  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1629 581333  
 info@peakuk.com  
 http://www.peakuk.com  
**Stand Location C1**

**PERCEPTION KAYAKS**

Bellbrook Business Park,  
 Uckfield, East Sussex TN22 1QJ  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1825 765891  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1825 763707  
 info@perception.co.uk  
 http://www.perception.co.uk  
**Stand Location Link Pavilion**

**PHYSIO SUPPLIES**

315 Pennygate, Spalding, Lincs PE11 1LQ  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1775 768585  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1775 760980  
 sales@physiosupplies.com  
 http://www.physiosupplies.com  
**Stand Location S3**

**PLAS MENAI NATIONAL WATERSPORTS CTE**

Llanfairisgaer, Caernarfon, Gwynedd LL55 1UE  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1248 670964  
 Fax. +44 (0) 2920 300628  
 plas.menai@scw.co.uk  
 http://www.plasmenai.co.uk  
**Stand Location D4**

**PLAYBOATING - CANOE & KAYAK UK**

Gunn Publishing  
 179 Bath Road, Cheltenham Glos GL53 7LY  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1242 539390  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1242 539391  
 playboatinguk@btinternet.com  
 http://www.playboating.com  
**Stand Location J5**

**PYRANHA MOULDINGS LIMITED**

Marina Village  
 Preston Brook, Runcorn, Cheshire WA7 3DW  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1928 716666  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1928 714399  
 sales@pyranha.com  
 http://www.pyranha.com  
**Stand Location L1**

**RAINBOW KAYAKS BY**

Euro - Tank Nord SRL, S.DA PER S. Martino  
 Pizzolano 34, Somaglia (LO) 26867, Italy  
 Tel. +39 (0) ) 377 570192 /3  
 Fax. +39 (0) ) 377 570190  
 rainbow@canoa.it  
 http://www.canoa.it  
**Stand Location N2**

**RALEIGH INTERNATIONAL**

27 Parsons Green Lane, London SW6 4HZ  
 Tel. +44 (0) 207 371 8585  
 Fax. +44 (0) 207 371 5852  
 staff@raleigh.org.uk  
 http://www.raleigh.org.uk  
**Stand Location E3**

**RAS DEX**

100 Trent Boulevard  
 West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5BL  
 Tel. +44 (0) 115 981 3323  
 Fax. +44 (0) 115 914 0988  
 info@rasdex.co.uk  
 http://www.rasdex.co.uk  
**Stand Location E5**

**REED - CHILL CHEATER LIMITED**

Chapel Street, Braunton, North Devon EX33 2AN  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1271 815828  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1271 816199  
 reed@chillcheater.com  
 http://www.chillcheater.com  
**Stand Location C2**

**ROUGH STUFF PADDLES,**

Glenside Industrial Estate  
 Mill Lane, Palmerstown Dublin 20, Ireland.  
 Tel. +35 316 264363  
 Fax. +35 316 264876  
 mark@roughstuff.ie  
 http://www.roughstuff.ie  
**Stand Location H5**

**SCREEN GRAPHICS**

PO Box 41, Marple, Stockport, Cheshire SK6 7ED  
 Tel. +44 (0) 161 427 8884  
 Fax. +44 (0) 161 427 8884  
**Stand Location D3**

**SOLA LIMITED**

Wetsuits & Leisure Wear, Woodacre, Saltash  
 Parkway, Saltash, Cornwall PL12 6LF  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1752 854400  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1752 854401  
 admin@sola.co.uk  
**Stand Location G3**

**SYSTEM X - PLAYBOATER**

PO Box 1904, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 8BL  
 Tel. +44 (0) 118 932 1449  
 Fax. +44 (0) 118 932 1449  
 systemx@wetndry.com  
 http://www.wetndry.com/systemx  
**Stand Location J6**

**THE CANOEING FOUNDATION**

C/O The British Canoe Union  
 Adbolton Lane  
 West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5AS  
 Tel. +44 (0) 115 982 1100  
 Fax. +44 (0) 115 982 1797  
**Stand Location S2**

**THE FAMILY BOAT SHOP**

The Cottage & Unit 7, Frimhurst Farm Industrial  
 Centre, Camberley GU16 6RF  
 Tel. +44 (0) 7092 091575  
 Fax. +44 (0) 7092 091575  
 info@thefamilyboatshop.co.uk  
 http://www.thefamilyboatshop.co.uk  
**Stand Location E2**

**THE OUTDOORS SHOW**

Brand Events, First Floor, Earls Court Exhibition  
 Centre, Warwick Road, London SW5 9TA  
 Tel. +44 (0) ) 207 471 1080  
 Fax. +44 (0) ) 207 471 1090  
**Stand Location E1**

**VALLEY CANOE PRODUCTS LIMITED**

Private Road Number Four  
 Colwick Ind Estate, Nottingham NG4 2JT  
 Tel. +44 (0) 115 961 4995  
 Fax. +44 (0) 115 961 4970  
 seakayak@globalnet.co.uk  
 http://www.knoydart-kayaking.co.uk  
**Stand Location B4**

**WEST MIDLANDS CANOE CENTRE**

Sneyd Wharf  
 401 Sneyd Lane, Bloxwich, Walsall WS3 2LT  
 Tel. (0) 1922 479279  
 Fax. (0) 1922 479096  
 tim@wmcc.co.uk  
 http://www.wmcc.co.uk  
**Stand Location Link Pavilion**

**WHITE WATER CONSULTANCY INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

Bronwydd, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire  
 SA33 6BE  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1267 223555  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1267 223666  
 sales@wwc.co.uk  
 http://www.wwc.co.uk  
**Stand Location C4**

**WHITewater, THE CANOE CENTRE**

Felix Lane, Shepperton Marina, Shepperton  
 Middlesex TW17 8NJ  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1932 247978  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1932 241368  
 whitewater@canoecentre.co.uk  
 http://www.canoecentre.co.uk  
**Stand Location F2**

**WILD THINGS**

Piece, Redruth, Cornwall TR16 6SF  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1209 211977  
 mail@wildthings-canoes.co.uk  
 http://www.wildthings-canoes.co.uk  
**Stand Location A1**

**WILD-WATER**

Northolt Drive, Bolton, Lancashire BL3 6RE  
 Tel. +44 (0) 1204 528225  
 Fax. +44 (0) 1204 361549  
 mbaker@mikar.co.uk  
 http://www.wild-water.co.uk  
**Stand Location A4**

**WOODMILL OUTDOOR CENTRE**

Woodmill Lane  
 Swaythling, Southampton, Hampshire S18 2JR  
 Tel. +44 (0) 2380 555993  
 Fax. +44 (0) 2380 556641  
 info@woodmill.co.uk  
 http://www.woodmill.co.uk  
**Stand Location J2**

**YAK**

Crewsaver Limited  
 Mumby Road, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 1AQ  
 Tel. +44 (0) 2392 528621  
 Fax. +44 (0) 2392 510905  
 sales@crewsaver.co.uk  
 http://www.crewsaver.co.uk  
**Stand Location B2**

**Sponsored by Canoe Focus, official  
 magazine of the BCU**



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



*products, pictures, movies*

**cdrom catalogue**



In the event of online orders, visit

**KOGG**  
CATALOGUE

+44(0)1753 922010 www.kogg.co.uk

**Southwater Watersports Centre**



- Dagger
- Wavesport
- Perception
- Eskimo
- Old Town
- Ocean Kayaks
- Werner Paddles
- Schlegel
- Lendal
- Palm
- Kogg
- Bomber Gear
- Gul
- Marlin
- Snugg
- Ainsworth
- HF

**01403 734424** [www.ukkayaking.co.uk](http://www.ukkayaking.co.uk)

26 Station Road, Southwater, West Sussex RH13 7HQ

**NATIONAL STUDENT  
RODEO 2002**

THE NATIONAL WATER  
SPORTS CENTRE  
NOTTINGHAM

**16TH-17TH MARCH 2002**

All levels of paddler welcome  
Non-student event on the Sunday  
Large saturday night party

**KNOYDART  
KAYAKING SYSTEMS**  
*Sea Kayaking Specialists*



*Escape from Valley,  
Rapid Start and Pushback!*

For mail-order catalogue:  
Tel: 017687 75519 Fax: 017687 75005  
e-mail [df@knoydart.co.uk](mailto:df@knoydart.co.uk)  
or visit our online shop at: [www.knoydart-kayaking.co.uk](http://www.knoydart-kayaking.co.uk)

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

*Nigel Dennis Kayaks Ltd*  
**Specialists**  
Equipment/Courses



Tel/Fax 01407 762525  
[www.assc.org.uk](http://www.assc.org.uk)

F O C U S

Feature  
SCOTLAND

" ...with the

"Going to the right place at the right  
is all that really matters. What one

Sleeping out under the stars by Loch Lomond may have seemed like an auspicious start to our week. In the stillness of the midnight hour the minuscule ripples lapped the shoreline of the lake with slapping noises quite disproportionate to their size. High peaks in scenery so reminiscent of much of northern Scotland surrounded the glittering water. A full moon carved its silver path across the inky cove that lay at our feet and the blueness of the northern summer sky refused to turn to black. Planets and stars hung in twinkling abeyance and the omens felt good. But every now and again a lazy breeze rustled the leaves in the trees above us and gave a tingle of malevolent anticipation. Was that wind the beginning of something much worse to come or was it merely a nonchalant local idiosyncrasy?

The air was cool for August but that northern crispness added a hint of spice to the adventure. At up around 57 degrees north of the Equator, the summer weather in Scotland can be anything from road melting heat to blinding flurries of summer snow. Winter is serious and altogether another story. The effects of the Gulf Stream bring warmer seas and less hostile weather to these shores and probably account for the fact that whilst on a similar latitude to south eastern Alaska the paddling in Scotland is quite different. Tired from the drive north from England, we four friends were glad to stop and rest. Dawn would be with us all too soon and we anticipated some long days ahead. Sunrise was due at 0500 hours. For the moment though we welcomed the hard dry ground beneath us and from the cocooned warmth of our sleeping bags we lay back and marvelled at the diamond sky.

#### Plan A or go for Plan B?

One of the major reasons for stopping to rest at Loch Lomond was because we had reached the point of our journey where a critical decision had to be made. Do we opt for Plan A or go for Plan B? Do we turn left or right at the next road junction? And the main criterion in that decision-making process would be the weather forecast. The plans for this little trip had only been strung together in the previous few weeks and basically our main desire was to kayak around the Isle of Jura, an island of the Inner Hebrides. This was Plan A. Like all A plans it was always optimistic, based on those dreams that are conceived back at



home poring over those coveted maps of far away places. The fallback plan was to go further north and paddle on the more sheltered waters to the east of the Isle of Skye.

We had followed and plotted the ever-changing meteorological information meticulously over the previous week. With a mixture of cold fronts and depressions the outlook was unsettled to say the least. The next shipping and weather forecast was due soon at just before one o'clock in the morning. The four of us must have been a strange sight as we lay on the ground hanging onto every utterance emanating from the wee transistor radio. In the loom of my head torch I scribbled some notes paying especial attention to the sea areas relevant to the north west of Scotland, "Hebrides" in particular. Huddled in our bags gazing at the calmness all around it seemed hard to believe what we heard. Strong northerlies for the next few days then backing southwesterly and strengthening. Were we sat in the eye of a depression? Was the forecast exaggerating the wind strengths? Was this the lull before the storm?

Our decision wasn't reached easily and not without a fair amount of soul searching either. In the back of our minds was the overall weather



# right people”

time, with the right people  
does is purely incidental”



Everyone contributed willingly to the discussion expressing his and her hopes and fears. Each stated clearly the feelings he or she wanted to be driving home within a week's time. All four of us work with young people and have skills in developing teamwork. It was fascinating to see how we, the facilitators, teachers, instructors and leaders were now dealing with the problem of coming to a consensus which would have a direct effect on us over the next five days.

I must confess to having a slightly heavy heart as we turned right and drove north in the hope of executing Plan B. I had been map-gazing for a long time before this trip and had my hopes pinned on Plan A. Were we simply wimping out or was it a sensible decision based on all the facts we could get our hands on? Were we avoiding a real challenge or smartly preventing a misadventure? Only the next five days would tell.

Plockton, just north east of Kyle of Lochalsh, was a beautiful place to launch. Its frontage of

white painted houses, neatly but haphazardly set against a spectacular mountain backdrop creating a 'chocolate box' prettiness. Small yachts dotted the bay. Midday and high water conspired to arrive simultaneously and we had an almost perfect start to our trip. In fact the scene before us was identical to the photograph on the cover of the map we were using a 1:50,000 Landranger, sheet number 24. Reflections on the flat calm water mirrored the wonderful scenery that lay all around. Not one white capped wave could be seen on the sea and only a handful of fluffy white cumulus clouds decorated the summer sky. As I paddled westwards out of Loch Carron I looked along the lines of my red deck, across the smooth blue briny to the mountains of Skye. These are the most famous peaks in the British Isles and from our vantage point their bizarre pinnacles carved the most amazing notches out of the skyline. To my right lay the Applecross Peninsula and all around were islands and skerries. A colony of kittiwakes, intrigued by our presence, glided effortlessly overhead before squawking disapproval in their retreat. Paddling in awe of the surroundings gave me more than enough time to reflect on the decision to be here instead of away to the south executing

picture of the north Atlantic which we had studied assiduously over the previous week. The latest forecast had promised winds from the north and up to force six. The fear that we could easily get trapped on some beach on the north of Jura unable to move for days was a real one. I had heard friends' stories and they weren't particularly pleasant. Moreover we were on spring tides and that area abounds with fast flowing tidal streams the most notorious of which is the Gulf of Coryvreckan where as the West Coast Pilot states, "The spring rate of the west going stream is 8.5 knots." And "When tidal streams set through the gulf, navigation at times is very dangerous and no vessel should attempt this passage without local knowledge."

Plan A. In the company of such superb scenery it would surely be churlish to be disappointed.

