

FORTH

CANOE CLUB



**NEWSLETTER
JULY '73**

VOL 2 N: 2

GLAYVA



F O R T H C A N O E C L U B

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EDITORIAL

The offer of a copy of the Newsletter quarterly, for the price of 10p has met with no response from canoeists in Scotland.

It could be that there were not enough articles and information of general interest. It could be that many read the magazine then forgot all about it. It could be that canoeists like most other members of the community are apathetic.

To find out if you are an apathetic canoeist try the quiz below!

- | | <u>SCORE</u> | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Have you renewed your F.C.C. Subscription? | YES - 5 | NO - 0 |
| SEND IT TO-DAY - 4 | | |
| YES but to another club - 1 | | |
| 2. Have you renewed your sub. to the B.C.U./S.C.A. | YES - 5 | NO - 0 |
| SEND IT TO-DAY - 0 for being a dummy there are only 6 weeks left this season! | | |
| 3. Have you placed an order for F.C.C. Newsletter. | YES - 5 | NO - 0 |
| NO but have written to Ed. to suggest improvements to the mag. - 5 | | |
| If Member of F.C.C. take 5 free marks as magazine is sent to you willynilly. | | |
| 4. Have you contributed to the Spey fighting fund? | | |
| Score 1 for every 10p which you have sent. Max 5. | | |
| 5. Are you a qualified canoeing instructor? | YES - 5 | NO - 0 |
| If you are in the process of becoming one - 4 | | |
| 6. Have you ever attended an S.C.A. A.G.M. | YES - 1 | NO - 0 |
| Score an extra 4 if you stayed to the end! | | |
| 7. Have you attended a Forth C.C. film meeting or club meeting in the past two years. | Score 1 for each occasion. | Max. 5 |
| 8. Have you entered a canoeing competition in the past 2 years. | Score 1 for each competition. | Max. 5 |
| 9. Have you been on a canoe-camping expedition in the past 2 years? | Score 1 for each overnight stop. | Max 5. |
| 10. If you have got this far you deserve 5 for perseverance. | | |

RESULTS:

- 50 marks You are obsessed with canoeing. Might I suggest some ski-ing to take your mind off canoeing.
(take one mark off if you thought I was going to say sex, your obsession with canoeing is obviously not 100%)
- 40-49 You are definitely not an apathetic canoeist. I'll be writing to you soon to take over the editing of this magazine.
- 30-39 You like canoeing, you are good at it, you like attending meetings and hearing your own voice, you are generous with money, you have a vast experience of all canoeing matters and you read this magazine from cover to cover. If you are wondering why you are so good, remember I got 39!
- 20-29 You once were interested in canoeing but you are obviously now married. Don't read any further, your wife wants you to wash the dishes.
- 10-19 There is no hope. The canoeing world will get on fine without you. (P.S. if you are female and have just started canoeing, ignore the above and make an appointment with Graham Smith!)
- 0-9 I'm surprised you did the competition!

The species *Homo competensis* - as distinct from *Homo sapiens* - is a gregarious creature who partakes of strange dietary and physical rites when in the presence of water. To substantiate this statement I will now describe the order of practices undergone by a canoeist during a day's competition.

The competitor arises early in the morning and imbibes large quantities of carbohydrates and proteins since it is apparently blasphemous to eat these foods until the ceremonies are over. Then, having driven vast distances to a stretch of water that is neither scenic nor inviting, they proceed to divest themselves of the majority of their clothing. However, prior to embarking it appears essential that several pounds of exotic foods must be consumed. To the uninitiated the prospect of transporting this large mass of substance, containing everything from glucose to hormones, through miles of turbulent water would be intimidating, but one is nevertheless assured that it is essential to the spirit of competition. As a matter of interest I suppose the witches in Macbeth were carrying out a similar rite.

