

# **KAYAK**

## **MAGAZINE**



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**May 1979**

**A FORTH CANOE CLUB PUBLICATION**

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E D I T O R I A L  
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From August 31st, the S.C.A. will collect its own subscriptions in Edinburgh for the 1980 season. At a recent Council meeting it was resolved to keep the level of subscriptions for the first season the same as those of the B.C.U. This will remove what otherwise might prove to be an added complication to the transfer process.

What then does the S.C.A. plan to offer its members for the princely sum of £5 (or perhaps even more)? A fair proportion of the annual subscriptions is spent on "Focus" which is sent irregularly to members! Should the S.C.A. continue to provide this magazine, or should "Focus" be replaced by "Kayak"?

Keen competitors and administrators (yes, I'm told there are a few about) tend to be critical of "Focus" and praise "Kayak", but what of the mass of other canoeists?

I find it difficult to criticise "Focus". If it lacks Scottish flavour and news, then that is simply a reflection of the lack of information coming from North of the Border. If you have ever felt aggrieved that Scotland is never mentioned in "Focus", then it is time you wrote an article or collated some Scottish news. In other respects "Focus" like "Kayak" is only as good as its contributors. Editing is not highly significant because there is invariably a shortage of material and most of which we receive is printed. Where "Focus" and "Canoeing" score heavily over "Kayak", particularly with the fringe canoeist, is in their trade content, including information on new equipment and canoes and the very important advertisements.

"Kayak" is popular with its readers, but that is hardly surprising since they all buy it voluntarily! I doubt if it would prove any more popular than "Focus" if it were forced through the letter box regularly or irregularly!

Why not introduce a lower subscription fee in years to come and leave the purchase of the magazines to the wishes of the individuals?

If the S.C.A. wants to go it alone and produce its own magazine alongside "Kayak", or even take "Kayak" under its wing, then it must be sure it has the person power to cope with the work! It does not at the moment.

A.M.

"What have I let myself in for?" I remember thinking this all the way down in the car - in fact it was a question I'd been asking myself more often all week. It had seemed all right on the Monday evening at Craighlockhart where I'd gone along to enrol, and Mr. Balfour had casually said, "There's a race on the Tweed this Sunday - Fairnilee to Gattonside, - you should manage it" but now, with the start drawing near, I was having my doubts. My first competition - 8 miles, even downstream - what if I couldn't keep up with the rest? got lost! capsized!! The reconnaissance the night before hadn't helped. We'd found Fairnilee from a map, but what worried me was where exactly the start was to be held. There were two likely spots, one above, the other below the bridge and the fifty yards or so between them was the problem. If we started from the first point, I could see my first competition lasting about 90 seconds and finishing in that torrent at the far side of the bridge. If I escaped drowning, and wasn't battered to pieces on the rocks, I'd have to face the worse fate of emerging very wet and very red-faced less than 50 yards from where I'd set off! Mind you, if I survived that, the rest of the course didn't appear to hold too many terrors. From the "dry run" in the car the night before, there didn't seem to be too much rough stuff, and I had mapped a route on the back of my hand in felt tipped pen as an aid to navigation (R.H.S. of island - L. at first junct. - R. at 2nd...and so on) I sure wasn't going to get lost if I found myself half an hour behind the others.

It was to my relief that we reached the bridge at Fairnilee without any signs of life at the river. Either nobody had turned up and the whole thing was cancelled, or we were setting off in the quieter waters below the bridge. I was more relieved when we met up with the rest and discovered that my boat was neither the oldest nor most battered there - nor that I was the only juvenile present - some of them in fact looked almost as young as me, although they all knew each other and I was a wee bit awed by the way they all seemed to have done it all before. However, a few words of encouragement from our Commodores (past and present), and on the water in my canoe I felt better and almost relaxed.

To this day, I don't recall the start. One minute people were launching, loosening up and milling about, and the next we were off. I don't know whether the starter fired a gun, blew a whistle, or dropped a flag, but suddenly I found myself caught up in the bushes on the far side of the river and everybody else shooting off downstream. Now, my plan had been to take it easy, tag in behind a slow moving competitor and hopefully complete the course, and here I was already having to dig in and sprint not to be left behind. Luckily, the initial pace was not maintained, and I got back amongst them with enough energy left to keep up. The river was calm, not too fast-moving and free of hazards and my confidence grew as I saw I was maintaining the pace and even managing to pick up a place or two. I picked out a lad who seemed to be doing a comfortable speed and tucked in behind him, hoping to let him do the route finding. Unfortunately I was so intent on sticking with him that I found myself overshooting occasionally and he must have got very fed up with my continual ramming from behind. Eventually he ran himself aground, no doubt completely put off by my tactics and it was only by chance that the stroke I was on took me past him and not deeper into the bank. If he reads this I hope he'll accept my apologies - and it may comfort him to know that it added another worry to my mind - would I be disqualified for barging?

At this stage I found myself with no close company, but those ahead were near enough for me to see that the going was getting a bit wilder. Down about Gala, the water was beginning to quicken and the odd nasty looking boulder appear out of it. Occasionally the water would drop and I'd nose-dive over the top of it, plunging the foredeck in, it seemed as far as the cockpit. My spraydeck was filled with water and it was splashing all over my face - exhilarating - as long as it got no worse! At one stage a group of paddlers ahead of me disappeared one by one to a lower level with only their /

their helmets showing, which gave me a thoughtful moment or two until I had negotiated the hazard.

By this time I was starting to tire, and I was becoming aware of muscles I never knew I had. I kept looking for a red bridge which, I remembered from the night before's survey, would tell me I was on the last lap. I got to the stage of longing to see that bridge, and I think if the road had been near the river at this point I'd have packed it in there and then. As there was no sign of my "support crew" however, I had no choice but to go on. Past the bridge, on to a familiar stretch of water near Melrose, and I knew I had nothing but the dreaded weir between me and finishing. Sportingly, a couple of C2 paddlers pulled over to let me choose my course down the left hand side of it, and I had just enough energy left to out-sprint them to the line. I had - and was - finished!

By the number of canoes and paddlers on the bank I knew I hadn't set any records, but I was quietly amused to get ashore and find that there were still others trailing in behind me, (and word coming in of those who had given up - the quitters!). I was wet, I was sore, I was exhausted. My hands were bent into two immoveable claws - but I had finished - and I need never sit in another canoe again - or at least be persuaded into competition (what's that? the results are up, and I'm 3rd! Roll on next year).

"KELPIE"

P.S. "Kelpie" took part in a number of other events throughout last summer and thoroughly enjoyed them all. He got every help and encouragement from all the senior members of the club, for which he is most grateful. On several occasions, however, he and Scotland's "Paddler of the Year" were Forth C.C.'s only representatives. Both ends of the spectrum, but hardly indicative of the Club's strength surely. Isn't it time that some of you young paddlers were putting into practice all that expert tuition you get at Craiglockhart? Mr. Balfour will guide you as to suitable events, the Club has canoes for hire - all you need do is talk your folks into getting one on the roof rack, and I'll bet they enjoy the day out as much as you do. And surely it wouldn't do any harm to you more advanced members to turn out for the odd summer event to keep you in trim for your own particular canoeing interest - and perhaps pick up a few points in the Club Championship.

"KELPIE'S DAD"

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SUPER-NOVA SLALOM CANOE	
only 3 months old - little used in excellent condition	
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May I through the pages of your magazine, pay tribute to the organisers of the canoe exhibition held on the 31st March - 1st April 1979 at Meadowbank Stadium, Edinburgh. I know from discussion with many who attended the exhibition that my views are widely shared.

The problems in mounting an exhibition of this nature, particularly as in this case where it is "a first" must have been considerable. Not the least of the worries must be the financial risk involved. It was with dismay therefore that I and others, learned that this venture was launched essentially by an individual canoeist who was denied S.C.A. and B.C.U. support!

The organiser was Ron Day, a Community Policeman in the Lothian region area, and a Canoeing Instructor. With a great deal of work and a helluva lot of prayer, Mr. Day assisted by family, friends and fellow canoeists launched the "boat" very successfully.

Exhibitors included leading manufacturers of canoes, canoeing accessories plus retailers of outdoor clothing and canoe building materials. Personalities from the canoeing world were on hand to relate their experiences and to offer advice.

Organisations such as the Scottish Sports Council, Lothian Region Outdoor Education Department and the Forth Canoe Club provided information to novice and experienced alike.

