

THE CANOE SPORT MAGAZINE FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

canoe

focus

10-02

No. 139

£2.00



Greenland

**open championships
with a difference!**

Ghana

with Raleigh International

World

slalom & sprint championships

Plus

Paddling the British coastline and five pages of jobs

BY ENTHUSIASTS FOR ENTHUSIASTS - THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BCJ

Water, dust & shock resistant.

MONTHLY SERVICE FROM JUST £9.99

Size: 106x48x23mm Weight: 92g Standby: Up to 170hrs Talk Time: Up to 230mins



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



WHAT Cefphone Award of Excellence

- 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

If you demand the right tools for the job why compromise your choice of mobile? The handsets we supply 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 'fashion phones'. Our comprehensive offer is straightforward - just choose a handset and discounted tariff then call to arrange delivery!



FREE SWISS SPORTS WATCH WORTH £49.99

FREE membership to the
BRITISH CANOE UNION

CHOOSE A DISCOUNTED TARIFF

TARIFF NAME	LINE RENTAL	MONTHLY TOTAL	INCLUSIVE CALLS	PEAK CALLS (NATIONAL)	OFF-PEAK (NATIONAL)	NETWORK
Budget Tariff	£9.99	£9.99	20 mins Anytime	25p	10p	vodafone
Leisure Time 600	£10.99 + £2.00 BILLING	£12.99	600 mins Off-Peak	45p	5p	vodafone
Anytime 100	£16.99 + £2.00 BILLING	£18.99	100 mins Anytime	15p	5p	vodafone
Anytime 200	£21.99 + £2.00 BILLING	£23.99	200 mins Anytime	10p	5p	vodafone
Crossnetwork 200	£25.98 + £2.00 BILLING	£27.98	200 mins Any Network	10p	10p	vodafone



Call today for details of our range of O2 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

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.

phones Express

Call today for nationwide next day delivery to your home or office

All UK Models Stocked



0800 833129

All prices shown including VAT at 17.5%. All calls are charged at standard rates. *Bringing your own number (porting or migration) is dependent on your existing network provider, service provider & any contractual terms you are under. In some cases there may be an activation fee. © 2004 O2. Vodafone is a registered trademark of Vodafone Group Plc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

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

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

BCU Enquiries & Editorial to
above address

President
Albert Woods

Chair
Andy Cook

Chief Executive
Paul Owen

Annual Subscription Rate

UK inland: £18.00

Overseas: £23.50

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
www.2bgraphicdesign.com

Editor

Peter Tranter
01480 465081

Assistant Editor

Debbie Colt

Advertising Sales

Anne Egan
01480 465081

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

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:

Rob Dixon, Laurence Oliver, Edryd Kaill,
Chris Reeves, John Casling, Phil Clark,
Sue Hornby, John Gregory, Andy
Maddock, Adam Kennedy, Glyn
Howatson, Peter Astles, Jilly O'Brien, Ted
Knight, John Fenna and Mike Devlin.
Good paddling to you all!

Front Cover

Duncan Faulkner at Boulter's Rodeo
Photo credit: Kayakojacko

Contents

5 Comment

Obituary for Geoff Sanders

6 News

12 Access

14 Competition: freestyle

Boulter's Rodeo 2002

16 Feature: Britain

Dick Aitkinson paddles his way around Britain's
coastline to help save whales and dolphins

18 Feature: Cornwall

Tamar Canoe Association - ladies surf weekend

19 Feature: New York

Liberty Challenge World Outriggers

20 Competition: slalom

World Championships at Bourg

22 Competition: sprint

Junior and Under 23 Championships

24 Competition: sprint

World and European Championships

26 Feature: Greenland

Open canoeing championships

30 Feature: France

Summer training camp

32 News

ICE moves alongside the Ordnance Survey Outdoors
Show for 2003

33 Nookie photo competition

34 Youth

Paddlequest Northwest, Teeside canoe orienteering
competition, Sport England active sport talent
camp, London youth games, Perception
Wavehopper finals and Pyranha Lightning Marathon
Cup finals

36 Letters

Your points of view

37 Member's classified

38 Feature: Ghana

Paddling with Raleigh International

47 Feature: Canoe bibllomania

48 Paddler's gear

All the latest kit from Eirfloat, Peli Products, Polar
and Fyne Boats

50 Events

What's happening for the autumn

www.canoefocus.co.uk

YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS MAKE CANOE 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, so 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 typed (double spaced) or preferably as a Microsoft Word file, which can be emailed to peter@canoefocus.co.uk, or mailed to 2b Graphic Design, 49 Greenfields, St Ives, Cams PE27 5HB. All material is accepted on the understanding that the BCU and it's agents cannot be held liable or responsible for loss or damage, although every care and effort is taken to safeguard material. **Next Copy date is the 30th OCTOBER 2002. Material arriving after this date cannot be included in the DECEMBER 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.



www.mega-kayaks.co.uk



See us at the Scottish Show Perth Oct 19th/20th
Big Discounts across the whole range!



Are you up to the challenge?

HND in Adventurous Activity Management

(Foundation Degree in Sept 2003 subject to validation)

Try river running or kayak surfing in beautiful Cornwall & North Devon.

Full range of canoeing and kayaking awards by well qualified instructors

Expeditions in the UK and abroad.

For more information please contact Nikki:

Tel: **01579 372233**
Email: admissions@duchy.cornwall.ac.uk
Website: www.duchy.ac.uk



COMBINED UNIVERSITIES IN CORNWALL



Part of The CORNWALL COLLEGE GROUP

"Creating opportunities for all through high quality education and training."



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

Tel. 44 (0)1932 247978

Fax. 44 (0)1932 241368

www.whitewaterthecanoecentre.co.uk
whitewater@canoecentre.demon.co.uk

COMMENT

Paul Owen
Chief Executive

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of BCU Vice President Geoff Sanders MBE. This Focus Comment is dedicated to Geoff, awarded the MBE for services to canoeing in 1988. He provided much of the foundation for the BCU's development to its present status as a national governing body of sport.

GEOFF SANDERS MBE

Geoff Sanders, who has died aged 74, was a leading figure in the British Canoe Union for many years, being Chairman of Council for over twenty years until his retirement in 1993.

Geoff came to live in Solihull in 1952 when he took up a teaching post at King Edward VI Camp Hill School. Already a keen paddler, he immediately became involved in canoeing activities in the Midlands and was one of the founder members of Birmingham Canoe Club in 1953. He later became chairman of that club.

Nationally, Geoff became involved in the early development of the BCU Coaching Service, which was set up in 1961/62. He was awarded the BCU Award of Honour in 1967 and he eventually became the Chairman of The National Coaching Committee. He was also involved in the formation of the BCU regions and in particular with the West Midlands region, where he gave invaluable support. He became the President of that region.

Geoff naturally progressed to become Chairman of the BCU Council in the mid 70's, a post he held for over 20 years. During that time the BCU developed from an organisation with a small membership to a well-established national association with a substantial membership base. Its own permanent headquarters were established in Nottingham and the artificial white water course was constructed. Relations with the canoe associations in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland were consolidated, and considerable progress was made in establishing the regions in England. Considerable advances were also made in competitive canoeing.

During all of these developments, Geoff had progressed to become Deputy Head at Camp Hill school and later the Headmaster at King Edward VI, Five Ways, Birmingham. Despite his many responsibilities in those posts, Geoff was always able to find the time to be a very active Chairman of the BCU.

Geoff has always been a keen supporter of youth canoeing, and was Chairman of The National Schools Association and later became its Honourary President. He was involved with The British Schools Canoe Association and was a founder member and Chairman of the BCU Youth Panel, the forerunner of the BCU Young Peoples Programme. He was President of Solihull Canoe Club since its formation in 1988, and a Trustee of The Ackers Trust,



Birmingham, an inner city outdoor activity centre. He was Chairman of The Canoeing Foundation from 1988, set up by the BCU, to promote ventures for youth canoeing and canoeing for disabled people.

Despite all of these commitments, Geoff was an active canoeist completing over 1,000 miles each year. He completed over 1,300 miles in the millennium year to raise over £1,500 for The Canoeing Foundation.

Geoff always showed appreciation for work done by others and was readily available to give encouraging support and advice when required. He always had a sense of fun and joined in activities. He will be sorely missed.

Geoff was awarded an MBE in 1988 for services to canoeing. He celebrated his 50th Wedding Anniversary with Nora in the week before he died. They had two sons.

E.J Owen
BCU Treasurer 1958 to 1992

A message From Nora, Paul and Mark Sanders

Nora, Paul and Mark Sanders and their families would like to thank everyone who has been in touch with them since Geoff's sudden death.

We have been greatly helped by all the letters, cards and messages of sympathy; and by the marvellous attendance at the Service of Thanksgiving.

Canoeing played a major part in Geoff's life for over 60 years. As you know, he was involved in many committees and his greatest delight was to get out in his canoe whenever possible. He enjoyed the physical activity involved in canoeing; an hour spent on a local canal or river not only provided relaxation but also helped him to resolve any problems that were causing concern.

Thank you all very much for your letters of sympathy and appreciation for what Geoff has done in the canoeing world.

Nora Sanders
13 September 2002

Other Comment on page 6

Geoff Sanders (left) receiving the Club Touring Trophy, from John Dudderidge at the Solihull Canoe Club's annual dinner 1993.

Canoe slalom and the Olympic Games

The ICF have established an emergency working group with Richard Fox as secretary to counter an IOC report reviewing the programme for future Olympic Games.

The IOC Commission set up to reduce athlete numbers at the Olympic Games, has recommended that canoe slalom should lose its place from 2008 (China). The IOC cites the low number of competing nations as well as the costs involved in building the course. The commission's report will be discussed in November.

Britain has joined the other canoeing nations in contributing to the work of Richards group. They are currently working on the ICF's response.

Central to the ICF's case is a challenge to the building costs for courses, which seem to be grossly overstated by the IOC commission. The ICF are also able to demonstrate the lasting and sustainable legacy that such courses provide, together with an impressive development programme for canoe slalom.

Committee annual consultative meetings

Regional development teams

Eastern: 18 Nov 20.00, University Athletics Club Cambridge

East Midlands: 4 Nov 20.00, Leicester OPC

London & South East: 30 Nov 18.30, Thomas Moore School, Purley

Northern: 3 Dec 19.30, (Venue to be confirmed, please contact regional secretary)

North West: 8 Dec 12.30, Burrs Activity Centre, Bury

Southern: 14 Nov 20.00, Wokingham Waterside Centre

South West: 22 Nov 19.30, Taunton Canoe Club

West Midlands: 27 Nov 19.30, Ackers Trust

Yorkshire: 14 Nov 19.30, Queens Hotel, Pontefract

Competition disciplines

Sprint Racing: 9 Nov 13.00, Holme Pierrepont

Slalom: 23 Nov 10.00, Holme Pierrepont

Marathon Racing: 9 Nov 11.00, am Holme Pierrepont

Wild Water Racing: 2 Nov 19.00, Llangollen

Canoe Polo: 1 Dec 12.00, Group Headquarters, 73rd Derby (Allestree) Scout Group

Surf: 12 Oct Bigbury on Sea

ICF Congress

The ICF Congress took place in Madrid at the beginning of September. Whilst, the possibility of Canoe Slaloms exclusion from the Olympic Games dominated proceedings there was some good news with the BCU motion to work towards the acceptance of Paddleability as a World Championship event carried.

The ICF membership has risen to 115 nations.

ICF President Ulrich Feldhoff was returned to office for a further four years together with second Vice President Tomasini Schwertner.

Fake imitations!

The real International Canoe Exhibition will take place at the NEC, Birmingham from March 14 to 16 2003. Running alongside the Ordnance Survey Outdoors Show.

We have been informed that other shows are advertising themselves as the official canoe exhibition so, for the avoidance of doubt (as lawyers would say) please take care and do not be confused by suggestions that any other show will meet your expectations. The BCU firmly believes that this will bring a unique opportunity and partnership, merging the mountains and water.

A Wave box and Water Theatre will be included amongst the new features at Canoe 2003 together with the chance to mix with 55,000 other real enthusiasts who enjoy spending their time exploring the outdoors.

Thames licence

The BCU has reached agreement, subject to contract for BCU Membership to include a licence to paddle on the River Thames. The full agreement is expected to be finalised later this month and BCU members are advised not to renew their Thames Licences before reading December's Canoe Focus.

At this stage the agreement will only apply to an individual members first boat.

GB men win polo worlds

Just as we closed for press some fantastic news from the World Canoe Polo Championships in Germany: In the final the Great Britain men beat the Netherlands by 4 goals to 3 to win the gold medal.

Alan Edwards 1943 - 2002

Alan Edwards, who died after a long illness bravely born, competed for Great Britain in sprint racing for a decade. From 1962 to 1972, he represented his country at various world championships and was a member of the Great Britain canoeing team at the 1964 Tokyo and 1968 Mexico Olympics. In 1988 Alan was a member of a dragon boat crew racing in China. His last involvement with an international team was as driver for the Junior World Championships, taking the boats to Zagreb, Croatia in 1999. On the domestic scene he won various sprint British national championships - chiefly in doubles and fours. In 1968, he and I were the Marathon National Champions.

At the end of his International career, Alan continued to play a significant role in canoe racing, his overall involvement spanning nigh on 40 years. In 1969, he was the driving force behind the construction of a new wooden club house on the south bank of the River Severn at Worcester. In the early 1980s Alan, almost single-handed, raised the money for the building of the present Worcester Canoe Club. It is a superb facility. For a long time, Alan had a major input into organising the National Marathon Championships held annually on the Severn at Worcester. He also played a major coaching role at the club and he gave freely of his scarce and valuable time; there are many

paddlers who have much for which to thank Alan. Likewise, Worcester Canoe Club is greatly in his debt for the enormous contribution he has made; Alan will be sorely missed.

Alan was a native of Worcester and worked in the building industry, around the area, eventually to become site foreman of large building projects. Subsequently, Alan's career took another path and he became a lecturer in Building Technology. He met Liz and they married in 1978. Their sons Scott and Greg were born in 1980 and 1983.

Alan fought bravely against the cancer and at times, because of his courage, it was very difficult to believe that he was so ill. Alan was a kind and thoughtful man who was concerned for the well-being of others and was universally liked. He had a droll and entertaining way of relating a tale; making others laugh was one of Alan's trademarks. He maintained his sense of humour right to the end. There are many, many people who will deeply miss Alan but their lives have been the richer for having known him.

Alan's funeral service at St. John's Worcester on 23rd July, 2002, attended by a large number of mourners, was a celebration of and thanksgiving for his life of achievement, cut so tragically short. Our condolences and deepest sympathy go to his wife Liz and sons Scott and Greg, in their sad loss.

Laurence Oliver

Falcon North Lincs. Adventure Challenge 2002

The general impression from both competitors and spectators alike was that the inaugural Falcon North Lincs. Adventure Challenge was a resounding success.

The seeds of this success were sown months before, when the organising committee, which was led ably by chairman Ken Collier, conducted a series of kayak training sessions intended for people new to the sport, or whose kayaking skills needed brushing up. 27 potential competitors took advantage of these sessions and although some fell by the wayside, 15 rookies were on the start-line come race day.

Based at Ancholme Leisure Centre in Brigg, near Scunthorpe, the event's first discipline was a 22-mile bike. The bikers were set off at minute intervals and had to endure heavy rain as they tackled the undulating course. The rain eased as the athletes returned to the leisure centre to tackle the seven mile kayak course, which comprised two laps of the island. The River Ancholme was 'pulling through' slightly, but this proved a problem neither for the experts, nor the rookies.

By the time the athletes had got on their way on the 10K off-road run, the sun was shining and a large crowd greeted the finishers at Brigg Market Place. A huge thank you must go to the volunteers and marshals who put up with the driving rain during the early part of the race.

The awards were presented by the out-going mayor of Brigg Council, Tony Sykes. Special thanks to Glanford and Scunthorpe Canoe Club for organising introductory kayak sessions. It is likely that the challenge shall become an annual event, and anyone who would like to compete in next year's Challenge should send an s.a.e. to Mr. Ken Collier, 95, Shipton Road, Scunthorpe, North Lincolnshire, DN16 3HJ. Entry forms available in November.

John Curry

Left: Eddie Woollock - fastest canoe

Results

Individual

Men	Time (h:m:s)	Ladies	Time (h:m:s)
1. Julian Newell (Scunthorpe)	2:48:39	1. Jean Davey (Leeds)	3:29:24
2. John Wilkinson (Scunthorpe)	2:49:32	2. Emma Dawber (Hull)	3:29:54
3. Keith Lings (Scunthorpe)	2:51:23	3. Sarah Hasselby (Scunthorpe)	3:31:02

Team

Bike/Kayak/Run	Time (h:m:s)
1. Tony Pearson/Ken Collier/Michael Melnerney	2:31:57
2. Dave Haddock/Davy Nelson/Tom Day	2:38:48
3. Bob Newell/Martin Savage/Martin Fox	2:43:33



Paddle 2000

Conceived at the turn of the millennium, Paddle 2000 is the generic name of a BCU supported canoeing inclusion project using the Pacific Outrigger to broaden paddling opportunities for able and disabled young people.

The project introduces to this country a whole new offshore, World Championship, crew-boat, racing discipline. It is currently driven by a working party chaired, until his tragic accident, by BCU Vice President, Geoff Sanders, supported by Mike Devlin, Suzy Hornby, Viv Kendrick and John Court.

The working party was convened by Geoff in response to growing interest in Outrigger in this country and to enthusiasm shown by John returning from his Churchill Fellowship/ Mike Jones Award, travelling round the Pacific looking at best practice in Outrigger programmes for people with disabilities,

The group brings together the development expertise of Mike and Suzy, Suzy's racing experience in the Outrigger, Viv's wealth of disability development experience and John's Travelling Fellowship overview.

A first task of the working party was to arrange a British source of boats at reasonable prices. Arrangements were made for the CanoeSport 'Force Five' OC6 to be manufactured under licence by P&H in Derby. Thanks to Geoff's trusteeship the Canoeing Foundation took up the task of supporting the new discipline and is covering the cost of the mould in order to keep costs down. The licence fee is to be administered by the BCU with the intention of promoting the boat to priority groups.

The working party now wants to see the discipline grow under a representative administration. At this point it is not thought appropriate to form another specialist committee of the BCU but a 'club with a national remit' has been proposed with the name 'BCU Outrigger UK.'

There are a number of people around the country known to have experience and enthusiasm for Outriggers - now is your chance to join the group and grow the new discipline from the ground up - but there are also no doubt people new to outrigger paddling but keen to see it develop. We need everyone's expertise and ideas to ensure the best possible future for outrigger paddling in the UK. For further details about the group, obtaining boats and outrigger paddling contact Suzy Hornby email suzyss@compuserve.com or phone 020 8941 5466.

John Court, Project Director

Bushsport team up with The-Watershed.co.uk

You can now purchase handcrafted Bushsport made decks from The-Watershed.co.uk. Dean Maragh of the Watershed is pleased to be able to supply Bushsport made decks as they have stood the test of time for build quality and are longlasting superior decks in the toughest of conditions. The-Watershed.co.uk is stocking neoprene decks suitable for whitewater, polo, touring and marathon at internet prices. Said Dean "In choosing our deck supplier I asked paddlers what they thought. One striking feature was that paddlers who needed to replace their Bushsport deck, did so with another Bushsport despite cheaper and multi feature decks being available"

See them at www.the-watershed.co.uk, or email Dean@the-watershed.co.uk

New name, new activities

Riverdart goes from strength to strength. With the new paddling season now upon us, they have had a busy summer working on many improvements to build upon the success of last year.

- New brand name 'Riverdart Adventures'
- Season extension
- Refurbished Xtreme's bar
- Saturday night lectures
- White Water Rafting
- Swift Water Rescue Courses & Rescue Team
- Improved play hole & flood lighting at broken weir
- Indoor climbing wall now open
- Outdoor activities for families and supporters
- Skills courses & qualifications
- New sponsors and supporters



Access

We are pleased to be able to say that the BCU and the Dart fishing Association have finalised access arrangements for this year and that in support of this, Riverdart will again be running the full range of services trailed last year. The new access/egress point at water works bridge will again be in action. Paddlers and supporters are requested to use the car park within our grounds at all times and to make use of the free shuttle service for the Loop section that is running at weekends.

The BCU access team together with considerable lobbying from Riverdart Adventures have managed to agree a season extension until the 16th March – check out the BCU access team for details. This is a fantastic step forward and reinforces the improvements that were trailed last year.

Swift water rescue

We will be the first provider in the South West to run Rescue 3 International's Swift Water Rescue level 1 & 2 courses from this October. We will also be operating a swift water rescue team here from October in support of any incidents that may occur.

Park & play at Broken Weir

Broken Weir within our grounds (not to be confused with the dangerous Holne Weir below Holne Bridge) was for years the best kept secret on the Dart. Over the summer, there has been considerable renovation undertaken to improve it for play boating (with a big thanks going to the experts from Nookie Xtreme Sports Equipment) – we are all eagerly awaiting the winter water levels to check out it's success. The new improved wave and eddy will hopefully be a winner for playboaters and the site will be floodlit for evening use by club members.