An actual river race competition now takes place with two forms of organisation predominating. The first consists of all of the entrants starting together and this technique is generally chosen when the river constricts to less than ten feet wide within a few hundred yards of the starting line. It is noticeable that successful competitors in this type of event are generally thinly built. The other type of organisation is for the competitors to be started at timed intervals so that by judicious seeding all the canoeists arrive simultaneously at the finishing line. This has the advantage that only the race organisers know the timed starting intervals and therefore the winner can be chosen by simple mathematical manipulation rather than by canoeing ability. This avoids the obvious unpleasantness of the winner being a person who is not a personal friend of the race organisers or in the extreme of being unknown to them.

During the race the competitors endeavour to maintain a straight course down the river irrespective of banks, rocks, fishermen, or other obstructions. As a result competition boats rapidly assume the appearance of salmon in the final stages of fungus disease, because of the frequent and hurried fibreglass repairs that have been made to them. Eventually, at the finish of the race the competitor staggers from his battered, sinking craft to collapse inside a car that has been provided by his longsuffering parents/girlfriend/probation officer/ etc.

It is at this point I confess to be still in doubt as to the real purpose of the proceedings, but it appears most probable that there is some religious connotation. Having collapsed and then partially recovered inside the car the competitor takes off his remaining clothing and throws it out of the car as far as possible. To the outside viewer this appears as some form of propitiation rite, but the exact meaning is unclear since all the competitors remain incarcerated in their vehicles. Several hours now elapse and as night falls the competitors creep surreptitiously from their cars to congregate in a remote part of the locality. This congregation is the culmination of the day and lends further evidence to the religious connotation in that for Scottish competitions a large chalice is always presented to a competitor who is addressed as Andrew though his connection with sanctity is not immediately evident. Other smaller articles are then distributed to lesser members of the audience, there are brief and generally inaudible invocations and the members depart, presumably cleansed in mind and body until the next occasion.

This description has been of a typical competition and whilst variations exist in slalom events, or competitions that take place on lochs or the open sea, the order of proceedings remains the same. It would be more satisfactory if I could definitely establish the religious nature of these occasions, but the evidence so far has not been obtained without considerable risk to life and limb, and one dare not probe too deeply. The arising suspicion on competitor's faces when they have sternly watched me swimming my boat past slalom poles, makes me feel that I cannot mingle much longer with safety, and therefore this report can only be regarded as an interim measure.

Finally I would like to caution tourists that high priests in any field do not take kindly to rivals, and canoeing is no exception. Vigilance is always necessary so that canoeing does not become synonymous with competition, to the detriment of our interests. Furthermore it must be made clear that our interests lie on a much higher spiritual plane.

The Slalom Kayak is a specialist craft designed for the optimum balance between speed and turning ability. As trend in typical course design used in slaloms has varied over the years from long and straight, requiring a fast craft (e.g. KW7, SL1-7 Hartung) in the mid 60's to the tighter courses of the late 60's to early 70's requiring a more manoeuvrable boat (e.g. Isere, Scorpions, Olymps, Olympias), the design of the boats has become increasingly towards turning ability.

As the best selling kayaks are invariably the ones selected by the elite of the higher levels of the 1st Division, the Internationals these paddlers attend is a controlling factor in all slalom boat design e.g. Last year large volume boats were in because of the Olympic Games influence (The Augsburg Course had very "heavy" water sections). As a result large volume Olymp IVs could be seen at 'Ashiesteel' Slalom which is hardly Augsburg water conditions.

There are two schools of thought on the design of Slalom Kayaks. Big volume and small volume. Large volume kayaks float higher in rough water due to their large air buoyancy. This gives good manoeuvrability as they go over the waves. This was noticeable in the Lettmann designs for the West Germans in last year's Olympics. The small volume boats go through the waves more in the fashion of a submarine and are therefore supposed to be faster though more difficult to turn. This type was the choice of the East German team at the Olympics which, in fact, proved to be the more successful of the two teams, whether it was the paddlers or the boat which made the difference is, however, open to argument.