By late afternoon the headwind had picked up to force five and the last mile into the hamlet of Camusteel was a real effort. Was this a foretaste of what was to come? Not a bit of it. Next day the Inner Sound (between the mainland and the Isles of Raasay and Rona) was as flat as a pancake and it encouraged us to make a long diagonal 12 kilometre crossing to Rona accompanied by a small school of porpoise. Rona is a beautiful place with only a couple of permanent inhabitants. The tidal pond at the northernmost tip proved an idyllic place to camp but the rising breeze gave cause for concern. By morning, true to the latest shipping forecast, the northerly wind was a good force four and cold with it. In bright sunshine white caps speckled the blue rolling seas. It's easy to cover the miles if you're happy surfing down the faces of following waves. And, of course, in a long boat it's easier to pick up a ride. Some used retractable skegs to good effect. On



than I had anticipated. I rose higher and my front deck began to submerge. The foaming briny massed around the compass housing and I pressed hard onto the footrest. Leaning back smartly and working the boat hard into a breach I recovered the situation but it was a salutary warning. I was more than glad we weren't on Plan A. If we had been we would have been plugging into this wind and in a wind-against-tide situation. Or, more than likely, stood on the shore watching it! The shipping forecasts continued to threaten and it felt as though we had to make the most

of every opportunity before the real gales began. Day four saw us afloat before 0800 hours and at Uags by 1700 with 37 kilometres behind us. The reward that night was a prolonged and beautiful sunset.

### Amazingly fortunate

In the pub at Plockton we spread out the map on a table and reflected on the previous five days. It almost went without saying how the elements had certainly conspired in our favour. To paddle in Scotland in August with following seas and hardly any rain is amazingly fortunate. To paddle for so many days without strong headwinds is lucky indeed. To paddle on blue seas with good friends in front of the country's best mountain skylines is truly memorable. On the other hand we felt our success was also based on some sound decisions. Our fallback plan had incorporated the fact that we would avoid the prevailing swell from the southwest and the main body of the Atlantic Ocean. We had religiously followed the weather and had kept in contact with the coastguards at Oban and Stornoway via VHF radio. We had headed off especially early one day to catch the dawn calm and avoid the afternoon winds. If necessary we would have paddled into the night.

Twenty-twenty hindsight is always a wonderful thing and an easy commodity. If we had stubbornly followed our original plans we could easily have become trapped on a beach somewhere on Jura. No doubt that frustration could have spoilt our week. The decision-making process, or lack of it, can lead to the disintegration of the unity of any group, even friends. As it was we had an excellent and at times exciting trip. Careful and thoughtful consideration of aims and expectations are central and crucial components of any trip.

From our last night's campsite on the Applecross Peninsula we sat and marvelled at a wondrous sky. Across the sea to Skye the magnificent Cuillin Mountains etched the darkening sky. I thought about the opening page of a climbing book I had recently been reading. Two well-known climbers from the pre war years were once on the summit of Sgurr Alasdair, the highest mountain on Skye. One says to the other, "You know, Alf, going to the right place at the right time, with the right people is all that really matters. What one does is purely incidental" ●

## info

the west coast of Raasay the wind strengthened to force six. The blueness of the summer sky was one of Nature's little deceptions. Those pretty looking white caps were in fact the collapsing tops of sizable waves. And as always the photographs never tell the whole truth when it comes to wave size! The fetch between Rona and the Arctic is a long one. With the elements behind us it was easy to make good progress, skimming down the waves, whooping with pure joy. The last three and a half kilometres only took a fraction over 20 minutes! A capsize and rescue would have been problematical in the extreme especially as the lee shore beckoned. Close to the cliff line of Eilean Fladday the waves steepened and the rebounded energy caused some confusing clapotis. One particular wave carried me faster and harder



Article by Phil Eccles. Expedition members Cath Bourke, Keith Clarke, Emma Spalding and Phil Eccles. Emma Spalding and Keith Clarke are teachers in Coventry. Phil Eccles and Cath "Faf" Bourke work at Plas Dol-y-Moch, Coventry City Council's Outdoor Education Centre in Snowdonia. The Centre organises annual sea kayaking trips. For details call 01766 762623



be young **now**



you can always start **growing old** later

Life is not a rehearsal...

so why put up with second best when what you really want is within your reach.

Get your hands on a pair of **Lendal composite blades.**

**We care about the future of paddling**

40 years of experience,  
the best brains in the business  
and world class design.

Ask your local dealer what all the fuss is about.

www. **LENDAL** .com  
Tel: 01292 478 558

**PADDLOK**™  
PATENT PENDING  
LENDAL  
SYSTEM

## Access on the River Tees

Access on the 8km stretch of the upper Tees from High Force to Middleton bridge can be obtained by purchasing a £3.00 day ticket from the High Force Hotel. Contact the LAO. Adam Hearn, on 01833 640881 or e-mail [kingsway@bigfoot.com](mailto:kingsway@bigfoot.com) for further details. Access on the 12km stretch of the middle Tees between Barnard Castle and Winston bridge is available from 1st November 2001 to 31st March 2002. Access at Barnard Castle is from the south bank between the stone road bridge and the green footbridge. The only other access/egress points are at Abbey Rapids (between Thorsgill beck and Abbey bridge) and at Whorlton Lido, where a small charge will be made for parking. Egress at Winston bridge is via the gravel track on river right about 100m above the bridge. All canoeists are asked to keep off the River Greta as part of this access agreement made between the landowners and BCU(N), BCU(Yorks) and the AGLJ. For further details contact the LAO Ali Rowell on 01325 462108 or 07855 374001.

Don Raspin, RAO BCU(N)

## Whorlton Lido and the Winston Bridge

Following negotiations with Wycliffe Estates Ltd. an access agreement on the section of the River Tees between Whorlton Lido and the Winston Bridge has been agreed. The main conditions of this agreement are as follows:

1. The agreed access and egress point on Wycliffe Estate is at map reference OS.NZ 01/11 115 146. This is the south bank of the Tees below the falls.
2. Canoeists should park their vehicles at Whorlton Lido. There is a charge payable to the owners of Whorlton Lido.
3. Canoeing will be permitted between 1st November and 31st March 2002.
4. Canoeing at other times is not permitted.

5. There are no other access or egress points on land owned by Wycliffe Estates. Inspection of river hazards from the bank is not permissible.
6. This agreement is for groups of no more than eight craft.
7. Additional access for competition and recreational events will require separate negotiation via the Local Access Organiser, Alistair Rowell (Tel 01325 462108)
8. Wycliffe Estates Ltd require that all paddlers have appropriate third party and public liability insurance. All canoeing, as with other rivers, is at the canoeists own risk. Wycliffe Estates Ltd accept no responsibility for any accidents or losses of equipment.

It is essential that all canoeists abide by this access agreement if access is to be maintained. The 'loss' of this stretch of water would be a sad occasion. The Trustees of Wycliffe Estate and the LAO have put much work into this agreement. Please help maintain it.

## F&M inquiry call

The Outdoor Industries Association, which represents manufacturers and retailers of outdoor equipment and clothing has co-ordinated and submitted an industry-wide petition calling for a full public inquiry into the handling of the recent foot-and-mouth crisis and the justification for the blanket closer of public rights of way during the first part of last year.

The OIA is concerned that the three separate inquiries announced by the government in August will not be public and may not fully address the issues which led to blanket access closures. As well as deepening the difficulties faced by the farming community and many other rural businesses, this policy resulted in an estimated £60-million of losses to the outdoor equipment and clothing supply sector in the UK.

The OIA petition calls for the government to hold a full public inquiry, including investigation of the scientific and legal justification for the blanket closure of public rights of way and open country. The inquiry should include a detailed assessment of the economic impact of the closures.

The government is also called on to give an assurance that a blanket closure policy will not be reintroduced in the event of future outbreaks of foot-and-mouth or other infectious animal diseases. ●

Photo: Helen Metcalfe



## Photo competition

Canoe Focus in association with Nookie, offers readers the opportunity to win a Nookie £50 discount voucher. All you have to do is send us your most interesting photograph (prints or transparencies please), the content of which must relate to any element of canoe/kayak sport. If we consider it to be 'the best of the bunch,' your picture will be published as the winner and the prize voucher will wing its way to you. Here's one to get you started. Can you improve on this? Good Luck

Amateur photographs only please.  
Please refer to conditions and technical restrictions on the right

Competition closes 10-3-2002

please post to: Photo Comp

Nookie Kayaking Equipment, Ottery

Business Park, Ottery, Tavistock, PL19 8NS

### Conditions

1. Amateur photographs only. No professional or copyright images to be submitted.
2. Please identify print on reverse with your name, address and telephone number.
3. Please supply an appropriately sized self-addressed envelope for return of material. NOTE: No responsibility will be taken by the publisher or Nookie for loss or damage to entries to this competition.
4. Submission of entry indicates permission to publish
5. Judges decision final. No correspondence entered into.

**! WIN!  
£50 !**

# Safety pilot scheme

**Imagine your excitement and exhilaration when the river and your heart are pumping. Your chatterbox is working overtime on the way to the river. When you get to the put in, your senses are heightened – you see the rivers speed, height and colour – you hear its sound and volume. You feel the sensation in your stomach – is it excitement or fear?**

Yet in this sensory cocktail do we stop to think that the most experienced (not qualified) is responsible for the outcomes of the trip in the eyes of the law. Over the past few years the south west's paddle sport fraternity has suffered some heavy losses. Deaths on many of our rivers have prompted us all to look at what we do in terms of personal and group safety. The SW are taking action to create a pilot scheme to look at preventative measures to reduce future deaths on our most precious liquid conveyer belts.

With boats becoming smaller and people pushing their grades and the general rise in the popularity of the sport – there is a potential for future deaths. These deaths could have a detrimental effect on those entering the sport and the landowners allowing access to the rivers.

We also want to improve BCU training and assessment when it comes to white water rescue and survival techniques. We would like to make paddlers aware of how to deal with major incidents when it comes to talking to the press. Who are the designated people the press should talk to within the BCU? How can we help the bereaved families – are there people out there that have colleagues or friends that are counsellors.

Picture your self in trouble on a river – who would you

want helping you? What skill level would they have, what equipment, what local knowledge of the nearest phones, geography, egress points etc?

Our survival is critical, time is of the essence – I hope this is making you think... Do we really have a handle on the 'What ifs'? Can we confidently take action in crisis?

### We need your help ....

Jack Russell (Level 5 kayak coach) and Adam Box (SW access officer) are co-ordinating a pilot scheme to collect information about all the critical emergency information on our south west rivers. If you have:

- Specific local knowledge of SW rivers
- Egress and emergency vehicle access points
- Nearest phones
- Any changes to the rivers (fallen trees)
- Any maps – with specific names for rapids and river sections
- Access to rescue equipment e.g. saws, ropes, willing rescuers who live locally

If you can help, please contact

Jack – \_\_\_\_\_ or

Adam – [jack.Russell@talk21.com](mailto:jack.Russell@talk21.com)

[adambox@eurobell.co.uk](mailto:adambox@eurobell.co.uk)

## Mobile phone and airtime competition sponsored by Phones Express



- 1st PRIZE**  
**2\* R310s packages with one year of airtime worth £167.88**
- 2nd PRIZE**  
**10\* Designer Limited Edition 'Make Yourself Heard' fleeces**
- 3rd PRIZE**  
**10\* Waterproof pouches (for folk that don't have an R310)**

terrific value for all your social and security use when away from home

Winners will receive the R310 handset, an outdoor adventure kit, car charger, personal hands-free and car mount. Connection to Vodafone or BTCellnet digital service is included together with a full one year subscription to BCU worth £30.

Simply answer the following questions and send in your entry

**Q.** What is the Ericsson R310 resistant to - WATER or EDUCATION? \_\_\_\_\_

**Q.** How many hours of free monthly calls does 600 minutes equate to? \_\_\_\_\_

**Q.** How is the R310s sealed for protection - SILICONE MEMBRANES or MARIGOLD GLOVE? \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Post code: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel no: \_\_\_\_\_



Two winners of the competition will receive the fantastic Ericsson R310 package (see advert on page 2) and one year's airtime on Textsaver 600 worth £167.88. The competition is open to everybody – so if you order a mobile package and then go on to win you will still receive the airtime worth £167.88. The Textsaver 600 tariff includes 600 minutes (that's 10 hours!!) of free off-peak national calls each month and a further 50 free text messages –

**Competition closes 10-3-2002 please post to:**  
2b Graphic Design  
8 The Waits  
St Ives  
Cams PE27 5BY

## SAS Thames Weir Rodeo "Hurley Rodeo" 2 - 3 March 2002

The "SAS Thames Weir Rodeo" at Hurley in Berkshire is the largest whitewater canoeing competition in the UK. This year's event will be taking place on the weekend of 2nd - 3rd March 2002. The competition will kick off on the water at 10:00 each day, although competitors will have to arrive at least one hour earlier than this.

The scores from this event carry forward to the European Cup and are also used by the BCU Freestyle Committee to select the UK team for the 2002 Pre-World Championships.

For entry details and schedule or further info, check out the entry form on the website [www.hurleyweir.com](http://www.hurleyweir.com)

Competitors please note that although the entry form is available on line, if you are not entering on the day of the event, entries must be posted to the Hurley Weir Events Desk (address on line) as a signature is required. Entry forms will also be available from your local canoe shop or you can send an SAE to: Hurley Weir Events Desk, PO Box 1904, Maidenhead, Berks, SL6 8BL, and we will post one to you.

## Outdoor lecture series

Feb 6: John Dunne on his recent exploits (one of the top British climbers and hilarious)

Feb 26: Franco Ferrero, White Water in the Himalaya, a nationally known and renowned paddler, who will have signed editions of all his books on sale, as well as a gripping lecture.

Mar 16: Yet to be confirmed!

For information & tickets contact either: **Duncan Kyle, Bolton School 01204 849475 or Fell & Mountain 01254 390986.**

## Shoreline surf spectacular

30th & 31st March 2002

A weekend of unique competition, workshops and big moves. A chance to learn, share and improve. Based in Bude, North Cornwall. The weekend starts with a unique style of surfing competition which will apply a handicapping points system to all entries allowing all abilities to compete on a fair playing field. Sunday will include coaching and competition based workshops and the Big Move festival - bring your video cameras!

More information from: **Simon Hammond, Shoreline, 11a Crooklets Beach, Bude, Cornwall, EX23 8NE. Tel 01288 354039.** Email [hammond.family@virgin.net](mailto:hammond.family@virgin.net)

## Celebration time

Berkshire's Chalfont Park Canoe Club is planning a special golden jubilee get-together on June 22 to celebrate its 50th birthday. "We are trying to contact as many of our former members as possible to invite them along for what promises to be a very special celebration," says club membership secretary Richard Argue, adding, "In order to make the arrangements, we need an idea of how many will be attending and will send invites to every old member who makes contact. This can be done via our website at [www.chalfontparkcc.org.uk](http://www.chalfontparkcc.org.uk) and using the form on the 'Jubilee' page or by writing to me."