All in all it adds up to make the West country a must for all paddlers this winter with the famous Dart being just one of the cracking runs available. So if your visiting for courses, river running, sea kayaking, open boating or surfing check out Riverdart Adventures at Ashburton on the A38.

www.riverdart.co.uk

**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

CALL US FREE

0800 542 6782

OR IF LINE BUSY: 0161 474 1499

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

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



Film festival in Llangollen

7th December 2002

Provisional program

The 'Big Bend of the Tsangpo'. Allan Ellard with the film and also slides of this major expedition attempting to paddle the Tsangpo River as it flows around the big bend as it falls off the Tibetan plateau and heads for the plains of Bangladesh.

Adventures in Looner land. Simon Westgarth new video featuring the likes of Deb Pinniger, Cheese, Andy Philips, Allan Ellard falling down ridiculous waterfalls in Norway and the Alps.

Pain Killers II (We may also show Pain Killers I for those who missed the most original paddling video of many years) See the further adventure of Scream Nitro and Sperm as they run the most impossible of drops and research the next rodeo moves.

Bactaria River, Iran. Dave Manby, Bob Marchant and Deb Cook. The full story of the first descent of this stunning river. White water, portages, robbery, unbelievable scenery, - this trip had everything.

Other films/lectures to be announced.

Starts 5.00p.m. Eistedfod building Llangollen. Finishes 11.00. Bar.

It follows the findings of a recent study by Dr Chris Busby who found appalling high levels of cancer in the coastal town of Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, just five miles from Hinkley Point nuclear power station.

With the small community of Burnham-on-Sea experiencing levels of some cancers at five times the national average, Dr Busby's research looked at the hypothesis that radioactive particles discharged into the sea are deposited on the local mud banks, blown downwind and inhaled by residents over a long timescale, triggering the cancers.

Surfers Against Sewage were shocked to learn that nearly two-thirds of those diagnosed with cancer in the community had hobbies involving the sea or the beach. With Britain's beaches experiencing an explosion in the popularity of water sports, there is little coastline around Britain that is not currently being used for water based leisure activities and this includes beaches close to existing nuclear power stations and nuclear facilities!

Vicky Garner, SAS Campaigns Director says: "Having battled to remove the threat of viruses and bacteria from the water, it looks like there's another threat to water users emerging from the shallows. If the study findings are indicative of a situation arising near all nuclear facilities, the 'green, clean seas' of our dreams could soon be replaced by 'neon green, mean seas', the stuff of nightmares".

SAS are calling on the government to fund an independent study to examine the extent of the risk presented by nuclear discharges, to water users. Since many recreational water users spend several hours at a time in the water, they should be considered a high-risk group and should be the focus of an extensive, comprehensive study, urgently.

Happy birthday

Southwater Watersports have just completed their first year of retail trading with great success. They Offer a huge range of equipment and have established themselves as one of the south's leading one stop kayak and canoe shop. John Dowling, the owner, says the success has come from his enthusiastic instructing staff, who introduce beginners to the joys of canoeing and kayaking whilst improving and maintaining progress of intermediates, with regular training, pool sessions, and river journeys. Southwater Watersports Centre is based just two miles below Horsham in West Sussex. Training takes place in the excellent surroundings of Southwater Country Park with the shop is situated approximately 800 metres from the park. Further information: contact John Dowling on 01403 732389

Website Shop: www.ukkayaking.co.uk. Order equipment Online. Website Training: www.southwatersports.co.uk

Surfers fear over radioactive beaches

'Clean water advocates' Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) are calling for an independent government-funded study to examine the health of recreational water-users that use the sea close to nuclear power stations.

Starter Pack

BOAT: Conquest
DECK: Nylon
PADDLE: HPI
was £348.90
OFFER
£299



BEG-INT Pack

BOAT: ARC, SPARK, JIVE 8'10" and KENDO
DECK: L' Shock
PADDLE: Schlegal N20
was £560.90
OFFER
£479



RIOT Pack

BOAT: Riot Disco
Deck: Peak Freestyle
Paddle: Riot Freeride
RRP: £582.95.
OFFER
£499



Inazone Pack

BOAT: Inazone 232
DECK: Yak L-Shock
PADDLE: Schlegal N20
RRP £660
OFFER **£569**



Offer Boats

Necky Zip Now £499, Was £600
Pyranha 5-7..... Now £590, Was £699
Perception Java..... Now £599, Was £699

New Models

Pyranha 1'3 new model.....£749
Eskimo Topo new shape.....£629
Riot Disco new spec.....£450
Pyranha Inazone 232 new spec.....£499

INTEREST FREE ON KAYAKS AVAILABLE

Yak Centre Deck

Nylon deck taped seams
• Webbing reinforced
• Adjustable fit
£19.99



Yak L-Shock

• Latex shotcord system
• Superstretch waist
• Heavy duty release
• Abrasion resistant rim
RRP £51.95
£44.99



Wildwater Expression

• Neck and cuff latex seals
• Twin seal
• Wild skin skirt
• Breathable ripstop fabric
• Only medium in stock
RRP £120
NOW £69.00



Wildwater Foam adjustable

• adjustable cradle
• ear protectors
was £29.95
NOW £28



Yak Makenzie

• Adjustable shoulder and waist straps
• Front zip
• pocket
RRP £51.95
NOW £39.95



Yak Vortex Cag

• Smooth Skin Neck Seal
• Latex Double Cuff
• Twin Waist Seal
• Breathable Fabric
RRP: £109.95
OFFER: **£69**



ALL PACKAGES ABOVE ARE AS A GUIDE AND CAN BE TAILORED TO YOUR REQUIREMENTS

Kogg Alpine Freedom

• Freestyle Cut
• All-round compression
RRP £65
OFFER
£49



Yak 20m Throw Bag

Plus Carry Harness was £26
OFFER
£19



Emersion Research Competition Cag

• Smooth skin neoprene neosealkk
• Latex twin wrist seals
• 1mm twin waist seals
• Extremely comfortable
• 3 colour options
RRP **£159.95**



RoHo 3mm

Wetsuit longjohn Adults
£39.95
Juniors
£34.95



CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR LATEST OFFERS



Robin Hood Watersports

152 Leeds Road, Heckmondwike, West Yorkshire
check website for full stock **WEB-SITE: www.roho.co.uk**

MAIL ORDER HOTLINE 01924 444888
BEST PRICES FOR SCHOOLS, CENTRES & SCOUT GROUPS - WE CAN QUOTE FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS!

What the Blazes!



Let's face it ... everyone hates queuing. Why work all week and then spend the weekend sitting in an eddy? That's the thought that's

leading paddlers away from park and play venues back to the rivers in ever increasing numbers.

What will you use when you get there? You still want the freestyle performance but need a bit more space to spend longer in the kayak and some volume wouldn't go amiss when you're running drops and bigger waves.

That's where Perception's new Blaze comes in. You get the best of both worlds; you can chuck ends, launch big blunts and surf every which way at the play spots; then when you head off down stream can still run the best lines and play when you want to.

The Blaze comes in three sizes to allow paddlers to choose the performance that best suits their personal requirements. To obtain the optimum performance from both boat and paddler, the comfort control cockpit is packed with adjustable features. The padded seat, foam moulded thigh braces, footrests, ratchet backrest and aircore, inflatable, hip pads all adjust to allow the boat to be fully personalised to the paddler so two become one without compromising safety and comfort. (NB Final outfitting specification subject to confirmation)

Specifications:

User Guide: Intermediate - Advanced

Type: Freestyle River Running (Free-Ride)

Paddler Weight (kg): Blaze 6.9 <60; Blaze 7.1 60-80; Blaze 7.3 80-100

Length (cm): Blaze 6.9 208; Blaze 7.1 216; Blaze 7.3 224

Width (cm): Blaze 6.9 62; Blaze 7.1 65; Blaze 7.3 67

Volume (litres): Blaze 6.9 170; Blaze 7.1 187; Blaze 7.3 207

Weight (kg): Blaze 6.9 15; Blaze 7.1 16; Blaze 7.3 17

Inside Cockpit (cm): 86 x 48

Colours: Tie-dye colour-wash

Availability Date: 6.9 & 7.1 October 2002; 7.3 November 2002

The flat bottomed hull, release chines and heavy rocker are key design features.

Get some Ultra Violet this Autumn

In advance of the launch of their 2003 ranges Perception have launched two vibrant new colours in kayaks across their range. The bright new Ultra Violet and a punchy new Firecracker add more zip to colour schemes including colour wash options. To find out more visit your local Perception outlet or contact Perception on 01825 765892.



www.perception.co.uk

Lottery award helps out

Members of Arun Canoe Club in Sussex recently received a lottery award of £2,700 towards the cost of replacing their old pool practice boats. They have now purchased four Perception Sparcs and four Arcs along with airbags and spraydecks for use by new and current members when practicing in the pool. Club Chairman Martin Bashford said "ACC is a family based club, these new boats will allow children and adults to be introduced to kayaking in a safe environment. On behalf of all Arun Canoe Club members I would like to thank Sports For All for their help and to John at Southwater Water Sports for the very efficient service he offered when ordering and delivering the new equipment". For further details contact the club at www.aruncanoeclub.org.uk

New members for ACT

ACT
association
of canoe trades

Phoenix and West Midlands Canoe Centre have recently joined the Association of Canoe Trades. Said Joel Scott of Phoenix "The ACT is the best way to move the trade forward, I'm pleased to have joined and look forward to developing a trade show through ACT where the British Trade can do business with dealers from the UK and the world".

Dean Maragh, Chief Executive of the ACT commented "It's a reflection of an enlightened industry where manufacturers, retailers and competitors can see the benefit of collaboration on issues such as lobbying MPs for more access, increasing the awareness of canoeing at events such as Southampton Boatshow where over 60,000 people visited the Southampton rapids and providing solid support for best practice compliance on issues such as environmental waste management and inclusive paddling".

Purchasing equipment from an ACT member means you are supporting a caring company. Email ACT@britishmarine.co.uk for a list of members.

Teva's latest range

The latest addition to AMG Outdoor's brand portfolio is Teva footwear. Teva's latest range features new product innovations and the further development of a "closed shoe" range, as well as its established watersports models.

Teva's 2003 range is split into six categories including a

kids and infants range. "Hydro" caters for dedicated watersports enthusiasts with a range of shoes and sandals aimed at offering "pure performance in the water." Brand new introductions in the 2003 range include the Ricochet II and Gamma models - both are amphibious shoes that are equally at home on land or in the water.

Ricochet II is a top of the range shoe with highly breathable, quick draining mesh uppers and effective drainage ports below the midsole to ensure the rapid expulsion of water. Gamma is constructed using a breathable perforated synthetic leather and mesh upper with a wrap over outsole for added traction. Within the Hydro range is the popular Proton shoe that has been carried over from last year. Proton is aimed at canoeists and has a lightweight neoprene collar with synthetic nubuc and nylon stretch mesh upper for fit and support, and maximum water flow to quicken drying time.

The "Terrain" range includes the Wraaptor 2 model - the latest in the next generation of functional outdoor sandals, providing optimum foot protection whilst using Teva's Wraaptor Fashion Arch strapping system to hold the foot secure and stable.

The ever-popular Terra-Fi continues in the range with its Patented Universal Strapping System, anti-microbial footbed, Brain Drain topsole and non-marking Spider Rubber outsole for maximum grip on both wet and dry surfaces.

Further information on the Teva range can be obtained from the Teva website at www.teva.com or by contacting the Teva sales office on 01475 744122.

www.teva.com

New school adventures in Loonerland this winter

After the success of Loonerland.net camps this summer, it has become very obvious that the depth of skill developed from new school paddling has not trickled down to the river running paddlers or to the playboaters.

This winter, Loonerland aims to re-address this imbalance by running a number of day clinics specifically aimed at introducing new school paddling skills and river running techniques. Whether you are a white water veteran or progressive club paddler, Loonerland's depth of cutting edge paddling skills coupled with their educationalist approach to kayak teaching will induce a steep re-engagement to your learning curve.

New school paddling technique. Day clinics starting this autumn in Devon from October - January 2003

New school river running technique. Day clinics starting this autumn in Devon from November - January 2003
For more info & booking contact Loonerland.net through www.loonerland.net

ESC kicks off Extreme Film Fest

Extreme Sports Channel has broken boundaries once more by embarking on a six-month film season. The Extreme Film Fest, screening world premieres of some of the greatest extreme movies ever made Monday to Friday 19.00 and 00.00.

The Extreme Film Fest is a daily fix of the worlds best extreme sport films. Every weekday sports enthusiasts have a chance to see, often for the first time, the crème de la crème of extreme sports programming, shot by the worlds top sports film-makers.

Over 120 films were hand picked by the Extreme Sports Channel team, bringing you the best in Extreme sports programming. Look out for Kayaking films like Valhalla in the coming weeks on Extreme Film Fest. For further information on the Extreme Film Fest schedule check out www.extreme.com

Extreme Sports Channel is the worlds first channel solely dedicated to round the clock coverage of extreme sports and lifestyles from around the globe and it is currently available in the UK to all digital satellite TV subscribers and on NTL Digital on channel 422.



Real scary t-shirts

realscared have teamed up with Moonbeams, a charity that provides support for children with cancer, to produce a charity T-shirt. The charity takes the children for all sorts of adventures including days out, abseiling or helping them meet their idols from the world of pop to the silver screen. They also fund a holiday home in Yorkshire, which is specially designed to allow the families a full break away from home with the children enjoying themselves and having the support they need. These children need to have fun now as some do not recover from the cancer.

I know we take going on adventures for granted, so the realscared team thought it would be great to try and help a few of these children enjoy an adventure too.

realscared is donating all the money raised from the sale of the charity T-shirt to Moonbeams. The T-shirts are only £15 and can be bought from www.realscared.com. As an added incentive all those who buy a charity T-shirt will be entered in a draw to win a weekend of adventure with The AdventureFitness Company in North Wales.

* SERVICING & REPAIRS * FAST TURNAROUND * COMPETITIVE PRICES *

Rubberman Drysuits & Seal Replacement Services

Made to Measure Drysuits a Speciality
Repairs to Wetsuits, Drysuits, Cags,
Dry Trousers, Salopettes
All types / sizes of latex seals replaced
Pressure testing and leak troubleshooting
Zip and boot replacement
Alterations and repairs on other
outdoor equipment

Chris Steele, Rubberman Drysuits
& Seal Replacement Services
Tan-y-Ffordd Ucha, Glan Conwy
Colwyn Bay, Conwy LL28 5PG
Phone: 01492-580616 or 07778-803775
Email: chris@rubberman.co.uk
Website: www.rubberman.co.uk

RUBBERMAN

* DIVE*CANOE*SAIL*SURF*RAFT*DIVE*CANOE*SAIL*SURF*RAFT*

FYNE BOAT KITS

18 models from open boats to sea kayaks.
Build in as little as a week. The kits contain all that is needed including pre-cut joints & panels, epoxy & manuals to make a strong boat to be proud of.



www.fyneboatkits.com
Tel: 01539 444300 Fax: 01539 447662
email: info@fyneboatkits.com

THE WATERSPORTS SHOP
www.wipeoutwatersports.co.uk
Canoe & Kayak Shop
7 Park Hill, Swallownest
Sheffield
S26 4UN
Tel: 0114 2695757
Tel or Fax: 0114 2692739
Tues - Sat 9.30 till 6.00
Contract prices for clubs, centres and schools
paskie@wipeoutwatersports.co.uk
New! Online Shop!!

Land Rover searches for global adventurers

The annual Land Rover G4 Challenge builds on the brand's undoubted adventure lineage, and will feature competitors from 16 nations competing in an exhilarating off-road driving and multi-sport challenge against a backdrop of some of the world's most stunning scenery.

The Land Rover G4 Challenge, named because it comprises four consecutive global stages, each in a different time zone, starts in New York City on 30 March, 2003, and covers around 4000 miles over five weeks of intense competition. The challenge features stages on the East and West coasts of North America, in addition to Australia and South Africa, travelling through remote areas as well as urban centres such as Quebec, Cape Town, Sydney and Las Vegas.

One competitor from each participating nation will be selected to represent their country in the challenge from the thousands who are expected to apply when recruitment begins. As well as striving for individual

success, competitors will have to demonstrate their abilities as bi-national team players by working with a different team mate during each challenge stage.

"The Land Rover G4 Challenge will be the adventure of a lifetime," commented Bob

Dover, Managing Director of Land Rover. "In line with our philosophy of inspiring and delivering adventure for everyone, entry is free. Although a higher than average standard of physical fitness is important, the challenge is more about international teamwork, clever strategic thinking and a positive 'up for it' attitude than out-and-out strength or stamina.

"It is also about being environmentally responsible," he continued. "In each challenge location, we are working closely with environmental agencies, state and local authorities to ensure the impact of our activities is kept to a minimum, preventing conflict with other Land Rover environmental initiatives, such as Tread Lightly. Additionally, much of the competitive activity will take place in urban centres, where the Land Rover G4 Challenge will be accessible to many more people."

All four Land Rover vehicles – Range Rover, Discover, Freelander and Defender – painted in specially commissioned 'tangiers orange', will feature on the challenge. All the vehicles will be built to standard mechanical specification, with specialist expedition equipment fitted off-line to enable the competitors to 'live' in their Land Rover during week-long challenge stages. The vehicles must also be capable of carrying the multitude of equipment – kayaks, mountain bikes and climbing kit – which the competitors will need to complete the challenge.

The Land Rover G4 Challenge is already attracting attention from global television broadcasters, who see the potential to draw in diverse audiences through the mix of competitive adventure and human interaction.

From 00.01 hrs on 23 July, would-be competitors can visit <http://www.landroverG4challenge.com> for further information and to register their interest, or drop into their local Land Rover dealer for more details.



River Dart Action for Access access

The LAO's for the Dart, Torridge and Taw have moved to the following address: **The Old Post House, St Giles in the Wood, Torrington, Devon EX38 7JQ. New access phone line 01805-623140** (answered on Monday 4 - 6pm and on Thursdays 10am - 1pm). Website: www.dartaccess.co.uk
If you have already posted to our old address **please** do not send duplicate requests as we are having the post redirected by the Royal Mail.

Angling Canoeing Liaison Group – outcome from stage one of the lobby The ACLG meeting for May 8 having been cancelled due to the reduced availability of the angling representatives was re-scheduled and held on July 22 in London. On this occasion representatives from all member groups were present.

Key to the meeting was an update from the Department of Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) following their consideration of the Brighton report - "*Water Based Sport and Recreation: the facts*". The BCU was pleased to hear from the senior DEFRA official present, that the minister, Rt. Hon Alun Michael MP had directed the Countryside Agency to prepare proposals for incentive schemes to encourage landowners to provide access to water.

Pilot 'demonstration projects' for linear access are proposed which are to be progressed by the Countryside Agency and DEFRA with input from the BCU. A September start date for the project is promised but action at a local level is unlikely until 2003.

The ACLG Terms of Reference were also reviewed at the request of the BCU, particularly the Aims, which had an element of ambiguity. These are now clarified and the group has a specific reference to the promotion of arrangements for the shared use of water. The next meeting is scheduled for January 2003.

Subsequently all regions were invited to propose rivers for inclusion in this project and their recommendations have been refined into a short list by the access team.

Our experience of negotiation does not lead us to have

high expectations but the government needs to have independent evidence of the difficulties, as it did in promoting the independent review '*Water Based Sport and Recreation: the facts*', before accepting our carefully considered opinion that new legislation is the only solution.

We shall co-operate as fully as possible with these demonstration projects and expect members at a local level to be involved and to assist as necessary.

Lobby stage 2

As reported in the last edition the access team has been completing its plans for the next stage of the lobby seeking 'an equitable and secure share of access to inland waters for canoeists' through new legislation and this will go for approval to the Access Management Committee Meeting in October.

In order to be able to implement this next stage we were seeking the employment of full time access officers but at the time of writing this report we are still waiting for a decision from the Chairman and Chief Executive.

Wye navigation order

Arising out of problems on the Wye the Environment Agency sought legislative powers to give them adequate authority to resolve these problems. There was a public enquiry in 1977 to which the BCU gave evidence. These regulations have now been approved and subject to any legal challenge will now be implemented. They include provision for licensing craft and will permit a block agreement with the BCU should licensing be introduced.

Eirfloat®

Modular Pontoon Systems
for Industry and Recreation



- Floating jetties
- Landing stages
- Floating bridges
 - Canoe Polo Pontoons
 - Diving and leisure platforms

Eirfloat Ltd., Lislevane,
Bandon, Co. Cork, Ireland.

Tel. +353 23 40525, Fax. +353 23 40536, Email: info@eirfloat.com

www.eirfloat.com

IMPARTIAL ADVICE

END OF SUMMER SALE

You won't believe the prices



Outdoor ACTIVE

COMPETITIVE PRICES

Get your **FREE** copy of
our Sales List today by
contacting us on

E sales@outdooractive.ltd.uk

T 01454 261058

F 01454 260179

Damery Works, Woodford, Berkeley, Glos GL13 9JR

UK Importer for
WENONAH CANOES
CURRENT DESIGNS SEA KAYAKS

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.