The smaller volume boats have the advantage of lighter weight for the same strength as a large volume boat.

Prijon Olympia Mark I
(original) Medium volume, deep bow. Cockpit positioned forward of mid-point. Same hullshape as Isere but with modified deck to give more buoyancy. Seat positioned forward inside cockpit rim leaving space to lean back. One of the fastest slalom boats in a straight line. Stern turning easier than bow turning. "fish" formed.

Lettmann Olymp IV. Largest volume slalom kayak at present, pointed bow. Cockpit positioned behind mid-point. Hullshape differs from Isere in that it is wider over more of its length and has more rocker forward. Seat is positioned near the back of the cockpit hole and one tends to rub against the back of the rim. Not so fast in a straight line as the Olympia. Symmetrical hullshape.

Lettmann Olymp V Very much smaller volume than the IV. Same basic hullshape but narrower over more of its length, lower, and has much more sharply pointed ends. Slower in a straight line than the IV. Turning ability was tested and found to be equal with the IV. Not so good for the heavy paddler. The V is very good for tail ducking under poles because if you paddle it fast the stern has so little buoyancy that it sinks about 5cm. under the water all the time. It is capable of ducking under a pole which is touching the water.

KW Scorpion Basic design has remained unchanged for many years and this craft is still the fastest of the top class pure slalom boats. As low as the Olymp V but does not turn so easily.

KW Toledo I have not heard much about this canoe but have had a look at one. It seems to be of the Scorpion design but of larger volume, but not so large as the Scarab. It is also very expensive.

It is obvious that choosing a canoe is a much more difficult job than one would imagine. If you do not know what type of design suits you best, think of what you want from a canoe. You cannot have every feature in one kayak so the best compromise must be worked out. Take into account

Type of water to be used; Your weight; If you have fast gate technique but are slow on the flat, get a fast slalom kayak e.g. an Olympia, or, if you are slow on gates and fast on the flat, get an Olymp V. If you like heavy water canoeing and have access to some, a larger volume boat would be better.

Boats which are shorter in front of the cockpit than behind are easier to enter into a gate but less easy to leave due to the large amount of boat

Slalom Kayaks (contd.)

boat behind you. Typical example, Iseres and Olympias. Conversely the Olymps, which have much shorter sterns and long bows, are easier to leave gates, e.g. a breakout.

Prijon Olympia Mark II. You may have noticed Robert Hignall paddling this kayak at the Awe. It is a very different boat from the first type of Olympia. This Mark II type has a very much smaller, central, cockpit which is of the same design as the Interceptor W.W. Boat. The kayak has maximum buoyancy amidships in the very high deck (higher than the Olymp IV). It has greater volume than the Olympia previously described. The top of the deck curves down concave to the ends making the boat look like a shoe. The stern is very easy to duck and the shape of the hull gives a high speed. This canoe seems to be a very good compromise between speed in a straight line and turning speed. The ends are more pointed than the old Olympia and have more buoyancy than the Olymp V

It is worthy of note that the British Team paddling in the World Championships event in Switzerland will all be paddling the new Prijon Interceptor Kayak although one of the competitors has expressed his doubts as to the suitability of the boat.

Coming Events

JULY to OCTOBER 1973

14-15 July	Swarkestone Slalom	4 - N - OT	Midland C.C.
21-22 July	Langholm Slalom	2 - 3 - T	Carlisle C.C.
18-19 August	Makerstoun Slalom	2 - T - J	Roxburgh C.C.
	National Sprint Championships at Holme-Pierrepont.		
25-26 August	Grandtully 1st Div. Slalom		
	Worcester National L.D. Championships		
1-2 September	3 Lochs Race	(see separate notes)	S.C.A.
9 September	Junior L.D. Race on Union Canal		Linlithgow C.C.
15-16 "	Scottish Slalom & W/W Championships at Grandtully		
22-23 "	Scottish Sprint Championships		
	Tay L.D.		E.W.W.C.
29-30 "	Comrie Slalom	4-N-J-T	Ancrum
	Serpents Tail	1st Div. Slalom	
6-7 October	Potarch Slalom	3-4-N-T-J	Aberdeen Univ.
	Llangollen Town 1st Div. Slalom		

REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR B.C.U. MEMBERSHIP DURING SEPTEMBER

(and don't forget your Forth Canoe Club sub. if you have so far omitted to pay up)

THREE LOCHS RACE - September 1st/2nd

This event has been revived in a new form by the Touring Committee. The race is for teams of 3 single kayaks, one of which must be of a touring type. The start is at Helensburgh and the finish at Dunbarton. There is a portage from Gareloch to Loch Long and one from Loch Long to Loch Lomond. At least 30 kg. of equipment must be carried. Entries to D. Whitelaw, 109 Broomlands Road, Cumbernauld. 50p per team. Points are awarded towards the Canoeist of the Year Trophy.

Access and its Problems

on the River Teith

Drew Michie

Really there doesn't seem to be any access problem on the River Teith in or around Callander. There are several access points (from public rights of way) and a few egress points down-stream which do not cause any problems. There are problems, however, with fishermen. They rarely complain or, in fact say anything when you pass them, but as soon as they can they complain like hell to Mr. Allan (local fishing permit supplier) or Callander Town Council.

Canoeists have a right of navigation on a river - a right to paddle from one public place to another. They have no other rights and legally should not stop (e.g. to spend some time at a rapid).

A few weeks ago a coaching weekend was organised and based in Callander and the River Teith was used. Bearing in mind canoeists' right of navigation only, Callander Town Council was approached for permission to use a stretch of river at Callander for instructional purposes (a local fishing pond in fact) and this permission was granted. Only one morning of the weekend was spent at this pool. During the remainder of the weekend three trips were made down the river. After the weekend was over, I wrote to Callander Town Council thanking them for their permission. (They had erected notices saying, on that day, canoeists had priority and also reserved part of the car park for us.) I received a reply from the Town Clerk saying that we had "abused the privilege granted to us "by sailing down the river" on to "Town water and private water". There was also mention of a letter of complaint from a local fisherman and of verbal complaints from others. My reply to this was to ask for a copy of the letter of complaint and details of the other complaints. I also asked Callander Town Council to define, with special reference to the word "water" their terms, "Town water" and "private water", as they appear to claim to own some moving water. They'll be hard pushed to keep up with the bit they claim to own, especially when it's in spate!! When I receive a reply from them the matter will be dealt with by the SCA Access Committee.

The whole matter of canoeing and access is current, and we are awaiting the result of Clive Freshwater's case with great interest as it may affect our Scottish Freedom. However canoeing has been carried out on the River Teith without let or hindrance for many years now and we will continue to do so regardless of Callander Town Council or power struck fishermen. When you canoe on the River Teith do so without any fuss or bother. Do not aggravate or annoy the fishermen. Treat them with the usual respect offered to fishermen when you wish to pass by. But do continue to canoe there; and do keep a record of your trips in a log book - it may be of use in later years. Written evidence of having paddled on a river may be critical, as Clive Freshwater knows just now.

in the Callander Area

Maureen McClure

Like all fanatical canoeists, I chose to work in Callander because of the readily (?) available canoeing waters. Four miles away there is Loch Vennachar and three miles Loch Lubnaig, both of which are excellent training waters unless the wind prevails.

Canoeing on Loch Vennachar is restricted to 12 canoes. Permission to launch can be gained from Mr. I. Alexander, "Glenville", Callander, and then launching is only allowed from Loch Vennachar Sailing Club. Once afloat, you must come no nearer than 100 yards from the shore other than at the club site and remain to the west of a line joining Invertrossachs boathouse and the fishing harbour on the opposite bank. This is laid down by Loch Vennachar Users' Association who also cater for the inevitable fishermen and wild fowl enthusiasts. "At present", relations with LVUA are quite favourable.