**Richard can be reached at 38 Glaisdale Road, Thatcham, Berkshire RG19 3XJ.**

## Two for one ticket offer

The Outdoors Show, NEC, Birmingham  
March 15 - 17th 2002, 10am - 6pm

The first ever show for all committed outdoor enthusiasts takes place in March 2002 at the NEC in Birmingham. Sponsored by Ordnance Survey, producers of Britain's best-loved maps, The Outdoors Show is the place to discover and plan a whole year of adventures!

Visitors can meet famous explorers; experience the thrill of hang-gliding on a virtual reality glider; or face the extreme climates of the Arctic Circle and the desert in a temperature chamber! There's the chance to see the UK's top teams taking part in the first ever Indoor Adventure Race; meet the Mountain Rescue, supported by Berghaus; relax and chill out in Regatta's Classic Landscapes or enjoy a pint in The Ruddles County Arms. The Ordnance Survey Outdoors Show takes place in association with Go Outdoors, the Outdoors Industries Association.

This offer is 2 tickets for the price of 1 when readers phone the 24 hour ticket hotline and quote 'Canoe Focus'. This offer is open until 15th March 2002, so long as they are paying by credit or debit card. Normal in advance ticket price for adults is £8 (£10 on the door), so this offer is 2 tickets for £8.

**Come and see us at the International Canoe Exhibition at stand E1 for your free tickets to The Outdoors Show, otherwise phone our ticket hotline number 08701 214141.**

## National playboat surf championships

March 23 - 24

Lusty Glaze Beach, Newquay

Great prizes for ladies, juniors, mens and masters plus a friendly atmosphere for all newcomers. The championships take place on a private beach complex with a bar, restaurant and café. Entrance fee is £5.00 with prizes and sponsors to be confirmed. **For more info please ring: 01637 877864 or 872444.**

## Woodmill spring sea kayak seminar

Following on from the success of the first Woodmill Sea Kayak seminar in 2000 we are once again planning a similar event which will take place over the weekend of the 13-14 April 2002. The event will be staged at Woodmill Outdoor Centre in Southampton and will use local waters in the Southampton/Solent area. We are aiming to stage a wide range of activities both on and off the water, which will be aimed at both novice and more experienced paddlers alike. On offer will be a range of practical skills sessions, theory sessions, day trips, travel talks, boat and kit demos etc. plus hopefully one or two things unique to Woodmill.

**Further information is available from Woodmill: Tel. 023 80 555 993.** E-mail: [courses@woodmill.co.uk](mailto:courses@woodmill.co.uk)  
[www.woodmill.co.uk](http://www.woodmill.co.uk)  
**Patrick Collins, Senior Instructor**

## Swaledale charity paddle

Unfortunately last year the event had to be cancelled due to Foot and Mouth disease, however, this year all arrangements are going well and we are looking forward to seeing everyone who have taken part in previous years.

This year the charity paddle will be held on the 23rd and 24th March 2002. It will take place on the same 13 mile stretch of the Swale between Grinton and Richmond. There will be free tea and coffee provided by Swaledale Fell Rescue at approximately the halfway stage, Swaleview Caravan Park. The cost will be £6.00 per day or £10.00 for the weekend. For further information contact Richard Wormald on 01609 882008 email: [rwormald@kayak30.freemove.co.uk](mailto:rwormald@kayak30.freemove.co.uk) or Anne Broadly on 01609 777641 email: [abrodders@aol.com](mailto:abrodders@aol.com)

This year the money we raise will be split between three charities: Marrick Priory Outdoor Centre, Lowmill Outdoor Centre of which both help disadvantaged and handicapped children and Swaledale Fell Rescue.

## Next Burrs training camp

Another 'come and try' wild water racing weekend will be held at the Burrs on the River Irwell on the 16th and 17th February. The weekend is again aimed at beginners but will also welcome back any of the paddlers who attended the last event in November. There will again be coaching for girls from other female paddlers and specific wild water coaching if anybody requires it. Boys will be welcome too, and there will be members of the British team paddlers to help them. For people who didn't attend the last weekend, it is simply aimed at encouraging people to have a go and try wild water racing on an easy course, with lots of people around to encourage them.

The weekend will also include a race on the Sunday, with the first run being at 11.00 and the second run being at 12.00. All paddlers under the age of 18 must have a club coach or parent to be responsible for them. There is also a race on the river Goyte on the Saturday.

Cost for the weekend will be £27.50 for two nights including bed, breakfast and an evening meal. One night will be £10. Anybody who is interested in attending the weekend please contact Jes Oughton at [jo.oughton@ntlworld.com](mailto:jo.oughton@ntlworld.com) for more information. ●





## PADDLE & HIKE THE TEMAGAMI WILDERNESS

Ancient forests, hundreds of lakes & quiet solitude.

2,500 km of canoe routes • Hiking trails • 'Birthplace' of Grey Owl • Indian pictographs  
Lodge based & remote adventures • Canoe & kayak rentals • Outfitting • Guides  
Acclaimed organic cuisine with wild edibles • Lodgings • Sauna • Maps • Route consults  
Art & cultural workshops • Family Vacations • Learning Adventures

**Smoothwater Outfitters & Ecolodge** • [www.smoothwater.com](http://www.smoothwater.com)  
Box 40 Temagami, Ontario • P0H 2H0 • Canada  
[temagami@onlink.net](mailto:temagami@onlink.net) • Tel: 00-1-705-569-3539 • Fax: 00-1-705-569-2710

Member of



[www.PaddlingOntario.com](http://www.PaddlingOntario.com)

## WOODMILL OUTDOOR CENTRE

Kayak and Canoe programme for beginners, advanced and instructor.

Well stocked shop with extensive range of Kayaks and equipment.

Sea kayaking and Whitewater trips to Spain.



Woodmill Lane, Swaythling, Southampton. SO18 2JR  
☎ 02380 555993 Fax 02380 556641  
<http://www.woodmill.co.uk>



## John Fenna Level Four Coach

Open Canoe Tuition and guiding on the rivers and inland waters of West Wales. From taster days to N.G.B. awards in beautiful surroundings.

### Also available the new D.I.Y. book

"A basic guide to MAKING YOUR OWN OPEN CANOE ACCESSORIES"

Step by step instructions and scale patterns for making eleven separate projects ranging from drybags and thwart bags to tarps and kneeling pads.  
£5.00 plus £1.50 P&P

Ty-Isaf, Newchapel, Boncath, Pembrokeshire, SA370EH  
Telephone: 01239 841 475 e-mail: [john-fenna@lineone.net](mailto:john-fenna@lineone.net)

## N. W. BROWN INSURANCE BROKERS

### Insurance available for:








- ◆ Canoes & Equipment (BCU Approved Scheme)
- ◆ Activity Travel
- ◆ Activity Centres (including Instructors Liability)
- ◆ Personal Accident

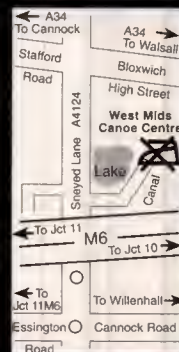
For details contact us at:-  
Richmond House  
16-20 Regent Street  
Cambridge  
CB2 1DB

Tel: 01223 357131  
Fax: 01223 353705  
Email: [canoe@nwbrown.co.uk](mailto:canoe@nwbrown.co.uk)  
Website: [www.nwbrown.co.uk/canoe](http://www.nwbrown.co.uk/canoe)



100% Washable

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



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

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

## Going south

Following on our series of profiles of our youth Paddlesport Development

Officers – we've turned our attention South this time and starting off in the South West.

### Simon Hammond - PDO Devon and Cornwall

I had a dramatic introduction to the BCU – at the age of 13 - being dragged to the bed of the River Wye. A BCU Instructor on the bank sprang to my assistance and up I bobbed smiling like a Cheshire cat. I certainly owe that instructor my life and the very next day I was signed on to my first BCU coaching session.

I grew up in Bude, North



Cornwall at a time when Surf Shoes were going out and Raider Surf Ski's coming in. I sold my surf board and my Snipe and bought a ski and from then on would accept that surfing is my thing. During my college days in Birmingham I was introduced to the gentle art of wild water racing and in my spare time paddled the picturesque and scenic canals of that fair city.

Back in Bude I run a small (but high quality) outdoor pursuits business with my wife Nicola and we have two young boys who I hope get as excited about Paddlesport as I am! I work as a kayak coach and help in running of the local canoe club, I'm also pushing along a project to create a National Surf Kayak Centre here in North Cornwall. My friends tell me that I can be quite competitive and that together with the challenge of trying out something new has led me into most areas of our sport.

I've recently been one of those involved in the setting up of the Cornish Paddlers Association which runs a series of paddling events around the county aimed at the club level paddler. The format has produced a lot more interaction around the county and creation of a wide range of starter level events. The natural progression is to create similar events in Devon – and then with Devon and Cornwall (as traditional rivals) we might event get a county championship arranged!?

I'm currently compiling a data base of active paddlers in Devon and Cornwall so if you want to be kept up to date with what's going on please get in touch. If there is anything else that I can help with please feel free to contact me.

Simon Hammond email [Hammond.family@virgin.net](mailto:Hammond.family@virgin.net)  
tel: 01288 354 039

## Coaching for Teachers

Coaching for Teachers is a joint venture, funded by Sport England and co-ordinated by sports coach UK, to provide opportunities for teachers to obtain sports governing body qualifications to help improve the delivery of sport through our schools. Canoeing has been in the Programme now for two years offering courses in Bell Boat Helm, Placid Water Level 1, Level 2 Coach and a series of one day competition modules. Details of the Easter Programme of courses follow – if you would like to know more about the courses and how to get one run locally contact your local Paddlesport or Coaching Development Officer or Youth Desk at Head Office



## Coaching for Teachers Easter programme

Region	Location	Dates	Course
East Midlands	NWSC		
	Nottingham	18/19th March	Placid Water Level 1
London	Albany Park, Kingston on Thames	14/15th March	Bell Boat Helm
South East	Seven Sisters, Eastbourne	21/22nd March	Placid Water Level 1
South West	Porthpean OEC, Cornwall	8/9th April	Level 2 Coach

## NEW FOR 2002

There are several new events coming up this year - if you want details of these or any local events contact **BCU Young Peoples Programme** on 0115 982 1100 or email [Youth@bcu.org.uk](mailto:Youth@bcu.org.uk). Here's the low down for now!

## National Bellboat Championships and Youthfest

To be held at Holme Pierrepont, Nottingham on the 25th May 2002. Full details in the April 2002 edition of *Canoe Focus* or contact **BCU Head Office** on 0115 982 1100 - email [youth@bcu.org.uk](mailto:youth@bcu.org.uk)

## Pyranha Lightning Cup Series

The Lightning Cup is a series of sprint and marathon events, timed to run alongside some of our main national sprint and marathon competitions. The regattas are designed to cater for youngsters (boys & girls) under the age of 13 on 1 January 2002 and who are not competing in the main event. The aim of these events is to encourage the participants to train, improve and to compete together.

In this new series, points will be awarded for each event culminating in the final event where double points will be awarded. Trophies will be awarded for the Sprint Cup and for the Marathon Cup to the best overall junior in each class and the club with the most points at the end of the series.

## Lightning Sprint Cup

All events at NWSC Nottingham

- 11th May Spring Regatta
- 25th May BCU YouthFest
- 8th June Summer Regatta
- 6th July Lightning National Championships
- 7th Sept FINALS - Inter Club Regatta

## Lightning Marathon Cup

These events will be run alongside the Hasler series of events where appropriate, for details contact race organiser or Howard Blackman at Head Office for details:

- Finals 28th July
- National Marathon Championships - Bedford

## Perception Wavehopper series

There will be a series of coaching and events in each region over the coming months to introduce wild water racing. Each session will include coaching and the opportunity to have a go at a race – if you like it – then there are progression events leading to a special Junior Wavehopper event being run at the same time as the Junior Wild Water Racing World Championships at Bala, North Wales. **For more details contact your Paddlesport Development Officer or Howard Blackman at BCU Head Office.**

## North east or north west – book the 13th July 2002

Active Sport Talent Camp - Stockton

If you live in the north east, then make space in your diary for this one day bonanza event including slalom, freestyle, polo, sprint, marathon, and wild water racing. If you would like to take part then get in touch with Bobby Timperley – spaces are limited to 60 competitors overall so hurry!

Contact Bobby on 01434 674 542 or email [bobby@frankham.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:bobby@frankham.fsnet.co.uk)

## PaddleQuest NorthWest – Salford Quays, Manchester

If however you live in the north west – well you're not left out either. Running up to the Commonwealth Games, yet another bonanza of youth events including polo, slalom, racing, and bellboats. For more details contact **Len Hartley** on 0151 605 1834 or email [seapaddlerone@aol.com](mailto:seapaddlerone@aol.com)



## Paddlepower updates

**Paddlepower is the BCU scheme for young people - first introduced in 1998 - it was launched nationally in April 2000 and over 6,000 young people have now participated in the scheme. For those of you not yet involved with the scheme it comprises of two parts - Paddlepower One – the Young Paddlers Scheme and Paddlepower Two – the Challenge Log Book. For each part youths have their own log book and receive certificates for each section.**

**Paddlepower One – ideal for the 7 -11 age group – has seven separate awards which leads the youth to a level just beyond the One Star award. In fact, the Level 3 award is equivalent to the One Star Award and can be accepted for Scout badge awards in place of one star or for young paddlers going on to their two star award.**

**If you would like more information about the Paddlepower scheme contact BCU Head Office – email [youth@bcu.org.uk](mailto:youth@bcu.org.uk) or call Mandy on 0115 982 1100**

## Paddlepower quiz

You can find the answers to all these questions on the Youth Pages of this edition of Canoe Focus. Bring your answers to the Young Peoples Stand at the Canoe Exhibition and you could win a prize in our lucky draw!

1. What is the date for the National Bellboat Championships and YouthFest in 2002?
2. What type of paddlesport involves a Wavehopper?
3. What is the name for the BCU scheme for young people?
4. Where is the Junior Wild Water Racing World Championships in 2002.
5. The One Star award is equivalent to what level in Paddlepower?
6. What type of paddling is involved in the Lightning Cup Series?