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) 330026
email: sales@avoncraft.co.uk www.avoncraft.co.uk



Alex Burbeck



Fiona Jarvie

Boulter's Rodeo 2002

Results

Novice Final

- 1 Tim Rowland
- 2 James Lawrence

Junior Final

- 1 Alan Ward
- 2 Carl Leahy
- 3 Duncan Faulkner

Ladies Final

- 1 Fiona Jarvie
- 2 Louise Wigmore
- 3 Christi Hodgson

Mens Final

- 1 Carl Leahy
- 2 Mark Birkbeck
- 3 Chris Chapman

C1 Final

- 1 Lee Pyke
- 2 Jamie Burbeck
- 3 Rob Dixon

Sunday the 8th of September saw the running of the second Boulter's Rodeo organised by Andy Jackson of Kayakojacko and his crew. The weather was not as predicted and I suspect a few people went home a little pinker than they arrived.

Numbers of paddlers was a little disappointing; how many were put off by the stories of brutal kickings and sustained mystery moves that were the norm in 2001? For those of you who may not be aware, here is a short bit of history. Boulter's weir has one of the largest height level drops on the whole of the river Thames. In the now distant past this was the site of gathering for all playboaters when Hurley was in flood, as it used to produce one of the best surf waves in the country - if only we had the boats and knowledge then that we have now! In 1998 the weir had to be rebuilt and the wave became a thing of legends. The Environment Agency with local paddlers invested time and money to build the canoe flume that is now on site with staging area and easy spectator access, but unfortunately things did not quite go to plan and they produced a rather violent and unforgiving pour-over feature that was nothing like the Chertsey weir they were hoping for.

With some traditional carpentry skills and general playboater determination and brute force a temporary wooden structure was constructed for the event to try to pacify the feature by reducing its final drop height into the weir basin. I think Kayakojacko can claim a good 90% success rate and was able to produce something in between the main feature on the Nene WW course and the chute at Chertsey.

Competition got underway at a leisurely pace with the prelims at lunchtime for all classes, Novice, Men's K1, Junior K1, Ladies K1 and C1. Two runs of 45 seconds was the format and while the feature was not overly retentive many cartwheels, cleans and occasionally super cleans were

the way to accumulate your technical score, variety was the make or break of your final score, Split wheels were not easy, loops practically non-existent but still attempted. Any of the newer combination moves like Tricky-woos had a very low chance of success. Finalists were picked from the Pre-lim results and they then proceeded to a knockout final.

It was at this point that some of the junior paddlers who had opted for the Men's K1 as well as their own junior category realised that they were about to undergo two knockout finals. Some of the people who seemed to notice this most were Carl Leahy and Alan Ward who ended up slogging it out to the final two places in the juniors. Carl made it to the end of the men's with a win; Alan won the juniors. Personally I was glad that the temporary wooden structure was in place as I was one of the people who, to quote Cheesy from last year, "got a kicking on his off-side in the C1". Sorry to all the bystanders and the Judges but I was not intending to be the entertainment this year! The C1 event was won by Lee Pike, who I'm sure gave the judges a few problems as he was cart wheeling at an obscene speed that may have made counting the ends difficult. The ladies event was a close thing between Flea Jarvie and Wiggy, who battled it out to the end with Flea finishing on top.

Thanks for organising the event must go to Kayakojacko and his team, the judges the Environment Agency, Nookie and Whitewater the Canoe Centre. ●

By Rob Dixon - Sept 2002



Tom Greenway

KAYAKOJACKO

Really, really good soft-wear



Flotation Bag / DFD, NKE Cap + DFD

Waist Towel, Rescue Throwers

www.nookie.co.uk

HAYLING TRAILERS *Established 1983*
The UK's canoe & kayak specialist trailer builder

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

4 kayaks with 2 GRP boxes 10 kayaks

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

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

2 1/2 Layers and mesh box 3 layer - Open box, drop tail & PVC cover

THREE KAYAK WIDE TRAILER
max 7 high (21 kayaks)

15 kayak model with the aluminium Keepsafe All boxes optional - GRP, Mesh & Aluminium boxes are lockable

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

optional GRP 'Gearbox'

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

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

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

254A Havant Road Hayling Island Hampshire PO11 0LW

• PYRANHA • PERCEPTION • DAGGER • WERNER

PADDLE SPORT

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

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

Group Buyers Package Deals
• BEST ADVICE • BEST PRICES • BEST SERVICE

£6, 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

AINS WORTH • BUSHSPORT • PLAYBOATER

• PALM • NOOKIE • YAK • WILD WATER • PEAK • RIOT • OLD TOWN • GORILLA • NECKY • STREAMLYTE •

INSURANCE

SURFING & WINDSURF DINGHY SMALL CRAFT CANOE

TO MEET THE MOST DEMANDING CHALLENGES
To obtain a personalised quotation, arrange cover or to simply ask a question, one number is all you need:

01708 385500

Devitt



Dare devil Dick strokes his way to help save UK whales and

WDCS supporter, Richard Aitkinson pushed his canoe off mainland Britain and stroked his way out into the North Sea four months ago. After two years preparation he faced some of the world's biggest tides, gruelling south westerly winds and some very busy shipping routes! Richard chose to raise money and awareness for WDCS, the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society. With every stroke Richard has helped raise vital funds and raised awareness of the UK's whales and dolphins.

The staff at the Moray Firth Wildlife Centre saw Richard paddle off into the distance on May 5th 2002. Leaving Spey Bay in Scotland, Richard faced months of physical anguish, commitment and ocean magic! Three months into his trip Victoria Reinthal from WDCS probed a weather beaten, but high spirited Richard at one of his stops in New Quay, Cardigan Bay, Wales.

Q. What inspired you to canoe around the British mainland?

A. It's something that's been a pipe dream of mine for years - as a sea kayaker it's 'the ultimate voyage' in many ways. It also seemed like a great adventure and a fantastic way to get to know the coast of my own country better.

Q. Why do you support WDCS

A. Because I care deeply about what's happening to our marine environment and the wholesale destruction of it that's taking place. WDCS is addressing one aspect of that and I'm pleased to assist in that in any way I can.

Q. What wildlife have you seen, any cetaceans?

A. Well - all sorts! Seabirds and more seabirds for a start! Especially

great flocks of gannets near their colonies. I've seen dolphins near Aberdeen, and just today probably a dozen or more near by New Quay in Cardigan Bay- I can well recommend it for dolphin watching! Also I've seen huge basking sharks off Cornwall - fascinating. (Richard also saw a Minke Whale near the Isle of Skye, Scotland).

Q. Witnessed any marine pollution/environmental degradation?

A. I have seen much plastic debris floating in the water or washed up on beaches, which is obviously a hazard to all marine animal and seabirds. It is saddening to see so much litter being discarded without a thought to the potential hazard it may cause.

Q. Have you seen any bad behaviour by any water users, especially towards marine animals

A. Whilst I haven't yet witnessed any, I am all too aware that irresponsible boat behaviour is a major threat to our cetaceans - especially in the summer months. I always adhere to WDCS's Code of Conduct to ensure that any marine animal I see is not harassed in any way.

Q. How long has it taken to train?

A. Because the expedition was originally planned for 2001, and was postponed because of foot and mouth disease, I've been keeping paddling fit for a long time now, some two years. I guess to get fit from scratch took about four months maybe.

Q. What exactly do you carry in your canoe

A. Everything! Tent, sleeping bag and roll mat. Stove, cooking pots, fuel and food for a week or so. All my maps, charts, pilot books and navigation equipment. Plus of course clothing, and then there's all the safety kit - first aid kit, spare paddles, flares, radios and so on. Finally, a canoeist is squeezed in the power the whole thing along!

Q. Have you encountered any difficulties?

A. There have been some wild moments when the combination of weather and tide has caused very powerful breaking seas, and on one or two occasions my kayaking skills have really been put to the test!



info

ACTIVE SEAS is a new programme of WDCS. Its aim is to raise awareness of the rich diversity of cetaceans found in UK waters. The programme highlights the various threats to these wonderful animals and how the public can help conserve both them and their marine environment. WDCS is very keen to work with marine enthusiasts and people who live near, or frequently visit the coastline. ACTIVE SEAS integrates a number of WDCS's conservation initiatives, including sightings information (how, when and where to see cetaceans; how to record sightings), advice on strandings, a water users 'Code of Conduct' around cetaceans, events and much more.

Aitkinson home dolphins!



Richard at various stops around the United Kingdom



On one occasion near Salcombe I was surrounded by huge breaking seas and it took all my concentration just to stay upright - quite scary. Apart from that, really the greatest difficulty is keeping on going when the weather is bad!

Q. What's been the most challenging bit so far?

A. Probably the crossing from the Isle of Lundy, in the Bristol Channel, to St Govan's Head on the Pembrokeshire coast. It was 30 miles of open sea, took me around ten hours and in the middle I could hardly make out any land at all anywhere! It's the biggest open crossing of the voyage so I'm glad to have it safely behind me.

Q. ...and the most satisfying?

A. Well, very hard to say. Probably that same crossing!

Q. Have you been lonely and who/what do you miss

A. Well. Occasionally it can be lonely if you've just recently seen family and friends, but by and large, I don't miss home life too much. The solitude at sea is something quite magical, and when I'm on shore I'm usually too busy cooking, planning, or sleeping to think of much else!

Q. What has the hospitality been like on your journey

A. People have been very welcoming - on once occasion I got given an empty house for the night! Mostly though, it's smaller things but people do take an interest and try to help which is nice.

Q. What's next/lifetime ambition

A. A difficult one. This has been my consuming ambition for a long time now, so when it's done I shall take stock and see what I'd like to do next! I'm off to Barcelona for the next two years to do an MBA degree so I shall be kept out of mischief with that for a while at least!

Q. How much money have you raised so far

A. Don't know exactly. In the region of about two thousand pounds I think - other people back home have helped me here so I don't know the current total.

Richard completed his mammoth trip on Monday 2nd September. He managed to paddle an amazing 2,000 miles around the UK mainland! The challenge took Richard just under four months, and along the way he has had some wonderful cetaceans sightings. Encountering a Minke whale off the Isle of Sky was one of them, as well as bottlenose dolphins and many harbour porpoises. Richard was met at Spey Bay by his parents and friends, as well as staff and volunteers from the Moray Firth Wildlife Centre ●

Words by Edryd Kaill, WDCS

info

Richard is shortly off to Barcelona to do an MBA, so we would like to wish him lots of luck with that and thank him for all his incredible efforts for WDCS. Please visit www.wdcs.org for the full length story of Richard's epic mission. For your free information pack on how you can get active, please call 0870 870 5001, email info@wdcs.org or write to WDCS Active Seas, Freepost (SN863), Melksham, SN12

Sun, surf and smiles

Tamar Canoe Association - ladies surf weekend 13th & 14th July 2002

After anxiously listening to weather and surf reports all week the day had finally arrived and it couldn't of been better - hot and sunny for the first time this summer with 1-2 feet of clean glassy surf! Eight of us ladies from the Tamar Canoe Association had signed up to be coached in the finer skills of surf kayaking with Simon Hammond of Bude. Simon is no stranger to the TCA as we've enlisted his services before but a women's only surf course is new to all of us, only time would tell if it was to be a success!

We all meet up at Crooklets Beach, Bude on the North Cornish coast and after initial introductions we decided to head for Widemouth Bay, a large sandy beach just a couple of miles down the coast.

We changed and met up at the water's edge where Simon outlined his programme and checked how much kayaking we'd all done - we turn out to be quite a varied assortment, from raw beginners to qualified coaches, from the gung- ho to the totally terrified! After a quick discussion about boat types, appropriate clothing, safety signals and a quick warm up we get stuck in.

First lesson, turning side on to the waves and experimenting with how little edge is needed to prevent a capsize (even without a paddle!), 'bongo-ing' shorewards on the waves and moving further out from the beach as we gain confidence. A quick glance shorewards to Simon at the end of each ride and then out for more.

But its not all about surfing. Some of us were having trouble with re-launching from the beach, boats were turning side on to the surf and filling up or else we struggled to seal launch from higher up on the sand. Problem solved, a few suggestions from Simon and a the shortest and driest canoe race in history (3 metres across the dry beach) and we'd gained all the skills to look good the next time we entered the water.

Next we tried catching the waves facing more of less straight towards the beach before setting an edge to begin

info

Simon Hammond from Shoreline Outdoor Pursuits is an aspirant L5 Surf Coach. He and his Surf Kayak school are supported by Mega Surf Kayaks, Gecko Headgear, Lendal Paddles and Gul International. Contact him on hammond.family@virgin.net for more information. Tamar Canoe Association caters for paddlers in the South East corner of Cornwall. Contact Peter Crago on peter.crago@totalise.co.uk for more information.



the distance and we presumed that there must be sea somewhere beyond! It looked more like the Sahara with mirages in the distance! The afternoon passed all too quickly as we worked through balancing beachward rudders with seaward edge to create some fast diagonal runs across the waves. And as if by magic we were all starting to look for the bigger waves as our confidence continued to grow.

As the tide reached an all time record for going out a channel developed in front of us with a sandbar further out. A great chance to practice swimming in with your boat as well as the strange phenomena of surfing a rebounding wave back out to sea - whatever next? Some more swimming, especially as we are getting tired and then the very, very long walk, drag and carry back up the beach, everybody made it, just about, and then collapsed on the grass before we queued for the shower and struggled to find the strength to change. We departed to our various homes or tents for the night with plenty of soggy, sandy, salty gear to wash off and dry out before the next morning.

Sunday dawned with most of us feeling better than we had expected. The campers appear to have had a good night, though most of it seems to have been spent in the pub rather than a tent. It was another hot sunny day with a little less surf, but the waves were glassy and the beach was empty. A review of where we got to yesterday then onwards with lots of individual coaching from Simon with advice to lean forwards and not to over edge and lots more tips fitted to peoples' needs. The whole group was extremely pleased with what they have achieved and most of the



'bongo-ing' in as before. We were all getting the hang of this now and the less experienced paddlers were showing such commitment and enthusiasm that the rest of us were spurred

on to greater efforts.

Next a bit of wiggling, best done with a Salsa rhythm in your head! And the start of some friendly competition between those who had not swum to see who would remain upright longest, no one was to survive the day completely dry.

Time at last for lunch, we opted to leave the kayaks near the water on the still dropping tide rather than carry them back to the now distant car park. A fresh water shower (considerably colder than the sea) allows us to remove the salt and sand but some of us chickened out of changing into dry gear as we are too wimpy to face putting the wet gear back on afterwards.

With binoculars it was then just possible to make out the kayaks in

ladies were now paddling out through the break and lining up for the green waves. At the final debrief Simon was more than happy with our progress and we were all keen to continue surfing in the future. With lots of ideas of what we need to work on we reluctantly called it a day and made the long trek back up the beach.

It was a perfect weekend, skills and confidence have been improved, smiles have replaced looks of fear and we've all had great fun. Can't wait for the next time and boys you'd better look out! ●

Chris Reeves
Tamar Canoe Association
Photos by John Casling and Phil Clark

Liberty Challenge World Outrigger



With the impressive Manhattan skyline as the backdrop for this race it certainly creates an atmosphere that attracts crew from across the world and which has earned it the title of the third most important outrigger canoe race in the world - the premier event being the Molokai Hoe race in Hawaii.

We had heard about the race and thought it would be a good one to go for - well a lot closer than the Hawaiian races - but the dates always seemed to clash with some UK event. Finally in 2001 on our way back from the World Dragon Boat championships we called into see the New York Outrigger club and with a warm welcome we soon found ourselves paddling the Hudson with some of the paddlers. With promises to return the following year we left our new friends in New York - three weeks later the terrorists attacked the World Trade Centre. Those events left everyone numb - but knowing that many of the paddlers lived or worked in the Wall Street area our hearts went out to them in New York. It therefore seemed the right thing to do - to demonstrate our support for the people of New York and the essence of Liberty - to without doubt participate in the race in 2002.

The race has three classes Women's, Men's and Mixed - the women and men race a 16 mile course which starts at the USS Intrepid Aircraft Carrier (now a museum), down the Hudson turning up into the East River at the tip of Manhattan to turn round the Brooklyn Bridge - following a course back round Governors Island to the Statue of Liberty - turning at the buoy and back up the Hudson to the finish. The mixed course is a 12 mile course that goes direct to Liberty for a buoy turn in front of the lady and back. It is the river traffic that creates the hazards and the conditions that make paddling the Hudson tricky for all crews. The Hawaiians used to a swell to take gain time were for once at no advantage - as we all tried to make the best of the choppy conditions.

Our entry from Royal Canoe Club was warmly received by the Americans and outrigger community - it was 1995 that a GB outrigger crew last competed internationally - so to say the least they were surprised - all the more so when not one but two crews entered. A newly formed crew (OCUK) based at Putney also entered the mixed class.

The race organisers run a system whereby clubs will loan visiting crews a boat (for a donation to their club which is negotiable depending on the condition of the boat but around \$250US). To ensure enough boats for each class the race is timed so that each class can return and a changeover of crews so that boats can be shared. The ladies draw the short straw with an 8.30am start but are rewarded with less river traffic and cooler paddling conditions. However, the main determinant of the

race times is the Staten Island Ferry - to ensure crews are in no danger of being run down by this rather large boat.

We were racing in the mixed class which kicked off at 2.40pm - 16 boats lined up across the river and with a threatened five minutes penalty for anyone over the line at the start - the start was by marathon standards very civilised! Paddling with the tide we established a good rhythm and pushed into second place - as we approached Liberty we were a couple of boat lengths down on Team Maui (last years champions). The thrill of paddling up to Liberty was almost lost in the excitement and effort to hold place. A cracking turn on the buoy by our steerer Sue McNuff made up time and making the most of the flat water behind Ellis Island we were able to overtake Team Maui (much to their surprise as they told us later!). The return journey was into the tide and with eight boats lead we put our heads down to battle it out. The Empire State Building looking all the time enticingly close - but never getting any nearer! As we drew towards the finish New York took advantage of local knowledge and dodged between piers and under bridges to draw within a boat's length at the final turn.

As we sprinted across the Hudson to the finish line it seemed we had left them for dust - but... the fat lady still had to sing! As we approached the finish on the other side of the river a tug pulling five barges blocked our way - instructed to go round the back by the escort boat we had no option but to stop paddling for what seemed an eternity of 20 seconds - as the other boats drew up on our tail we set off (rather close to the back prop and wave!) to the finish. Totally disorientated, it was difficult to work out the finish pier (they all looked the same) from the water - hesitation and then to what we thought was the line - crossing with the home team hitting us at seat three. After a long wait - photo finish! The result went to the home team by .39 of second in a time of 1 hour 48 mins and 17.21 seconds!

So...it's a great race, we will certainly be back next year, anyone else?

Royal Canoe Club Outrigger team comprised of Sue and Ian McNuff, Amanda Barratt, Dave Ralphs, John Griffiths and Sue Hornby

We are in the process of setting up a national club for Outrigger paddling - BCU Outrigger UK - for information see page 7. ●

Race report from Sue Hornby



Favourites go out on m



The World Championships at Bourg Saint Maurice in the French Alps must surely be remembered as the occasion when not being amongst the favourites may have had its benefits. This does not detract from the newly crowned world champions who included two previous Olympic champions but seeing the 2002 European Championship men's K1 medallists and Sydney Olympic medallists failing to qualify for the finals was certainly an unexpected upset.

Qualification

Paul Ratcliffe became the first GB victim of the epic river Isere. Paul, 28, the European Champion and Olympic silver medallist started first qualification runs with a steady strong

GB ladies team



Medals Table				
Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
France	K1L Team C2 Team K1M	C2	K1M T C1	6
Slovakia	C2 C1			2
Germany	K1M Team	C2 Team C1 Team C1 K1L		5
Czech Rep	C1 Team	K1L Team	K1M C2	4
USA	K1L			1
Slovenia		K1M	C1 Team	2
Italy		K1M	C1 Team	2
GBR			K1L Team	1
Poland			C2 Team	1

clear run in that placed him first at the break. His second run had a similar pace but trademark head dodging round gates 10 and 12 left the international judges with difficult decisions resulting in two 50-second penalties. Campbell Walsh put in two consistent and quick runs but with a touch on each run he finished 13th. Former Junior World Champion Helen Reeves secured her place in the semi-final with a superb performance. She was accompanied in the ladies top ten by European U23 champion Laura Blakeman. Heather Corrie had to settle for 25th place and Fiona Pennie came in 26th. In the Canadian singles the Eastern Europeans continued to dominate. Strongest qualifying performance from the British was David Florence from Scotland with two clear runs placing him 15th. Bourg is undisputed as the finest

natural river slalom race site in the world, where last year Smith/Bowman won the Bourg Pre-Worlds. On the second run they were tight at gate 13 and given a 50-second penalty.