The River Teith is extremely suitable for training purposes and right on my doorstep. I made full use of the river without any problems from September to March. April brought complaints from anglers who were concerned about the extent to which the river was being used by canoes. The Town Council decided to allocate the part of the river between the two bridges to canoes. After discussion and dispute with the Town Clerk and Burgh Surveyor they decided that,

- (i) priority should be given to canoeing between the road bridge and the foot bridge, a distance of about 150 yards, 50 of which at the normal level is a foot deep at the deepest channel and for most purposes completely unsuitable /

Access in the Callander Area (contd.)

Maureen McClure

unsuitable for canoeing.

- (ii) canoeing could take place anywhere on Sundays.
- (iii) Council might consider permission being given to groups going straight down the river.
- (iv) my going on to the river was permitted if I didn't see (?) any fishermen.

Since April I have not used the river to the same extent as I did previously. I was involved at the Coaching weekend and have had school children out once since, on the permitted waters. I did, however, launch and land on a piece of land 10 yards above the bridge. This land is a public right of way and is owned by Mr. Brown, who wouldn't mind if we launched "battleships" from his land. The water bailiff took grave exception to this despite the absence of fishermen.

I do not want to antagonise the Town Council or fishermen. The Town Council want to safeguard against casual canoeists launching at the car park and playing in the immediate area, "an excellent fishing pool"?? Fishermen have always been very friendly and courteous towards me when I have been on the river. The local Tourist Association would like to develop and improve water resources in the area for local use. Unfortunately, Mr. Allan who issues fishing permits is not so amenable and his friend in war, the Burgh Surveyor, is a keen fisherman. The burgh surveyor has oversight of the house I occupy in Callander. As a teacher "my name is completely linked with McLaren High School" and in order to keep a roof over my head and continue to earn a living, I am having to tread very warily.

At present I would recommend that canoeists follow the recommendations of the Access Committee and gather funds to provide food and shelter for a Callander refugee!

Access to the Awe

Andrew Morton.

I have been in contact with the landowners and fishermen of the river Awe with regard to canoeing on the river. I have received one comment worth mentioning from a Mr. Campbell-Preston who has requested that canoeists touring the river should paddle straight through fishing pools and not linger. What he has experienced, and objects to, quite naturally, is selfish canoeists re-running rapids over and over again, thus making fishing impossible. Keep in mind that these people have paid considerable sums of money for the privilege of fishing on these waters. We pay nothing. We also owe it entirely to them that the river level is raised every Sunday during the summer. If any friction does arise due to the inconsiderate activities of canoeists, then the S.C.A. I hope, will act quickly and effectively to avert further incidents. Anyone on the canoeing side who has a query arising from the use of the river should contact me.

The Spey Case

We hope to have a full report on the Spey Case for the next issue but meantime, the case came up on the 19th of June and the evidence against Clive Freshwater was completed but the Court is not to hear Counsel's submissions until November and it is doubtful if there will be a decision before the end of the year.

GUIDE TO WATERWAYS OF THE BRITISH ISLES - NEW EDITION

The Scottish section of this useful book was done originally by Forth Club members as was the revised edition. We have therefore more than a passing interest, so it is hoped that our touring members will rally round to help with the new edition now being prepared.

Please send all material new or revised to:-

Mr. D. Whitelaw,
Hon. Secretary,
S.C.A. Touring Committee
Cumbernauld High School
Cumbernauld,
By Glasgow.

RESULTS SERVICE

14-15 April Comrie Slalom The outstanding recollection is probably the wonderful hot sunny weather. The Club managed to get transport for our Junior members this weekend and 10 members competed.

<u>Judges Team</u>	<u>Div IV Team</u>	<u>Novices Team</u>
1. E.W.W.C.	1. Roxburgh C.C.	1. Gateshead
2. E.W.W.C.	2. West Lothian C.C.	2. "Easy Capsizers"
3. E.W.W.C.	3. Dundee Univ.	3. Strathkelvin
		4. Forth.