## Paddlepower workshops

These are run by our Paddlesport Development Officers (PDO's) to assist with the delivery of the scheme and share good practice for working with youth. Some are run as part of the coaching update forums – here are a few dates coming up in the Spring but contact your PDO or RCO for more dates.

Bedford	3rd February
Pangbourne	February (date tbc)
Maidstone	9th March
North East	17th March
Merseyside	March (date tbc)

Please forward all Members Classified adverts direct to the BCU office in Nottingham. Members ads are free 0115 9821100 E-mail; peter@canoefocus.co.uk

**FOR SALE**

**A centre's 30 GRP surplus** at £12-£50.00 each. General purpose, slalom, junior, K2 and surf skis, most in current occasional use. 01963 23546 (Dorset)

**Blue prion fly** - good condition £200.

Contact Gary 07801-924-884 London

**Boxer K2** (Regina shaped hull, lower deck, large cockpits), kevlar hull with glass deck, U/S rudder, removable handles, lightweight, ideal Waterside/DW boat, good condition and ready to race. £450 Phone Paul 01458 241051, mobile 07764 146068, email: fieldnp@uk.ibm.com

**Corsica white water spec**, one owner, well looked after - good condition, £250, tel: Richard on 015395 64424 (South Lakes).

**Dagger Centrifuge**, blue and white, good condition, £400 tel Dan 07977 297590

**Dagger Centrifuge**, playboat for larger paddler. Good condition, little used kayak. Back-strap £395 tel 01264 324128

**Dagger Medieval**, full WW spec, one-year old, excellent condition, £350. Corsica old school boat, full WW spec, good condition, £150. Enigma plastic squirt boat, a but leaky but generally sound, £40 or the lot for £500, tel: Mark on 07967 751647.

**Dagger Medieval Surf and Rodeo** boat. 216Ltr. Cartwheels & flatspins with ease. V.G.C. Delivery possible. £400. 07768 047733.

**Dagger Medieval**, as new condition, £350 tel:- 01784 457645, 07860 153730 or email trushston@magsol.co.uk

**Dagger Ocoee 450** and Mad River Intrigue fully outfitted and with wooden trim 850. Tel: Richard 01497 820739

**Dagger Outlaw** New version with quick adjust seat. black/red. Only used 6 times. too small for my size 13 feet. £465 call 0114 2751399 (sheffield)

**Eskimo Kendo Evolution**, Green, Excellent condition, surfs and plays the river a dream. full white water spec 350 quid. Eskimo Quadro, Blue, Excellent condition, airbags, footrest, surfs and spins well, a great intermediate playboat with excellent river running capabilities £400 ono Shred Ready, Shaggy peaked helmet with flame design on 50-57 cost £110 will sell for £80. Contact Richie on 07946285192 or Email Canoerichie@aol.com

**Eskimo Quadro** playboat, blue, very light and strong, one-year old, not abused - stored indoors, cost £630 new, bargain at £395, tel: David on 01228 528455 after 5.45 pm or e-mail davidtinnion@hotmail.com (Carlisle, Cumbria).

**Eskimo Zwo** - great playboat, blue, foot bumps, ww spec, drink holder, back rest, kept in nice dry shed, almost new £300 Phone Stuart 01243 545464 (W Sussex) or e-mail SGMorris@compuserve.com

**Eskimo Zwo**, £280 or near offer 16 mths old, good condition, good beginner playboat. Can deliver to hpp and derby area. Dave- 01332 840128 email: dave@bainbridges.net

**Euro-kayak Blitz**, good for river-running, surfing and playboating, including airbags, £150 ono, tel: Jane on 01452 423124.

**Eurokayak Sea Kayak**, Good condition. Seasoned. £300 offers. Contact Roger on 0151 327 5533 daytime or 0151 648 5515 evenings

**K1, Arend**, (Eagle 1 style). South African Spec. Glass Hull and deck. Red deck with white and blue stripes, clear hull. Over stern rudder and foot plates. V Good condition. Ideal training or descent boat. £270 ONO. Contact Steve on Tel 01928 579182 or E Mail stephen.marnell@virgin.net

**K1 Van Douson**, very good condition, carbon deck. £650 ono. Call John on 0121 780 7549 work or 0121 745 4516 home

**K2 Cobra**, carbon/sandwich construction - very light and quick, very good rudder, £250. K1 Tiger, fibreglass, V/g rudder, good condition, £100. K1 Discovery, glassfibre, v/g rudder, £80, tel: Steve on 07770 988395 (day) or 01179659608 (evening).

**Kestrel Flight**, blue/white, ideal first boat, in good condition, tel: Claire on 01483 481923 (Woking, Surrey).

**Liquid Logic Session** plus freestyle kayak, as new, Reading area, £495. Contact Dave on 07904 504494.

**Mobile Adventure Harmony** river cruiser, 16.2 ft, includes middle seat, excellent condition, only £450 ono, tel: 01928 575853.

**Mustang** white water racer, including paddle and buoyancy aid, excellent condition - only used twice, £250 ono, tel: 07879 884288 (Yorkshire).

**Necky switch 4** sale yellow all original fittings hardly used very good condition will throw in playboater deck 500 pounds good playboat and still solid for river running if interested ring me on 01945 584766 ask from chris or email vhris@aol.com

**Nomad Extra** - Slalom kayak. Light/dark blue toned kevlar deck, kevlar/carbon hull. rarely used. Excellent condition. Complete with badger footrests (unfitted), £195. Tel: Andrea on 01634 360437 anytime. Gillingham, Kent.

**Outlander**, 16 open canoe, kevlar construction with wood trim, two seats, buoyancy bags and paddles. All in excellent condition. £495 call Terry on 01303 874700

**P&H Capella** glassfibre sea kayak, yellow deck, white hull. Comes with compass, splits and tow line fittings. Excellent condition, £800 ono. Tel: Andy on 01395 577838 (evenings) or 01395 517515 (daytime) (East Devon)

**Perception Amp** - blue/white colourwash, VGC, full set of footplates, too many boats forces sale! £375 ono Steve on 01323-763637 s.douch@btinternet.com

**Perception Corsica S**, vgc for age (1993). Includes neoprene deck. £170. Tel 01480 462379 or email roger.beaman@coherentinc.com

**Perception Method Air** complete with aggressive and T2 Thigh grips - £325 ono. Pyranha Acrobat 275 - £250 ono. Both kayaks in good condition, garage stored and complete with Air Bags. Contact Ian - 01744-757119

**Perception Method Air** - two tone blue colourwash, 6 months old and excellent condition as little use, full set of footplates, need space in garage! £475 ono Steve on 01323-763637 s.douch@btinternet.com

**Perception Mr Clean**, 2 tone, Blue + Purple, £340 ono Great boat to learn to cartwheel in, 18 months old, been stored inside. Contact: John @ JHGIBB@hotmail.com 07779603544

**Perception Shock**. Excellent condition. £425. Contact Bob Andrews 01267 275429 or email welshpaddler@hotmail.com

**Perception Whiplash**, Full plate footrest, broach loop. Good condition only 8 months old. (surfs like a demon) £250 ovno, Contact Nik 024 76715037 or nik@wilkinson31.fsnet.co.uk, (Coventry based).

**Perception Whiplash**, Full plate footrest, broach loop. Good condition only 8 months old. (surfs like a demon) £250 ovno, Contact Nik 024 76715037 or nik@wilkinson31.fsnet.co.uk, (Coventry based).

**Prijon Chopper**, new model 2001, successor to Boxer, red. 6 months old, used 3 times still water only. Mint. £400.00. Tel: 01427 628419

**Prodigy squirt boat**, purple and pink, suit medium to large build paddler, also ideal for small children, superb condition, £120 ono. Enigma plastic squirt boat, vgc, £170 ono.

Buoyancy aids: Wild Water Centre, old ribbed style but hardly used. Small to large adult sizes, £5 each, tel: Sharon on 01425 673119 or e-mail sharonmiller@lineone.net.

**Pyranha Creek 280**. Red £175. Nicky Todd 01748 784228

**Pyranha H2** orange in excellent condition, stored indoors. £300 ono. Also roof rack bars for a mazda 323 new shape £30. Telephone Neil 01543 426563 midlands.

**Pyranha InaZone 240**, orange/yellow 18mths old, very little use - stored inside £400.00 ono. Tel: Malcolm 01606 863566 or e-mail: malcolm.coppock@btinternet.co.uk.

**Pyranha Master kayaks**, 10x, red, drop down skegs £2200. Also paddles, spraydecks, helmets and wetsuits - offers. Rotobat £200, P&H Revenge, black plastic £250. Nigel Dennis Romany explorer sea kayak carbon kevlar - well used £500. Tel 01332 383698 or email hydro.active@virgin.net

**Pyranha Microbat 230**, whitewater soec, black/grey, excellent condition. Only paddled twice, complete with spraydeck and Lendal paddle worth over £100. All for £450 ono - contact Andy West 07789 316203.

**Pyranha Microbat 230**, black artline, good condition, full WW spec., complete with air bags and backrest, £250. Inflatable 2 man 'Dukki' canoe, as used at Mile End Mill, perfect condition, complete with seats, grab ropes, bag, repair kit and pump, £250. Schlegel Tech III paddle, old but fair condition, £20. Two 'Old Town' wooden Canadian canoe paddles, vgc, £10 each. Two ABS Canadian canoe paddles, £5 each. White AP2000 helmet £5. Pink WW helmet (small) £5. HF buoyancy aid, cows tail, quick release belt, rear throwline pouch & front pockets £20. Small 'Ace' long John wet suit £10. Medium/tall sola long john wetsuit, well worn, £10. Yak neoprene boots size xs (female 5/6) £5. Standard 'centre' type ribbed buoyancy aid £5. JAG wetsuit jacket, medium £10. Neoprene spray deck £5. Palm dry bag, £10. Perception front air bags £5. Dry bag £5. Ras Dex skull cap £5. Tel: 01584 832324.

**Pyranha Mountain 300**. Black multi-art, full white water spec £225 ono. Tel Paul 01625 527503

**Pyranha Prozone 225**, VGC £375 or nearest offer. Can deliver to Tees-side or Tryweryn. Tel no 07811532201 (5 Lakes)

**Pyranha Rota bat** (WW Spec) £150. Pyranha RX300 black plastic polo boat £150. Pyranha Master red with drop down skegs £270 each (10 available). Riot 007 White £300. P & H black plastic polo boat £275. Wetsuits - long john style from £10 - £20 Tel 01332 383698 (answerphone after 6pm) Email: andy@tageurope.com

**Rainbow kayaks Voodoo**. Spins, Cartwheels, Blunts and surfs like all the rest but at a lower cost. Dark mango/red, bomber backrest, mega padding, fully adjustable seat and thighbraces. 3 months old with no serious damage, suit paddler up to 80kg. I'm a little tubby now so selling for £345.00 ono. Worcester 01905 427178 or 07790 655896 can deliver to Trewynn Nottingham

**Rapid Fire Euro kayak**. Full white water spec, very good condition. Excellent beginners boat. £250 ono or Ainsworth hydro paddle and spraydeck £290. Phone Mary on 01244 823657. North wales/NW area.

**Riot Prankster** Good condition, Sunburst Yellow, Well fitted out, 12 months old, £430.00. Tel. 07968 042624, e-mail conions@hotmail.com

**Riot Prankster** - sunburst yellow, 1 year old and excellent condition as one of three boats, Bomber backrest, suit larger/heavier paddler wanting great surf/playboat. £475 ono Steve on 01323-763637 s.douch@btinternet.com

**Roof racks**: Thule high-top roofrack, suit vans, good condition, £100 ono. J-bars, suitable for transporting boards etc on roof, unused, £15 ono. Ford Escort roofrack, good condition, £15 ono, tel: 01287 654557 (Cleveland).

**Romany Explorer**, keel strip from new, Rhee tube and compass, excellent condition, £650 ono, tel: 01946 861483 (Cumbria).

**Savage Skeeter** specialist OCI playboat, green/blue/red, fully outfitted excellent condition, £450 ono. Valley Big Foot squirt boat, Nookie spray deck, good condition, £200 ono, tel Peter 01642 678196(W) or 01642 882144(H)

**Sea Kayak** - Pintail (Valley), glassfibre, yellow/white, three-years old, skeg, three hatches, foam seat, deck compass, 2 spraydecks, split paddles. £750. Perception Reflex, red, plastic, thigh braces, hip pads, air bags, spray deck, paddle. £160. Tryweryn slalom kayak, green/white, glassfibre, spraydeck, paddle. £70, tel: 01273 842594 or email mick.linda.fitter@tinyworld.co.uk.

**Sea Kayaks Valley Skerray**. Glassfibre. Sky blue deck, grey hull. Factory fitted; Silva 70p compass, cockpit foot pump and paddle tubes. Neoprene RM cockpit. New deck lines and elastics. Ocean spraydeck. Stored inside. Very good condition. £850. ono. Valley Skerray. Plastic. Yellow. Ocean RM cockpit. New deck lines and elastics. Neoprene spraydeck. Stored inside. Very good condition/almost new. £600 ono. Dagger Freefall LT - Blue, black, purple (multi art). Full WW spec. Stored inside. Good condition. £200 ono. Contact: Martin Curwen. 01202 425173 (day) 01202 490161 (eve) http://explorer.msn.com

**Topolino Spud**. Footplate, backrest and airbags. Good condition £230 Tel 02920 850197

**2 Kayaks 4 Sale** Dancer and Reflex (Plastic Slalom Kayak) very good condition both with paddles, spraydecks and buoyancy aids. £200 each. Tel: 07967 272248 or Email: rohanwhite@yahoo.co.uk

**Veneer Tiger K1**, vgc, 11-years old, £700, tel: Andy on 0792 9915859 (day) or 01522 526995 (evening).

Wavesport Forplay, orange and yellow, with full W.S.F.A.T padding, good condition, £450, tel: 07967 024488.

**Wavesport X**, spraydeck and cap top, excellent condition, hardly used, 9 months old. yellow/orange colour, new job forces sale. £450 call 01275 343208/0778 6403236

**Wavesport Y**, multi-colour red/yellow, great creek boat, excellent condition, six-months old, £425, tel: Martin Barry on 01765 692309 (N.Yorks).

**WANTED**

**Pyranha InaZone 230**. Full WW spec wanted in reasonable condition in N. wales. Contact Ivan 01286 871169 or 0781 3672110

**Pyranha Rotobat** secondhand canoes wanted, any quantity. Can collect from reasonable distance from London, tel: 0208 804 1186 (daytime after 11.30 am) or 01992 633468.