Semi-final

Elena Kaliska took eight seconds off Laura's run time to go into the lead with six seconds of penalties - stunning. Helen Reeves came close to the pace of the Slovakian and secured her place in the final. Scotland's Fiona Pennie was pushed out of contention following a 50. Pre-championship favourites Mandy Planert from Germany and Rebecca Giddens from the USA went into the final with a few seconds in hand. Only Great Britain and Slovakia managed to secure two competitors into the final ten. The British ladies Laura Blakeman and Helen Reeves are young at 21 and to qualify two ladies into the final ten is an awesome achievement.

Sydney Olympic C1 Champion from France, Tony Estanguet added to the shocks as another champion failed to qualify for the final. The Slovakian's qualified three boats in the top ten. Stu McIntosh had to settle for 12th thus not making the final. With a capability of making the top twenty David Florence's 35th place is not reward for the fine racing performances we saw in qualification. Dan Goddard took 20th place with confidence showing two new racers at their first Senior Worlds doing a smart job.

In the men's semi-final Campbell collected a two second penalty and lost time whilst Anthony Brown misjudged gate 13 and spun out. With only ten going through there was to be no GB boat in the final.

Finals

Nick Smith and Stuart Bowman lying fifth after the semi-final were unable to secure a medal in the final. John MacLeod commented: "Nick and Stuart and the crews of Roden/Roden and Burt/Nicolls should all be pleased with what they have achieved. Smith/Bowman raced hard in the semi and were rewarded with 5th place. James and Andrew Roden came in 16th with a personal best of which they can well be pleased."



Fabien Le Fevre

ighty Iserre

bronze. In the past Great Britain has on several occasions won the honour of best men's kayak nation but this is a first for the Great Britain ladies.

Oliver Fix, GB Head Coach commented: "For our young GB team, the event was an important stepping stone towards the Olympics 2004. For nine of the 15 boats this was a first World Championship experience! We are now looking forward to Augsburg 2003. The World Championships in France were a spectacular well run event on the world's most demanding water which made for a great presentation of our sport." ●

**Story by
John Gregory,
Photos:
Andy Maddock**

The men's racing continued for the final and was incredibly exciting. A really good crowd took every move with either a cheer or a gasp and at times the noise was deafening. The Frenchman, Fabien Le Fevre won gold with a staggering five second margin over Slovenian Miha Terdic.

Rebecca Giddens from the USA won ladies finals. Buoyed by a July win at the World Cup race in Prague, this was her first major title and all the more impressive with a two second penalty. Helen Reeves collected eight seconds worth of penalties to finish ninth. Laura Blakeman had a clear run to finish 6th.

When Michal Martikan appeared at the Nottingham World Championships in 1995 still a junior, it was evident this athlete from Slovakia was destined for greater wins. The following year he won the Atlanta Olympics and has now collected his second world championship title with an incredible five second margin.



Michal Martikan

Teams

The team of Reeves, Blakeman and Corrie held on to their two hundredth of a second first run advantage to bring home a well-earned bronze. Their second run was good enough to put the Slovaks back into 4th whilst the Czechs sneaked into 2nd place. Both Czech and Slovakian ladies teams are formidable in their strength and gives full credit to the GBR performance. Juerg Goetz ladies coach expected no less!"

A fantastic delivery from our Canadian doubles trio of Bowman/Smith, Nicoll/Burt & Roden/Roden who in the first run pulled off one of the best ever British Canadian doubles team runs. The men's kayak team was a real cliff-hanger at the half way stage as the British team of Ratcliffe, Brown and Campbell went into second runs in third place and the ability to take gold.

Overall

The Great Britain ladies canoe slalom team were awarded the honour of best ladies nation in view of the ladies strong performances in the semi-finals, finals and for the team

More slalom

Sportscotland, through the Lottery 'Awards for All' programme, has awarded Aberdeen Kayak Club a grant of £2578 for the purchase of five slalom kayaks and associated paddles, buoyancy aids, hard hats and spraydecks.

The Club will use these to encourage members, particularly junior members, to take part in this competitive discipline - and to improve their paddling skills generally.

The club presently boasts amongst its members two outstanding slalom canoeists paddling with Scottish and British squads at international competitions and championships:

- Tim Baillie the 2002 UK National Under 23 Champion
- Edward Kay the 2001 British Under 14 Champion

The Fox kayaks were delivered in time for the 2002 Seaton Park slalom, thanks to Graham Tiso for pulling out the stops. This allowed many to experience their first slalom in a truly competitive boat, so much so that results included first time promotions during the weekend from first slalom attempt to national division three.



Smith & Bowman

Campbell & ...





Zagreb, Croatia
1st-4th August
2002

Junior & Under 23 European Sprint Racing Championships

Over 700 Competitors from 36 nations competed in this event. This was the first time that there had been an Under 23 Championship. This, along with more Under 23 events appearing on the international calendar, is a welcome opportunity, for those who have recently left the junior ranks, to compete internationally before establishing themselves as full senior team members. In the junior events points table GBR came 20th, Germany won, Hungary came second and Russia was third. In the Under 23 Championships, we came 16th overall - the top three being Hungary, Poland and Germany.

In the Junior Championships, the kayak double crew of Ed Cox/Liam Heath (Wey) reached the final of the 500m where they came 6th only 2.5 seconds behind the bronze medallists. In the 1000m event they missed a place in the final by only 1.4 seconds. The Junior Women's crew of Frankie Negus/Tara Nutt (Elmbridge) were only two seconds away from a place in the 1000m final and three seconds behind the 500m qualifiers. James Train (Fladbury) missed the Canoe 1000m final by five seconds.

In the Under 23 events Jenny Spencer (Hereford), last year's 1000m bronze medallist at the Junior World Championships, qualified directly for the 1000m final where she finished 5th. She also reached the 500m final and came 9th. In the 1000m Paul Burgoyne (Hereford) was five seconds from qualifying for the final and in the 500m Ed McKeever (Bradford on Avon), in his first year as a senior, was 2.4 seconds from the final. These two, paddling with Adam Kennedy (Royal) and Ben Farrell (Fladbury), also in his first year as a senior, missed the 1000m final of the kayak fours by three seconds. As with the junior team, many of the Under 23's will still be eligible for the next European Championships in two year's time. ●

Laurence Oliver., Event Manager



Above: Ed Cox/Liam Heath



Above: Ben Farrell/Adam Kennedy/Paul Burgoyne/Edward McKeever



Above: Jenny Spencer

The team was;

Juniors:

Zara Dale (Elmbridge), Frankie Negus (Elmbridge), Tara Nutt (Elmbridge), Edward Cox (Wey), Tom Daniels (Reading), James Garlick (Leighton Buzzard), Michael Goodall (Elmbridge), Liam Heath (Wey), George Parker (Worcester), John Sawers (Elmbridge), James Train (Fladbury)

Under 23:

Jenny Spencer (Hereford), Paul Burgoyne (Hereford), Ben Farrell (Elmbridge), Nathan Johnson (Elmbridge), Adam Kennedy (Royal), Matthew Lawrence (Leighton Buzzard), Edward McKeever (Bradford on Avon), Tim Sowry (Elmbridge).

Staff:

Laurence Oliver, Anne Ferguson, Shaun Caven, Trevor Hunter, Claudine Le Roux, Karla Smith, David Coulson.



WATERSIDE VENUE MAIL ORDER
CONTRACT SERVICES GROUP PACKAGE DEALS

TEL: 01922 479279

100% Washable

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

A34 To Cannock
A34 To Walsall
Stafford Road
Bloxwich
High Street
West Mids Canoe Centre
Sneyd Lane A4124
Lake
Cannock
M6
To Jct 11
To Jct 10
To Jct 11(M6)
Essington
Cannock Road

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

FOUR SEASONS

- Raft
- Canoe
- Kayak
- Climb
- Camp

- White Water Course
- Retail Shop
- Cafe

BCU Approved Centre

Teesside White Water Centre

Tel: 01642 678000

CARLISLE CANOES

OLD RAFFLES PARADE
WIGTON ROAD
CARLISLE
CUMBRIA
CA2 7EX

TEL/FAX 01228 531703
E-MAIL info@carlislecanoes.co.uk
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
OPENING TIMES
MON - SAT 10.00 - 5.30

SUN & BANK HOLIDAYS BY ARRANGEMENT

THE NORTHS PREMIER KAYAK AND OPEN CANOE SPECIALIST

KAYAKS IN STOCK

PYRANHA
ESKIMO
NECKY
PRIJON
RIOT
PERCEPTION
DAGGER
WAVESPORT

INFLATABLES

GUMOTEX
EUROCRAFT

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

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



Victory escapes Britain

But the drive For British sprint racing domination continues: The story from the XXXII Sprint Racing World Championships

Seville

29th August -
1st September

The elite of the sprint racing world gathered in Seville to contest the 32nd World Canoe and Kayak Championships. Assembled amongst the hopefuls were Tim Brabants and Rachel Train, the British hero and heroine of the European Championships in Szeged. At the climax of the 2002 season the British athletes once again set out with the highest hopes of success and medals on their minds.

The regatta began brightly as Tim Brabants appeared to be living up to the major title he had claimed only a few weeks earlier. Tim won his heat of the Men's K1 1000m in a time of 3.45. However, the reality that minute fractions separate the very best of men's kayak was to hit home with brutal force as Tim was beaten into 3rd place by just 0.9 seconds in his semi-final by the eventual silver medallist, Javier Correa of Argentina. Qualification was snatched out of Tim's hands and smashed British hopes of an extraordinary European and world double. Veras Larsen of Norway was to be crowned world champion whilst Tim fought on undeterred to a respectable yet undeniably disappointing 2nd place in the B-final.

After an encouraging 2nd place in their heat, the British Men's K2 of Ian Wynne and Paul Darby-Dowman produced another runners up performance in their semi final as they finished behind the seasoned international pairing of Oskarsson and Nilsson of Sweden. After his impressive semi-final Paul said, "We felt good coming into the regatta and knew we should make the final so as well as being delighted it's a big relief to have done it. Now, we're just looking forward to the

final and hope to build on our results from the rest of the year." However, the British pair could finish no better than 8th place in the final in a time of 3.17.3. After a positive final training camp in Bordeaux, France the Men's 1000m K4 of Richard Darby-Dowman, Nick Fowler, Glenn Elderidge and Joel Wilson began the championship in good spirits but knowing that the challenge ahead would be the toughest of their paddling career especially for world championship debutants Nick and Glenn. The British four raced to form in the heat finishing 6th in a time of 3.10. However, the semi-final proved just too fast for the British men as they fell back to 8th place at the finish in a time of 3.06.9, 6.5 seconds off qualification for the A-final. A disappointed yet ever optimistic Richard summed up his crews racing, "The standard of competition was high but it was good experience to see how close we are to the worlds best"

In the Women's K1 1000m, though, Tricia Davey found a deal more success as she cruised down to 3rd place in her heat. Indeed, Tricia's good form was to improve further in the semi-final where she raised her game to finish 2nd in a

time of 4.06.8. In the final, the dominant Kovacs of Hungary stormed away from the rest of the field whilst British interest saw Tricia finish in a highly creditable 7th place in 4.01.5.

Unfortunately, Tricia could not recreate her K1 performance in the Women's K4 500m where she teamed up with Lucy Hardy, Rachel Train and Abi Cattle. The British ladies started the regatta with an encouraging heat performance where they finished 4th in heat in 1.38.3. Once again, the semi-final proved to be a stumbling block for the British athletes as they finished 7th. Nonetheless, the young British crew would get another chance to test their mettle in the B-final where they finished 4th in a close race. After the most successful season of her canoeing career to date, Abi Cattle reflected on the status of her boat's chances in the future. "Our performance in K4 was good and reflects the sound improvements we've made since the Euros. However, the result also demonstrates the progress that must be made before Olympic qualification next year."

In the Women's K2 500m, Lucy Hardy and Abi Cattle continued to show improvement as this up and coming pairing raced to a heartening 4th place in their heat. In the semi-final the British crew raced to a hard fought 5th, two places away from qualifying for the A-final. A close finish in the K2 B-final saw Lucy and Abi cross the line 7th behind the winning French pair.

Following a quiet season by her standards, Anna Hemmings was still favoured to have a good outside chance of making the Women's K1 500m final. In spite of her exceptional time of 1.52.6, Anna fell 1.3 seconds short of the A-final qualifying mark and finished in 5th place in her semi-final. Anna was again to miss out by the smallest of margins in the B-final as she finished in 5th position.

Paul Darby-Dowman was to start his campaign for the Men's K1 500 title with a notable performance in his heat where he finished only a fraction behind the championship favourite Ákos Vereckei of Hungary. Despite being in some of the best form of his life and producing a personal best performance of 1.38.1, Paul could not hold onto one of the two qualifying places in his semi-final and was edged into 3rd place. A similar fate was to befall Paul in the B-final where he again finished 3rd exactly one second shy of the Lithuanian athlete's B-final winning time.

British luck did not improve in the Men's K2 500m where Ross Sabberton and Peter Almási hoped to eclipse their European Championship result. After yet another promising heat where the British men finished 2nd, the real test was to come with the semi-final. Again, the Brits were forced into 3rd place in spite of an outstanding season's best time of 1.29.9. Disappointingly, it was not to be the British pair's weekend so like the other British Athletes at 500m would have to race the B-final. Ross and Peter raced well yet again but were edged out of bronze medal position by the experienced crew from the USA and finished 4th in 1.34.6.

The Men's K4 500m was to see the resurrection of last year's British boat of Malcolm Johnson, Matt Foulger, Keith Moule and Joel Wilson. In their heat the British crew finished a respectable 5th in a time of 1.26.1 whilst the boat from Belarus took the win. Unlike the British 1000m K4, the 500m crew managed to snatch the fastest 8th place in the semi-final to take them into the B-final. The British men could not reproduce their 2001 world championship result and slipped back into a below par 9th place.

The Women's 200m events were to bring the British team another two much deserved finals. First up was Rachel Train in the K1 event and hot off her bronze medal at the European Championships. Rachel started solidly as she was placed 3rd in her heat in a time of 42.2. In the semi-final, however, she upped the tempo to finish second in 41.5 and looked set to take on the world's best in the sprint A-final. The Women's K1 final was dominated by the powerful Portela Teresa of Spain as Rachel finished in 6th.



The course

The fans

The city

n in Seville

Rachel was again in action in the K2 200m where she paired up with Anna Hemmings. The British crew raced with real intensity to finish 3rd in their heat in the world class time of 38.4. In the semi-final qualification was far from straight forward as the crew just snatched the 3rd and final spot for

Sunday afternoon's A-final. Nevertheless, the girls raced with great vigour in their final to finish in 6th place.

If the 32nd World Championships did not bring the spectacular results of the European Championships, then they did confirm not only the fractions that separate the athletes at the very top of sprint racing but the ever improving strength of the British squad. The performances of young and up and coming athletes seem set to boost the team's overall performance whilst we all wait with bated breath for the stars of British sprint racing to reach world beating form. ●

Adam Kennedy



Brabant's strikes European Championship gold

Sprint racing team achieves best results for over a decade.

On the 15th of July the Great Britain racing team assembled at the home of sprint racing, the Szeged regatta course in Hungary, for the European Championships. Few would have believed that by the end of the championships the Great Britain team would finish 8th in the medal table and have Tim Brabant's crowned K1 1000m European Champion.

Tim found his best form and a brutal finish that the rest of the European final just could not handle as he surged home to win in a time of 3.34.1. In a breathtaking finish, Tim snatched gold from the hands of his Polish rival by just 0.08 of a second in the final few strokes of the K1 1000m final. Clearly delighted yet ever the perfectionist Tim said, "It was great to get the result with such a strong field of competitors. I am feeling much fitter and stronger than I have since the Olympics but still have a way to go. The worlds will certainly be a close race and I hopefully I will have further improved my form by then."

Tricia Davey showed that she still has the potential to challenge for a medal at the World Championships in September as she fought her way to a 7th place finish in the Women's K1 1000m final that was dominated by the Hungarian, Kovács. Paul Darby-Dowman and Ian Wynne continued the run of British success in the hotly contested K2 1000m final but could not quite handle the pace of the Swedish crew that took gold four seconds ahead of the British pair that finished in 6th place.

The British 1000m K4 of Richard Darby-Dowman, Nick Fowler, Glenn Elderidge and Joel Wilson took great confidence from their heat performance as they finished 5th braking the three-minute barrier that had eluded them throughout the season. However, the British crew, hindered by worsening conditions, failed to reproduce their heat performance and slipped to 7th place in the semi-final. Nick Fowler summed up his boats weekend and the atmosphere in Szeged, "We were happy to beat 3.00 in the heat but under-performed in the semi. Nonetheless, it's our first big senior regatta and racing in front of 25,000 people is an amazing experience."

If Saturday's 1000m results had been astonishing then Sunday's 500m and 200m finals were to see more British athletes in the hunt for medals. Paul Darby-Dowman, now back to full fitness, wiped out the memory of his B-final finish at the Duisburg World Cup with a superb performance in the K1 500m. Paul was 5th in the final just 1.4 seconds behind the eventual winner and pre-championship favourite Ákos Vereckei of Hungary. Nevertheless, Paul's final performance where he achieved a personal best time of 1.38.3 proves that Britain have a great chance of medals in both of the Men's K1 events at the Seville World Championships. Unfortunately, Anna Hemmings could not equal Paul Darby-Dowman's fierce performance in the Women's K1 500m. Anna raced to 5th place in her semi-final.

Fortunes fared less well for the British 500m crew boats. In

the Men's K2 500m semi-final Peter Almasi and Ross Sabberton had final qualification snatched from their grasp on the line. The British crew were left bitterly disappointed when their time of 1.31.8 meant that they would miss-out on the final by just 0.4 of a second. The Women's K2 of Abi Cattle and Lucy Hardy also struggled in their semi-final in which the British girls placed 8th. Although, this young pairing certainly have the potential to be a mainstay of the women's team in years to come.

The British crews luck failed to improve in the K4 500m when again the British boats where just fractions of a second away from final qualification. The huge effort of Women's K4 of Lucy Hardy, Tricia Davey, Rachel Train and Abi Cattle failed to bring them the final place they had been aiming for as the British women finished only 0.3 of a second away from final qualification in a time of 1.39.3. The Men's 500m K4 of Malcolm Johnson, Keith Moule, Paul Hoborough and Matt Foulger could do no better in their semi-final as they fell short of final qualification and finished in 7th place.

At 200m the Men's K2 of Ross Sabberton and Peter Almasi were again denied a qualifying spot by the smallest of margins. The Women's K2 of Rachel Train and Anna Hemmings fared somewhat better qualifying for the final but were unable to make an impact as they finished 9th. The highlight of Sunday's racing came in the Women's K1 200m where Rachel Train of Royal Canoe Club powered home to a richly deserved 3rd place just 0.9 of a second behind the winner, Rivas of Spain. An elated Rachel said, "It's great standing on the podium after coming 4th the last two years. I need to thank lots of people, especially my coach Geoff."

For many these European Championship signal a watershed in British sprint racing as the current team now demands respect as one of the premier flat-water nations in world. Inspired by the European success of Tim Brabant's, the entire Great Britain racing squad will be looking to confirm their new status at the pinnacle of the seasons racing, the World Championships in Seville. ●



Above; Tim on the podium

Story by Adam Kennedy. Photos: Glyn Howatson



Anna Hemmings/Rachel Train

Rachel Train



Greenland Open Kayak Cha

Qaannat Kattuffiat, the Greenland kayak association was founded in 1985 to foster the growth of traditional Greenland kayaking, and every year kayakers from all over the country compete in the Greenland Championships to determine who will be Kayak Man and Woman of the year.

To the younger Greenlanders, kayaking has become a sport rather than a way of finding food, but essentially the spirit and way of life of the kayak, or "qajaq" have not changed. Some competitors are still or have been professional hunters and many participants had grandfathers who were seal catchers.

The Greenland kayak competition has stayed close to its roots, with all disciplines relating to skills necessary if one is to survive in chilling Greenland waters chasing dangerous prey.

Into this world steeped in tradition and heritage, my husband and I arrived to

compete in the championships. This is only the second year that international competitors have been allowed to enter and alongside Greg from the USA and Sven from Denmark, we were four. Our plan was to learn as much as possible and not to come last in anything. We did not have canvas on frame Greenlandic kayaks (made to measure by each competitor and very beautiful), rather, Greenlander Pros - fibreglass boats of Greenland design.

The competition for 2002 was held in Ilulissat, above the Arctic Circle, so for the duration of the event the sun never set. Ilulissat means "place of the icebergs" and the ice fjord 1 km out of town is the fastest moving glacier in the Northern Hemisphere producing some 15 cu.km of icebergs annually. These massive bergs ground out on a moraine bank at the mouth of the fjord, choking it with ice and creating great pressure, released only by spring tides. Witnessing the raw power of million tonne bergs groaning, cracking and calving is awe-inspiring. This ice had also choked up the bay around Ilulissat where the competition was to take place, which concerned us very much.