A popular feature was the regular film shows mounted throughout the two days. For the dedicated "do it yourself" enthusiast there were canoe building demonstrations in fibreglass.

The exhibitors were apparently very pleased with the results and expressed complete satisfaction with the arrangements and facilities. Indeed for them, the Stadium proved an ideal location with ease of access and ample free parking. The proximity to a large indoor sports complex, equipped with snack bar and restaurant facilities and frequented by sports minded members of the public seemed an attractive venue for the exhibition.

At the close of business on the first day, a "post-mortem" revealed that though more visitors would have been welcomed by the exhibitors, they were more than pleased to be free from the "hassle" associated with the Crystal Palace exhibition. Better opportunities were provided to discuss fully with each customer his needs, and many of the visitors were apparently purchasers, as opposed to viewers.

Speculation arose at one stage as to whether two Canadians who were participating in a sporting event elsewhere in the stadium were intending to purchase a Canadian open canoe for the homeward trip!

Now that the nettle (or should I say thistle?) has been grasped by an individual, surely the S.C.A. could lend a supporting hand for next year, plans for which I believe are already in hand. Exhibitors have promised to return, so will the S.C.A. act? The ground work has been done, the exhibition was financially viable and indeed I believe a very reasonable donation is to be made to the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh from the proceeds.

During this current period of dialogue between the B.C.U. and the S.C.A. with reference to greater autonomy for the S.C.A., this is surely not a time for declaring "Wha's like us?" and yet taking no action to substantiate the boast.

Now is the time for the Jim Watt spirit and application - not the World Cup misplaced euphoria. A time for action in support of Scottish Canoeing in all its aspects, not a time for empty boasts.

CANEWS AND COMMENT

The poor old S.C.A. have been getting it in the neck over the Canoe Exhibition and their apparent lack of support; but I do not think they are as black as some of the critics would paint them.

The S.C.A. Secretary received a letter about the end of November notifying him of a proposed Canoe Exhibition which was being organised by Ron Day and asking for S.C.A. blessing and backing.

That the dates and the place of the exhibition were subsequently changed without notifying the S.C.A. indicated that co-operation was not very strong on either side.

A point further emphasised when the organiser walked into the S.C.A. Frederick Street Office and got them to circulate an exhibition notice without even asking the Secretary "May I".

The exhibition was a success and Ron Day can truly say:-  
"Alone I did it": but to co-operate with a loner is the most difficult thing in the world as the S.C.A. have found to their cost.

---oOo---

It seems to me.....

Much has already been written about the organisation of the S.C.A. and how next year they will take on the functions of a club, and relegate the established clubs to that of 2nd class citizenship. In September they will be independent of the B.C.U. and all subscriptions will be paid directly to the S.C.A.

In their new situation the S.C.A. will be expected to be the voice of canoeing in Scotland but how true will this be? Only competitors and a few well-wishers will join the S.C.A. The majority will be quite happy to enjoy club facilities and companionship for less than half the price of S.C.A. membership. The Forth C.C. for instance has a large membership. It will be surprising if as many as 20 join the S.C.A. for competition purposes.

That will mean at least 100 canoeists are outwith the S.C.A. net; and that is only one club in a small corner of Scotland.

It seems to me that the majority of Scottish canoeists are going to be outwith the jurisdiction of the S.C.A. ....

---oOo---

Trouble at the Awe..... Following two poaching incidents at the river last year, the freset release now occurs during Saturday night instead of Sunday daytime as it was formerly. Apparently, the extra flow makes poaching difficult on what appears to be the most popular night for this activity, and it also allows the Water Bailiff a night off! Moreover, I suspect the Hydro Board and fishermen alike are quite pleased with their new arrangement because of its tendency to discourage canoeists! Certainly our races, slaloms and 'Sunday paddles' have lost their attraction under the new set up.....The Hydro Board have also prohibited access to the river over their ground because of their liability under the Health and Safety at Work Act! This is not quite such a blow to canoeists as they own very little ground beside the river and Glasgow University's recent race proved quite successful with its alternative start and finish.....  
The S.C.A. will be holding a meeting very shortly to decide what steps to take next if a satisfactory reply is not received from the Hydro Board to our most recent request.....

.... Action might involve the Sports Council, the Community Council of Taynuilt and Members of Parliament.....

.... Some of you might have read articles in the National Press and it is hoped that considerable pressure will be brought to bear on the Board.

CANOEING TO GOATFELL  
or Bearing 247° from Farland Head

John S. Young

Having visited Arran on several occasions, each time with a different interest, I thought it would be a good idea to combine the interests and try something which has never, to my knowledge, been done before.

Each member of the group probably had different motivation but the main motivating factor for me was to get to, and up, Goatfell "under my own steam". This has a deeper meaning for me than for most people because my kayak was designed and built by myself. It has always seemed to me like cheating to take the "steamer" to Arran before climbing, so I had thought for some time of canoeing across and climbing Goatfell in the same day.

We travelled by car to Portencross and set up camp for the night near the farm, thus giving us a good starting point in the morning. Next morning the weather was fairly calm but someone had "stolen" Arran or had it sunk by similar volcanic action to that which had raised it there in Tertiary times. Being optimists, we decided there was a heat haze and the island was still there behind it, so out came the map and compass to get a reading before breakfasting and packing up. I had a pleasant surprise when I discovered how easy it was to pack when one does not have all the food and equipment for a fortnight, although climbing boots are not all that easy to pack and keep dry.

We set out on bearing 247° after locking the trailer and car in the tractor shed and bidding farewell to the farmer's daughter who looked a bit concerned and admitted the concern after our return. There was a bit of life on the water but nothing really interesting except for the changing scene or at least the parts of the scene that were visible. Everyone seemed to be competent and confident in the kayaks; Robert Blanch and Peter Buchanan in 'Cadets', Ian Marshall in 'Younger Special' and myself in my 19 year old P.V.C. nylon covered 'Kyle'. The water got calmer about the 6 mile mark and I was still hoping that Arran was where I thought it should be, although the mist now looked definitely like a heat haze over land, but it was not until we had covered another mile that a silhouette of the main ridge began to appear, then gradually white houses, hills and shoreline all came in to view with Corrie, our steering mark, exactly in line. A short trip down the coast to find a suitable landing place before beaching the kayaks, having a quick snack and then starting the climb.

A relatively easy climb up the hillside accompanied by the sound of cuckoos, with glimpses of "horses with hat racks on their heads" - not one glimpse of the expanding vistas I had hoped to see. We arrived at the summit shortly before a group of Lothian Teachers Mountaineering Club who got there by a more interesting climbing route, but a less interesting sea route.

There was a feeling of success but no sense of elation as it all seemed too easy and now we had the choice of returning on the same day as well, which we could easily have done, or remaining to explore the island further, which seemed to be the better idea.

After a last look around at patches of scenery, such as Brodick Bay, Cir Mhor or Holy Isle, glimpsed through the heat haze, and a brief chat with the mountaineers, we descended through the cuckoos, (or was it from "Cloud Cuckoo Land") to the shore, south of the mouth of Corrie Burn, where the kayaks were waiting to disgorge tents for erection, food for cooking and eating and finally sleeping bags to curl up in at the end of a perfect day.

The following day dawned bright but hazy so after a quick look at the Sunday papers, which we bought from a vendor in a passing car, we set off for the North of the Island where we hoped to do some "time travelling" through the geological periods all clearly indicated on the shore. The mouth of the North Sannox river looked very tempting as a camp site, but we hoped to get closer to the rocks at the North end so we pushed on (or should it be pulled on) to Corloch where there is a flat area and a stream /



stream marked on the map. The map must have been made on a wet day, however, and we were enjoying a dry day, so, no burn, but a good excuse to return to the mouth of North Sannox where we pitched our tents across the river from the picnic area and toilets. The afternoon was spent bathing in the river and, for Ian and me at least, a brief geological survey up stream to see super examples of pillow lavas and look for fossils which we could not find.

Monday was not so bright but surf from a naval ship, doing time-trials over the measured mile, brightened up the day and caused a stampede of kayaks down to the shore then in and out of the surf until Robert capsized and lost his glasses. Peter took a transit on the shore in the hope that we might find the glasses later, but 50 yards off shore in 6 to 8 feet of water, it seemed a faint hope. Waiting until the tide went out would be no chore as a shopping trip to corrie was called for with perhaps a trip to the "local".