**Second hand K1 & K2** flat water racers for adult beginners. Will travel to collect. Tel: (01358) 711733 any time.

**Stealth K2**, carbon/kevlar construction, wanted for the spring by two keen paddlers. Tel: 01189 428001 or e-mail: homefarm@gatewayuk.net.

**FOUND**

**Paddles found** on the River Barle at Exebridge on 11 November. If you think they may be yours ring Martin Sanders on Dorking 01306 740790.

**Galasport** carbon kevlar kayak paddles taken from Lugwy put-in, next to Plas y Brenin, 8th december. Info to Tim Pryor 01234 853638 or hand into Plas Y Brenin

**STOLEN**

**Old style Eskimo Kendo**, yellow with black graphics, and Dagger Vengeance, multi-art, without Yakima footrest, stolen from car roof rack early hours of Sept 1. Boats can be identified from serial numbers and scratches. If you suspect anything, see or are offered these boats, please tel: Paul on 07790 528709 or Worcester Police on 01905 723888.

# LETTERS

Your chance to put forward your point of view

## An accident waiting to happen

We have always taken a cynical view of the so called "Certification" of canoeing helmets and that this helmet with its dangerous projecting beak should get certification and a stamp of approval by the European Union is sheer mockery and a farce.

It takes little imagination to picture the consequences if you are capsized, and being carried down a rocky river with your head hitting the bottom and the projecting beak catching the rocks. A broken neck seems a very probable scenario.

We defy anyone to put their hand on their heart and say that this is a safe helmet for river-running. We can understand that many retailers have concerns about this helmet and the potential consequences of an accident.

Mr Editor, how could you give this dangerous product free promotional space in our members magazine?

Like most experienced paddlers we have seen head injuries from ineffective helmets, and had to handle the tragic aftermath.

We would like to see safer helmets, not designer lids like this Sweet strutter. We believe that the manufacturer also make a similar helmet called the Rooster, without the dangerous beak, and this has many positive points going for it - so really the only reason for promoting this rather than that model, is, as you say in the blurb - it looks funky, slink and sexy.

We urge all paddlers to think really hard before buying this helmet - lets use our consumer influence and make sensible shopping the way to regulate our industry rather than EU directives.

**Good paddling, (and no head banging!)**

**Dave Manby, Chair BCU Safety Committee.**

**Peter Knowles, ex chair, BCU Expeditions Committee.**

## A knotty problem

Being belayed down a river as part of wild water rescue training, some time back, I had cause to compare my situation with abseiling, particularly, the feeling that I was totally reliant on the integrity of the system to which I was attached; and the potentially fatal consequences of a failure in that system. I looked at the chain of equipment that made up the belay system and found it wanting, not least in the webbing and plastic of my 'experimental harness' (the least said about that the better!). When I looked at the knot at the end of my throw line (within the bag) I was pleased to see a re-threaded figure of eight, a good knot that stays tight, but less pleased to see that the tail end had been cut off right next to the knot. Those of us that use rope systems regularly consider a four inch tail and/or a stopper knot the minimum safe requirement.

On buying a throw line recently I again decided to check out the knot and found a ... well what was obviously intended to be a bowline. This knot is again used by climbers, sailors, firemen etc because even after loading it is easy to untie. The problem is that it is too easy to untie and easily works loose when not loaded, for that reason we tie a stopper knot in the end. My throw line had a bowline, a knot that I would not consider appropriate in the first place because I am unlikely to want to untie it, there was no stopper knot to prevent it working loose and it had been incorrectly tied anyway. For the boy scouts the rabbit had gone down the hole and round a root - you work it out!!

I write this letter only out of concern for those of us that may and do trust ourselves to our equipment in the belief that the manufacturers have produced that equipment to a reasonably high standard. I wonder if a re-threaded figure of eight takes that little bit more rope or takes those extra few seconds to tie. Or perhaps I am just paranoid and a badly tied bowline is generally accepted as adequate within the context

we use it. Comments gratefully accepted.

I have of course written to the manufacturer of the throw line I bought and expressed my concerns and deliberately withheld their name from this letter.

**Howie Richardson**

## The new canoeist

In the past I have done a considerable amount of dinghy racing but after a serious back problem in later years, I decided to have a go at open canoeing.

I joined a very good club which after an initial problem proved to be really friendly and informative. However, like most clubs they mainly used kayaks and only had one open canoe, this being very popular, it made buying my own boat a priority.

I was advised by the local canoe shop to get a solo canoe. The boat took weeks to arrive and unfortunately proved a very bad buy. I have had some wonderful help by email from some really well known and very knowledgeable people and of course my long suffering instructor at the club but without fail I have always felt that I was being a nuisance.

There are so many questions to ask as a novice and so many canoes on the market. After one very expensive mistake, I am very loathe to take the advice of a shop! Then there is the weather!! Winter is the time to buy but as one of advanced years and thin skin the thought of a trial paddle at +5(C and below is forbidding even if I knew how and where to get one.

I wonder whether some knowledgeable person could devise a questionnaire that would allow a novice to input in what conditions it was intended to use the canoe and it would come up with a list of suitable canoes. This could be further expanded to include the construction material of the canoes, whether it is repairable after the inevitable scrapes and scratches that will occur and of course the weight (very important when one has a bad back!).

Another ideal would be a large heated pool with a large selection of canoes to try and people in attendance that are not too critical of bad paddling technique! May and the meeting in Chester seems so far away.

**Guthrie Young**

## Slow down!

I have often wondered at the content of the *Canoe Focus* magazine, as predominantly it always appears to be mainly for the fast water; rodeo or slalom canoeists and the sea enthusiasts. Would it be possible that just occasionally we might see entries for the older; less mobile; plodding type of paddlers (and I can't be the only one) who simply enjoys a stretch of canal or a quiet low level piece of water.

Maybe a series of features that includes just such pieces of water from all areas of the country complete with a simple map; start and finish points and the car parking at ferry points etc. At least in this way "all" canoeists would be able to archive the information and when they have the time, try out other people's suggestions for a simple calm enjoyable paddle without the fears of the unknown.

On the other hand, if we were pointed/guided in the right direction to enable us to purchase books, maps or local guides to calmer low level paddles it would equally be as useful.

You may not wish to publish, but if this type of article was run, then at least *Canoe Focus* would provide excellent trip information for all types of paddlers and the less able might also perceive that they aren't simply paying the BCU a licence fee for the privilege of using the same old stretch of water they have used for years.

**Graham J Lowe**

**Take a look at the April 2002 edition - Ed**

## Please send your letters to

Canoe Focus,  
British Canoe Union  
John Dudderidge  
House, Adbolton Lane,  
West Bridgford,  
Notts NG2 5AS  
or email them to  
[peter@canoefocus.co.uk](mailto:peter@canoefocus.co.uk)

## Cold water dangers

I noticed in *Canoe Focus* no 134 an article by Simon Hammond about the effect of cold water entering the ears and then evaporating off. Whilst not wishing to endorse or promote any specific product mentioned in the article, I welcome the advice given to protect your ears when canoeing. From the 1970's I regularly paddled in white water and on the sea, and learned to roll as any good paddler would do. However, towards the end of the 70's I was beginning to have problems with almost permanent ear infections, and in the 80's increasing deafness in both ears. By the 1990's one ear was completely deaf and the other regularly infected. There followed two operations to drill out the growths in both ears caused by the cold water effect. The pain after the operations was indescribable for several days and the hearing in one ear has never returned. It limited my teaching and coaching activities and hasn't helped socially either! So BE WARNED-Use ear plugs of some sort and avoid possible permanent damage in the future. Yours etc.,

**Dennis Wynne-Jones  
Carrog, Denbighshire**

# Wild 'girlie weekend'



**A very successful wild water racing development weekend was held on 24th and 25th November at the Burrs County Park by the River Irwell. Some of you reading this may remember the article that was published in an earlier edition of *Canoe Focus* which advertised the girlie weekend.**

The weekend was based around introducing more girls into the sport but boys were welcome as well and a

response returned that was far better than we expected! We had over 30 girls on the water in river racers who were having a great time and people commented that they had never seen so many girls in wild water racers on the same river, so the success criteria that we had for the weekend, which was to encourage more girls into the sport, was definitely passed!

As there were so many paddlers attending the weekend, we split them into groups mainly based on ability so that nobody was thrown in out of



their depth. Each group was accompanied by either a Great Britain team paddler or an experienced coach, with a coach to paddler ratio of about 1:4. Those that paddled had the opportunity to navigate the rapids of the Irwell and they also had the opportunity to take part in the National Youth Championship race, to add a bit more excitement to the weekend. The race was won by under 16 paddler Jonnie Schofield but many notable results were achieved throughout the weekend, namely the girls from Allonby Canoe Club, as for many it was their first time on moving water.

Weekends like this don't run without a considerable amount of hard work and organisation and people who give up their time free of charge, something many of us forget. Special thanks must go to Kevin Bowerbank and Jes Oughton who coordinated the weekend, Jo Oughton and Jean Smith who took on the catering for the weekend (thank you, thank you, thank you)! Also Joanna Firth at the Burrs for letting us use the river and to all the coaches and parent supporters who turned up and got stuck in. Also a huge thank you to all the paddlers who turned up and made the weekend the success that it was. We are running another weekend like this at the Burrs on 16th and 17th of February so watch this and keep that space free in your diary! We hope to see all of you back at the Burrs on that weekend, if not at a race before and remember if you don't give it a go, you'll never know what your missing! ●



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

**www.canyoucanoe.co.uk**

Kayak/canoe in Cumbria. 1-5 Star Training and Assessment. Grade 1-5 river trips. Slalom gates £50.00 per day. £100 a day. Rafting.

Email: kayaking@ukonline.co.uk

**01539 738744**  
**07812 598571**

**MLTB Courses**

Walking Group Leader - SPA - Mountain Leader. Based in the North of England all staff MIA minimum.

**BCU Courses**

Level 1 - 3 Coach training and assessment in Kayak, Canoe & Sea Kayak. All staff Level 5 or aspirant Level 5.

Release Your Potential - use the specialists in instructor training.

**Adventure Education Training**

Ennerdale House, Garrigill, Alston, Cumbria. 01434 381966

e-mail Pete@ad-ed-train.co.uk

BRITISH SEA KAYAK SPECIALISTS  
**ALASKA CANOE BASE**  
Instructors • Rafts • Adventure • www.alaskapaddler.com • History

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 5547, Homer, Alaska 99603  
tel: 907-235-2090 USA  
tomp@alaskapaddler.com

**THE OUTDOOR TRUST**  
*The Outdoor Education, Development, Training and Adventure Sports Charity*

**BCU COURSES**  
**OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES**  
**BUNKHOUSE**  
**RECRUITING INSTRUCTORS**

**TEL/FAX: 01668 213289**

Email: trust@outdoor.demon.co.uk

BCU, RYA & AALA approved  
Registered Charity No. 1052677

# tops

... a unique concept in outdoor pursuits training  
1 - 14 day courses in

canoeing, kayaking, rock climbing, mountaineering, performance coaching, rescue skills, summer youth camps, scrambling, winter mountaineering, alpine courses, private guiding, NGB Instructor Courses, ESF funded Instructor Training Programme

...using the  
country's leading instructors and coaches

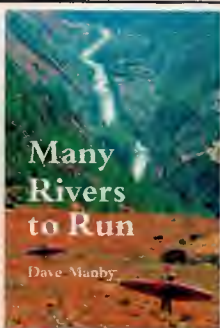


courses run and  
co-ordinated by Alun Richardson and Trevor Massiah  
**tel : 01646 603141 fax : 01646 602822**  
**e-mail: alunrich@princes-trust.org.uk**

Alun Richardson,  
TOPS Co-Ordinator,  
Prince's Trust Cymru, 5 Dolphin Court,  
Brunel Quay, Neyland,  
Pembrokeshire, SA73 1PY



**NEED A COURSE FILLING? CALL 01480 465081**



**Many Rivers To Run**  
Dave Manby

A collection of kayaking stories from around the world. Available from your local kayak store.  
Price £16.00

**Çoruh River Trips.**

White-water kayaking and rafting holidays in Eastern Turkey. More details from :- Çoruh River Trips, 12 Mayfield park, Shrewsbury SY2 6PD. Or checkout the web site for more details of the book and the holidays **www.CoruhRiver.co.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



Classified Advertising: Buy, Sell, Recruit ● PLEASE RING: 01480 465081 ● www.canoeofocus.co.uk: Buy, Sell, Recruit ● PLEASE RING: 01480 465081

**HOLIDAYS AND COURSES**

**need a course?**  
**www.trainoutdoors.com**  
 or ring  
**0870 9007192**

**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**

**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**

**ACCOMMODATION**

**Fort William**

Self-catering - Home comforts  
 Excellent drying rooms - Twin and four-person bedrooms - Parking for trailers - Groups or individuals  
 22 Beds  
**Tel: 01397 700451**  
 alan@westcoast-mountainguides.co.uk  
 www.westcoast-mountainguides.co.uk

**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**

**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**

**Dartmoor, Devon, 15 mins River Dart**

Comfortable bunkhouse, 26 beds in 4 heated rooms, Hot showers, Drying room Lounge with log fire, Fully equipped kitchen.  
 £7.50 per night, £140 exclusive use  
 www.powdermillsbunkhouse.co.uk  
**01822 880277**

**ACCOMMODATION**

**GREEK ISLANDS**

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

**MILOS ISLAND, GREECE**  
 www.seakayakgreece.com

**River Dart, NewBridge**

Riversmeade B&B offers quality ensuite accommodation, ample parking and drying facilities. Open all  
**Tel: Joy Hasler**

**01364 631224**

**DARTMOOR O.S.X 706 696.** Camping Barn. At Hoine. Sleeps 16. Close to pub, 5 minutes to Newbridge. Cheap and cheerful. Showers. Woodburner. Tel Katie 01364 631544

**SMALL BUNKHOUSE** - Sleeps party of 4-5 plus one single room. Comfortable and clean, shower, full English breakfast. £12.50pp. Tel: 01691 778016

**DARTMOOR** Close to River Dart, friendly B&B, well equipped, lock-up and drying areas, reasonable rates. Tel 01364 631261

**THE COACH HOUSE, BALA, 2\* W.T.B.**, Bunkhouse sleeps 20. Heating, Showers, Dryingroom. S/C or Serviced, 10 mins. Tryweryn White Water Centre. 01678 520738. thehappyunion@btinternet.com www.balawales.com/coach-house

**NEED A**

**COTTAGE FILLING?**

**CALL 01480 465081**

**Tyddyn Bychan**

Welsh Tourist board ★★ ★ Approved Bunkhouse Edge of Snowdonia

Excellent quality bunkhouse accommodation for up to 24 people from £7.75 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**

**ACCOMMODATION**

**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**



**Bundu Adventure**

Outdoor activities & s/catering accommodation in South of France, more info contact  
**Zoe Belcher, Bundu Adventure, Maison Neuve, 24340 St Felix de Bourdeilles, France**  
**tel/fax: 00 33 553051532 , email info@bundu.eu.com**  
**web: www.bundu.eu.com**

**EQUIPMENT & SERVICES**

**JOEL WATERSPORTS**

Holt Fleet, Nr Worcester, WR6 6NW.