Ilulissat is also a town with more sled dogs than people. These pure bred arctic spitzes are closely related to the Arctic Wolf and their constant howling provided the soundtrack to the competition.

Over a hundred people arrived to compete from all over Greenland - from Ummanaq in the North to Qaqortoq in the South, all members of a kayak club. The youngest participant was four, the oldest, two



Ray trying his hand at harpooning

Witnessing the raw power of million tonne bergs groaning, cracking and calving is awe-inspiring

brothers from Qaarsut, aged 64 and 60. Each event began with the youngest age group continuing until the veterans (some events were still going on long into the evening - Ray finished his rope gymnastics at half past midnight!)

The competition began with a flag raising ceremony and laying of wreaths in memoriam of kayakers who had died. An unaccompanied hymn was sung, to honour these seamen, who 65 years ago accounted for one-fifth of all deaths in Greenland. It was very moving. After that we moved to the sports hall to introduce all the teams, Ilulissat the biggest, Sisimiut

the loudest. The clubs are very supportive of each other, with everyone helping out, especially with the children's events. There is a big sense of community here

Racing is a large part of the championships.

There is a short distance race (2.5 km women, 4.5 km men) a long distance race (4.5km women, 19km men) and a portage race (4km women, 9km men)

Everyone must use a Greenland style paddle, or "patit" which is long and thin like a giant lolly stick. Greenlandic competitors must wear a "tuliq" or paddling anorak in depilated sealskin, sealed around the face "until it makes you look ugly". Tuliqs were used in the rolling events, but for racing, a sealskin spraydeck was used. There is no tight fit at the waist and the spraydeck is fitted onto the boat first before you climb in. These resembled leather in appearance except that they soften when soaked in salt water, so in all the shallows and pools around the bay you would see brown tuliqs soaking, weighted down by stones. We used tuliqs made from Chillcheater fabric, which worked extremely well.

Because we spoke neither Danish or Greenlandic, Ray and I spent most of the time having no idea what was going on or whether we were in the next race until somebody would come rushing over and you had

Championships 2002

two seconds flat to get in your kayak before the event began. I took to following Ingerid about (poor woman) reasoning that she had a bit of Scandinavian efficiency about her and would be at the right place at the right time.

I was extremely nervous for the first race, as were many of the other 17 women taking part. It was a great atmosphere though, with all the teams were cheering from the rocks, and I managed to come a respectable fourth in two of the races. All the races were won by Ingerid Aase from Nuuk. Ray was up against stiff competition in the men's races, particularly from Maligiag J Padilla (overall champion three times in a row), Arne Nielsen from Ummanaq, an incredibly powerful athlete, and Mikael Jakobsen from Aasiat. Ray came eighth in all three races and was most impressive in the portage race, which involved two portages over headlands on rocks and tundra (particularly as he dropped his paddle without realising and thus had to do three portages instead of two!) For those who have never walked across tundra, it is a time consuming occupation, particularly if you need to do it at speed. Every footstep sinks deep into the moss so that you look like a Mr Soft impersonator, (although I doubt he swore quite as much).

Most people in the competition used a racing stroke with vertical blades, that would not be out of place in marathon/sprint racing. There are however, a few proponents of a style where the hands and elbows are close in, the body leans back with no body rotation and there is seemingly no effort at all. And they go like the clappers!

Rope gymnastics is an ancient (and painful) sport designed for the long winter months to help strengthen kayakers and develop balance in readiness for rolling. The moves have been documented by the missionary Hans Egede in the early 18th century and illustrated by the artist Jacob Danielsin in the 1930's. Plenty of spectators turned up for this popular event, which was entirely new and intriguing to us.

There are 74 manoeuvres to be done in half an hour, some on a single rope strung high, some on two parallel ropes sagging in the middle. Whilst I was practising on the ropes, we met Kamp Absalonsen, a well respected judge of the games, who is not short of a sense of humour. Whilst I was lying upside down in some contorted (and wrong) position, he asked Ray my husband if he could help me. We thought he would reposition one of my legs or something, but he got his knife out and pretended to cut the rope, obviously not impressed by English expertise.

Young people excel at the rope gymnastics, and one of the best performances was by Malina Amondson, who is 12. Maligiag J Padilla is also a Ropes aficionado, and won with over 400 points. Ray scored 50 points, a good score for a first time performance. He was helped with the moves by Kaalinguag Olsvig, clearly a very patient man as it was past midnight and there were still competitors waiting to go!

The day for the individual rolling dawned sunny and warm. A low mist hung over the water and a frame



Kaalinguag Olsvig



of icebergs gave the setting a mystical quality. I felt reasonably confident before the rolling event, as I had practiced a lot at home. There are 30 rolls to be performed on both sides.

Watching some of the men roll was pure poetry, so graceful were their movements – the kayak really seemed to be part of the person. The hardest roll we saw being performed was the “elbow” roll – starting tucked forward with one hand clasped behind neck, finish leaning aft (the off hand can be flung over the hull as a counterweight). Nobody achieved the “straight jacket” no hands roll – arms crossed and pressed close to chest-although



Kunuunnguag Davidsen got very close indeed.

I would like to say that the adrenaline of the competition stopped any feeling of cold, but I would be lying. Rolling in water that cold is like the most severe "ice cream headache" and I had on three neoprene hats and a balaclava! The rolls are called out in strict order of difficulty in Greenlandic, so the rolls were mimed to me, which worked well. The final "manoeuvre here is paddling upside down. I was pleased to travel four metres- it is easy to become unbalanced and go round in a circle ending up behind where you begin. I came second in the rolling, which I was very pleased at (although you have to remember that we have heated swimming pools at our disposal to practice in - I wonder how many of us could roll if we could only practice in water the same temperature as Scottish rivers in the depths of winter)

Ray, Greg from the USA, and Sven from Sweden made up an International team for the team rolling. The group were very entertaining as they couldn't hear each other (and some members can't tell their left from their right, which prompted

Rolling in water that cold is like the most severe "ice cream headache" and I had on three neoprene hats and a balaclava!

Kamp the Judge to shout "Ray O'Brien, you stupid Scottish man" very loudly). But, he couldn't hear him. However, they managed to pull off a surprising number of rolls

and a good performance to get the bronze medal. Sisimiut took the team rolling gold, and Nuuk the silver. Ray also took the individual international bronze medal for rolling

There are two harpoon throwing events - distance and accuracy. Throwing the harpoon is a little like throwing the javelin sitting on the floor (i.e awkward), except that you use a throwing stick to obtain maximum thrust. The harpoons were beautiful, with their bone tips and decorations, but hard to use for us first timers. We didn't have a bone harpoon rest on our kayaks - or indeed a harpoon. The former Ray fashioned out of half a coca cola bottle, and the latter we borrowed (the one Ray borrowed had lead wrapped around inside the tip to make it land point first).

I did clear the end of my boat with a monumental throw of five metres (the men were throwing over 20 metres!), but didn't make it anywhere near the target. One realises how exacting and exhausting it must have been hunting from a kayak with only the harpoon, knowing that several hungry families are relying on your accuracy and skill.

info



Article and pictures by Jilly O'Brien

Many thanks to our sponsors Reed Chillcheater, Nigel Dennis Kayaks (we paddled Greenlander Pros) Garmin GPS, Bridgedale socks, Teva wet and dry shoes. The trip was made possible by Ray receiving a Winston Churchill Award (although it wasn't the Mike Jones award, as previously stated in error)




Ian trying his hand at Rope gymnastics, an ancient (and painful) sport

The banquet and prize giving was a high spirited and jubilant affair. International competitors were presented with a trophy, the Kayak Man and Woman of the year were crowned, and Ilulissat Kayak club won the team trophy. There was lots of dancing, and we did many rounds of the Gay Gordons (Ray's kilt causing some consternation) and said many goodbyes.

The Greenlandic Kayak Games is much more than a sporting event - it is a cultural festival celebrating the roots of the old growing with the leaves of the new, a seamless transition between two worlds, where the old seal hunter sits down with the designer label teenager, united by times gone by. We feel very lucky to have learned so much and to have been made so welcome. It was a fantastic experience. ●

**Special Offers
on Ribbed Buoyancy Aids**




(while stocks last)

ENDLESS RIVER

www.endlessriver.co.uk
mail: dave@endlessriver.co.uk

PO Box 699, Worcester, WR2 6ZL Tel 01905 640003 Fax 01905 640003



KNOYDART
KAYAKING SYSTEMS

sea kayaks +
+ accessories +

www.knoydart.co.uk
01768775519

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

A.S.S.C.M

ANGLESEY SEA & SURF CENTRE

Level 2 Coach: (Training: 18/06, 21/09, 19/10, 2/11, 9/11)
(Assessment: 20/05, 23/06, 27/09, 21/10, 4/10, 12/10)

Level 3 Coach: (Training: 17/08, 21/09, 26/10, 16/11, 7/12)
(Assessment: 31/08, 21/09, 26/10, 9/11, 30/11)

4 Star Sea Training/Assessment: (Anytime)

5 Star Sea: (Training: Anytime)(Assessment: 27/07, 23/09, 02/11)

Assessor Training Day: (24/09)
Coaching Processors Course: (11/05, 28/09)

For Further Info or to book a place contact us on 01407 762525 or visit www.assc.org.uk

Nigel Dennis Kayaks Ltd. Manufacturers of Quality Hand-made Sea Kayaks

Our Range Includes:
The Romany
The Explorer
The Greenlander
The Greenlander Pro
The Triton Tandem Sea Kayak
The Posedion

www.nigeldenniskayaks.com

For more information on our range why not visit our website or telephone Dave Williams on 01407 762525

nigeldenniskayaks.com
Manufactured by Kayakers for Kayakers - Nigel Dennis

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

 SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

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

26 Station Road, Southwater, West Sussex RH13 7HQ

World Class start summer training camp



Saturday 20th July - Sunday 4th August

Based out in the beautiful French Alps region in the small town of L'Argentiere La Bessée, 20 athletes and 10 coaches plus support staff travelled out on a 21 hour. Arriving late Sunday afternoon I immediately went to have a look at the river, the Durance, and realised how lucky we were to be there.

Monday started off the kayaking and we began with a full slalom race. The idea was to do the same race at the start and end of the two weeks and see how much we improved by (hopefully we did improve rather than get worse!). An interesting course was set by the coaches, which was still challenging for the better paddlers on the trip but not too hard for the less experienced, younger ones. So the gate sequences looked easy enough, but on the one practice run we realised there was a big difference between getting a quick line between the gates and a slow one. After the two timed runs of the race, I was lucky enough to have completed the course in a time eight seconds up on second place. But unfortunately my penalties let me down, as I hit four poles on the course, that meant eight seconds in penalties. Luckily for me the lad in second place also hit one gate so I won with a total of 128 seconds and second place was 130 seconds. I was pleased with the result but I knew I could improve my time considerably.

Throughout the 2 weeks we ran a daily routine of a training session in the morning, and a river trip in the afternoon. One of the earliest river trips included the famous Rabioux playwave, and we soon realised we'd be visiting it many times again in the trip. The Rabioux is possibly the most famous

p s

Since this trip I have been busy coaching on a four day training camp in Llandysul, Wales. I'm hoping all this high quality training will get me my best results of the season.

playspot in Europe, which is often a huge wave but at the water level whilst we were there it was working as more of a stopper, like a breaking wave. It proved tough for us, as slalom paddlers, too pull off any decent tricks like the pro playboaters would. But almost all had a go. Flat spins were the order of the day. The best river trip was the Ubaye river. This took up the whole day but was worth it. There was beautiful scenery along with great water, going up to grade four

rapids. The morning trip started with a challenging, rocky rapid, and also with an unfortunate swim for Joe! Not the most pleasant of swims after being dragged over all the biggest rocks by me pulling him to supposed safety! He came out screaming and shouting with agony, but being Joe, was soon back in his boat to continue with the trip. Not wanting to leave Joe as the odd one out, later I also took a swim. After flipping over forward doing a pop out I took a real bashing by the rocks underwater and decided it was far too shallow too roll so I came out of my boat; to the amusement of the rest of the group and also the German paddlers who were going on by! Thankfully my Gul dry bag kept me completely dry, so getting cold was not a problem and I could get straight back in my boat to continue. After a break for lunch we went on to do the bigger and better "Race Course" section. This was really good fun, with lots of holes and waves to play in, and still with the great scenery. It was a shame this river trip had to end.

In the end it was a good thing we finished the trip when we did because as soon as we were on our way back to base camp in L'Argentiere, the rain started. It was heavy and went on all night with the river nearly flooding. Upstream there was a mud slide which turned the river into a thick brown colour, and with the debris and unpredictable water level (the dam upstream seemed to be opening and shutting all the time) it was decided there would be no slalom training on the Thursday. But this didn't mean a break from paddling, the coaches decided to send us off on a river race competition, almost a flat out sprint from the top of the course to the bottom. Best two runs counted, and I got times of 82 and 81 seconds, each about five seconds up on second place. This win set me in good stead for the next days slalom race, and also earned me a nice French T-shirt as a prize!

So Friday was the last day of paddling, which meant of course the repeat of the first day's race. The pressure was on to improve (and I also wanted another win to my name). I was not pleased with my practice run, complaining at the end that the course was nothing like the previous one. (Most of the coaches agreed with me that it was slightly tougher). However my first run went well, and I managed a time of 111 seconds, that's nine seconds up on my time 11 days before. However I was still hitting gates, but this time only two of them and that meant four seconds added onto my time to make a total of 115 seconds. The next quickest time was of 114 seconds, but thankfully he hit one gate which raised his total to 116 seconds, so I just sneaked the win.

All round it was a great trip and thanks to Gul for supplying me with fantastic gear for the trip which was comfortable, warm and dry! ●

Ted Knight

Faculty of Education, Community & Leisure

BSc (Hons) Outdoor & Environmental Education

3 years Full time and Part time available

- 35 years as a top UK provider of Outdoor Education programmes delivered from IM Marsh
- Awarded maximum 24/24 points in Oct. 2001 QAA Subject Review
- Highly experienced, well qualified and dedicated staff
- Kayaking, rock climbing, caving, skiing, winter mountaineering, orienteering, problem solving etc
- Optional Governing Body Awards: MLTB, SPA, BCU Coaching Awards, BoF etc
- Options to specialise in PE or Geography to be eligible to apply for PGCEs and enter teaching afterwards
- Final year Work Placement module: we have contacts with numerous outdoor centres, schools etc
- Recognised and well respected qualification in the outdoor world

Further details at: www.staff.livjm.ac.uk/ecststot
or telephone: Tom Bailey (Programme Administrator) for a Course Brochure on
0151 231 5274 or **0151 231 5340**
or Email: Programme Leader: Dr Tim Stott t.a.stott@livjm.ac.uk



Liverpool John Moores University

A Raleigh International Expedition speaks for itself!

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

They will make it happen.

JOHN RAMWELL --- PROJECT MANAGER

Kayak and canoe coaches (Level 2 and above) aged 25+ required for 3 month volunteer posts. Highly qualified and experienced senior outdoor professionals may be eligible for our Outdoor Bursary Scheme



E-mail: staff@raleigh.org.uk

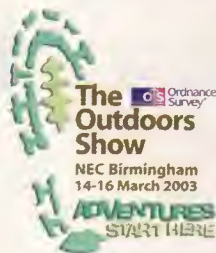
Tel: 020 7371 8585

www.raleighinternational.org

Raleigh International Trust is a registered UK charity No. 1047653



ICE moves alongside the Ordnance Survey Outdoors Show!



The British Canoe Union have joined forces with the hugely successful Outdoors Show in 2003. The new dates are 14-16th March 2003, and the event will still be held

at the NEC, Birmingham.

Canoe 2003, the BCU's International Canoe Exhibition will feature a wave machine and pool for demonstrations and activities as well as a fabulous line up of the leading canoe and kayak brands such as Riot, Palm, Pyranha and Perception, to name a few. The Paddlesport Workshop will feature some of the leading names in the sport, and will include lectures, film and practical advice.

Come along and join us at the Show where you can meet experts from the BCU, who will be on hand to discuss access, sports related disciplines, coaching and membership.

In addition to this, there is going to be loads of other stuff going on at the Show, set to be the greatest line-up of outdoor kit and inspiration ever. Some of the highlights will

include:

The BMC's Festival of Climbing – Climb 2003, which hosts a major international bouldering competition, a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the first ascent of Everest and loads of walls to have a go on!

Craghoppers Adventure Travel area has loads of ideas for holidays, travel gear and advice – the theatre will feature information on travel photography, conservation and where to go for all forms of adventure travel.

Sprayway's Adventure Sports Show is another exciting new addition to the Outdoors Show. Hang Gliding, Paragliding, Scuba, Gliding and Caving are just some of the sports that will be showcased in this area. There will be many different things to try out such as the Virtual Hang Glider and Paraglider. Information on where to go to try out these sports as well as how to join clubs will also be available.

The Renault Kangoo Challenge, the world's first Indoor Adventure Race, is set to return in style with Mountain Biking, Paddling, Running and many other strength sapping challenges for some of the leading competitors in the country.

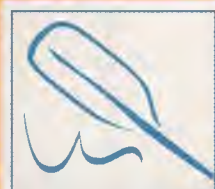
The Berghaus Super Theatre will feature some of the most inspirational speakers around including Sir Chris Bonington, Alan Hinkes and many others including those from the Canoe world.

Go Biking with CTC offers visitors the chance to have a go on a huge variety of bikes in all shapes and sizes on an exciting outdoor track.

Other outdoors manufacturers that will be there showing off their latest kit include Berghaus, The North Face, Regatta, Lowe Alpine and Craghoppers. Look out for some great ticket offers to the Show in upcoming issues of *Canoe Focus!*



International Canoe Exhibition 2003 Confirmed Exhibitors (6-09-02)



CANOE
2003
THE INTERNATIONAL
CANOE EXHIBITION
14-16 MARCH
NEC BIRMINGHAM

Adventure Whitewater; Ainsworth; Avoncraft; British Dragon Boat Racing; Brookbank Canoes; Canoe and Kayak UK/Playboating; Canoeist Magazine; Desperate Measures; Diamond Wildwater; Endless River; Environment Agency; Four Seasons; Gul International; International Adventure International; Sea Kayaking Association; Jag International; Lazee Lizard; Lendal Products; Markat; Mega Sports; Nigel Dennis Kayaks; Nomad Paddleworks; Nucleus Watersports; Open Canoe Sailing Association; Open Canoe Sailing Group; Outdoor Active; P & H Company; Palm Equipment; Peak UK; Perception Kayaks; Physio Supplies; Plas Menai Watersports Centre; Pyranha Mouldings; Ras Dex; Reed Chill Cheater; Screen Graphics; Southwater Watersports Centre; System X; Uist Outdoor Centre; Valley Canoe Products; Whitewater The Canoe Centre; Wild Things; Woodmill Outdoor Centre; Yak.



Photo competition



Photo by Adam Freedman (Lymington)
of Matt Byham handrolling on Lake Windermere

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 the August winner. Can you improve on this? Good Luck

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.

Competition closes 10-11-2002

please post to: Photo Comp

Nookie Kayaking Equipment, Ottery
Business Park, Ottery, Tavistock, PL19 8NS

**! WIN!
£50 !**

Kent Canoe Services
Superstore
2,000 Sq. feet

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

for directions and opening times

New House Farm, Kemsing Road, Wrotham,
Kent TN15 7BU

Canoe/Kayak Equipment!

Up to

20% OFF RRP!

E.g Yak Drysuits RRP £349, now £249!

Reed L/Sleeve Cagdecks now £99!

Demo boats on site!

Cafe & kids play area!

TellFax orders:

01926 889928

The New Leam Boat Centre

Mill Rd, Leamington Spa, CV31 1BH.

Nookie
Pyranha
Dagger
Playboater
Reed
Whirlybird
Londal
Somier
Werner
Wave Sport
Tara
Wester
Schlegal
Tara

Liquid Logic
Yak
Prijon
Wave Sport
Dagger
Playboater
Reed
Whirlybird
Londal

Paddlequest Northwest

Salford Water Sports Centre, 14th July



Paddlequest Northwest provided new opportunities for young people to experience the challenge and excitement of Paddlesport. These included Diamond slalom – canoe polo – sprint racing – bellboat team race – Ergo machine challenge and not forgetting 'come & try' different boats supplied and organised by Mark Burch and his team



from Brookbank Canoes.

The canoe polo drew a lot of attention from spectators as the teams commenced play. There was great support and basic coaching given by Mike Moffat and coaches from Friends of Alonby CC. FOA junior squad were at hand to give support and friendly competition to those teams of young people taking part.

The bellboat team events were taking place lots of noise from participants as they propelled these 27feet long boats along with single blade strokes. The Diamond slalom event a series of four slalom gates in the form of a diamond shape. Young people had the opportunity to attain blue – bronze – silver & gold if they could negotiate the gates in a certain time.

Frank Healy worked extremely hard throughout the day in sweltering heat organising the sprint event with some impressive times were recorded. The event was held over 200 metres and demonstrated the need to have good forward paddling technique.