Arran seemed to be filled with old friends, so I spent a large proportion of the time chatting to people and finally being asked up to see Ayrshire's Centre for Outdoor Education, by Alistair Pratt who runs the converted Croft; but we had to go back to look for Robert's glasses before accepting that invitation. I told you - more than our stoves are "Optimists" (short commercial?) A short search and sharp eyed Peter, working along his transit, found the glasses on the shingle bank at the mouth of the river. This left plenty of time for a meal and visits to the Ayrshire Centre and the local, especially as Alistair came to pick us up.

It was sad leaving next day, again on a compass course, for Portencross but the crossing proved very interesting with some tremendous wave-riding which is much faster than surfing and therefore more exhilarating in my opinion. My 'Kyle' seems to come alive in such conditions and went so well that I seemed to spend quite a lot of time waiting for the others to catch up. We were fairly close before we could spot the Castle at Portencross, about 3 miles or less, but we always had some part of Bute or Cumbrae in sight to give us some guidance and confirm the compass reading.

After a visit to the farmhouse to pay our dues and set the lady's mind at rest, we set off home feeling, for my part, some exhilaration from the success of the venture, but with the thought in my mind that I must go back on a clear day to see the view from Goatfell and complete that "time-trip" along the North shore.

One of the best things about the trip was how well everyone seemed to get on with each other and, with the age range in the group, that was really remarkable.

S.C.A. Advanced Inland Kayak Training and Testing Weekend

12th - 14th October, 1979.

at the Arrochar Centre, Dunbartonshire.

To:- H.G. Baker, Strathclyde Regional Council, Department of Education,  
Dunbarton Division. The Arrochar Centre, Arrochar, Dunbartonshire.

Please send me application form and details of the  
Advanced Inland Kayak Course to be run on 12th - 14th October 1979.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_

(KAYAK) Address \_\_\_\_\_

ALASDAIR TORRANCE - BORDERS REPRESENTATIVE c/o Selkirk High School.

Age 34. Took up canoeing 10 years ago when at Heriot Watt - a new club then. Became Captain shortly afterwards. Competed in Slalom and Down River events. At the conclusion of his student days his first job took him to Stranraer where sea canoeing on the rip tides of the Solway and the Irish Sea was a new experience. Later moving to Selkirk he started the Selkirk High School Canoe Club along with a colleague, Jim McPherson.

This proved successful beyond all expectations with a membership in the 70's and now boasting 2 Senior Instructors, 4 Trainee Instructors and 6 ranking slalomists. With 15 boats, 4 moulds, and a large amount of equipment, the success of the Selkirk High School Canoe Club seems assured.

Alasdair would like to see the sport cater more for the recreational canoeists and also those canoeists who compete more for fun than glory. As he says, it sometimes seems to me we look only for excellence when the attraction should be participation.

ROBERT TODD : 87, Eldon Street, Greenock, Renfrewshire, PA16 7RQ.  
WEST SCOTLAND REPRESENTATIVE

Buyer at IBM Greenock. Aged 28. Started canoeing in 1972 and canoes principally with Royal West of Scotland Amateur Boat Club, Greenock.

Main interest is Sea Canoeing and trips include open water crossings to Isle of Man and Ireland (and back!) and 4 Minch crossings (one solo). Has Advanced Sea Proficiency.

Instructor in local school canoe club and has Senior Instructor Sea and Inland. Has also been involved in most aspects of competition - L.D. Racing, Slalom, W.Water, Surf, Bat Polo, with varying degrees of success. Member of S.C.A. Touring Committee since 1977. Member of Strathclyde West Coaching Panel.

Believes if the S.C.A. are to increase membership, more should be done to support the bottom and middle of the pyramid of canoeists.

ANDREW MORTON : TREASURER 34, Roselea Drive, Brightons, Falkirk.

Principal Teacher of Biology at Broxburn Academy. Aged 32. Has canoed for 16 years and competed from the age of 21.

Former Commodore of Glasgow University Canoe Club and Aberdeen College of Education Canoe Club. Received a Blue in Canoeing from the latter. Senior Instructor Inland. Now a Forth Canoe Club member.

Main interest is competition of all kinds. Former Div.1 Slalomist and Senior A Sprint paddler. Member of the British River Racing Team in 1972 and British Marathon Team in 1977. Member of Scottish Team for five years and still spends much time training in the summer every year.

Organised Clyde, Awe and Grandtully River Races frequently in the early seventies and is currently chief organiser of the Tay Marathon. River Adviser for the Awe and Tay and has been involved in the publication of "Kayak" since its inception.

Not a Scottish Nationalist nor even a "Devolver" but quite happy with the increased independence of the S.C.A. from the B.C.U.

Would like canoeists to appreciate that the "S.C.A." is not some distant body of bureaucrats, but simply a collection of canoeists who are doing their best to further the sport in all its aspects. Hopefully, by appreciating this, some will join the Association in their efforts.

Last Autumn at Potarch Jock and Bluebell (John Young Jun. and Alastair Munro) had a try out in a C2 and liked it so much that they decided on the spur of the moment to buy one for themselves, and on the following Monday that is just what they did. The boat was dispatched in December 1978 and they picked it up at the Welsh White Water Race. Though not competing in the C2 event, they paddled the course twice, capsizing and rolling a couple of times. This was first class experience for them, helping to build up their confidence for paddling in almost any water. It was the start of their weekend practice sessions. They also entered a few W/W Races and Slaloms, all furthering their experience and ability to paddle as a competent pair.

They entered the judges event at Grandtully but arranged to paddle in the Div 1 C2 event. They won by 84 seconds, ruined the chances of the British C2 pair of being selected for the World Championships, and gained selection for themselves to the British Team. Their next event at Bala, another selection event, was not so successful but they still came 3rd. It meant they were in the British team for Merano but the B.C.U. decided not to send a C2 entry for the World Championships.

By the time this is read, Jock and Bluebell will be on their way to Italy and we wish them the best of luck.

P.S.....Jock and Bluebell will need to 'C2' their laurels as new competition has sprung upon the horizon.

Two other F.C.C. members, David Cuthill and David Brown have just bought themselves a new C2 and last week they went down to the Easby Slalom and won the C2 event.

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#### HIGH TELEMARCS I'VE MADE

Kamikazzi

Graham Helsby's win at Bala has really caused an upset in the top end of the Slalom Premier Division. Grandtully and Bala were selection events for World Championships at Jonquierre in Canada. This has resulted in Kerr, Fox, Helsby being selected for the World, and Shackleton, Edge and Wain being selected for Merano in Italy on 1/2nd June. (Jock and Bluebell have also been selected for this). The British Slalomists who were not selected for either of these, will be attending Augsburg at the same time as the Scottish Team this summer, so it looks as if there are going to be problems for the Scots there.

Jock and Bluebell only missed World Championship selection by coming 3rd at Bala Mill. Joce and Owen, the top English C2 pair, were favoured for selection until they were shown up by the Scots at Grandtully. Now, no C2's are being sent to Jonquierre. The Scottish Senior team has only ever materialised together on Neil Spinks' clipboard. Alan Eastwood and Scott Ramage have only competed at Grandtully; George Robertson being the only one to have competed at both Div 1's and the Tryweryn International. The team has never competed in a team event and never looks like doing so in an important event until it goes to Augsburg.

The Scottish team is excellently backed up by Team Manager, Coach, the subsidised travel to monthly training weekends with high powered instruction from Albert Kerr, Jim Dolan, etc. This is much better organised than the British Team. Scotland however lacks the depth of talent at the moment that we had three or four years ago. One only has to look at the Tryweryn International entry - only two Seniors out of 5 in the K1 squad competed and only one of them is in the selected team. The main Scottish coaching effort is with the Youth and one or two of them could do well if they concentrate on intensive training. The World Championships coming up again has really boosted top end competition and the British Team is now the best slalom team in the world and many new faces inspired by the incredible Albert Kerr, the current World Champion from Carlisle, are now appearing. Albert is capable of a time 10 seconds faster than the rest of the British Team and if he does a good run at Jonquierre he is almost certain to win again.

What is left after that, one asks? Richard Fox is the only other man in the British Team who could get near him in time, but he lacks top International experience.

On May 4th, three of us flew out of London bound for Boston. Due to a "breakdown in communications" with a certain Scottish daily newspaper, Eric decided that he couldn't afford the trip which left myself, Annie, Neil, two slalom boats and seven sets of paddles to travel stateside.