Tel: (01905) 455311  
 Fax: 08707 400258

HTTP://www.joelwatersports.co.uk  
 email:sales@joelwatersports.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



Located off A4133, adjacent to river bridge

**OUTDOOR VENTURE GEAR WATERFRONT**

Adventure Gear Discounts  
 Wetsuits \* Canoe Masts \* Plastic welding \* Hire/Sales  
 Canoe packages from £50  
**Tel/fax 029 20692108**  
 Pembrokeshire cottage to rent

**SALE**

**HALF PRICE FABRICS**

MAKE YOUR OWN OUTDOOR GEAR  
 WHY PAY MORE? SAE.  
 TOR, 24 swireford Rd, Helsby.  
 WA6 9BA 01928 722 977

**TUBS**

19" x 15"  
 Watertight (ex food)  
 Containers with screw on lid and handles.  
 1 tub £8.50 2 tubs £16.00  
 5 tubs £30.00  
 price includes p & p  
 Please send cheques payable to:  
**TUBS**  
 78 High Street, Boston  
 Lincs PE21 8SX  
 Tel: 01205 366044  
 www.tubs.net

**STORAGE**

mail order 01271 815828  
 www.chillcheater.com

**waterproof super thermals**  
**Chill Cheater**

CANCARVE DESIGNS, Hand made wooden canoe models and trophies. For details write or telephone 5, Shanklin Place, Beconhill Green, Cramlington, Northumberland, NE23 8HA. Tel + Fax: 01670 713640

**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**



## Canoes – Kayaks Direct

Best Prices Free kayak delivery

Tel-07720 955427

Fax-08701 638201

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

Email: [sales@canoesdirect.co.uk](mailto:sales@canoesdirect.co.uk)

## SITUATIONS VACANT

### MORE THAN A JOB!

We need help in running our busy Christian Outdoor Centre by Loch Tay. This is a real opportunity to make a difference in people's lives.

#### INSTRUCTOR

(Senior position available for suitable candidate)

We are looking for people with experience and preferably a selection of NGB Awards. Ideally, you will be able to drive and have held a UK licence for more than 3 years.

#### MAINTENANCE TEAM MEMBER

Previous experience not essential but applicants must be fit, healthy and able to cope with various DIY jobs

#### FOOD SERVICES TEAM LEADER

Excellent opportunity for a person newly qualified or with some experience wishing to develop their potential.

Contact: Angela Haney, Abernethy Trust  
Ardeonaig, by Killin, Perthshire FK21 8SY  
Tel 01567 820523 Fax 01567 820955  
[www.ardeonaig.org](http://www.ardeonaig.org)  
email [AT@ardeonaig.org](mailto:AT@ardeonaig.org)

Willingness and aptitude are more important than highly developed skills as full training will be provided for all of these posts. Small salary and full board single accommodation provided. Successful applicants joining our young team will have the opportunity to take part in all the various Centre activities and dynamic Christian witness in this beautiful part of Scotland.



### CO. WICKLOW VOCATIONAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Require a Senior Instructor and Instructors for the 2002 season at our Outdoor Education Centre in Baltinglass Co. Wicklow.

Vacancies from March-October

Applicants should ideally be twenty one years old and hold the following N.G.B. qualifications B.C.U. L2/L3 coach (Kayak), S.P.A award, MLTB, BOF instructor and GNAS leader.

Competitive salary plus accommodation provided. (No deductions)

Please send C.V. with photo to:

Centre Manager, Outdoor Education Centre, Baltinglass, Co Wicklow  
Tel. 00 353 508 81002/81747 Fax. 00 353 508 82128  
Email [info@baltinglassoec.com](mailto:info@baltinglassoec.com) web [www.baltinglassoec.com](http://www.baltinglassoec.com)

### RIVER BLACKWATER ESTUARY – BRADWELL SITE

4 qualified activity instructors required

ARDLEIGH RESERVOIR – COLCHESTER SITE

1 Kayak Instructor & 1 RYA SI Sailing or windsurf instructor required

Skills needed include sailing/canoeing/archery/climbing/mountain biking. RYA and/or BCU instructor award and ability to sail essential From £5.00ph/37 hour basic.

Accommodation available at Bradwell

For more details phone 01621 776256

Bradwell Outdoor Education Centre  
Email [adventure@bradwelloc.org](mailto:adventure@bradwelloc.org)  
[www.bradwelloc.org.uk](http://www.bradwelloc.org.uk)

Essex County Council  
Learning Services



### Outdoor Pursuits Instructor Posts

To expand our successful team, working with neighbourhood children between 5 and 15 years and adult staff. 1-yr. F/T posts (further funding likely) £13764 - £15342 pa

You must be a driver, aged over 21, with a wide experience in O/P and with at least one NGB leadership qualification.

Closing date 18/3/02

For application form and info contact;

Outdoor Activities team, Room 425D  
County Hall Cardiff CF10 4UW.  
Tel 029 20873958  
[aburrow@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:aburrow@cardiff.gov.uk)



## AVON TYRRELL ACTIVITY CENTRE

The activity and residential centre in the New Forest

Avon Tyrrell is a non-profit seeking, independent centre on the edge of the New Forest, providing residential and day visit programmes for over 15,000 guests a year. Our varied client base provides all staff with the opportunity to further their experience working with children and adults of all ages and abilities.

For 2002, we require motivated, enthusiastic instructors qualified to BCU level 2 coach. Qualifications or an interest in Ropes course, Archery, Climbing, Lifeguarding and Environmental Education is an advantage.

Pay scales between £178.40 and £196.80 per week depending on qualifications and experience. Variable duration contracts available.

For details please write to:

**Mike Paine**

Avon Tyrrell Activity and Residential Centre,  
Bransgore, Hampshire, BH23 8EE

TEL: 01425 672347 FAX: 01425 673883

Visit: [www.avontyrrell.org.uk](http://www.avontyrrell.org.uk)

E-Mail: [activities@avontyrrell.org.uk](mailto:activities@avontyrrell.org.uk)



### VACANCIES FOR 2002

Fourth Dimension is a mobile organisation, based in SE England, running courses throughout the UK and in France. We have a "quality not quantity" philosophy. Seasonal vacancies exist in the following categories. Short and long term work available.

Level 2 Kayak, L2 Canoe and qualified land based Instructors urgently sought, April to October. Up to 50 per day, according to hours, qualification and accommodation arrangements. Write (or preferably E-mail) for details, enclosing/attaching comprehensive C.V. We appreciate enquiries from freelancers, stating qualifications, background, availability and pay expectations.

Fourth Dimension (staffing), 13 Eskbank Avenue, Brighton, BN1 8SL

[www.4thdimension.co.uk](http://www.4thdimension.co.uk)

Email [info@4thdimension.co.uk](mailto:info@4thdimension.co.uk)



### CHALLENGING POSITIONS IN ONE OF IRELAND'S MOST POPULAR ADVENTURE CENTRES

## Outdoor Pursuits Instructors

Opportunities for energetic, enthusiastic and qualified Instructors to join our professional team.

**Main Duties:** Day to day instruction and customer care for all client groups.

**Prerequisites:** Level 1 Instructors qualified in at least three activities. Level 2 Instructors will have a number of year's instructional experience together with a broader qualification base.

**Salary:** Commensurate with experience and qualifications.

**Positions to commence early 2002.**

Please send CV with details of experience and qualifications to:

Fred Conradie, Carlingford Adventure Centre, Tholsel Street,  
Carlingford, Co. Louth

Tel: 042 93 73 100 Fax: 042 93 73 651

email: [info@carlingfordadventure.com](mailto:info@carlingfordadventure.com)

# blood, sweat and tears

## Isn't Life Good

### WATERSPORT INSTRUCTORS

Line to Five? Forget it. You want to have fun, be active, enjoy life for all it's worth. Our business is all about creating memorable times for young people aged 7-18, ensuring every day is a new adventure.

Canoeing and sailing are just two of the activities we offer and you will ideally have a BCU level 2 coach (kayak or canoe) or hold a RYA Dinghy instructor qualification with keel boat/coastal endorsement. You'll also be good at inspiring and organising young people.



education  
+adventure



www.3d-jobs.co.uk

Phone us now on 01305 836226 and get set to escape the nine to five.



## Have An American Adventure With Us!

### WATERSPORTS INSTRUCTORS WANTED

to work in the most beautiful locations in America  
If you are between 18-30 & available for 9 weeks this summer, why not give us a call?

As well as a 100% placement record, we include:

FLIGHTS, VISAS, INSURANCE, ORIENTATION, FULL BOARD & LODGING, HIGHEST POCKET MONEY & more.

To apply please visit our new interactive web site

[www.ccusa.com](http://www.ccusa.com) where you can download the

application form, or

else for a free

information pack /

application form, call

020 8688 9051



CCUSA



## CHURCHTOWN OUTDOOR ADVENTURE HOLIDAY CENTRE

### MULTI ACTIVITY INSTRUCTORS

Up to £12,500 p.a.

Seasonal, assistant and trainee instructors required to teach a wide range of activities at this internationally renowned centre which provides adventure holidays for disabled people of all ages.

Candidates should have, or be working towards N.G.B. Awards in a range of activities and have a clean driving licence.

Churchtown is also recruiting seasonal care staff.

Please contact David Collin, Activities Manager, Churchtown, Lanlivery, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL30 5BT. Telephone No. 01208 872148 or e-mail [davidncollin@hotmail.com](mailto:davidncollin@hotmail.com)

Churchtown is now part of the Winged Fellowship Trust, A

National Charity  
providing holidays for  
disabled people and  
breaks for carers.  
Charity No: 295072

WFT is an equal  
opportunities employer.

**WINGED  
FELLOWSHIP  
TRUST**



## 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. Seasonal work available possibly leading to full time positions.

**Please contact Simon Rouse  
On 01694 724488**

## SCOTLAND Instructors required

From early Feb/March to end of October 2002. Possible full time posts also available. Residential schools to non residential adults. Activities include white water rafting grades 2 to 5, high ropes course, climbing and abseiling, gorge ascents/canyoning, archery, mountain biking, hillwalking, environmental work and orienteering.

Full training, assessments and NGB qualifications are offered to the right people. Food and accommodation included. Any candidate with SPA, GNAS, CYCLE LEADER OR KAYAKING/RAFTING QUALIFICATIONS will be considered first. GOOD RIVER SKILLS WILL BE VERY ADVANTAGEOUS.

Call **01887 820298** for application forms and details.

Dunolly Adventure Outdoors, Taybridge Drive, Aberfeldy, Perthshire PH15 2BP. Telephone: 01887 820298

E-mail: [info@dunollyadventures.co.uk](mailto:info@dunollyadventures.co.uk)

[www.dunollyadventures.co.uk](http://www.dunollyadventures.co.uk)

## GRAFHAM water centre

### Instructors

From £184.00 per week  
(including accommodation and meals)

Required for 2002 and beyond are enthusiastic staff who are able to deliver a programme of exciting and educationally valid activities for schools, youth groups and individuals. Activities include Sailing; Windsurfing; Canoeing and Kayaking; Climbing and Abseiling; Archery; High and Low Ropes Courses; Mountain Biking; Team Building Activities. We run activities at two locations, one in Cambridgeshire and the other in the Derbyshire Peak District.

For further information and an application form, please ring Christina Butler at Grafham Water Centre, Perry, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 0BX. Tel: (01480) 810521.

[www.grafham-water-centre.co.uk](http://www.grafham-water-centre.co.uk)



Cambridgeshire  
County Council

Making equality a reality



## Paddlers wanted for the UK, France & Spain

Whatever your level we have something for you

**Experienced but unqualified?** Obtain coaching qualifications while working as a canoeing or multi-activity instructor

**BCU level 2 coach?** Gain valuable log book time whilst working as a canoeing or multi-activity instructor and progress towards level 3

**BCU level 3 coach?** Work as a river leader and assist with staff training

**Experienced Rafter?** Qualify up to WCA/BCU Level 1 and 2 and guide Alpine rafting trips on the Durance



Have the time of your life while providing children with the experience of a lifetime. In return receive excellent training and development opportunities, accommodation, meals and a generous living allowance:

web: [www.pgl.co.uk/personnel](http://www.pgl.co.uk/personnel)

email: [personnel@pgl.co.uk](mailto:personnel@pgl.co.uk)

phone: 01989 767833

**delphi**  
ADVENTURE HOLIDAYS

## Opportunities in Ireland

**Instructors and Senior instructors** required for Ireland's 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
- Season runs from Feb - Dec

Visit our websites at: [www.delphiadventureholidays.ie](http://www.delphiadventureholidays.ie)

Please Tel / fax / email / or write to us at:

Personnel Tel: 00 353 95 42336/42208  
Delphi Adventure Holidays Fax: 00353 95 42303  
Leenane Email: [hrdelphi@iol.ie](mailto:hrdelphi@iol.ie)  
Co. Galway,  
Ireland

To advertise please call Anne or Peter on 01480 465081

### FEELFREE WHITE WATER RAFTING

require raft guides with white water experience for the 2002 summer season. German is an advantage. If you wish to join the hard working Feelfree team in Austria apply now with concise typed c.v. including white water experience to:-

Andrew Leaney

FEELFREE WHITE WATER RAFTING  
Platzleweg 1, A-6433 Oetz, Tirol, Austria

## Hesley Wood Scout Activity Centre

### Activity Staff Required

Hesley Wood is looking for seasonal staff for the 2002 season. We are a small residential activity centre situated in Sheffield. Our main clients include scouts, guides, schools and youth groups. Activities include climbing, canoeing, archery, swimming and orienteering.