Onto the Ergo Machine Challenge, Colin Cartwright from Chester CC and World Class Performance was at hand to set the time challenge for others to match.

Thanks go to Stuart Gibbon and his team from Salford Watersports, also Fiona Taylor and her team of Commonwealth games volunteers who assisted in the marshalling on the day. There are numerous people who worked so hard in the background to numerous to mention a big thank you to you all for your sterling efforts.

Len Hartley , North West PDO

Perception Wavehopper finals – Bala

The finals of the series took place at Bala during the Junior World Championships. Entries came from far and wide including Italy giving the event an international profile.

The course started just below Chapel falls through Tyn-y-Cornel bridge finishing a further 100 metres downstream, a total distance of 400 metres.

The young racers would encounter a variety of challenges as they raced down the course from standing waves to boils. The racers set off at one minute intervals with two runs allowed and the best run to count.

The crowds of parents and senior team paddlers encouraged and applauded all the racers down the course.

Shropshire Paddlesport, an emerging force on the youth scene won the team event for the Best Club result on the day and Peninsular Paddlers won the Best Club in the series. Both the clubs were presented with a Wavehopper provided by Perception, thank you Perception.

Thanks also to the safety teams, Mr Tooth from Tyn-y-Cornel Campsite and of course all the competitors and their supporters. During the autumn there will be a series of regional Perception Wavehopper Challenges contact youth@bcu.org.uk or contact Mandy Delaney on 0115 9826265

Boys U12	1st John Hiam - Shropshire Paddlesport 2nd Jack Harrison – Shropshire Paddlesport
Girls U12	1st Jenny Swallow – Chester
Boys U14	1st Stefano Cicciu – Valastagna 2nd Diego Giacoppo – Valastagna 3rd Kyle Bowles – Solihull
Girls 14	1st Jessica Oughton - Paddleplus 2nd Hannah Brand – Peninsular Paddlers 3rd Sarah Chynoweth - Mold
Boys U16	1st Robin Jones –Blyth KC 2nd Iain Embrey – Burton 3rd Greg Adicot – Peninsular Paddlers
Girls U16	1st Allison McIntosh - Forth 2nd Jenny McIntosh – Forth 3rd Victoria Swallow – Chester
Boys U18	1st Matt Scarfe Soar Valley
Girls U18	1st Helena Howarth Bradford and Bingley

Howard Blackman

East Midlands Paddlesport Development Officer



The 4th Teeside canoe orienteering competition

The Competition took place on Thursday 13th June during National Orienteering Week on a 2km stretch of the River Tees in Stockton and the adjacent canal network through the Teesdale estate and the excellent facilities provided by the Castlegate Quay Watersports Centre.

This year's event was again very popular with 170 young people from 16 schools participating in the competition.

The Special Schools Bellboat race started in a thunderstorm but it didn't dampen spirits and all teams performed well. In the end a strong team from Abbey Hill comfortably beat last year's winners from the Beverley School for the Deaf.

In the Primary Schools Bellboat competition, It was another close race with a number of teams getting all the controls in very fast times – in the end St. Patrick's Primary narrowly beat off strong challenges from Green Lane and Rose Wood schools.

In the Comprehensive Schools Bellboat competition, St. Patrick's held off strong challenges from a number of schools to hold onto the trophy for a fourth year. There was a good entry for the kayak and open canoe competitions and despite a few capsizes everyone successfully completed the event. Both competitions were close with Jamie Robson and Daniel McBride winning the kayak race and Michael Cochrane and Shaun Smith winning the open canoe race.

Our thanks must go to Tees Forest and the Teesside School's Sports Association for supporting the competition and to the Castlegate Quay for making us welcome. Many thanks also to Rod and Andy from Endeavour Training and Mike and Mike from CLOK for all their hard work and support on the day. Roll on next year!

Mike Gallagher, Competition Organiser

Sport England active sport talent camp

A first for the N.E. region

Of the nine Talent Camps being run throughout England this



summer, the N.E. Region has been unique in its inclusion of 'partnership sports' of which canoeing is one.

In true pioneering spirit, 55 youngsters nominated by clubs throughout the region arrived at the Teesside White Water Centre on Saturday 13th July for a days top quality coaching in one of five disciplines: slalom, freestyle, polo, sprint/marathon and wild water racing.

Flat water coaching took place on the River Tees and upper lake of the centre and the white water course was fully utilised and enjoyed by the sections requiring moving water!

The aim now is to develop opportunities for these talented youngsters to further their training and to compete in national and international events.

Some participants are already doing so: Robin Jones of Blyth K.C. went on the following weekend to Bala and took first place in the Perception Wavehopper Challenge and second place in the under 16's series. Anthony Elliott, also of Blyth K.C. took the bronze for the Under 14's series. Two of the freestyle canoeists, Bill Anderson of Stockton and Thornaby C.C. and Patrick Hobson of Hexham C.C. who were coached by Mark Birkbeck of Kayakojacko have been 'talent spotted,' and invited to further training with Austin Floyd, GB freestyle team manager.

Thanks must go to the coaches and volunteer helpers, too numerous to mention who helped on the day. To Len Smith and his staff at the Teesside White Water Centre and last but not least, to British Waterways for providing the water!

Bobby E Timperley, BCU PDO: N.E. Region

London youth games

A team from Albany Park Youth Club entered the London Youth Games 2002 held at the Crystal Palace International Sports Centre on 14th July 2002.

Ryan Parkinson, Victoria Laming, Louisa Parkinson and Nick Mears represented the Royal Borough of Kingston on Thames in the slalom event held in the swimming pool. Each competitor completed their two runs of the course successfully and in good time. Training for this specialist event was made possible by a grant from Kingston Grants Unit awarded to 'Friends of Albany' who support young people with interests in watersport activities

Albany Park Youth Club meet Monday, Wednesday & Friday evenings at 7pm and are based at the Albany Park Centre in Albany Park Mews, Kingston. Contact Andy Amer, Leader in charge on 020 8549 3066 or visit the club

Submitted by: Ken Jackson



Pyranha Lightning Marathon Cup finals 2002

At the National Marathon Championships

The Pyranha Lightning Marathon Cup attracted 26 Clubs and over 100 young paddlers from all over the Country. The finals of the championship were at Bedford, this year's home for the National Marathon Championships. The course was 2.2 km long with the start from a pontoon the same as the senior races, with spectator access along the length of the course.

In the under 13's Catherine Guy from Leighton Buzzard won the girls event and Alex Kilpatrick from Banbury won the boy's event. The under 11 event provided some excellent racing with Jenny Swallow from Chester and William Oliver from Banbury winning their events.

But that is only half the story as some serious toting up of scores from the regional rounds were added to the finals points score to give the series champions. The results were as follows

Series Club Championship Top 5

- 1 Leighton Buzzard
- 2 Banbury
- 3 Cambridge
- 4 Shropshire Paddlesport
- 5 Anker Valley

Overall Series Results

U11 Girls

- 1 Jenny Swallow - Chester
- 2 Kerry Frydenlund - Leighton Buzzard
- 3 Alice Murphy - Banbury

U11 Boys

- 1 Mark Clive - Gailey
- 2 Robert Hayes - Macclesfield
- 3 Albert Hicks - Norwich

U13 Girls

- 1 Catherine Guy - Leighton Buzzard
- 2 Hannah Draper - Borne End
- 3 Mhairi Robertson - Anker Valley

U13 Boys

- 1 Alex Kilpatrick - Banbury
- 2=James Marnell - Runcorn
- 2=Duncan Stokes - Borne end
- 2=Richard Webster - Lincoln

Thank you to Pyranha, Viking Kayak Club, Marathon Racing Committee, Peter Jones and all the competitors and their supporter for all their efforts.

Howard Blackman
East Midlands Paddlesport Development Officer



LETTERS

Your chance to put forward your point of view

Please send your letters to

Canoe Focus,
49 Greenfields, St Ives,
Cambs PE27 5HB
or email them to
peter@canoefocus.co.uk

Sparse on information

I agree with the comment in the letters page regarding the lack of captions on the photos. The articles on Bolivia, Italy and Zimbabwe all have anonymous illustrations that are unfortunate as there is quite a bit of narrative on the river journeys in each and some sort of locations would be informative. Without this information they are simply pretty canoeing pictures that might as well be extracted from your archives. This month the review section is also a little sparse on information, the book *White Water Massif Central*, under videos? has no price or publisher details and I would like to buy one.

Both the above are in contrast to the excellent presentation and information in the rest of the articles that usefully give full contact details.

Julian Taylor

Ed. Sorry those details slipped through the net, White Water Europe: Massif Central is published by Rivers Publishing 2002. It can be purchased from Whitewater Consultancy on 08000 151520 for £14.95.

World record holder

I read with great interest your article about Oliver Simpson's achievement of 72 rolls in 5 minutes, raising £640 for a worthwhile cause. However, I was dismayed to read that you record Helen Barnes as being the current world record holder. I must correct you in stating that I am still the record holder having completed 100 Eskimo rolls in 3 minutes and 7 seconds set at Killingworth Leisure Centre in 1991, recorded on the Spectacular World of Guinness records and in subsequent books until 1998. I completed 100 rolls in 2 minutes 58 seconds at Crystal Palace International Canoe Exhibition in 1988 but did not claim this as a record at the time. I recall David Gent being one of the organisers at the time and am sure there will be records somewhere in the BCU archives of this event.

I am also the current holder for 1000 Eskimo rolls in a time of 34mins 43 secs., set in March 1987. I raised £1200 for Leukaemia Research in this attempt. Colin Hill, a colleague, inspiration and friend, holds records for 100, 1000 and the most hand rolls, a different record to one using a paddle. I would also be very interested to know what record Jimmy Jayes holds in Eskimo rolling as I cannot recall him ever having done any rolling record attempts.

I hope this helps to clear things. This is the second time I have had to correct mistakes being made concerning rolling records.

Yours sincerely, Ray Hudspith.

A sad loss

Paddlers will be saddened to learn of the recent death of one of our best known canoeists amongst them - Someone Else.

Someone's passing creates a gap that will be difficult to fill. Else had canoed for years. At the events she was always the one ready to prepare and clear away afterwards.

Whenever a task needed doing, one name was always on everyone's lips - "Let Someone Else do it". It was

common knowledge that Someone Else did far more than her share!

Always cheerfully taking on chores. Everyone assumed Someone Else would do the job. Someone Else was a wonderful person, appearing superhuman. But a person can only do so much.

Where the truth known, everyone expected too much of Someone Else!

Now she is gone!!

We wonder what we're going to do; Someone Else left a wonderful example to follow. But who is going to do the things Someone Else did?

When an event needs organising, remember... We can't depend on Someone Else!

Adapted by Rowland Jones from a notice at Lake Angelus Hut, Nelson Lakes National Park NZ

Chelmer Canoe Race

As one of the organisers of the Chelmer Canoe Race from 1952 to 1991, I can provide you with some information about the top photograph which appeared in *Canoe Focus* April 2002 page 17 and requested by Mrs Adrienne Garner.

The picture was taken at the start of the ladies touring singles class at Barnes Mill, Chelmsford. The winner, Miss L. Oliver of Southampton is furthestmost away from the camera. This information is derived from information pencilled on the back of the picture (taken by club member Eric Boesch) and written immediately afterwards. The names of the other two paddlers is not given. Unfortunately, the exact year was not recorded but for various reasons I believe it to be about 1960. I cannot be more exact as the club has recently deposited all its records from its formation in 1946 to about 1996, including a complete set of Chelmer Race results, with the Essex Record Office, where they are currently being catalogued. However, I do seem to remember the name Adrienne Huskisson as a competitor in some of our races but what year - or years - I cannot say.

I was pleased to see that Adrienne is still to be seen on the water - she would, no doubt - be very welcome if she was to visit the Chelmer again.

Yours sincerely, John Marriage, Commodore, Chelmsford Canoe Club

Canoe information

Dear Sir, I have just purchased a canoe that I was wondering whether you could give me more information on. It is a single berth canoe, manufactured in 1959 (I think!) and was registered on the Thames, certificate number 4004, and is made of wood and canvas. The name on the canoe is "Celer". I would be very grateful for any information you may have, or possible further contacts I could pursue.

Thanking you in anticipation.

**Yours sincerely,
John Wones, Forge Bungalow,
Beccles Road, Hales
Norwich NR14 6SR**



A truly fascin

Paddling with Raleigh International:

For me, the end of March to the beginning of May 2002 will be one of the landmarks in my life, as I spent six weeks out in Ghana with Raleigh International as project manager, running the canoeing on Lake Volta with the more-than-able assistant, Ed.

A truly fascinating place, Lake Volta is the largest man-made reservoir in the world – twice the size of Luxembourg – and the waters are studded with the monolithic remains of the forest drowned in its creation. The shores vary from flat, green cultivated plains to the craggy jumbles of limestone ridges, while small market towns and villages – no more than a collection of mud huts – are scattered around, their inhabitants winning a living by fishing the lake from hardwood canoes and farming the fertile lake bed, exposed as the lake shrinks in the dry season.

With daytime temperatures in April regularly topping 44 degree centigrade (the point at which my digital thermometer cuts out!) and stupendous storms featuring ever more regularly as the dry season slips into the wet, the conditions in this, one of the poorest countries, seems crushing hard, but the locals we met were almost exclusively cheerful, friendly and welcoming. They may have next to nothing, but they are willing to share what they have.

We were canoeing from Pitiko to Batoon along the southern shore of the lake, a distance of some 25 miles, paralleling the major road in the area. This road caused Landrovers to struggle but was regularly traversed by hugely over-laden charcoal lorries and equally over-laden Mercedes buses. Ghanians may be awful drivers in town, but they are awfully good at off-road work.

In itself, the canoeing was not overly difficult, but for novices in a strange and awe-inspiring land, dodging drowned forests that supported miles of fishing nets, travelling and living out of canoes, sleeping on tropical beaches and cooking on Trangia stoves, the adventure was real.

One fairly typical group – Alpha 8 – we met at Pitiko where they were camping after completing a trek through the Northern Scarp East Forest Reserve. They had little time to relax and the first afternoon saw them tackle an introductory canoeing training session, including deep water re-



entry practice, before sharing an evening with the outgoing canoe group, swapping adventures and advice. The locals seemed fascinated by everything the crazy whites got up to and stood and watched this free entertainment for hours!

Early starts were imperative to avoid canoeing in the crushing heat, so most days started at 5 to 5.30 am with the aim of being on the water at 7.30 am. However, some nominated day leaders proved a little less able to get the groups organised and starts occasionally drifted to 8.30. By 11.30 am most days we were off the water and seeking shelter, though if we felt that more paddling was needed, an extra hour or so after 3pm – in the “cool” of the day – was occasionally fitted in.

Exciting happenings on Alpha 8's trip included finding a snake (unidentified but undoubtedly poisonous and swiftly dispatched by one of our Ghanaian team members) in camp and being hit by a huge storm on their first night, just as dinner was being prepared. Despite winds strong enough to pick me up and dump me in a canoe, plus torrential rain, the cookhouse crew still managed to prepare and serve a huge meal of corned beef “hamburgers” and spaghetti and bread.

Other memorable events in Alpha 8's trip included side trips to local markets to find fresh food to supplement the rather naff rations (I lost two stone in six weeks of expedition rations), swimming, washing and laundering in the lake – which also supplied our drinking water, albeit filtered and chlorinated - abseiling near a patch of land rented by Raleigh International and grandly called “Chateau Volta”, finding and killing a 6” scorpion under my groundsheet, building a pole-sided and leaf-roofed shelter – the New Chateau Volta – a little canoe sailing, being visited by a canoe “mobile shop” selling soft drinks, bananas, mangos, bread etc, taking one star training and assessment and seeing the most amazing, almost flat, rainbow in a storm that drove us from the lake for an hour.

These experiences, and many more with other groups, made the expedition very special for me. The physical side of the trip was



ating place

Lake Volta, Ghana



undoubtedly hard, but the raw beauty of the country, the warmth of the local population, the incredible bird life and the pleasure I derived from watching young people learning valuable lessons in life (and canoeing), all combined to make my short time with Raleigh International very special, and I was very disappointed to have to leave before the end of the expedition due to illness.

I would recommend to anyone that they sign up for an expedition with Raleigh International. It may not always be comfortable or easy being a staff member on a Raleigh International expedition, but the pleasure and memories of your trip will last a lifetime. ●

info



Article submitted by
John Fenna
Ty Isaf, Newchapel,
Boncath, Pembrokeshire,
SA37 OEH.

Photographs:
Copyright John Fenna

HOLIDAYS & COURSES



WHITE WATER COURSES:

If you need that introduction to white water or confidence boost or just want to improve those white water skills then we have the course for you.

WHITE WATER INTRO's & IMPROVER COURSES ARE RUN THROUGHOUT THE WINTER.

BCU COACHING AWARDS

1 - 5 STAR & LEVEL 1-3 Coach Training and Assessment Plus many other courses.

Advanced River Running courses

MLTB & INSTRUCTOR TRAINING COURSES

Guided River Runs

B&B or full accommodation for paddlers visiting the South West rivers or surf.

For more information please call

Tel/Fax : 01548 550 675

Visit our website (Loads more information):

www.mountainwaterexperience.com

inspire

consulting and coaching

www.inspirecc.co.uk

Kayaking and Canoe Courses available to groups and individuals.

Level 1—3 coach training and assessment in canoe and kayak.

1 to 5 Star training and assessment, canoe and kayak.

Canoe safety test training and assessments.

White water safety and rescue courses.

Individually tailored coaching service.

Call us now for information on availability and prices.

A range of qualification courses are scheduled throughout the winter.

St. Mary's Cottage, Weston Under Penyard, Ross on Wye, Herefordshire HR9 7NY

Phone / Fax: 01989 762099 E-Mail: info@inspirecc.co.uk

A Different Holiday?

Contact:

Adventure Whitewater

0870 4430240

info@adventure-whitewater.com

www.adventure-whitewater.com

Sea Kayak Outer Hebrides

UIST

Outdoor Centre

"The finest sea kayaking coastline in the world"

Guided tours and expeditions.

Introductory/Intermediate

Full range of courses.

Accommodation. Details:

Uist Outdoor Centre, Lochmaddy,

Isle of North Uist, HS6 5AE

Tel 01876 500480

www.seakayakouterhebrides.co.uk

email: info@uistoutdoorcentre.co.uk

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.

tell/fax 01298 71827 www.mediact.net



BCU courses on request

* Kayak coach 1 - 3

* Open canoe coach 1 - 3

* C.S.T

* Aquatic 1st Aid

* Manual Handling

* Open canoe hire

Tel: 07050 383698

Andy@hydroactive.org

www.hydroactive.org



The Outdoor Education, 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

INSURANCE

N. W. BROWN

INSURANCE BROKERS

Insurance available for:

◆ Canoes & Equipment

◆ Activity Travel

◆ Activity Centres

◆ Personal Accident

For details contact us at:-

Richmond House

16-20 Regent Street

Cambridge

CB2 1DB

Tel: 01223 357131

Fax: 01223 353705

Email: canoe@nwbrown.co.uk

Web: www.nwbrown.co.uk/canoe

Specialist Canoe Insurance from



FOR INSTANT COVER

01708 385500

MON - FRI 8.30am - 7pm. SAT 9am - 4pm

DEVITT INSURANCE SERVICES LTD, INSURANCE BROKERS NORTH HOUSE, ST. EDWARDS WAY, ROMFORD, ESSEX RM1 3PP member of the General Insurance Standards Council

ACCOMMODATION

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

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

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 LOCH MELFORT. Self-catering accommodation on Scotland's beautiful west coast. Ideal base for sea kayaking. Sleeps two. Short breaks available. Phone Ken and Diane Scaife 01852 200208.

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



ACCOMMODATION

Ardenbeg Bunkhouse and Outdoor Centre

Excellent S/C Bunkhouse Accommodation for up to 24. £8.50 pppn

Located in Grantown-on-Spey, Scotland. Close to superb paddling for expert and beginner. Drying room, hot showers and secure storage.

Local shops and pubs 2 minutes walk. Equipment hire / Instruction available

Contact us for info on Spey Descent

Visit www.ardenbeg.co.uk

Tel 01479 872824

Tim or Rebecca Bird

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

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

DARTMOOR Close to River Dart, friendly B&B, well equipped, lock-up and drying areas, reasonable rates, Tel 01364 63161

River Dart, NewBridge

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

Tel: Joy Hasler

01364 631224

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

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

MILOS ISLAND, GREECE

The only sea-kayaking centre in the Greek islands.