After nearly being returned home for attempted murder of an immigration official (tempers were short after a long flight), we drove to Manchester, N.H. to stay with friends and await our boats. They arrived on the 9th but due to lack of customs men it was late on the 11th before they were cleared, which left us short of time to assemble them before the first race, so we gave them up as a bad job and eventually sold them without ever putting them on the water.

We caught a bus from Manchester to White River to be met by Dave Mitchell (ex of Div 1 and Mitchwood paddle fame) and transported along with Bill - I'm practicin' ma brogue - Endicott, the U.S. National Coach, to Dave's house to meet the rest of the U.S. team plus Dave's wife Peggy (ex G.B. team), a huge dog, a couple of kids and lots of cats.

Next day up at 06.00 and twenty minutes drive to our first U.S. race - the Mascoma. A quick walk down the slalom course and Neil and I both wanted to go home. It most closely resembled Bala Mill, only three times bigger. Our results were as good as the weather - it snowed! Next day was the race, I was a cool 17th, Neil sinking at 30th.

Monday was a N.E. squad training day, Neil joining the slalomists, I was with the racers and we even persuaded Annie to paddle the race course.

From Mascoma we drove south to Washington D.C., Annie and I travelling with Linda Harrison, top U.S. lady slalomist; Neil with Eric Evans, 7 times U.S. champion.

Great Falls slalom in Washington is very aptly named. It is run in the big waves and eddies below a fall of about 300 ft and must be the most spectacular slalom in the world. The temperature was around 80°F, hundreds of spectators and huge water. The course was long and strenuous with big waves especially through the last gate sequence. It was won by a C2 crew, not an unusual occurrence there; Neil was 17th and I was 29th.

Sunday was team races and Hot Dogging. This was held on an excellent sequence of three standing waves, the first of which was large enough for five boats to upstream surf on. Entry qualifications for the competition was a front and a back 'ender' (pop-out), after that it was a free-for-all, the winner having the greatest suicidal tendencies. This, again, was won by the C2 of the Garvis brothers for sitting on the wave while the front man juggled three tennis balls then stood up and dived out of the boat, still leaving the back man on the wave. The C1's were close behind, defending the front wave against kayaks by forcing them either off the wave or into the water.

The next few days were spent either paddling or coaching, or being tourists in the city.

From Washington, another long drive to Tariffville in Connecticut for our last competition. This race was notable for two reasons. Firstly the high level of organisation, secondly for the river race course which was flat calm until the last mile where it became a very good grade IV at the slalom site. In the race we saved face before returning home by coming 1st and 2nd and I got a mention on American T.V.

Summing up the U.S. scene, the standard of paddling was very high but lacked depth. The C1's were superb and must be sure of at least one medal at Jonquiere (as last year's pre-worlds all six of the U.S. C1's were in the top eight!). The C2's, especially the Garvis brothers, must also have an outstanding chance of a gold medal.

The /

The ladies K1 will be a battle between Linda Harrison and Cathy Hearn who were 1st and 3rd at Jonquiere last year. Men's K1 is more open, the top end paddlers are good but possibly lack big competition experience with the exception of Eric Evans who's results were disappointing while we were there but should not be discounted.

For anyone thinking of a trip to paddle in the U.S., firstly, don't take boats, they're too much of a problem and they have lots out there, secondly, be prepared for big water at every race. You'll be looked after really well at competitions and are sure to enjoy yourselves as we did.

Finally, thanks to Alistair Wilson of Lendal, Smiths Sports and Turners in Greenock, for helping us out.

Alistair M. Denny  
Anne Airey  
Neil Baxter.

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IS LOCH LOMOND WORTH PRESERVING?

- DO YOU KNOW ... The Hydro Electric Board intend to build a scheme on Ben Lomond?  
DO YOU KNOW ... The Hydro Electric Board don't need the electricity such a scheme would generate?  
DO YOU KNOW ... There is a Hydro Power Station on the west bank of Loch Lomond, which if developed, would equal the Ben Lomond Scheme (phase 1)?  
DO YOU KNOW ... Ben Lomond is available for you to walk on freely at present but the Hydro Board will restrict access?  
DO YOU KNOW ... The Ben Lomond Scheme is not a true Hydro Scheme (using a reservoir filled by rain) but is a pumped storage scheme (using Nuclear Power to pump the water up to the reservoir)?  
DO YOU KNOW ... It will take more electricity to pump water up Ben Lomond than it can ever generate?

If your answer to any of these questions is "NO" and you would like further information, write to:

Mrs. Hannah Stirling,  
Auchendarroch, Tarbet,  
By Arrochar, Dunbartonshire.

If your answer to all of the questions above is "YES" ..... will you help us?

Adult membership £2 annually  
Junior membership £1 annually (under 18)  
Group or Family membership £5  
Life Membership £50

I wish to join the "Friends of Loch Lomond" and enclose £  
being subscription to the above Society.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of Loch Lomond" and sent to:  
The Hon. Treasurer: Mr. I.C. Macarthur, Bank of Scotland, 25 Colquhoun Square,  
Helensburgh, G84 8AP.

SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIPS AND DIVISION B EVENT

SUNDAY, 18th MARCH, 1979 - FORTH CANOE CLUB

RESULTS

GRANDTULLY

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>	<u>m.sec.</u>	
1.	R. Lang	Port Glasgow	18.32	Scottish Champion
2.	A. Eastwood	G.U.C.C.	19.20	Silver
3.	D. Tuttle	E.U.C.C.	19.21	B1 Bronze
4.	P. Turcan	E.U.C.C.	19.28	
5.	T. Lidden	A.U.C.C.	19.31	
6.	J. Knox	Roxburgh	19.42	
7.	J. Anderson	R.A.F.C.A.	19.56	B2
8.	G. Lowe	Swaledale	20.03	B3 1st B.Youth SC
9.	R. Gill	Deptford	20.44	B4
10.	A. Lyall	Port Glasgow	20.51	1st Youth SC
11.	P. Ritchie	A.U.C.C.	21.11	
12.	R. Bell	Trossachs	21.16	2nd Youth SC
13.	I. Bownes	R.W.S.A.B.C.	21.25	
14.	N. Denoon	Home Office	21.26	B5
15.	Jane Wilson	E.U.C.C.	21.46	Senior Ladies K1 1st
16.=	Linda Morrison	G.K.C.	21.49	Senior Ladies K1 2nd
16.=	C. Lloyd		21.49	
18.	G. Gibson	D.U.C.C.	21.57	
19.	D. Shearer	A.U.C.C.	21.59	
20.	A. Bownes	R.W.S.A.B.C.	22.38	Jun.W.W.
21.	J. Farrel		22.39	Youth
22.	P. Halliwell	Wigan	22.58	B6
23.	Margaret Elliot	E.W.W.C.C.	23.37	Sen.Ladies 3rd
24.	S. Harris	E.W.W.C.	23.49	
25.	C. Lees	F.C.A.G.	24.12	Jun.
26.	J. Baker	F.C.A.G.	24.20	
27.	Susan Ward	F.C.A.G.	25.05	
28.	A. Barkham		25.23	
29.	Sallie Phimister	E.U.C.C.	25.36	
30.	M. Laing	E.U.C.C.	25.37	
31.	C. Tannock	G.U.C.C.	25.46	C1
32.	Allison Somerville		<b>33.10</b>	
33.	Jane Elliot		41.05	

Congratulations to all those who managed to get to this event. For those who did not make it through the Fife snows, the event was held under perfect spring conditions - 30% cloud cover and plenty of sunshine all day.

Thanks are due to Kelso Riddel, Gordon Cuthill and other members of Forth Canoe Club.

Next year the Scottish Championships will not allow late entries, All entries will have to be sent in 14 days in ADVANCE, PREPAID WITH PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP.

COMMODORE'S COMMENT

With the imminent departure of representative parties from Scotland to the Continent, I was reminded a couple of days ago as I passed their premises on the southern edge of Paris, of an invitation from a Canoe Club who would be pleased to welcome any Scots migrants in transit, so here is the name and address:

Claude Kolski, JEUNE KAYAK PARISIEN,  
18, Avenue de la Porte Brancion,  
PARIS 15.

His personal address is - 15 rue Francois Pinson  
92320 Chatillon  
and 'phone: (1) 645-6422

Last year I met him and his club, and was able to give them some help, so anyone who needs assistance over there might like to call.