<u>Judges Singles</u>	<u>Div IV Singles</u>	<u>Novice Singles</u>
1. D. Cuthill Forth	1. A.S.McDonald.Roxburgh	1. A.Hedley.Gateshead
2. A.S.Ramage E.W.W.C.	2. J.Stark Glasgow Univ.	2. I.McBeth.Edinburgh
3. J. Young E.S.C.A.	3. A. Paterson Edin. "	3. G.Wailes.Gateshead
4. C. Aston. E.W.W.C.	4. J.S.Ness Ancrum C.C.	4. J.MacIver.Strathclyde

Monday 16th being the Edinburgh Spring Holiday, the Club 'flotilla' of a dormobile, one car with canoe trailer and another with the bits and pieces moved up to the Tay where members paddled down to Grandtully rapids, to give some of our Novices a taste of white water!

6th May - F.C.C. Tweed L.D. - Seniors from Walkerburn to Melrose
Juniors from Fairnilee to Melrose.

<u>K1 Class</u>	<u>W/W Class</u>	<u>Junior W/W Class</u>
1. Andrew Morton F.C.C.	1. Graham Smith EWWC	1. Jock Young FCC
2. A.Burwood. Aberdeen U.	2. Scott Ramage EWWC	2. D. Cameron Irvine
3. C. Tannock. Glasgow U.	3. Ronnie McFarlane EWWC.	3. Gregory Brooks FCC

<u>Junior Slalom</u>	<u>Senior Ladies</u>	<u>Junior Ladies</u>
1. Colin Purves B'Muir	1. Maureen McLure FCC	1. Lesley Hodge FCC
2. David Payne FCC	2. C. Lyon Glasgow U	2. S. Laurie B'muir
3. A. Thomas Epsilon	3. S. Coleman Aberdeen U.	3. Anne Lawson Rangers.

The four firsts in this event gave the Club a flying start for the S.C.A. Club Trophy.

2/3 June - Leny Slalom

<u>Judges</u>	<u>Div 3 Teams</u>	<u>Div 4 Teams</u>	<u>Novice Teams</u>
1.P.Mansell-Manchester	1.Edin.Schools 'B'	1.Manchester 'A'	1.Linlithgow
2.J.Dolan - ESCA	2.E.W.W.C. 'B'	2.Stafford & Stone	2.Paidley K.C.
3.D. Cuthill-FCC	3.Carlisle CC	3.Roxburgh	3.Moray House A
4.A. Morton-FCC			

<u>Novices</u>	<u>Div 4.</u>	<u>Div 3</u>	<u>Ladies 4</u>
1.Peter Miller B'muir	1.J.Scott.Tynes.	1.L.Ward EWWC	1.C.Linn G.U.
2.Alan Boyd ESCA	2.J.Knox-Roxburgh	2.A.Heatley "	2.K.Irvine Grace-mount
3.A.Gillespie Falkirk	3.B.Scott "	3.E.Milne ESCA	3.S.Williamson EWWC.

Youth Sprint Championships

Despite lack of calm waters, clement weather, clocks and competitors, the championships were held on Loch Vennachar on Saturday 9th June.

39 paddlers managed to brave the storm and enter the regatta events in slalom boats. The more intrepid canoeists paddled White Water Racers in the Championships, while the Aberdeen University K1s stayed firmly on the roof of the Land Rover.

Edinburgh Schools Canoe Association dominated the under 18 events, Jim Dolan being first in the Championship with our Jock Young coming second. They took the first 4 places in the Slalom Class, again won by Jim Dolan.

Gregory Brooks, one of our up and coming junior racers won the under-16 championship. D.Cameron of Irvine was 2nd.

The Slalom event was won by Cameron with J.Christie of Linwood H.S. 2nd. Robert Montgomery (Irvine) was the winner of the under 14 championship with Robert McCairns, his clubmate, second.