We require the following staff to join our team for 2002

**Assistant Chief Instructor** - you will ideally hold SPA, Level 2 Coach, GNAS and Pool Lifeguard. You will have recent centre experience and have good people skills.

**Multi Activity Instructors** - candidates will ideally hold two of the following: Level 2 Coach, SPA training, GNAS Archery Leader, Pool Lifeguard, BELA and a valid first aid certificate.

**Assistant Instructors** - candidates should have a very strong interest in the outdoors with little or no qualification and the enthusiasm to work towards NGB awards

A competitive salary is paid for these residential posts and further training will be given. The posts will run from April - September.

To obtain further details and an application form please contact:

Anthony Holley, Hesley Wood Activity Centre, White Lane, Chapelton, Sheffield S35 2YH

Tel: 0114 246 7912 fax: 0114 257 0977

E-mail: [anthony@sycscouts.org.uk](mailto:anthony@sycscouts.org.uk) [www.sycscouts.org.uk/hesley](http://www.sycscouts.org.uk/hesley)

## TEOEC Grangewaters, Buckles Lane, South Ockendon, Essex RM15 6RS Activity Instructors April - September 2002

Very busy non-residential LEA centre requires a team of highly motivated instructors/trainees. Min. 1 NGB coaching award required for instructors posts.  
Phone/fax: 01708 855228/856422  
e-mail: [grangewaters@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:grangewaters@thurrock.gov.uk)





Royal  
Kingston

## 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



### Activity Instructors required (initially March - Oct 2002)

Keppleway is a Christian residential centre in the Lake District that provides inclusive outdoor activities for people of all abilities. Activities include canoeing, climbing, and archery. Applicants should preferably be drivers and have at least one NGB qualification. Salary £8500 - £10000 p.a. according to experience. Training and on-site accommodation is provided.

For further details and application form contact:  
Val Gill, The Keppleway Centre,  
Broughton in Furness, Cumbria LA20 6HE,  
tel: 01229 716936, website: www.keppleway.org.uk



### Low Wood Watersports & Activity Centre

Require qualified and experienced instructors in canoeing,  
sailing, water-skiing...

Join the team at this busy centre catering for the public and  
corporate entertainment and teambuilding when we launch  
our corporate event company early this year.

The Centre is located on the shores of Lake Windermere, a  
few minutes from the lively towns of Bowness and  
Ambleside.

Send your CV now to Mike Coates, Centre Manager, Low  
Wood Watersports and Activity Centre, Low Wood,  
Windermere, Cumbria LA23 1LP or email  
watersports@elhmail.co.uk

### MULTI-ACTIVITY INSTRUCTORS

domestic, administration & maintenance staff required for  
busy, residential centre on the west coast of Scotland.

Are you Enthusiastic, Energetic & Committed?

If so, send C.V. to  
David Croy  
Raasay Outdoor Centre  
Isle of Raasay, By Kyle, Ross-shire IV40 8PB  
www.raasayoutdoorcentre.co.uk

## INSTRUCTORS:

We require BCU Level 2 Canoe or Kayak Assessed  
or Trainees 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 Ardèche 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



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



### Senior Instructor (BCU Level 3 Coach min)

### Instructor (BCU Level 2 Coach min)

### Trainee Instructors

Full training incl. NGB qualifications on  
a variety of skills

Pioneer Centre is a Christian run Activity and Conference Centre  
situated on the edge of the beautiful Wyre Forest in Shropshire.

We are looking for committed qualified instructors for both of these  
permanent, salaried positions. Accommodation is available. Other NGB  
qualifications are an advantage, although training is available.

Contact: Kris Kirby, Chief Instructor  
Pioneer Centre, Cleobury Mortimer, Kidderminster DY14 8JG  
email: pioneer@actioncentres.co.uk  
Tel: 01299 271217 Fax: 01299 270948



Full Training NGB Course Opportunities Paid Holidays,  
Unrivalled Accommodation Competitive Wages Return Travel to the UK

NST Adventure has opportunities for you, whatever your coaching  
status, at our Multi Activity Centre in the South of France.

If you expect all of the above and more and would like the opportunity to  
work for Europe's Leading Educational Travel Company contact Lorna  
Stewart on Tel: 01253 503011 or visit our website for more  
information on the jobs available at our French and UK centres.



www.nstjobs.co.uk

# Oasis

Forest Holiday Villages

Oasis Lakeland Forest Village is set in 400 acres of stunningly beautiful Lakeland landscape. Our village provides a wonderful combination of natural living and the very best of sports and leisure facilities. Revel in the pure fresh Cumbrian air which is an excellent base for walking and outdoor activities!

*Our Outdoor Leisure Department requires:-*

## SEASONAL LAKESIDE INSTRUCTORS

The ideal candidates will be highly motivated and hold a valid first aid certificate. A NGB Personal Performance Award at Level 2 Standard in either Kayaking, Windsurfing, Dingy sailing or Powerboating is desirable but candidates who have minimal experience and a strong interest in these sports may also be considered.

*£4.40 per hour – 40 hours per week including weekend work*

## SEASONAL INSTRUCTOR / SENIOR INSTRUCTOR

The ideal candidates would have one of the following qualifications; RYA Senior Instructor, Windsurf Level 2 Instructor or Kayak Level 3 Coach. One other NGB would be advantageous. Previous management experience at this level desirable.

*£5.55 per hour – 40 hours per week including weekend work*

Both of these posts are from mid-March 2002 to early November 2002 (dates to be confirmed). Interviews will take place in February.

All applicants must have excellent Guest Service skills, be able to work well within a team and should have a flexible approach to working hours.

Please send a CV and covering letter to:

Stephen Shaw, Leisure Department, Oasis Lakeland Holiday Village, Temple Sowerby, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 2DW.

Recruitment Hotline: 01768 893004

e-mail: [angela.richardson@centerparcs.com](mailto:angela.richardson@centerparcs.com)



## STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL OUTDOOR EDUCATION SERVICE

Required Spring 2002

### Course Leader

- Permanent Post for graduate/teacher with NGB qualifications (minimum BCU Level 2 Coach – Kayak).
- Salary £11,847 - £13,206 p.a.

### Instructors

- 9 – 12 month contracts available
- NGB experience/qualifications required.
- Free board and accommodation whilst at work.
- Salary £9,376 - £10,554 p.a. (dependant upon age and qualifications)

Contact Shugborough OEC, Shugborough, Stafford, ST17 0XA (01889 881357) for application pack.



## STUBBERS ADVENTURE CENTRE Upminster, Essex

**Vacancies for 2002 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](http://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](mailto:admin@stubbers.co.uk)

Charity No. 1080941

# MANOR Adventure

## OUTDOOR INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED

To work in our centres in the UK and France between January and November 2002

We provide multi-activity sessions to residential school groups.

Full training given, Uniform and Accommodation provided.

**For an application pack please contact us at:**

The Manor, Craven Arms

Shropshire

Tel: 01584 861333

E-mail: [manoradventure@lineone.net](mailto:manoradventure@lineone.net)

# MARRICK PRIORY

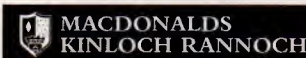
## Outdoor Education and Residential Centre



Require an experienced, enthusiastic and easy going Multi Activity Instructor with NGB's (out of SPA, ML (summer), BCU Level 2 Coach, Local Cave Leader or GNAS), to live and work with a small staff team in beautiful Swaledale, North Yorkshire. Excellent accommodation and training. Very competitive salary.

For details please phone/fax 01748 884434

office@marrickpriory.co.uk



## OUTDOOR & LEISURE INSTRUCTOR

Outdoor job to start immediately, national minimum wage, food and accommodation. Some training can be given, qualifications an advantage.

Send CV to:

Johnathan Wheeler,  
 c/o Kinloch Rannoch, Perthshire, PH16 5PS

### Instructors required

For a family run Activity Centre in West Wales from April 2002. Full board and accommodation provided

Please send CV to:-

Llain Activity Centre, Llanarth, Ceredigion, Wales SA47 0PZ

[www.llain.co.uk](http://www.llain.co.uk)

## Southampton City Council

# Woodmill Outdoor Centre

Woodmill Lane, Swaythling, Southampton, SO18 2JR

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITY INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED FOR 2002

The Woodmill Outdoor Centre is best known for its specialist canoeing activities. However the Centre also provides a wide range of activity courses to schools and adults during the week and at weekends. The courses include canoeing, kayaking, climbing, orienteering, high and low ropes elements, archery, raft building, environmental studies and other problem solving activities. The Centre also has a busy Canoe shop.

Woodmill requires Outdoor Activity Instructors to start from Feb/March 2002. First Aid and BCU Coach qualifications are desirable but training can be provided.

Staff are required to undertake evening, weekend and occasional overnight duties and therefore must have a flexible approach to working hours.

Pay Scale 1 Pt 8. (£202.40 per week)

For an application form and job description please contact the recruitment hotline on 02380 833320 (answerphone) or if you would like a visit to the centre please ring 02380 555993.

**www.watersportsjobs.co.uk**  
**THE on-line directory of UK & overseas watersports vacancies**

windsurfing instructors  
 kayak instructors  
 sailing instructors  
 yacht skippers  
 diving instructors  
 support staff  
 management

[www.watersportsjobs.co.uk](http://www.watersportsjobs.co.uk)  
**vi recruitment**  
 T.08707 429 770

## KAYAKING INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED...

...for our island-based Multi-Activity Adventure and Survival Training Centre in Argyllshire. Must be at least Level 2 Coach, with extensive experience of instructing youngsters. Starting in May and finishing September, we can offer you full board and accommodation, a good wage and excellent wild sea paddling all around our islands, including the famous 'Grey Dogs' and Corryvreckan Whirlpools.

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

## FAMILY RUN OUTDOOR CENTRE

Requires for March - Oct 2002  
 Level 3 Surf Coach or 4\* Surf Kayak or minimum BCU Level 2 trainee with at least one other National Governing Award.  
*Generous terms, full board and accommodation.*

**Phone Vince or Andy  
 01994 453588**

## 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 8742 1556  
 Fax: 020 8747 4331  
**CAA ATOL 2966**  
[www.windows-on-the-wild.com](http://www.windows-on-the-wild.com)



## 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](mailto:Jobs@longridge.org.uk)  
[www.longridge.org.uk](http://www.longridge.org.uk)

## Mendip Outdoor Pursuits

Requires fulltime and freelance staff from Spring 2002 with SPA, BCU, LCLA, GNAS and/or BOF qualifications, to work in the Bristol area. Wages from £200 per week. Short summer contracts also available.

**Contact Mike on 01934 820518**

## the Adventure company

SL Instructors and Trainees required to work at our Keswick based centre. Live out wages available.

CV to:

**The Activities Manager  
 The Adventure Company  
 Denton House, Penrith Rd,  
 Keswick CA12 4JW  
 Please state position applied for.**

**NEED A POSITION FILLING?  
 CALL 01480 465081**

# TRADE

### South West

**AS**  
**HAVEN RD, EXETER. 01392 219600**  
 Full range of equipment for all aspects of the sport. Playboating, Fun, Surf, Touring, Racing.  
[www.aswatersports.co.uk](http://www.aswatersports.co.uk)

### Essex

**NUCLEUS**  
 The Essex Superstore  
 Kayaks, Canoes or Sit-ons  
[www.nucleuswatersports.org.uk](http://www.nucleuswatersports.org.uk)  
**01255 812146 or  
 07710 375560**

### West Sussex

**Based in the centre of West Sussex**  
 Kayaks, Canoes & Accessories  
[www.southwatersports.co.uk](http://www.southwatersports.co.uk)  
 (Training)  
[www.ukkayaking.co.uk](http://www.ukkayaking.co.uk)  
 (On-Line Store)  
**01403 732389**

### 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

### 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 Yorkshire

**SPLASHMOO**  
 CANOES & LEISUREWEAR

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

### Somerset

**PERFORMANCE KAYAKS**

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

### 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)

## KOGG G6 EVO Breathable Dry Top

KOGG will be showing their new G6 EVO Breathable Dry Top to the public for the first time at ICE 2002.

EVO stands for evolution. We have taken the G6 and made it better. The G6 EVO is being made in 3ply Permatex 2k 300. Features on the cag include twin seals all round and a unique articulated elbow design, giving you the best arm movement possible when you are kayaking. It also has KOGG's Free Flow twin seal neck system, an adjustable outer waist band and cordura reinforced elbows and cuffs.

The G6 EVO will be available in all good kayak shops by February. RRP £180.00

Other additions to the KOGG Range this year will be a Neoprene Outer Neck Seal added to the existing Glacier Dry Top and a high spec expedition Open Water Touring Paddle Top.

For a full price list for 2002 and for further details contact KOGG on 01738 622010

[www.kogg.co.uk](http://www.kogg.co.uk)

## Outdoor Active - new waterproof clothing range



Outdoor Active are pleased to announce their new water proof clothing range.

They are carrying a whole range of clothing suitable for outdoor centres and clubs at competitive prices. Club and centre logos can be added to make clothing 'steal-proof' and are also great for advertising.



They are also introducing a large range of personal kit including the 'introductory' range of budget priced dry tops, trousers and dry suits, starting from £49.00 for dry top.



There is a made to measure service for those of you who can't get clothing to fit properly! For further information call 01454 261058.

## Bush Mission Kit Ltd: Solo Pod

Made from top quality materials, the Bush Mission Kit "Solo Pod" is a strong, lightweight and versatile hammock concept that is simple and very comfortable - ideal for serious expedition use, or simply for "chillin".



Packing into its tough 17.5cm x 11.5cm stuff sack, the Solo Pod weighs 730gm and comes complete with two four metre long, 2.5cm wide webbing straps (like canoe tie downs) and two karabiners for quick and easy hanging. Seams are triple sewn and stress areas reinforced for safety and durability.

Positions you can adopt in the Solo Pod are many and various and it is quite easy to achieve an almost flat-backed position for maximum comfort and a good night's sleep.

The "spare" fabric of the pod can be flipped over to protect you from sun/dew/bugs and the fabric is easy to fully waterproof.

The only way to hang - whatever your trip! Costing approx £49.95, the Solo Pod comes with full instructions and safety information, and if you have a close friend, check out the "Pro Pod" built for two and costing £64.95.