\_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ /

Despite my current heavy work-load, I was able to attend the last two meetings of the S.C.A. council, and have been very pleased to see that with an elected council there is now almost full attendance at every meeting. This contrasts sharply with previous generations of the Council where the attendance was by club representatives whose attendance was influenced by the venue. As a result, there is a continuity of discussion which I have never seen before and which it is refreshing to be a part of. It is to be hoped that policy decisions of the Council will reflect the views of the membership, and that the members will be kept informed through a newsletter. At present our own Club magazine seems to be performing this function, but plans are in hand for the beginning of the next membership year when membership will be administered from Scotland. I only wish the editor the best of luck.

\_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ /

Money received is especially welcome to the Club coffers when not expected, and we thank Scottish Television for the £20 'Facilities Fee' earned by some of our members showing our activities on the Union Canal by the boathouse. This will be part of a film on the Union Canal under the 'Treasures in Store' series and is due for screening on Saturday afternoon 2nd June. Check your local paper and see us on the 'box'.

\_ / \_ / \_ / \_ / \_ /

The SIWA (Scottish Inland Waterways Association) boat rally on the Union Canal will be at Harrison Park, (between Lochrin and Meggetland) on Saturday and Sunday 2/3 June, and I hope you will join us. This year there has been built a special ramp for the Newport family to launch their cruiser, and there will be a canal narrow boat on the stretch of canal which has not seen such a sight for about twenty years; so come along and bring your family. We had a good time at the 'Calders' last year.

R.K.R.

1980 Scottish Kayak Expedition to North West Norway

The Lofoten and Vesteralen Islands, of N.W. Norway have been selected by the expedition as one of the most challenging areas it can be possible to visit, including as it does the passage between Mosken and Lofotodden, the original Maelstrom of legend.

The team expects to be entirely self-contained for the duration of the expedition and to complete a circumnavigation of the island groups by paddling a total distance of something in the region of 400 miles.

The four adventurers are:-

JIM BREEN: Leader. Age 25. Former P.E. teacher, now a Recreation Officer with Strathkelvin District Council.

ANGUS MATHIESON. Age 30. Head of the Mathematics Department in Colston Secondary School.

WILLIAM TURNBULL: Age 30. A P.E. Teacher in All Saints Secondary School.

PETER WILSON: Age 25. A P.E. Teacher in Colston Secondary School.

All are experienced in outdoor activities and have already done some touring on Scotland's West Coast.

They are still on the look-out for likely sponsors. As an estimated sum of £6,000 is required to make the expedition viable, it is hoped that a number of clubs and individuals will contribute to the funds.

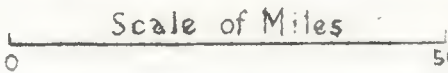
Mr. J.W. Breen,  
52, Lochalsh Crescent,  
Milton of Campsie,  
GLASGOW, G65 3TN.

will be delighted to receive all the help he can get

ROUTE OF THE EXPEDITION - - - - -

Within the general area, 17°E 69°N

200mils. inside the Arctic Circle



NORWEGIAN

SEA

NORTH-WEST  
NORWAY



Handwritten signature or mark.



RESULTS

Y = under 18; J = under 16; Vet = Veteran.

DIVISION 1					Indiv. Points	Club Points
1.	A. Morton	F.C.C.	1-32-05	K1	20	10
2.	D. Samuel	T.C.C.	1-37-03	K1	19	7
3.	K. Fraser	Roxburgh	1-42-10	RR	18	5

DIVISION 2					Indiv. Points	Club Points
1.	P. Turcan	E.U.C.C.	1-32-00	K1	20	10
2.	J. Knox	Roxburgh	1-38-25	RR	19	7
3.	D. Mackenzie	S.U.C.C.	1-46-22	K1	18	5

DIVISION 3					Indiv. Points	Club Points
1.	R. Bell	J. T.C.C.	42-54		0	2

DIVISION 4 (Novice) N.B. Slaloms etc. started 1 min. behind K1 & RR at Fairnilee

1.	R. Marshall	Vet.	Gateshead	40-54	RR	-	-
2.	N. Davidson	J.	K.C.C.	46-20	K1	20	10
3.	S. Murray	J.	F.C.C.	50-45	RR	19	7
4.	A. Davidson	Y.	K.C.C.	50-59	K1	18	5
5.	N. McGill	J.	K.C.C.	50-58	Sl.	17	3
6.	I. McDougall	J.	Carlisle	51-58	RR	-	-
7.	E. Davidson	Vet.	K.C.C.	52-02	Sl	16	2
8.	C. Thorman	Y.	Loretto	52-52	RR	15	2
9.	G. Davis	Y.	Selkirk	54-27	Sl.	14	2
10.	G. Wilson	J.	F.C.C.	54-32	Sl.	13	2
11.	P. Smith	Y.	Loretto	55-12	Sl.	12	2
12.	J. McGill	J.	Loretto	55-34	Sl.	11	2
13.	E. Stewart	Y.	F.C.C.	57-21	Sl.	10	2
14.	K. Riddell	Y.	Selkirk	57-25	Sl.	9	2
15.	E. Jarvis	Vet.	F.C.C.	57-42	Tour.	8	2
16.	G. Jacobs	J.	F.C.C.	57-43	Sl.	7	2
17.	J. Glover	J.	F.C.C.	58-29	Sl.	6	2
18.	A. Anderson	Y.	Selkirk	59-48	Sl.	5	2
19.	M. Stelley	J.	Selkirk	59-52	Sl.	4	2
20.	M. Forde	J.	F.C.C.	61-21	Sl.	3	2
21.	G. Young	J.	K.C.C.	62-28	Sl.	2	2
22.	A. Williamson	-	F.C.C.	62-31	Tour.	1	1
23.	S. Marshall	J.	Gateshead	64-49	RR	-	-
24.	C. Johnstone	J.	Loretto	66-19	Sl.	-	2
25.	C. Stuart	J.	Selkirk	67-12	Sl.	-	2
26.	B. Forrest	Y.	F.C.C.	68-00	Sl.	-	2
27.	W. Ferguson	-	F.C.C.	68-48	Sl.	-	1
28.	K. Robertson	J.	Selkirk	73-03	Sl.	-	2
29.	Jarvis/Jarvis	-	F.C.C.	73-07	Tour K2	-	1
30.	J. Lawrence	J.	Selkirk	77-27	Sl.	-	2
31.	J. Cairns	J.	Selkirk	79-17	Sl.	-	2
32.	S. Munro	J.	F.C.C.	81-00	Sl.	-	2
33.	Munro Double	-	F.C.C.	81-00	Tour K2	-	1

DIVISION 5 (Ladies)					Indiv. Points	Club Points
1.	M. McClure	F.C.C.	43-17	K1	20	10
2.	M. Kinnimonth	Y. K.C.C.	57-47	Sl.	19	7
3.	M. Jarvis	- F.C.C.	62-40	Sl.	18	5
4.	D. Wood	Y. Selkirk	63-04	Sl.	17	3
5.	K. Jarvis	J. F.C.C.	69-45	Sl.	16	2
6.	J. Ambler	J. F.C.C.	74-47	Sl.	15	2

CLUB TROPHY:			Forth CC : 56	Kirkcaldy CC : 29	Selkirk : 19
			Roxburgh : 12	Trossachs : 12	E.U.C.C. 10
			Loretto : 8	S.U.C.C. : 5	

SCOTTISH INLAND WATERWAYS ASSOCIATION - RALLY OF BOATS  
\*\*\*\*\*

2nd - 3rd JUNE 1979  
\*\*\*\*\*

Union Canal at Harrison Park, Edinburgh  
\*\*\*\*\*

The Rally will include the very first visit to Scotland of the Mikron Theatre who are well known for their canal related plays all over the English and Welsh Canal Systems. Canoeing activities will play a large part in all of this.

COME AND JOIN IN THE FUN

\*\*\*\*\*  
Kayak Advertisement

SCOTTISH CANOE ASSOCIATION

ADVANCED SEA TRAINING WEEKEND - 21/23 SEPTEMBER 1979

To be held at the Inverclyde National Watersports Centre, Island of Great Cumbrae, with overnight accommodation at Inverclyde Centre, Largs.

Featuring: D.C. Hutchinson and T. Caskey from the Northern Coaching Panel,  
Lectures will include - "THE ALEUTIAN ISLAND EXPEDITION and "THE NORTH SEA CROSSING"

This course is primarily designed to review Advanced Sea Canoeing at a fairly high level. It will however, also cover the syllabus of the B.C.U. Advanced Sea Award.