- Guided Trips, Rentals, B&B - Open March thru to October

Take a virtual tour, at; -

www.seakayakgreece.com

ACCOMMODATION

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

EQUIPMENT & SERVICES

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

waterproof, breathable, tough



warm kit
TEL: 01271 815828
free mail order brochure
www.chillcheater.com

PLASTIC TUBS



NOW AVAILABLE ONE PIECE LID
1 Tub £10
3 Tubs £19
5 Tubs £30
Includes P&P

78 High St, Boston, Lincs PE21 8SX
www.tubs.net
Phone: 01205 366044
for leaflet

EQUIPMENT & SERVICES

RAS DEX

for all your kayaking needs

100 Trent Boulevard
West Bridgford
Nottingham NG2 5BL
t: 0115 981 3323
e: info@rasdex.co.uk
www.rasdex.co.uk

SITUATIONS VACANT

SCOTTISH CENTRES



Outdoor Instructors

We are looking for multi-activity instructors to support our customer programmes for the 2003 season at four locations in Scotland. Starting February/March. Please enquire for further details to:

**Scottish Centres,
Loaningdale House,
Carwood Road,
BIGGAR ML12 6LX**
phone **01899 221115**
email

personnel@scottish-centres.org.uk
www.scottish-centres.org.uk

SITUATIONS VACANT

Are you a paddler?

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



Atlantic College

UNITED WORLD COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC

(Registered Charity No. 525761)

EXTRAMURAL CENTRE SENIOR INSTRUCTOR

Applications are invited for the above residential post to commence January 2003.

Atlantic College is an International Sixth Form College with 320 students. The Extramural Centre organises courses for groups of young people. It has eight full time staff and additional seasonal staff.

The Senior Instructor will be responsible for the teaching and delivery of the activity based courses. They will also have some responsibility for the training of students and staff who work with the visiting groups as part of the Community Service Programme.

Applicants should hold NGB qualifications in a range of outdoor activities including climbing and canoeing and be willing to contribute generally to the life of the college.

Salary range £15,000 - £19,000

Further details and application forms can be obtained on receipt of an A4 sae from:

**The Director
Extramural Centre
Atlantic College
St Donats Castle
LLANTWIT MAJOR
Vale of Glamorgan
CF61 1WF**

Closing Date: 31st October 2002

JOEL WATERSPORTS

Holt Fleet,
Nr Worcester, WR6 6NW.

Tel: (01905) 455311
Fax: 08707 400258

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

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

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

ERIC WRIGHT TRUST

Water Park

Lakeland Outdoor Adventure Centre

OUTDOOR EDUCATION TUTOR

An exciting opportunity to join a friendly, active team in a rapidly developing, high quality centre, on the shore of Coniston Water.

Due to continued expansion, we are looking for another committed, enthusiastic and pro-active individual with experience in a range of activities and an ability to use 'soft skills' to promote personal development.

Start Date: Dec 02
Salary: Starting salary £12000 - £14,000 pa + benefits
For more details contact: David Williamson, Head of Centre
Water Park, High Nibthwaite, Ulverston, Cumbria. LA12 8DQ
Tel: 01229 885 456 Fax: 01229 885457
E-Mail: adventure@water-park.freeserve.co.uk

Applications: Post or Email a letter of application and a CV
Closing Date: 11th Nov 02

APPRENTICE TUTOR

In addition, we are looking for an Apprentice Tutor to join us for a one year placement. Full board, accommodation, training package and wage included. Contact and application details as above

SITUATIONS VACANT



Senior Instructor in Llangollen

Working with adults on multi activity, single activity and corporate courses.

Driver with SPA and BCU Level 2 minimum.
Kayaking, climbing, gorge walking, team building, mountain biking etc.

Working five days a week including weekends.

March to October 2003

£210 per week live out.

Apply to pete@adventureholiday.com with CV and references by January 31st. Phone 01978 860605 or Post to ProAdventure, 23 Castle Street Llangollen, LL20 8NY.



Country Care Childrens Homes LTD

Staff required to work with children in the care system. Join our professional, child focus team, using outdoor education as part of a therapeutic process. Could your enthusiasm in the outdoors make a difference?

As holders of the Investors In People award we are keen to promote staff progression in social working qualifications or NGB outdoor qualifications.

Interested ring
01298 25683



Shielbaggan Outdoor Education Centre Instructors required for 2003 season

Situated on the Hook Peninsula on the south coast of Ireland, Shielbaggan enjoys a perfect location for a wide range of outdoor pursuits.

Instructors required in: Kayaking, sailing, wind-surfing, rock-climbing, orienteering, archery and surfing.

Competitive rates of pay with time off to do your thing in the rest of Ireland.



Please forward a C.V. either by mail or e-mail to Colin Gibbon, Manager, Shielbaggan Outdoor Education Centre, Ramsgrange, New Ross, Co. Wexford.
e-mail address: shielbaggan@eircom.net

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 2003.

Please send CV with details of experience and qualifications to:

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

Tel: 353 (0) 42 937 3100 Fax: 353 (0) 42 937 3651
email: info@carlingfordadventure.com

SITUATIONS VACANT

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 2003, 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

E-Mail: activities@avontyrrell.org.uk



ADVENTURE

INTERNATIONAL

BE A MULTI - ACTIVITY INSTRUCTOR @ ADVENTURE INTERNATIONAL & BECOME PART OF OUR TEAM. FULL TRAINING IN ALL N.G.B.'S PRIOR TO AND DURING SEASON 2003. BEGIN IN FEB END NOVEMBER. ONLY HIGHLY MOTIVATED, ENERGETIC OUTDOOR TYPES WITH PERSONALITY NEED APPLY!!

TEL : 0870 7775111

www.adventure.uk.com email : tracy@adventure.uk.com

DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND LEISURE Sport and Community Recreation Section

Community Recreation Team Manager – Outdoor Education to take on the role of Centre Manager at Underbank Outdoor Activity Centre
Salary Scale £19770 - £21077 (pay award pending)

This non-residential multi activity centre built in 1995 attracts over 15000 client visits per year. It is situated on the banks of the Underbank Reservoir on the edge of the Dark Peak. The Centre requires a person with management experience, a commitment to the personnel development of individuals and the ability to expand all areas of the operation.

For informal enquiries telephone 0114 273 6822.



Sheffield
City Council

Applications forms and further details are available from
DEL Personnel, 2-10
Carbrook Hall Road,
Sheffield S9 2DB,
tel 0114 273 5975.
Closing date 18 October.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

IF THE SCENERY DOESN'T INSPIRE YOU, THE CHALLENGES WILL.

www.scouts.org.uk



OPPORTUNITIES AT HAWKHIRST ADVENTURE CENTRE Hexham, Northumberland

Hawkhirst has been providing young people with the opportunity to take part in a variety of outdoor activities and team-building exercises, including canoeing, sailing and rowing for over 20 years. Situated in the heart of the Kielder Forest, Hawkhirst extends over 70 acres, and features glades and clearings which provide interesting camping and indoor accommodation.

For people who enjoy working with youngsters and thrive in beautiful outdoor environments, Hawkhirst offers you an ideal and picturesque location in which you can help young people develop themselves while engaged in a challenging and exciting career that's like no other.

Right now, we have several opportunities for people with outdoor activity experience to help The Scout Association ensure Hawkhirst retains and builds on its reputation for being one of the most interesting and enjoyable camping and adventure locations in the UK.

MANAGEMENT POSTS

MANAGER - STARTING SALARY £19,929 (REF. NO. 02/055)
ASSISTANT MANAGER - STARTING SALARY £11,680 (REF. NO. 02/056)

As a four bedroomed house is provided, the Manager and Assistant Manager posts would ideally suit a couple. The Manager will oversee the operation of the whole centre, developing a safe and exciting environment and ensuring all site equipment is in good working condition. RYA and BCU qualifications would be an advantage.

The Assistant Manager will take responsibility for managing and motivating hostel and catering staff, and

will need to carry out administrative and other duties in the centre as and when required.

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

STARTING SALARY £11,680 + ACCOMMODATION (REF. NO. 02/057)

With RYA or BCU qualifications in either sailing or canoeing, and/or climbing qualifications, you will be responsible for coaching in whichever of the above areas you excel in. We'll also expect you to deal with supplies to the centre, provide programmes to groups, oversee site activities and manage and motivate the staff who provide them.

INSTRUCTOR

STARTING SALARY £8,996 + ACCOMMODATION (REF. NO. 02/058)

We are also looking for an Instructor whose skills in instructing and supervising land and water-based activities will complement those of the Chief Instructor to give us a qualified team with as broad a range of skills as possible.

COOK/CLEANER

(REF. NO. 02/059)

People living in the Northumberland area interested in working at the centre as a Cook/Cleaner should also get in touch. Hours of work will be negotiated.

For further details about any of the above posts, please call our recruitment line (24 hour answerphone) on 020 8433 7162 quoting the appropriate reference number. The closing date for completed applications is 14th October 2002.

an equal opportunity employer

STANBOROUGH PARK Welwyn Garden City, Herts

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

Post No P00471

£15,744 to £17,304 p.a. inclusive

Stanborough Park is a busy RYA and BCU approved centre delivering watersports courses and activities to individuals, schools, colleges and companies. The Centre is situated in a 126 acre country park in Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, close to the A1(M) and M25.

We are seeking to appoint an experienced Chief Instructor to lead and motivate our team of seasonal and part-time instructors, and to be responsible for the day to day management and development of the Centre.

The successful candidate will have relevant experience of working at a recognised centre, hold the appropriate national governing body qualifications and be able to provide instruction to all ages and abilities.

Hours are determined by the service and will involve regular evening, weekend and Bank Holiday working on a rota basis.

This is a permanent post but a seasonal appointment would be considered.

For further information call Ashley Cato on 01707 327655.

For a recruitment pack please call the 24 hour Recruitment Line on 01707 357281 or email leisure.reception@welhat.gov.uk quoting the post number and job title.

Closing Date: Thurs 31 October 2002

Leisure & Community Services
Campus West, The Campus,
Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6BX



RESIDENTIAL/NON RESIDENTIAL INSTRUCTORS REQUIRED

From Feb 2003

Candidates must hold a minimum of S.P.A and Level 2 Coach Kayak with additional NGB's. The successful candidate should preferably have experience of assisting on Development Training Courses.
Long Seasonal Contract Feb-Oct.

The Adventure Centre and Parkwood Management Centre is currently one of the leading personal development Centres in the South West. It is an independent Outdoor Development Centre set in 10 acres of land. In close proximity to the Centre can be found rivers, climbing crags, sheltered quarry lakes, orienteering courses, high ropes course and Dartmoor National Park.

Job details available from: Tim Wiggans,
Commercial Manager, The Adventure Centre, Kelly
College, Tavistock Devon, PL19 0HY
Tel : 01822 813130 Fax: 01822 610817
E.mail kenterprise@btinternet.com
www.theadventurecentre.co.uk



WELWYN HATFIELD COUNCIL

www.welhat.gov.uk

SITUATIONS VACANT

Looking for the best Training & Working Adventure?

Robinwood offers more than just a great location in the Pennines:

- ▲ Teach Exciting Adventure Activities to 8-12 year olds Canoeing, Climbing, Caving, Archery ... and many more!
- ▲ £'s Excellent, rewarding work and great fun!
- ▲ Feb-Nov season + accommodation in staff houses
- ▲ Personalised NGB Training - paid for by Robinwood
- ▲ Great working conditions: Work 4 days - Play 3 days!
- ▲ National Training Award Winner 2001

For further details:
bestjob@robinwood.co.uk


 Activity Centre
 Todmorden, Lancs
 www.robinwood.co.uk
 Tel 01706 814 554

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 website at: 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:
Co. Galway, Ireland	gbutler@delphiescape.com

HINDLEAP WARREN OUTDOOR CENTRE

Instructor to start autumn 2002

Centre is a well-established provider of Outdoor Education/Activities and operates year round with a wide variety of different groups. Applicants should have a good understanding of the value of Outdoor Education, be able to demonstrate practical capability and communicate well with young people.

Salary: £10,077 - £12,649 plus a clothing allowance of £450 per annum.

Two-year contract. Board and single accommodation provided free of charge. Good opportunities for gaining further qualifications. Applicants should be over 21 and hold some NGB activity qualifications. A current First Aid qualification is required.

For further details and Application Form apply to:

The Director
Hindleap Warren Outdoor Centre
Wych Cross, Forest Row East Sussex RH18 5JS
Tel: 01342 822625 Fax: 01342 822913
or jean@hindleap.co.uk

SITUATIONS VACANT

CHECK US OUT FOR ACTIVE CAREERS


OUTDOOR INSTRUCTING IS A TOUGH BUSINESS. MOST INSTRUCTORS LEAVE THE INDUSTRY WITHIN 5 YEARS!

Here at riverdart adventures we have an excellent track record in developing staff who go on to build successful careers. We have ex staff running centres all over the world, working at national centres & building their own businesses.

IF YOU ARE SERIOUS ABOUT YOUR CAREER WE NEED TO TALK!

contact
 Roger Hopper
 Riverdart Adventures
 Holne Park
 Ashburton
 NewtonAbbot
 Devon TQ13 7NP
 or check us out online


FULL RANGE OF OUTDOOR COURSES
WWW.RIVERDART.CO.UK

VACANCIES FOR 2003

Fourth Dimension is a small privately owned organisation. Vacancies exist from April to October as follows.

- Multi-Activity Instructors
- Kayak and Canoe Instructors (L2 Training risk)
- Freelance Providers
- Catering Provider
- 6 Month Trainees
- Above average pay rates

Fourth Dimension (staffing), 13 Eskbank Avenue, Brighton, BN1 8SL www.4thdimension.co.uk
 Email info@4thdimension.co.uk




Vacancies at Mendip Outdoor Pursuits

Course Director/Senior Instructor

We require a highly motivated individual to join our expanding business. Applicants must be aged 25+, have excellent people/communication skills and be keen to develop with the business. They must have experience within the outdoor sector and National Governing Body Awards are an advantage. Start date - January 2003 Starting salary £15,000

Full-Time and Seasonal Instructors

We have vacancies for short and long term staff for 2003. Applicants must have at least one National Governing Body Award from S.P.A., L.C.L.A. Pay from £200 per week.

Phone Jim Hayward on 01934 820518, 01934 823666

The Lochgoilhead Centre

Training and employment opportunities for 2003

We require the following:

Senior Instructor. March to October must have BCU Level 3 coach plus 2 other NGBs

Short term Instructors. March to end of June 2 NGBs minimum

Pay and conditions for the above posts is above average

Trainee Instructors. Commencing February for 12 to 24 months must be 18yrs plus and currently unemployed

For further details send current CV to Jeremy Game, The Lochgoilhead Centre Shelter Park, Lochgoilhead, Argyll PA24 8AA 01301 703217



Apply online:
www.acorn-jobs.co.uk
 Email: topstaff@acornadventure.co.uk
 CALL: 01384 446057

acorn
adventure



STUBBERS ADVENTURE CENTRE

Upminster, Essex

Vacancies for 2003 season

Instructing and support staff

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

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

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

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

Or email: admin@stubbers.co.uk

Charity No. 1080941

Arnfield Care Ltd

Instructors/Care Workers Wanted



Arnfield Care requires Instructors and Care Workers for dynamic outdoors based child care teams. We are based in the Peak District, but work UK Wide with young people who present challenging behaviour. Outdoor, craft or art qualified or experienced staff are preferred, but not essential.

What we do require from you is enthusiasm, high degree of personal motivation and an interest in young people's well-being.

Please contact Paul Booker 01457 860200



get out **more!**

Canoeing & Multi-Activity Instructors

We are looking for vibrant, energetic people for our centres in the UK, France and Spain. Whether you are experienced but unqualified, or qualified and looking to increase your leadership skills, we have the ideal opportunity for you.

If you want a rewarding position, supported by excellent BCU training opportunities – then get in touch now!



www.pgl.co.uk/people
 email: pglpeople@pgl.co.uk
 phone: 01989 767833

PGL is committed to equal opportunities

learn it • teach it • love it

Abernethy Trust Ardeonaig

Multi-activity INSTRUCTOR

We are looking for a committed Christian with experience and preferably a selection of NGB Awards to join our team in Perthshire. You must be able to drive and have held a UK licence for more than 3 years.

Also seeking Admin Assistant/Secretary, House and Food Services Team Members and Maintenance Team Members. Positions available from September onwards.

Tel: 01567 820523 Fax: 01567 820955

Email: AT@ardeonaig.org



Instructor/Careworker

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

**Please contact Simon Rouse
 On 01694 724488**

SITUATIONS VACANT



OUTDOOR
ADVENTURE

Multi-disciplined instructors available

NGB Inst. qualifications in 2 of following (3 advantageous):
BSA, Kayak, Open Boat, Windsurf, Climb
Experience/interest in developmental training via the
outdoors essential.

*Able to show commitment to your personal growth within
the industry. Driving Licence req.*

In-house & NGB training provided.

Send CV to:

Personnel, Outdoor Adventure, Atlantic Court,
Widemouth Bay, Bude, Cornwall EX23 0DF

The
largest
classified
section in
the
canoeing
world

To
advertise
call
01480
465081

NEWLANDS ADVENTURE CENTRE

Require instructors to
complete our
team for the 2003 season.
First aid certificate and
Residential centre
experience essential,
Preferably with two NGB
Awards.

Staff selection weekend
starts Friday 6th
December. Positions
available from March
For an application package
send a CV and
covering letter to :

Graeme Chapman
Newlands Adventure Centre,
Stair, Keswick, Cumbria.
CA12 5UF
e-mail jobs@activity-centre.com
Website: www.activity-centre.com

SITUATIONS VACANT

Southend Marine Activities Centre, Assistant Chief Instructor.

(£11,670 - 17,301)

This full-time post would suit an experienced watersports
instructor with NGB qualifications in at least two disciplines
(from Canoeing/Kayaking, Sailing and Windsurfing)

The Centre also has vacancies for seasonal and part-time
staff starting April 2003

For further details about any of these posts please
contact **Chris Bridgwater, Centre Manager,**
Southend Marine Activities Centre, Eastern
Esplanade Southend SS1 2YH, 01702 612770 or
Email: chrismac@aol.com

FEELFREE WHITE WATER RAFTING

require raft guides with white water experience. Drivers
and Cooks (to cater up to 15 staff) for the 2003 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

All situation vacant ads now
appear on the Canoe Focus
website with direct email links
wherever provided.

www.canoefocus.co.uk

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
vi recruitment
T.08707 429 770

TRADE

South West

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

Essex

NUCLEUS
The Essex Superstore
Kayaks, Canoes or Sit-ons
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
(Training)
www.ukkayaking.co.uk
(On-Line Store)
01403 732389

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



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
Website: 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)

Canoe bibliomania

The urge to collect appears to be an innate human trait. Most of us have made at least the beginnings of a collection at some stage in our lives; how many part-filled stamp albums languish in attics across the nation, I wonder? And how many other childhood projects have grown with their collectors to become an absorbing, life-long hobby?

I recently discovered from two youngsters in our family that organisations such as The Brownies foster the collecting urge by issuing merit badges; I now find myself looking out for unusual pencils and erasers to add to the girls' chosen collections. But while supporting their endeavours I cannot help feeling that the girls might ultimately derive more pleasure from accumulation had they chosen to follow their grandfather's example and collect books!

Not necessarily canoeing books, of course, though should they have done so there is sufficient scope within the genre for them not to have to compete with grandfather for coveted titles, nor to duplicate in their collections any of the items on his groaning bookshelves.

Given their tender years they might have chosen to collect juvenile canoe fiction. These canoe titles proliferated from the 1920s through to the 60s in much the same way as many of the better known (and more collected) 'boarding school sagas. Many were originally issued in colourful dust wrappers depicting exciting canoeing scenes and some, such as 'Minnow on the Say' by Phillippa Pearce, have illustrations within the text by well-known contemporary artists. The word "juvenile" covers a wide age range. At the upper end of what nowadays is designated "teen fiction" it may be virtually indistinguishable from an adult novel; maybe that is why the specialist juvenile fiction book shops always seem to be full of customers well past the first flush of youth! The likes of authors such as W.H.G. Kingston ('Snowshoes & Canoes') and St. George Rathborne (who wrote several paddling yarns in the early 1900s) can enthral readers of almost any age.

So what else might the budding canoe book collector choose to specialise in? You name it, someone somewhere will be collecting it, but if you steer clear of the themes which may cause competition for out-of-

print titles from collectors out with paddlesport (eg. the art world and canal enthusiasts) prices should not be so inflated as to cause your bank manager nightmares. As with all serious collecting the golden rule is to buy what you personally like and enjoy. Open canoe enthusiasts (like the girls' grandfather!) will find a wealth of material, much of it from north American writers and of all eras from the 1850s to the present day. Break down the definition of 'open canoeing' into 'exploration/trade' and 'purely recreational canoeing' and you will have a more manageable bibliography - though still one running to dozens of titles in each category. Even so, you are bound to be tempted beyond your strict parameters on occasion!

Many British titles with 'canoe' or 'canoeing' in the title are, in fact, about kayaks; I do not know of anyone who collects the books solely on the basis of this confusion of terminology but two aspects of kayaking are quite popular with collectors. Folding kayaks have a fairly strong following and the books offer a range of possibilities from the earliest appearance of the type (some of which are, inevitably, German language only editions) right up to the present day. The folders have inspired an exceptionally good crop of travel writers; Raven-Hart, Downie, and Maria Coffey enthral the reader with their experiences from Scotland to Australia and almost everywhere in between.