More information from Bush Mission Kit Ltd, Tel 01234

824007, [www.bush5.co.uk](http://www.bush5.co.uk) 21 Church Road, Stevington, Bedford, MK43 7QB.

John Fenna

## Blizzard protection systems: Blizzard pack

The "Blizzard Pack" from Blizzard Protection Systems is a revolutionary new concept in survival equipment, and one that I think will eventually replace the poly survival bag in canoeists' disaster kits.



Although coming as a vacuum packed block the size of a video cassette, the pack opens up to a 2.1m long sleeping bag made from layers of "space blanket" type fabric bonded with elastic 40 times its original volume. The cells in the bag's construction trap warm air, making it warmer than a goose down sleeping bag, and it is water and windproof.

Many times better than a "space blanket", and as simple to use as a "survival bag", the Blizzard Pack will, I believe, become the standard safety kit for paddlers. The pack works just as well when wet, is reusable, comes in a nylon pouch that doubles as a stuff sack for storage after its first use, and costs about £29.99.

For more information on this essential safety product contact Blizzard Protection Systems Ltd, Unit 5 Coed y Parc, Bethesda, Gwynedd, LL57 4YU. Tel 01248 600666

John Fenna

[www.blizzard.uk.co](http://www.blizzard.uk.co)

## Whitby: Princeton TEC Attitude LED torch

Made with a virtually indestructible (their words, not mine) polycarbonate casing and using three ultra bright white LEDs instead of a filament bulb, the Princeton Tec Attitude is a torch that is super tough, waterproof to 500ft (which is more than you are), will give 150 hours plus from four AAA batteries and has 10,000 hours plus of LED bulb life.

Compact at approx 13cm long and 3cm wide and very light, with a "twist head" on/off operation, and coming complete with a lanyard ring, lifetime warranty plus full care and maintenance instructions, the Attitude is a smart and very functional torch that should appeal to many paddlers. Much more robust and economical to use than a standard torch, the Princeton Tec Attitude costs approx £24.00.

For more information contact Whitby & Co, Aynam Mills, Canal Head North, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 7BY, Tel 01539 721032.

[www.leatherman.co.uk](http://www.leatherman.co.uk)





# New arrivals for 2002

## New Prijon Elite Series

After the continued success of the Delirious, the Prijon R&D team are said to be inundated with requests to design a "river running Delirious". The aptly named Performance is the result. The Performance handles rivers with such ease that you forget you're in a river running playboat. Consequently, dynamic flat spins and tricks are attainable even in higher volume waters. Extra length and volume promote comfort, control and stability. Its balanced volume distribution and next generation planing surfaces define this quintessential all-rounder.

If creeking is your bag, then check out the Kompressor. This tough, revolutionary designed creek boat is perfect for technical, British rivers. It combines a flat planing hull with strongly rockered ends that makes challenging water very manageable. The Kompressor's combination of displacement and balance

maintain your control and your confidence, no matter what is round the corner. This is the perfect choice if you want a boat that looks after you. For impact reduction, the Kompressor comes complete with a new patent-pending footrest mechanism.

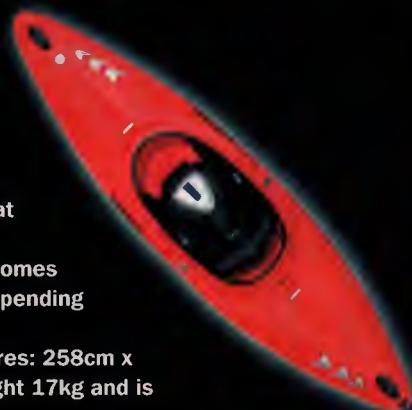
The Performance measures: 258cm x 61cm, volume 225l and weight 17kg and is available in January 2002.

The Kompressor measures: 250cm x 63cm, volume 265l and weight 17kg and is available in January 2002.

Both the Performance and the Kompressor Elite kayaks come equipped with a new ratchet backrest, seat pod, adjustable thigh grip and padding kit. Available in 3 tasty colours: raspberry-red, blueberry-blue, and mango. For safety, a 20m throw line and a 3-piece reserve paddle are standard issue. Price £630.00.

For more information call Avoncraft on 01707 330000

[www.avoncraft.co.uk](http://www.avoncraft.co.uk) and [www.prijon.com](http://www.prijon.com)



## We.No.Nah: Solo Plus

The We.No.Nah Solo Plus Canoe has three seats – not to carry three people, but to enable it to be paddled solo or tandem as desired.

The straight keel makes for excellent tracking, but not such good turning, and the Solo Plus is ideal for flat water touring or cruising – solo or tandem. At 16'6" long with a maximum waterline width of 31.75" this is a fast and efficient canoe, narrow enough for easy solo paddling, yet roomy enough for two, and features a flared bow central tumblehome and a straight sided stern.

The model I paddled had a Royalex hull with ash thwart, cane seats and vinyl gunwales and, at 55lb, is light enough to carry solo for short portages.

A great choice for those who paddle solo, yet occasionally paddle with a friend, the Solo Plus RRP is £1,049.

For more information contact Outdoor Active, Damery Works, Woodford, Berkeley, Glos, G13 9JR, Tel 01454 261 058.

**John Fenna**

[www.outdooractive.com](http://www.outdooractive.com)



## Feeling Supersonic



The Sonic and Supersonic, the final installment of Perception's new 2002 white water Proline have hit the water. The Sonics mix user friendly handling and Perception's latest design technology for a river running kayak that suits not only advanced paddlers but beginners too. Two sizes cover the full weight and size spectrum to ensure that you can choose the kayak that's right for you.

Andre Goldsmith, Perception Sales Manager, says "In recent years the majority of new white water kayak development has tended to be in the advanced freestyle area of the sport. We've bucked that trend with two kayaks that will suit paddlers of all abilities. Newcomers will find, in the Sonics, a modern kayak that is easy to paddle initially and one which, as they progress, will unlock the advanced features that are geared to more experienced paddlers. As well as outstanding performance they have another feature that all paddlers will love ... comfort!"

Call Perception on 01825 765891 or email [info@perception.co.uk](mailto:info@perception.co.uk) for a copy of the latest fleet sheet and details of your local test centre.

[www.perception.co.uk](http://www.perception.co.uk)

## Jacstrap

Go for it with confidence -  
Elbow Support



For all those paddlers who have ever experienced elbow pain, the Jacstrap is a vital part of your canoeing attire. This innovative elbow support provides support for weakened muscles, eases pain and discomfort as well as enabling a full range of movement and in addition to all that, it is waterproof.

This simple but highly effective product has also been designed so that it not only helps reduce pain and the chance of further injury but it is extremely comfortable to wear, having no bulk around the elbow joint, thus allowing a full range of movement for canoeing and all other activities. It is as comfortable under your canoeing kit as well as your work clothes.

Jacstrap comes in S/M or M/L and is RRP is £12.99 but is being offered for an introductory price of £10.99. Jacstrap can be obtained from [www.jacstrap.com](http://www.jacstrap.com)

## Watertight

Designed to keep items dry while you are out on the water, the Otter Box uses a closed cell neoprene o-ring that creates a positive seal which does not allow water in.

Boxes tested off the coast of Alaska were subjected to the most extreme conditions and came through it all without leaking.

The Otter Box is made with a fibreglass reinforced ABS resin that is virtually indestructible while high-impact polycarbonate is used for clear-tops. The stainless steel pins in hinge and latches will not rust).

A closed cell neoprene o-ring keeps the water out while a foam liner protects your valuables from impact damage (not 1000 Series). A nylon lanyard is fitted for easy carrying.



The various sizes have been pressure tested to depths beyond 100 feet. While most *Canoe Focus* readers will never use a box to this depth, such capability gives the manufacturers the confidence to sell a watertight box with a lifetime guarantee. Any time that you are around water, you can trust that your items will be kept dry.

They will take a lot of knocking about too: some of the boxes have been placed under the wheels of vehicles with no effect to the box whatsoever. Just to prove how strong the Otter Box really is, Psalmgear parked a Range Rover Classic (with an additional four road tyres in the boot) on a Series 2000 box without inflicting damage.

Prices range from £11.99 to £20.99 depending on size. Otter Boxes are distributed by Psalmgear. Contact Tony Cooper on 07711 260350

## Stuck up!

Invented for use on the Russian Mir space station as a reliable 'stick anything' glue, Mr Sticky's Underwater Glue is a new two-part epoxy glue that can stick PVC, ABS, metal, glass, ceramics, wood, masonry, plastics and much more.

And, as its name suggests, it can even bond when underwater – be it hot water, cold water or even sea water.

As the glue is flexible and shock-absorbing, the bond will resist bonding and vibration failures – which is not the case with typical epoxies. This makes it perfect for repairing canoes and associated kit.

Already well proven in the USA, Mr Sticky's Underwater Glue is now available in the UK, exclusively from [www.plumbworld.com](http://www.plumbworld.com), at a price of £12.99 in a 30 g retail twin syringe dispenser. A 300 x 300 ml industrial dispenser is also available. The glue is available in off-white or dark aqua.



# All new Canoe and Kayak Handbook

- The complete paddlesport reference book.
- Completely re-written 3rd edition.
- Now in full colour.

It now being some 14 years since the current 'Canoeing Handbook' appeared a replacement is long overdue. It is now on its way, however, and will be available from the Canoe Exhibition in February 2002.

Produced in full colour and in a larger format than the current handbook it will reflect developments within Paddlesport bringing the BCU's in house promotion of paddlesport activity up to date.

Written by enthusiastic and current BCU coaches and practitioners, this book is an invaluable source of information for both novice and expert alike.

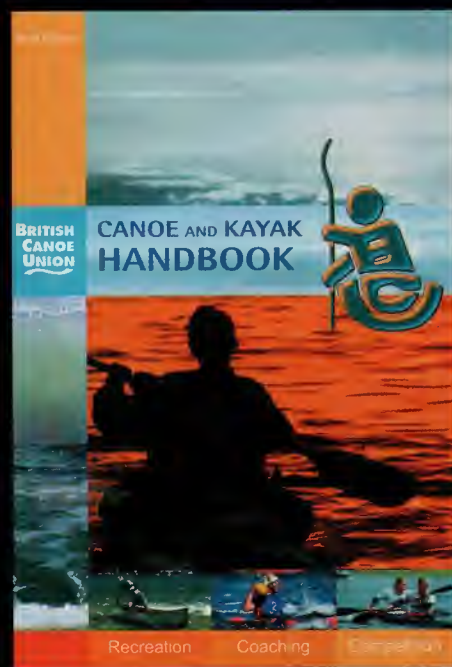
For the newcomer it will provide a firm foundation in their chosen aspect of the sport. The coach or experienced paddler will find it invaluable as:

- An update to current theory and practice.
- An introduction to new aspects of the sport.
- A pointer to other sources of information. Such as relevant books and websites.

RRP £15.95p

Launch date – ICE 23/24 Feb 2002

Available from BCU Coaching Supplies and all bookshops from March 2002.



Recreation Coaching Competition

# DESPERATE Measures

**Slow or fast water...  
Visit our famous shop**

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**

[www.desperate-measures.co.uk](http://www.desperate-measures.co.uk)



**Bomber Gear; Dag; Dagger; Eskimo; Gorillas; Jumbo;  
Lendal; Mobile Adventure; Nookie; Palm; Perception;  
Phoenix; Pyranha; P&H; Reed; Robson; Sauvage; Thule;  
Wave Sport; Wild-Water; Werner**

# WAVE SPORT

PADDLER: ERICA MITCHELL

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED:  
2001 WOMEN'S WORLD  
FREESTYLE CHAMPION

KAYAK UTILIZED:  
THE EVO WITH F.A.T. OUTFITTING



2002 KAYAK OF CHOICE:  
THE SIREN  
EQUIPPED WITH F.A.T. 2.0 OUTFITTING



WAVE SPORT  
DOMINANCE BY DESIGN

*Because We Listen...*

"Prepare to remove your prior limitations and be ready to play anywhere on the river. Watch out boys! With the Siren on our team, the ladies are only going to get better and better."

— Brooke Winner



*Siren*



... we used input from the world's most dominant female paddlers and designed the Siren around the ergonomic needs of women. This boat is narrower and weighs less allowing for easier rolls, greater control and more power. Outfitted with our improved Fit Adjustment technology for 2002 (F.A.T. 2.0), we give you a custom, no hassle fit before you even leave the showroom floor.

LADIES, THE PLAYING FIELD IS NOW EQUAL!

BROOKE WINNER: 1st Place, 2001 Siskiyew's, Kesler; 1st Place, 2001 New River Races, 1st Place, 2001 Coosa River Races. Photos by Dan Gavett and Sam Davis.

*Because We Listen...*

WAVE SPORT  
DOMINANCE BY DESIGN

"I love to go paddling with my girlfriends and have a good time. Because the Siren makes learning so much easier, I will soon have more girlfriends to paddle with."

— Jami Conner



*Siren*



... we used input from the world's most dominant female paddlers and designed the Siren around the ergonomic needs of women. This boat is narrower and weighs less allowing for easier rolls, greater control and more power. Outfitted with our improved Fit Adjustment technology for 2002 (F.A.T. 2.0), we give you a custom, no hassle fit before you even leave the showroom floor.

LADIES, THE PLAYING FIELD IS NOW EQUAL!

JAMI CONNER: 1st Place, 2001 National Steep Creek Championship; 1st Place, 2001 Xenia River Race, 5th Place, 2001 Peconic Great Falls Race. Photos by Scott Hoyle and Sam Davis.

*Because We Listen...*

WAVE SPORT  
DOMINANCE BY DESIGN

2001 Women's World Freestyle Champion!!

"The Siren has increased my confidence to try new moves on the river. This boat weighs less and plays great especially for someone my size."

— Erica Mitchell



*Siren*



... we used input from the world's most dominant female paddlers and designed the Siren around the ergonomic needs of women. This boat is narrower and weighs less allowing for easier rolls, greater control and more power. Outfitted with our improved Fit Adjustment technology for 2002 (F.A.T. 2.0), we give you a custom, no hassle fit before you even leave the showroom floor.

LADIES, THE PLAYING FIELD IS NOW EQUAL!

ERICA MITCHELL: 1st Place, 2001 Flathead Championship; 2000 Outfitters.com Series Champion, 1st Place, 2000 Coosa River Races. Photos by Dan Gavett and Sam Davis.

AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD DEALERS

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