Due to the popular appeal of the programme lecturers, applications will be welcome from all levels of canoeists, including those just at proficiency level right through to those canoeists already holding the B.C.U. Advanced Award.

Organised by Strathclyde West Coaching Committee.

For further details contact:

R. Todd, Telephone Greenock 24614 (evenings).

A fee of £20.00 includes 2 nights accommodation plus meals.

PLACES ARE LIMITED If you are interested please send your application as soon as possible. Please include S.A.E.

-----  
To be returned to: H. Kerr, RCO, "Heathfield", Horsewood Road, Bridge of Weir.  
Please reserve me a place on the Advanced Sea Training Course, 21/23 Sept. 1979.

NAME ..... B.C.U. No.....  
ADDRESS.....  
..... Tel. No.....

I enclose £6.00 for deposit payable to Strathclyde West Coaching Panel.  
(Balance due 21 August 1979).

Signed.....

COMING EVENTS FOR THE NEXT THREE MONTHS

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<u>JUNE '79</u>		<u>Organiser</u>
2nd	Mini Regatta, Kirkintilloch	28
2-3rd	N.E. Scotland Canoe Surf Championships, Sandend nr Cullen	22
3rd	Loch Lubnaig L.D. - British Selection event for Norway	2
2-3rd	Scottish Inland Waterways Assoc. Rally of Boats, Harrison Park, Edinburgh.	19
9-10th	Training Weekend, Youth Slalom/WW	1
10th	Cumbræ L.D.	24
16th	Loch Lomond L.D./Scottish Universities L.D./ and Scottish L.D. Championships	25
17th	Awe W/W Race	12
23-24th	East of Scotland Surf Championships-Seacliff, North Berwick.	26
24th	Leukaemia Sponsored Event River Tay including ranking race	29
<u>JULY '79</u>		
1st	Home Countries and Commonwealth Regatta	2
<u>AUGUST '79</u>		
18-19th	Fairnilee Slalom 4-N-J	13
25th	Tail o' the Bank L.D.	6
25-26th	Scottish Surf Championships - Sandend, nr Cullen	22
<u>SEPT. '79</u>		
1-2nd	Tay Marathon	27

LIST OF ORGANISERS (Please contact for further information)

1. N. Spinks, Butchart Recreation Centre, University Road, Aberdeen.
2. Trossachs: A. Samuel, Auchengillan, Blanefield, Glasgow G63 9AU  
Tel: 0360 70473
6. R.S.W.A.B.C. Canoe Convener, Clubhouse, Esplanade, Greenock.
12. Forth CC: J. Young, 21, Craigleith Drive, Edinburgh, EH4 3JT.  
Tel: 031 337 8817
13. Selkirk HS: J. McPherson, Selkirk HS, Selkirk Selkirkshire.
19. R. Kelso Riddell, 84, Warrender Park Road, Edinburgh EH9 1ET  
Tel: 031 229 9586
22. John Mould, The Shed, Milnefield Avenue, Elgin.  
Tel: 0343 44867
24. P. Moore, 12c Calside, Paisley  
Tel: 041 887 8252
25. Strathclyde University CC: Athletic Union, 90 John St. Glasgow.
26. G. Thomson, Linlithgow Outdoor Centre, Linlithgow.
27. A. Morton, 34, Roselea Drive, Brightons, Falkirk, FK2 OTJ  
Tel: 0324 711459
28. J. Turcan, 7, Fern Avenue, Lenzie. Tel: 041 776 1445
29. R. Day, c/o Wester Hailes Education Centre, 5 Murrayburn Dr. Wester  
Hailes, EDINBURGH. Tel: 031 442 2201

AWE WHITE WATER RACE

SUNDAY, 17th JUNE, 1979

Organised by FORTH CANOE CLUBSTART: 12 noonDISTANCE: 5 kmGRADE 3START

The race will start 50m down from the Hydro-Board Barrage (where the river leaves Loch Awe in the Pass of Brander) and competitors must not enter the water above this point. Once on the water they must not paddle up the shoot or go near the wire netting over the water.

FINISH

The finish will be 300 yards below the bottom weir opposite the Polfearn Hotel.

PARKING

Parking at the start is very restricted and the layby at the barrage should only be used for unloading boats not for parking.

Parking at the finish will be signposted near the Polfearn Hotel and Competitors must keep the access road to the Hotel clear at all times or this parking area might be lost.

SPECTATORS

Spectators should not walk on the wire baskets at the bottom weir except in emergencies.

Spectators must not leave their cars in such a manner as to block the access road to the Power Station.

PRACTICE

NO practice please on Saturday as fishermen will be out in force. There is plenty time for practice on Sunday morning.

CAMPING

There is a public campsite at Bridge of Awe and campsite fees will be collected by the organisers.

TEAM EVENT

There will be no team event.

PRIZES

There will be prizes for all classes including Senior and Junior Slalom, provided there are at least 3 entries for each class.

ENTRIES

to J.S. Young, Jun.,  
21, Craigleith Drive,  
EDINBURGH, EH4 3JT. Telephone. 031-337-8817

FEES

Senior : £1      Youth and Ladies : 70p      C2 : £1.60

LATE ENTRIES : £1.50 per head.

It makes the organisation of the event a lot easier if entries and cash are sent in the week before the event. So competitors entering on the day of the event will be charged £1.50 per head.

SAFETY

Competitors must abide by B.C.U. rules regarding safety and conduct. Forth Canoe Club can accept no responsibility for any loss or damage sustained.

IMPORTANT

Will competitors and camp followers please pay particular attention to the notes and instructions above.

Our relationships with the Hydro-Board and the fishermen are precarious, to say the least.

Read "Trouble at the Awe" on page 5.

It was encouraging to see the youngsters make up for the lack of Senior paddlers at this Regatta, and Kirkcaldy Canoe Club deserve mention as they came away with a large number of awards in the various junior classes. N. Davidson, A. Millar, F. Smeaton, A. Edwards, J. Mason, D. Mills and L. Blacklaws all won first places in various races. In the K class events Irvine Canoe Club dominated the medals as usual despite their diminishing numbers of Senior paddlers.

R. Montgomery won the Senior 500 and 1,000m, narrowly beating Peter Turcan of Edinburgh in the latter event. Unfortunately his team mate had to withdraw from some of the later races and as a result there was no competition for Morton and Turcan in the doubles events.

In the Ladies events, Maureen McClure, now returned to the F.C.C. fold, was beaten in the 500m for the first time in eight years, by Yvonne Allison. Maureen, suffering from the after effects of a cold, was only beaten by 0.3 of a second; what a pity she could not have had a chance at making double figures with ten consecutive wins. Perhaps wedding preparations also had a hand in her downfall! Our best wishes go to her and her new trainer when they start work seriously after the 8th August!

FORTH AND CLYDE CANAL MARATHON20th May, 1979

O.K., I know it should be "L.D." but it is really such a long race, this one, surely I might be forgiven just this once.

Peter Turcan won the event in a time of 2 hours 9 minutes, beating Andy Morton's time last year by two minutes. Andy was not far behind this year, two yards to be precise, but a miss is as good as a mile, so they say.

The real action took place in the Youth events as happened at Strathclyde Park the previous day. Kirkcaldy again took away some prizes. All the ladies events were won by Kirkcaldy paddlers:

Under 18 - M. Kinninmonth. Under 16 - A. Millar.  
Under 14 - D. Mills.

In the Boys events Linlithgow Canoe Club took away two prizes with first overall to Alan Meikle and 1st under 18 to C. Denholm.

Over forty youngsters took part and thoroughly enjoyed themselves, although many must be nursing blisters, sore muscles and the inevitable "numb bumb" if you'll pardon the expression.

Falkirk District Sports Council went to a lot of trouble to organise the event and spent over £100 on prizes, however they were very encouraged by the turnout and next year's event will be even bigger and better.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ROBIN LANG, current Scottish W.W. Champion, came 8th at the Tryweryn British Team Selection Event and was selected to go to Bourg Saint Maurice in France, where he competed in two events, a British Team Selection event and an International Race, on 19/20th May.

In both events he was the 7th fastest British paddler and so, unfortunately, was not selected for the team of four to go to the World Championships in Canada.

In the International event he was 30th in a field of 50 men's kayak but less than a minute separated him from the winners time.

## SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

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The February issue of Kayak was delayed to the last possible date so that we could include the announcement of the Morton babe's arrival, but to no avail. However, late as it is, we are now able to announce to the world at large the birth of a son to Isobel and Andrew Morton, on 26th February 1979: A. Nicholas Morton. Congratulations all three.

---oOo---

We are sorry to learn that Sue Edwards, the S.C.A. Training and Development Officer is having to resign. Commitments to the Open University and her daily work do not leave her enough time to do the job as she would like it.

---oOo---

Another well known Scottish canoeist has got the wanderlust. Ian Spiers will be emigrating next month, which will leave a gap in the ranks of the Irvine Canoe Club.

---oOo---

A p.c. arrived the other day from Reno, Nevada, to let us know that Scott and Sylvia Ramage are enjoying their stay in the land where everything is bigger and better. No word when or if they are thinking of returning, but they can't last out much longer if they dwell a while in Reno .... - unless they hit the jackpot.

---oOo---

In our last issue we were pleased to announce the engagement of Maureen McClure to Nigel Pennie, a P.E. teacher. This time we are delighted to announce that the marriage will take place in Newton Mearns on 8th August 1979. Our Best Wishes to them both.

---oOo---

Last Friday some of the older club members past and present gave a complimentary dinner to Jack and Betty Cuthill to mark his 40 years of work for the Forth C.C. This was a most pleasant occasion marked by an appropriate presentation and a slide show of club activities of 40 years ago.

WANTED

LOW-LINE SLALOM KAYAK e.g. OLYMP 6,  
PANACHE, STALLION, ETC.

Contact:

Hazel Pyper, 12 Glenesk Crescent,  
Eskbank, DALKEITH.

Small Adverts are inserted free in KAYAK, but if it results in success, our Treasurer (see inside front cover) will be pleased to receive the sum of £1.

Please mention the name "KAYAK MAGAZINE" in all communications with our Advertisers.

## FORTH CANOE CLUB NOTES

THESE EXCELLENT PAGES ARE SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR MEMBERS AND THEY ARE INTENDED TO BE READ, AND THEN DATES AND PLACES ENTERED IN DIARIES, MEMOS etc SO THAT YOU REMEMBER AND KNOW WHAT IS GOING ON.

SPRING GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY, 27th MARCH 1979 at 7 p.m.

This important meeting sets the scene for the summer activities and prepares the way for winter activities in the session 1979-1980 - as a few of you will know, bookings for pools and gyms have to be made a long way in advance. On the Agenda were Jack Cuthill's "retiral" dinner, the winter activities, and the organisation of day trips and weekend trips for the summer months, the use of the hut and running club minislaloms once a week, a big club outing to a ranking slalom, a big club outing to a regatta, the discussion on the revision of the existing constitution dating back to the nineteen-thirties, the erection of a club building/changing accommodation at the Lochrin basin, possible fund raising activities, and any other competent business like the club evenings on the first Wednesday of the month - what should we do - what should club members like to see or do.....

Well, it would seem, very little.....

Dorothy Fairlie, Derek Newport (and Mrs. Newport), Kelso Riddell and Scott Balfour were the only ones to turn up, and there were four apologies.

Well, never mind....it saved the secretary organising all the above and writing letters and minutes etc. You might say that he is "working to rule!!"

The meeting of course was too early - (next time you are at Craiglockhart stop at 7 p.m. and count the canoeists)

The meeting was in an awkward place (specially arranged fairly centrally in Sciennes School)

It was a cold night and it was dark (over twenty were at the pool session which followed)

People are too busy (you may now include the Secretary as one of them and find a new secretary for the November A.G.M. to be held on Monday 26th November at 7.30 p.m. probably at the Lothian Outdoor Education Centre, McDonald Road, Details will be confirmed in the August and November Kayaks)

and now, on a more positive note:

JACK CUTHILL'S DINNER As mentioned briefly in the main body of Kayak, the long standing members of the Canoe Club and some of Jack's close canoeing friends of similar vintage celebrated Jack (and Betty's) long and faithful service and inspiration to the Canoe Club. Kelso Riddell gave an excellent account of Jack's exploits and involvement for over 40 years and presented Jack with a "small token of our appreciation". Jack rounded off the evening with some of his slides from his canoeing adventures in the nineteen thirties and club members can look forward to seeing one of these on a future cover of Kayak.

All agreed that it was a most enjoyable evening and perhaps the time is ripe to revive the annual dinner.

### CLUB ANNUAL DINNER

The Club Annual Dinner will be held on FRIDAY 23rd MAY 1980 at 7.30 for 8 p.m. at a place to be decided by the Social Secretary.

VACANCY The Canoe Club requires an intelligent and confident person for the office of Social Secretary. The job will include the organisation of at least 3 Social Events a year, one of which will be the Annual Dinner.

### FUTURE OF KAYAK

As mentioned in February, the S.C.A. will soon collect in the subscriptions direct and this allows them to consider how best to inform the members. Andy Morton has stated some possibilities.

1. Members receive FOCUS, the British National Magazine
2. Members have a choice of either FOCUS or KAYAK
3. Members receive a new S.C.A. Newsletter.

I understand he has received no comment from Kayak readers in general and regret that I didn't find the time to reply in writing. However Kelso and I have discussed this twice and he should have made our opinions known at the /

the recent S.C.A. meeting when this was discussed. Many club members fail to appreciate the tremendous amount of work that goes into editing and typing 24 stencils and the duplication, collating, stapling of 5,000 sheets of paper, the addressing of 200 envelopes and the licking of the many stamps required. In particular, club members should realise that any expansion in circulation creates work. While we are very glad and thankful for the terrific editorial and typing work done by Jack and Betty Cuthill with assistance from David Cuthill and Andrew Morton, we should be loath to burden the Cuthills with the enormous load of duplication, collation and distribution.

If the S.C.A. regards Kayak as being the suitable journal, then let the Kayak Editorial staff continue, but the servicing and distribution must be handled by the S.C.A. membership secretary, and the printing done by a firm. Scottish Orienteers already operate in this manner. Each year members receive 6 bi-monthly magazines - there are around 600 members, and the overall total cost is £800.

### ACTIVITIES

#### Craiglockhart Sessions

Those of you who read the February Kayak a little more carefully have already been to the pond. The start time is now 6.30 p.m. until the colder weather comes in September, when we will revert to a 6p.m. start. The last session is 10th September. The cost is 25p. Bring your own paddle and equipment if you have it. It is for members only. Each "enquirer" can come once only.

#### RULES:

1. Bring your membership card
2. No non-members
3. Keep muddy clothes and shoes outside. Don't trail water along corridors.
4. Don't skylark. Be considerate at all times.
5. Park in the upper "Patrons" car park.

Canoes may be dropped off, but cars must be removed.

Please ask "visitors" to use only the upper car park.

(K.Riddell, S.Balfour, J.Cuthill and R.Gregory are the only members who can leave their cars in the lower car park).

There was no Spring A.G.M., so there is no "season ticket".

Already there have been lockers damaged in the changing room allocated to canoeists - fortunately I was there that night and was one of the last to leave. Fortunately the manager has taken my word that we did not damage them, and would not. So, be warned; to ignore misbehaviour is to condone it. If club members are larking around, ask them to stop before the larking gets out of hand. If you don't then you and everyone else may not be there again.

#### Pool Sessions

These are definitely stopped. The pool at Sciennes is still drained and repair work has not started.

Details of future sessions and other winter activities will be given in the August Kayak. Thanks to Alistair Williamson, Mrs. Newport, John Munro and Scott Murray & Miles Ford for the help given at the sessions at Sciennes.

#### Canal Hut

Already this is well used with members "doing their own thing" in "their own time". The membership list shows the people with keys - most go down each week for slalom training, distance work, or just a paddle. Thursday night is usually most convenient for a group to gather.

There are only 2 keys left. More will not be available as the storage space at the hut is complete.

Keys are only available to boat owners.

Please do not "borrow" canoes without the owners permission.

ALL CANOES SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE NAME OF THE MEMBER.

"Other" canoes are simply removed.

VACANCY /



VACANCY : HUT CUSTODIAN : CANAL HUT

The successful applicant will be conscientious, diplomatic and able to manage this thriving edifice.

He/she will ensure that the club is kept tidy and that members do not abuse the slalom equipment etc. An interest in gardening is desirable but not essential.