Irvine came out tops in the girls under 18 events with Linda Craig and Elizabeth Henning coming 1st and 2nd respectively. McLaren H.S. raised the flag for their under 16 girls team of Pamela Williams and Senga Smith by coming 1st and 2nd in the Slalom event.

RESULTS SERVICE (contd.)

17th June - Edinburgh Schools L.D. Tweed Race

This junior event was an addition to the calendar. Four members competed and Jock Young easily won the under 18 event.

23rd June: Loch Lomond L.D.

This was one of the events counting for the S.C.A. L.D. Trophy. Andy Morton won the K1 event and Jock Young the Junior W/W class. Maureen McClure was first in the Ladies Race and Gregory Brooks first in the Junior K1 with David Cuthill 3rd in the Senior W/W Class and the help of 3 other members competing, our points total for the S.C.A. L.D. Trophy amounted to 66. Irvine C.C. came 2nd with 57 points. In the two counting events held so far our total is now 131 with Irvine 2nd on 72, closely followed by the Edinburgh White Water Club with 71.

24th June - Awe River Race

This race was one of our club events arranged by the Hon. Secretary. Andrew Morton won the senior W/W event with David Cuthill in 3rd place. Jock Young was an easy winner of the Junior W/W Class and came 2nd overall. Maureen McClure won the ladies race to cap another excellent afternoon for the Forth Canoe Club.

30th/June/1st July-Glayva Slalom River Awe

This was our big event jointly arranged with the Edinburgh White Water Club and sponsored by Glayva. The weather was wet and not very inviting for those of the public who braved the elements to watch.

The team event was won by the Manchester C.C. with a team which included our old Secretary Ian Pendleton and still an active member of Forth. E.S.C.A. "A" team was 2nd with the Leeds "A" team 3rd. We took 3rd and 4th places in the Judges event with Jock Young and David Cuthill in that order. First was Fay Roberts followed by R. Hignell of Denstone.

Jim Hamilton competed in the Div2 events and Ian Pendleton managed 4th place in Div. 3.

SCOTTISH INTERNATIONAL TEAM

Since the April issue of the Newsletter there has been considerable progress in the forming of a Scottish Slalom and White Water Team to compete abroad and on Monday 2nd July 1973 the team below set out with high hopes for Czechoslovakia, under the Management of Andrew Manwell and Captained by Graham Smith. They will take part in two events:

Lipno-Czechoslovakia - 7/8th July

<u>Senior Men's Slalom</u>	<u>Senior Men's White Water</u>	<u>Ladies White Water</u>
Colin Aston	Graham Smith	Annette Ramage
Geoff Hatfield	Andrew Morton	
Ronny Kennedy	David Cuthill	
Forbes Ramage	Gordon Cuthill	

Skopje-Yugoslavia - 1/2nd August

<u>Senior Men's Slalom</u>	<u>Junior Men's Slalom</u>	<u>Ladies Slalom</u>
Geoff Hatfield	Ronny Kennedy	Fay Roberts
Graham Smith	Forbes Ramage	
David Cuthill	Gordon Cuthill	
Scott Ramage		
Colin Aston		

Our best wishes go too with Jock Young who sets out with the British Junior Slalom team on 30th July to compete at Lofer in North Austria, Augsberg and Landec.

Mr. Manwell of Aberdeen University has put a great deal of effort into forming a Team. He has ensured that proper training schedules have been issued. Visas for Czechoslovakia have been obtained - easier said than done. A Team uniform has been stipulated - Blue Tracksuits with SCOTLAND in red on the back, red shirts and track/shoes. Mr. Manwell has also dealt with the onerous task of organising transport for all competitors and controlling finance for the trip. To him considerable thanks is due. If team organisation continues at its present level our team standards will surpass those of our British counterparts.