The second aspect of kayaks that has almost a cult following concerns their origins as working boats of the Inuit (Eskimos) and Greenlanders. These books tend to be more expensive because titles are fewer and the demand for them is shared by ethnography collectors.

Many canoeists (and kayakers!) start book collecting because initially they want a 'how-to' book. They begin with a classic such as The American Red Cross 'Canoeing', which covers almost everything from birchbarks to sailing canoes, and then find their interest provoked into searching for more in depth coverage of some aspect of the sport which particularly attracts them. Plus, they discover that reading about canoeing is almost as much fun as being on the water - and you cannot be on the water all the time! So, be warned canoe book collecting is addictive! ●



info

Carol and Dennis Davis issue occasional mail-order lists of secondhand/out-of-print canoe/kayak books. They do not claim to know all there is to learn about the genre but Dennis has been a canoe/kayak designer for many years, has collected books for even longer, and both are happy to discuss your collecting interests. No charge for book search for canoe/kayak titles. If you would like a copy of their current list a SAE would be appreciated: C & D. Davis, 9 Great Burrow Rise, Northam, Bideford EX39 1TB tel. 01237 475165



Modular pontoon system

EIRFLOAT is a unique MDPE modular pontoon system with the design and variable freeboard to make it ideal for canoe polo pitches and for getting canoes into and out of the water with ease, safely and without damage. The tough MDPE plastic construction means no sharp corners or protrusions. Pontoon height (freeboard) can be set anywhere between zero and 40 cm by ballasting the system with water, this has the added advantage of substantially increasing stability. Another major advantage is the ease with which the system can be extended or modified to any shape or size you may require in the future. Available in a wide variety of colours, EIRFLOAT is durable, non-polluting, vandal proof, and maintenance free.

Eirfloat Ltd., Lislevane,
Bandon, Co. Cork, Ireland.
Tel. +353 23 40525, Fax. +353 23 40536,
Email: info@eirfloat.com

www.eirfloat.com



New Micro'Cases from Peli

Peli Products, renowned for the Peli Protector Case range of unbreakable equipment cases, introduce Peli Micro'Cases, a revolution in protecting small, valuable items.

These brand new, stylish cases have all the superb features associated with Peli Protector Cases. They are buoyant, watertight (to 15 metres), airtight, crushproof and built tough to protect your valuable equipment.

Peli Micro'Cases are designed in eight colour versions and six different sizes to safely transport electronics, mobile phones, cameras, pagers, games and other small items. Ideal for both extreme conditions and everyday knocks and bumps, they feature a TPR liner that protects the contents and ensures the case is watertight and airtight. There is also an automatic pressure purge valve for quick equalization after changes in atmospheric pressure. Due to the compact size, they fit conveniently into luggage, glove compartments, tool boxes and rucksacks and can also be carried by hand using the lanyard.

A Peli Micro'Case is a "must have" if you value your electronic items and, as with all Peli Products, Peli Micro'Cases are covered by Peli's unconditional lifetime guarantee (excludes shark bite, bear attack and children under five).

Peli Products
Tel: 0161 304 9443
Email:
sales@peliproducts.co.uk



www.peliproducts.co.uk

Polar filling 'the middle ground'

Polar has launched two new products designed to provide uncomplicated sports training feedback at the touch of a button, with the benefit of Polar's unique features.





Many sports people already use Polar, either for basic heart rate feedback or for detailed training analysis using Polar PC software. This new Polar heart rate monitor fills 'the middle ground', providing heart rate training features which are relevant to sports people, but without the additional detailed PC analysis.

The Polar S120 and S150 are new, stylish heart rate monitors with sportswatch features... designed for sports people who want comprehensive training feedback with no fuss, and at a competitive price!

Polar have taken their sports-related features such as Countdown and CountUp timers for flexible timing, Exercise Set to save your training sessions for easy recall, along with laps (maximum 60) with average heart rates, current heart rate displayed as bpm or % of HRmax, and 3 independent and manually changeable heart rate limits, and combined them with a new stylish design to create the ideal sports training package.

S120 - 60 laps with average heart rates can be recorded

S150 - 50 laps with average heart rates can be recorded

- Current heart rate displayed as bpm or % of HRmax.
- Average heart rate of the exercise
- Duration of the exercise
- Three independent and manually changeable heart rate limits
- Three exercise timers
- Recovery calculation based on time or heart rate
- Complete file to track the exercise in detail
- Connection to computer...

The Pax 18 and 20 sea kayaks



Designed by Chesapeake Light Craft.

Manufactured and supplied in kit form by Fyne Boat

These completely new designs were developed in response to a growing constituency of skilled paddlers seeking sports boats for racing, exercise, or just plain fun. Starting with a clean sheet of paper, we sought out all of the features that make kayaks fast and combined them with proven construction methods, creating two very exciting and beautiful kit boats in the process.

The ends of the Pax 18 and 20 are nearly plumb for maximum waterline length (the heels of the stems are rounded to shed race-killing weed or kelp). Substantial flare is worked into the stem and stern above the waterline to gain buoyancy for work in waves. This extra volume also helps to reduce "squatting" at sprint speeds. Both boats have extremely narrow waterlines, 15-17" (38-43 cm) depending upon crew weight, which translates into effortless speed in the hands of a skilled paddler. Tracking is solid. Narrow boats can be a handful when surfing at speed, even for experts, so a retractable skeg is standard in the kits.

Narrow boats can also be cramped, but large-statured paddlers are accommodated by specifying 31-inch (79 cm) long coamings and highly cambered decks for footroom. The aft decks are flat and feature a standard 7.5" (19 cm) hatch for storage. Construction is as light as is consistent with hard usage. Bottom panels are 4mm, while the sides and decks are 3mm, and the entire hull and deck are fibre glassed for strength and stiffness. Four structural bulkheads (two of them watertight) are standard. The smoothly radiused decks incorporate a flush mahogany stringer for strength and beauty.

The Pax 20 is best suited to strong paddlers who have found themselves limited by "hull speed" in a smaller boat. With an 11" (28 cm) deep cockpit and enough footroom for shoe size 11's (46), most long-legged paddlers should be comfortable. While the Pax 20 is only 19.5" (49 cm) wide, primary and secondary stability are surprisingly friendly due to the hard chines and long immersed length.

The Pax 18 is a much smaller boat, suited to paddlers weighing a maximum of 175 pounds (79 Kg). The hull flares from a razor thin waterline to 21.5" (54 cm) or 10% of overall length. Thanks to the strong flare, most paddlers will find the Pax 18 far more stable than its speed would suggest.

- Come complete with waterproof T31 Transmitter belt
 - Water resistant to: S120-50m; S150-30m
- Additional cycling specific features in the S150:
- Wired speed sensor giving speed & distance functions - Trip, Average/max speed, Odometer, Total time
 - Bike Mount

With their contemporary style, great features and competitive price, these new Polar heart rate monitors are set to be popular across a range of different Sports!

S120 RRP: £99.99

S150 RRP: £109.99

Available from all good sports and fitness retailers.

Call 01926 816177 for local stockists.

Specifications

Pax 18:

5.48 x 0.55m. x 17.2 kg
Load 79 kg
Price £792 including V.A.T.

Pax 20:

5.99 x 0.49 x 18 kg
Load 111 kg
Price £792 including V.A.T.

The kits include: Plans, instruction manual, pre-cut parts, pre-cut joints, hatch and bulkheads, full deck rigging, adjustable footbraces, epoxy kit, fibreglass for hull, foam seats and backbands.

Customer Contact Information:

Fyne Boat Kits, Ferry Rd., Bowness-on-Windermere, Cumbria. LA23 3JH

Tel: 01539 444300 Fax: 01539 447662

www.fyneboatkits.com

GB freestyle team

Selection for the 2003 World Championships in Graz, Austria will be held during January 2003.

There will be three selection events with paddlers best two results counting. Venues will be confirmed soon. Keep an eye on

www.ukfreestylewesthost.com

for updates or email the GB team manager Su Ottoline on su@peakuk.com

North West region AGM

The North West region AGM will take place at the Burrs Activity Centre, Bury on Sunday

December 8th 2002 at 12.30. It will be part of a coach development

Update, although everyone is welcome to attend. For further details contact **Karen Davies 01260 275776** or email karen.davies@bcunw.freereserve.co.uk

West Midlands region AGM

Notice of AGM BCU West Midlands region

November 27th at 7.30pm at The Arc, Ackers Trust, Waverley Canal Basin, Small Heath Birmingham B10 0DQ

Great Ouse Race

Bedford - Saturday November 2nd 2002

I am currently organising the the Herts Canoe Club annual Great Ouse Race. It is a handicap race over 6.25 miles for all skill levels and ages. This year will see the introduction of a senior veterans class for those aged 55 and above.

For the last two years the race has been run by Leighton Buzzard Canoe Club who have won all the major trophies. Are there any other clubs out there capable of wrestling these form Leighton Buzzard?

Contact: **Chris Wilson, 27 Cedarwood Drive, St. Albans, Herts AL4 0DN. Tel: 01727 851773** or email: chriswil42@supanet.com

Fellowship and fun in the Bahamas

Oakhanger Project will be joining with Kayak Nature Tours, Grand Bahama for a kayak/camping trip from Grand Bahama Island to Abaco at the end of November. We also need help to carry a set of hymn books for the local church on Abaco. An opportunity to meet people and enjoy fellowship and fun in an unspoilt area of the islands. Details from **Graham or Malcolm at Oakhanger Project, Oakhanger, Crewe, CW1 5UU.** or Email oakchallenge@aol.com

Ribble Tour 2002

Sunday, November 3rd 2002

The tour has not run for the past couple of years due to low water and then F&M, but this year we plan to resurrect it!

The tour will be organised by Wigan Canoeing group. Registration packs will shortly be available for download from the tour website www.ribbletour.net, or can be requested from Matt either by e-mail aca00mp@sheffield.ac.uk, or phone (07977 579351). The website contains more information on the tour.

The Avon Descent

Sunday, November 10th 2002

This is a classic marathon descent race, organised by Mercia Canoe Club. It starts at Stratford on Avon and finishes 10 miles downstream at Bidford on Avon with six weir shoots or portages. There are classes for KI, K2, WWR, C2 touring and racing, and GP touring. Handicaps are applied to even out the kayak classes. The start is at 12.15pm with late entries up to 11.30am. This is an ideal warm up for the Exe Descent or a good trip for those looking for an enjoyable paddle.

Please contact **Nigel Wooltorton, Mercia Canoe Club, c/o 11 Brayford Avenue, Coventry CV3 5BS**, Telephone **02476 418796** or e-mail wooltorton@jings.com for details. Note the changed code for Coventry. We look forward to seeing you.

Nepal International Kayak Rodeo 2002

Sat & Sun, November 23rd -24th

This year the Nepal Rodeo will be held as a main part of the "PeakUK Himalayan Whitewater Challenge".

The event always acts as a friendly get-together for Himalayan kayakers at the prime paddling season, with

friendly multi-disciplines competition for all classes and an awesome beach party. The venue will be at Sukhute Beach on the Upper Sun Kosi about 3 hours drive from Kathmandu.

This event will be organised by the Nepal Association of Rafting Agents in co-operation with Peak UK, hosted by Equator Expeditions, supported by local operators, and sponsored by international kayak and equipment companies. Veteran rodeo organisers Pete Knowles, Dave Allardice and Gerry Moffat will be leading the partying!

Full event costs US\$35 for two days, \$50 for three and includes

- Lunch on the Saturday
- Competition entry (if wanted)
- Fun events.
- Evening BBQ and beach party
- A ripping rum punch (kukhri of course)
- Free sleep where you drop, camping
- Free aspirin and breakfast on the Sunday
- Lunch on the Sunday
- A really spiffy t-Shirt
- Transport to and from Kathmandu.

People are welcome and encouraged to stay additional nights and play in the area, there are quite a few amazing resorts that give access to some great kayaking and rafting as well as many other crazy adventures. Both Equator and other operators will be offering more deluxe packages to include the Himalayan Challenge.

For further information, see www.peakuk.com or www.equatornepal.com. See www.whitewaterwarriors.com or Peak UK's web gallery for photos and information on last years rodeo.

Crana R.W.S.

26th & 27th October 2002

Rodeo - white water - slalom. Three events one weekend in Buncrana, Co. Donegal.

Dam release so guaranteed water! Grade 2/3/4 river.

A Foyle Paddlers Canoe Club event. Campsite available.

Contact: Adrian on 00 353 7785903 or Declan on 028/048 71352414. For further details please see website: www.foylepaddlers.arefun.net

English canoe symposium

Lakeside YMCA National Centre

8th - 10th November 2002

Guest coach - Harry Rock. World Champion of Canoe Poling

Coached sessions include:

- Solo and doubles
- Rescues in open water and rivers
- Improvised sailing
- Sailing canoes
- Playboat open cockpit C1's
- Poling beyond the limits
- Flat water efficiency
- Intro to river trips
- Other Lakeland rivers, solo or doubles

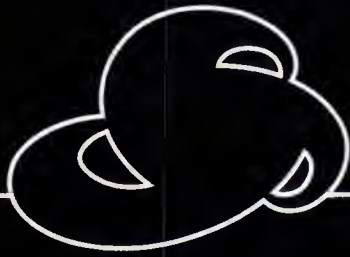
The symposium will be supported by major manufacturers and importers. There will also be several trade stands.

To make a booking, please contact: **Julian Monk, Bookings Administrator, Lakeside YMCA, Newby Bridge, Ulverston, Cumbria LA12 8BD**

Tel: 08707 273927, Fax: 015395 30015

Email: julian@lakesideymca.co.uk

www.canoesymposium.co.uk



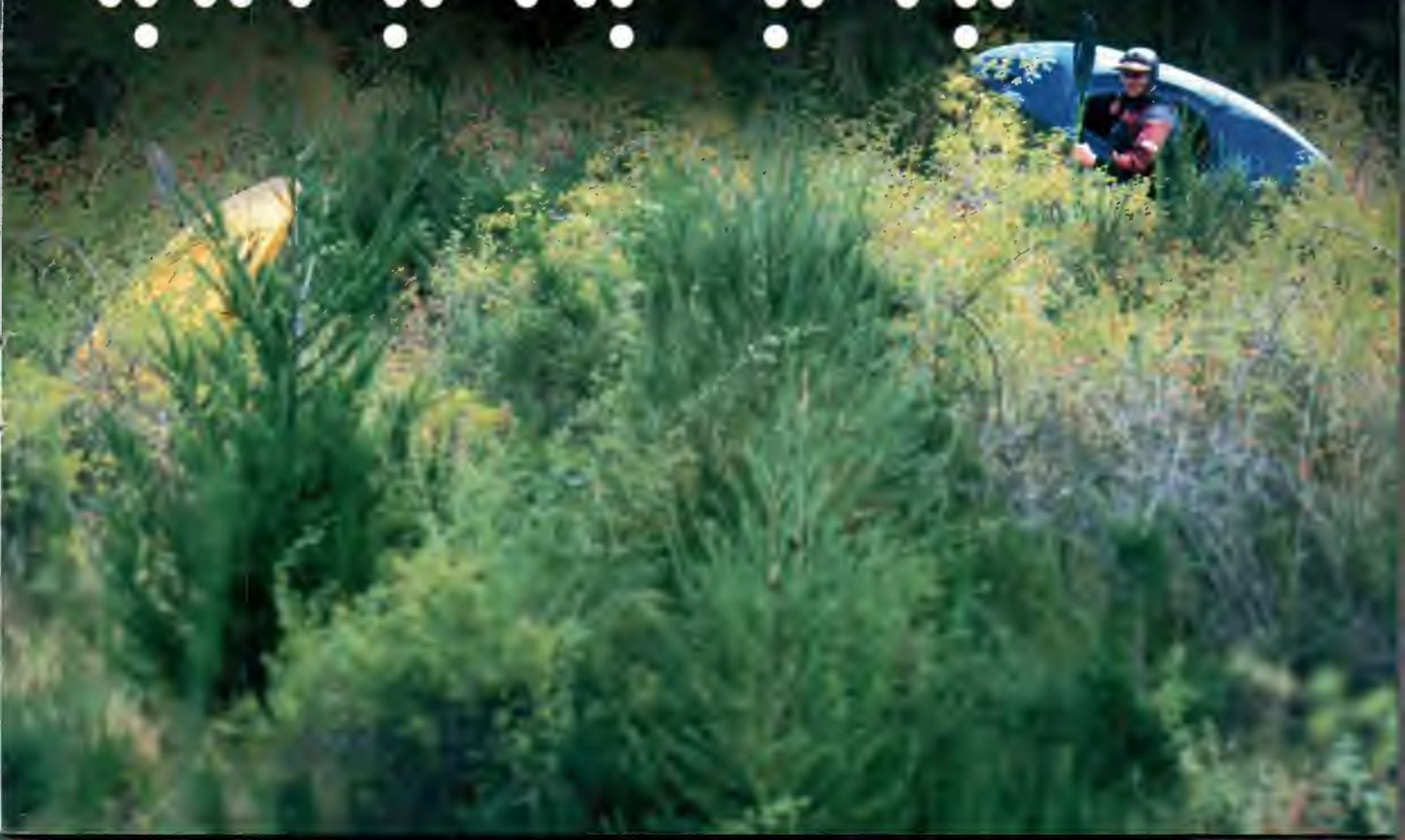
**Stay chilled all day in
Nookie Insane^{LE} Trousers**

Warm, dry and super comfortable; limited edition Nookie dry pants exclusively at our shop. A high quality product.

Tel: 0115 981 6815
39-41 Trent Boulevard,
West Bridgford,
Nottingham NG2 5BB.
desperate-measures.co.uk

location | Roaring Meg
photo | the Poly

DESPERATE MEASURES



Because We Listen...

WAVE SPORT
DOMINANCE BY DESIGN

"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."

— Brenda Winger



BROOK WINGLER: In Photo: 2001 Noiduck's knockout. In Photo: 2001 Xos River Races. In Photo: 2001 Cassa River Races. Photos by Dan Coover and Sam Davis.

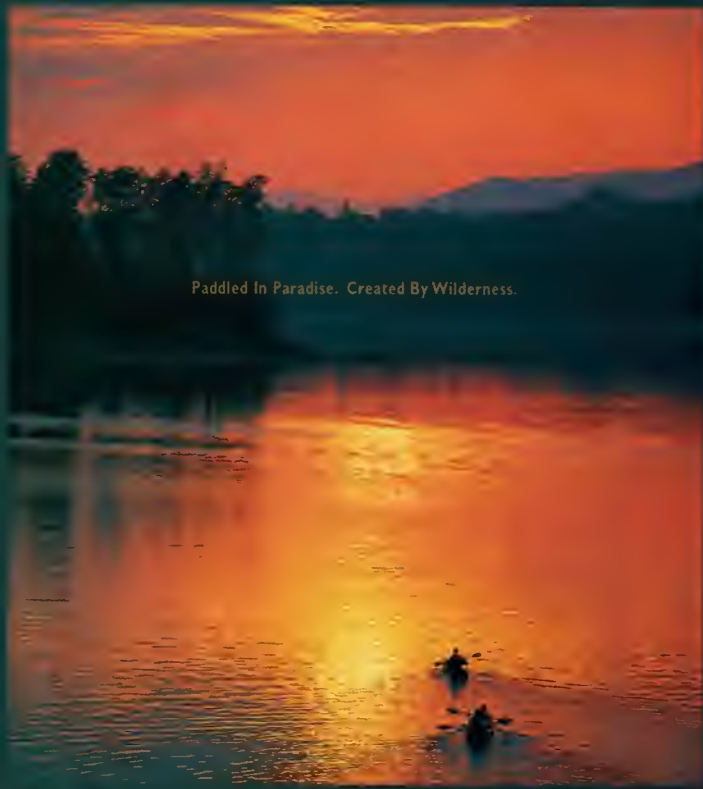
... we used input from the world's most dominant female paddlers and designed the Siren around the ergonomic needs of women. This boat is narrower and weighs less allowing for easier rolls, greater control and more power. Outfitted with our improved Fit Adjustment Technology for 2002 (F.A.T. 2.0), we give you a custom, no hassle fit before you even leave the showroom floor.

LADIES, THE PLAYING FIELD IS NOW EQUAL!



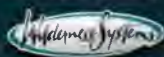
UNRIVALED VERSATILITY.
GUARANTEED.

 Mad River Canoe®



Paddled In Paradise. Created By Wilderness.

In the world of Wilderness Systems you'll find excellence at every level of paddling. Our top quality touring kayaks feature innovative designs and quality craftsmanship, creating boats that are ready for any adventure.



www.wwc.co.uk Whitewater Consultancy,
Bronwydd, Carmarthen, Wales SA33 4BE Tel: 08000 151520
Available from all good dealers

Where Innovation Meets Adventure



PADDLES

DRY STORAGE

SAFETY GEAR

For over 30 years, Voyageur has manufactured the highest quality paddlesports accessories on the market and we back every product with our simple lifetime warranty.



EVERYTHING
BUT THE SOAT

AVAILABLE FROM ALL GOOD DEALERS

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