"TREASURES IN STORE"

Kelso Riddell and Company can be seen on TELEVISION!

"SATURDAY p.m. JUNE 2nd" on S.T.V.

STAR TESTS

Full details on Notice Board (see Secretary) or in November 1978 KAYAK.

One Star - beginners : Test on Monday 18th June, Craiglockhart.

Two Star - above beginners : Test on Monday 25th June, Craiglockhart.

B.C.U. TESTS

- (i) Ian Jones and Lilian Williamson will soon be receiving details of time and venue for assistant instructor sessions.
- (ii) Other tests are held fairly often nationally and the Secretary has details. B.C.U. Members have all received the calendar of these events directly from London and the Frederick Street S.C.A. Office.

FANCY AN EXCHANGE VISIT TO U.S.A.???

The Secretary has been given details of a Horace Holiday Camp, specialising in W.W. canoeing and kayaking in N. Carolina - the area is the Mecca for W.W. work in No. Carolina. A "newspaper" published by the camp gives a full picture of the EXCELLENT area and rivers - with pictures.

RACES

AWE W.W.R.            JUNE 17th            JOCK YOUNG ORGANISER.

Please contact him if you would like to help - see page 18 of KAYAK  
Parking Marshalls, times, scribe, starter, are required -  
all fairly simple but essential jobs.

Make a weekend of it.            Camping at Taynuilt -  
Saturday paddle at the Loch Lomond race, or just paddle;  
or Loch Awe, Sunday, make Jock's life a little easier

Both the Grandtully W.W.R. and the Tweed L.D. went extremely well  
due to the help given by members.

For the Tweed L.D., thanks to:

Margaret Jarvis, Bill Ferguson and Alistair Williamson for taking  
entries; Dougie Wilson and Jack Vinestock for finish timing.

Betty Cuthill and Stella Vinestock for the excellent catering;  
Jack Cuthill for giving lifts to the young ones and indeed  
thanks to all club members who paddled to enable us to keep the  
Challenge Cup and, to all who helped tidy up at the end.

SALES

The February order has been processed.

Hooded Tops and Tee Shirts are now ready for collection.

As I should have guessed, the firms prices creep up and the  
February lot cost the funds a little. In future hooded tops  
cost £6.50 and Tee Shirts £2.50. Next Order sent off June 30th.  
Pennants and Club Flashes are still available from the Secretary.

WANTED

WANTED

COULD ALL MEMBERS PLEASE INFORM THE SECRETARY IN WRITING  
OF ANY CLUB EQUIPMENT THEY HAVE IN THEIR POSSESSION.

This will help greatly in the production of a list of club assets.

CLEVER BOYS

At last, someone in the club has stirred!!

Dougie Wilson has organised a wee team for the Strathkelvin  
Regatta - Dougie is one of the few folk who actually reads  
the notices giving information about events -  
I usually have this with me on each club evening.

Alistair Williamson wants to go paddling on a Sunday.  
On the Wednesday he gets out his address list and 'phones  
round. Not content, he knows there are new members and  
'phones me up to get their 'phone numbers.

RALLY OF BOATS      2/3rd JUNE      HARRISON PARK

If you intend to canoe in the rally organised by the Scottish  
Inland Waterways Association, then be there before the start.

The Parade of Boats starts at 2 p.m. and is followed by rowing and  
canoeing, racing and demonstrations. There are also stalls,  
sideshowes and exhibitions.

NOTICE      "THE OBJECTS OF THE CLUB shall be to

- (i) Assist and encourage members to participate in all  
aspects of the sport of canoeing.
- (ii) further the interests of canoeing in general."

Compared with every other club in Scotland, the club members get  
a "good deal". For communication and actual weekly meetings in  
summer and winter the club is second to none.

In competition, we have a good proportion of the best in Scotland  
but not so many middle, or novice paddlers at Senior or Junior level.  
The club is enormous and is capable of swamping any other club in any  
aspect of the sport. Someone said to me recently :

"You should get organised....." in order to beat young clubs  
who seem to be well represented at events.....On the contrary -  
WE should get organised.

HAVE YOU BEEN WASTING TIME?

You have read this far - now get your diary out  
and pencil in any dates or items of interest to you  
Otherwise you've been wasting the time of Betty, Jack  
and myself as well as your own!!

JOBS VACANT  
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SOCIAL SECRETARY

CANAL HUT CUSTODIAN

Apply : Scott Balfour,  
23 Buckstone Loan,  
EDINBURGH, EH10 6UD.

Tel: 445-3966

# LEUKAEMIA EVENT '79

Sponsored Canoe Race on River Tay

Stanley to Perth - 8 miles of grade 2/3 water

24 JUNE 1979

GROUP I Sponsored paddlers, paddling purely for pleasure with the incentive of a new canoe for the one who raises the highest sum through sponsorship with prizes for the runners up.

GROUP II Sponsored groups of not less than 4 but no more than 8 paddlers from schools or clubs paddling purely for pleasure with a new canoe and the Lennie Muirhead Memorial Trophy (to be held for 1 year) to the group raising the highest sum through sponsorship, with prizes for runners up.

GROUP III S.C.A. ranking race for the competitive paddler for the Donald Marshall Memorial Trophy (to be held for 1 year). Entrants must have a sponsor form or pay an entry fee.

Groups I and II will start between 10 a.m. and noon

Group III will start at 2 p.m.

Sponsor forms and further details from:-

Ronald Day,  
Wester Hailes Education Centre,  
5, Murrayburn Drive,  
EDINBURGH.

Telephone: 031-442-2201

# LENDAL



Shop and Office Address  
LENDAL PRODUCTS LTD.,  
18/20 BOYD STREET  
PRESTWICK KA9 1LG, Ayrshire  
SCOTLAND  
Telephone  
0292 78558

## RACING

SPRINTMASTER, RIVER RACER, L/D MASTER, PACEMASTER.  
Most models available with wood or fibreglass shafts.  
Suitable for sprint, long distance and marathon racing.

## SEA AND EXPEDITION

SEAMASTER, NORDKAPP.  
Both models constructed of heavy weight fibreglass shaft  
and available with either one or two extended grips.  
The SEAMASTER is also available with a centre joint.  
These paddles have been used very successfully in every  
major expedition including, Nordkapp, Spitsbergen, Greenland  
and Iceland, John O'Groats/Lands End, Orinoco and Everest.

## WHITEWATER

RIVER RACER, WHITEWATER, SLALOM  
The RIVER RACER version is available with either one or two  
grips or without grips.

## SLALOM

A recent addition to the LENDAL range.  
This paddle is constructed with a multi laminate blade  
and fibreglass shaft and we can offer two types of blade,  
one with an aluminium tip and the other with a rounded  
wooden tip. An important feature of this paddle is  
that damaged blades can be comparatively easily replaced  
by the user.

## GENERAL PURPOSE

A number of LENDAL paddles fit into this category,  
particularly the kit range of blades and tubes which can  
be supplied separately or assembled.

## TOURING

SUPERIOR and STANDARD kit paddles, L/D MASTER with or  
without grip or any other model from our range.

## JEWELLERY

A comprehensive range of canoeing jewellery available  
in silvertone, goldtone, coppertone or precious metals.  
These items are particularly useful as gifts or prizes  
for club or school events.

## CANOES

Canoe Centre, Wild Water Centre, Lawrence Canoes & Kayaks,  
Trylon - CANOES ALWAYS IN STOCK.  
We can obtain canoes from most manufacturers against a  
customer's specific requirements.

## N E W

## FOOT PUMP

For years, paddlers have been trying to achieve a method  
of getting rid of excess water which always accumulates  
in the bottom of a kayak, no matter how efficient the  
spraydeck. Water slopping about seriously affects the  
performance of a kayak and particularly in the case of  
racing class boats has on occasions accumulated to such  
an extent that in many cases the craft has sunk. This  
pump is not only an asset to the racing paddler but can  
be of immense value to every aspect of kayak paddling.  
Indeed, we at LENDAL feel that it could serve as a very  
important role in the safety aspect of canoeing.  
The most important feature is that it is activated by  
the natural cycling action of the feet on the footrest  
and can be operated along the entire length of the  
footrest.

## FIBREGLASS RACING PADDLE

A lightweight all fibreglass paddle with asymmetric blade.

We carry a large stock of canoeing items at our showroom  
in Prestwick which is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. six days  
a week. If these times are not convenient, alternative  
arrangements can be made for people to visit us.