Commodore's Column

Alan Sharples has now left Edinburgh and we attended his farewell party last week. He was responsible for reviving the slalom interest in the Club a few years ago, which has remained at a high standard ever since. We wished him good luck and presented him with a print of Campsie Linn.

The Club's new Slalom equipment is now finished and was used for the first time at the Awe Slalom. We were not exactly overwhelmed with members rushing to help but we are grateful for a power of work done by the enthusiasts.

The baths are now closed for the summer. Next session we have applied for a 2 hour session which will make it more worth while. In the meantime a new club noticeboard has been put up at the Compass Adventure Centre to keep members up-to-date with the latest information.

We are glad to report that Dougal Lauder is about again following his accident but with one arm still in plaster. It means the end of Dougal's paddling days but the family tradition will be continued by his enthusiastic young daughter, one of our Junior members.

The Club slalom boats are rapidly approaching a useable state thanks to the work of Andrew Boath. He has also been rendering the club great service by running a coaching session every Monday and Thursday night in Wardie Bay. Any member interested in joining in those sessions must first contact Andrew on a Wednesday night at the Compass Centre.

John Young left on 10th. July for a tour on the West coast. The party are all tried and tested canoeists because the route is not an easy one. It is hoped to include Eigg and Rum and north to Skye.
(How envious can you get ?)

20 years ago a S.C.A. badge, based on the Scottish Thistle was devised for wear by those who took part in competitive canoeing outwith Scotland. It was worn proudly by a select number of Scottish Canoeists, including those who brought back the British Slalom Championship on two occasions and David Campbell of the Tay C.C. who competed in the Arkansas River Race. It seems a pity that our team on the Continent this summer lacked such a symbol of National identification.

This club publication goes out under the mundane name of "NewsLetter". How lacking in originality; how uninspired. Was no one moved to take up the Editorial Challenge in the last issue and suggest something more distinctive? The original name of "Spray-sheet" at least had some individuality but was considered inappropriate in this day and age. The Editor, always the optimist, looks forward to getting your ideas in time for the next issue.

We had John Dudderidge, President of the British Canoe Union staying with us last month and I have to convey his good wishes to all members of the Club.

The Club is in a healthy state at present with its membership near the 50 mark. 12 new enthusiastic junior members have joined us in the last 3 months and already some have been making their mark in competition.

You will remember to pay your annual subscription, won't you!
Andy is standing by - receipt book at the ready!

Jack Cuthill

COMPASS ADVENTURE CENTRE

Some of our members have been wondering about our relationship with the Compass Adventure Centre which now goes back for a number of years.

The Compass Centre is not a canoe club and has no official connections with organised canoeing. It is rather a loose organisation which exists to provide facilities for all interested in canoeing or sailing, with no strings attached. It makes available: storage facilities; building space, and room for meetings. It provides information on canoeing in general, coaching and tests for scout and guide Boat and Charge Certificates. Classes are run for Duke of Edinburgh's Award candidates and others.

The Heriot Watt University Canoe Club and the School of Domestic Economy (now Queen Margaret College) Canoe Club, Scout Venturer C.C. and Edinburgh Rangers Canoe Section, all originated at the Centre. Edinburgh University C.C. and the Edinburgh White Water Club were both considerably assisted in getting started.

When our club lost its boathouse at Granton, after a disastrous fire, it found temporary refuge on the canal near Wester Hailes. After vandals had broken in several times we gave it up and now take advantage of the facilities provided at the Compass Adventure Centre. It is open every Wednesday and we have our own club notice board there so that you can keep yourself up - to - date on club activities.

SCOTTISH SPORTS COUNCIL

The Scottish team on the Continent this summer benefitted by a grant of £1,400 from the S.S.C. Being the first trip of its kind they will be analysing the financial and competitive aspects of the venture closely to help them decide on policy for the years ahead. As a grant is only available to teams competing outwith Britain, the S.C.A. is hoping to send a team annually to compete in two Slalom - W/W events and that as soon as standards and enthusiasm warrant it a L.D./Sprint team as well.